



Friday 18th September 2020

Autumn Term : Edition 1

Dear Parents/Carers

Firstly, can I once again thank parents for their understanding and continued support during these challenging and unprecedented times. We are all learning, adapting and reacting to the ever changing impacts that COVID19 has had on us all. The one thing that I have learnt over the past few months is that we all have to work together to keep each other safe and healthy.

It does not seem possible that this is the first Friday News since the 20th March 2020! Months have, quite literally, passed and I hope that everyone had a lovely Summer. I would like to welcome everyone back to school, especially those new families that have joined us during September 2020. I hope that everyone is settling back into school life and adapting to new routines.

I would like to take this opportunity of up-dating you on some recent staffing changes. Unfortunately, Mrs Hodgson is not at school at the moment, her role is being temporarily covered by Mrs Cryer. Mrs Cryer has taught at the school previously, and both staff and children were delighted to see her back in our classrooms.

Miss Amy Downham joins us as Family Support. I am sure parents/carers will, by now, have seen Miss Downham outside in the playground during morning pickups. Miss Downham is at school to support all children and families. If you see Amy, please do stop and say 'hello'.

Mrs Cadman recently started maternity leave, baby is due any time soon..... In the meantime, Mrs Harvey will be teaching Mrs Cadman's class. Mrs Harvey comes highly recommended and is a very experienced Year 6 teacher.

I would also like to say 'welcome' back to Miss Harrison, Mrs Green and Mrs Metcalfe, all of whom children are familiar with.

Mrs Buckley, who many of you know as one of our Parent Governors has also agreed to help supervise children at lunchtime and joins us on a part-time basis

as a mid-day supervisor.

As is always the case, if you have any questions or concerns that you would like to discuss, please do not hesitate to contact the school. Class teachers can be contacted via class e-mail addresses, as follows:

class1@bentham.n-yorks.sch.uk

class2@bentham.n-yorks.sch.uk

class3@bentham.n-yorks.sch.uk

class4@bentham.n-yorks.sch.uk

class5@bentham.n-yorks.sch.uk

Finally, I would like to make an attempt to, hopefully, make procedures clearer about reporting a child's illness! If your child is poorly then please contact the school, ideally before 9.00am on 015242 61412. If a member of staff does not pick up the phone, please leave a message.

If your child is showing any symptoms of Covid19 then we would recommend that you contact your GP and/or follow the below guidance :

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/coronavirus-in-children/>

As I am sure you will appreciate, staff at the school are not medically trained and are unable to give advice on children's illnesses and whether or not they are potentially infected with COVID19. If you do suspect your child has Covid, and you are advised or decide that your child needs to be tested, then you must contact the school immediately and notify them of this action. Please remember it is better to be safe than sorry. I cannot impress enough on everyone how important it is to isolate and follow guidance. It is imperative to help prevent the potential spread of this awful virus that we all work together to stem any potential cross-infection as quickly as possible should there be a case in our school community.

Whilst, as a school, we cannot enforce parents/carers to provide copies of any tests results, I would ask parents to consider sharing any results, if only to provide reassurance to members of staff etc.

Finally, as a reminder, if your child picks up a tummy bug, this includes sickness, diarrhoea or both ailments at the same time, then you must keep them at home

for 48 hours following the final episode of vomiting or diarrhoea. This applies in all cases – there are no exceptions to the rule.

I hope you all have a wonderful weekend, enjoy the weather, which is forecast to be warm and sunny and stay safe.

Mrs Pearson
Headteacher

Protecting your Child against Influenza (Flu) and Complications This year, ALL children in Reception, Years 1,2,3,4,5 and 6 will be given an opportunity to receive a FREE nasal influenza vaccination at the school on Thursday 22nd October 2020. In order for your child to receive this vaccination, consent needs to be given by parents/carers, as follows:

Go to : <https://www.hdft.nhs.uk/fluconsent/>
Enter the School Code **121380** and click **Find School Complete the form**
Click the **GREEN, SUBMIT** button.

If you have any questions about this vaccination programme, or are unable to register consent on line, then please contact the Childhood Immunisation Team on 01423 542360.

Applying for a Secondary School Place

Parents of children in Year 6 have been sent home information about how to apply for a secondary school place for their child in September 2021. Applications need to be submitted **before** 31st October 2020.

Forest School Grant Our school has been awarded £1,806.47 from North Yorkshire County Council to support the development and establishment of our Forest School Provision. A massive thank you to County Councillor David Ireton for supporting our application and also to Mrs McGregor for applying for the grant and working so hard to establish a 'Forest School' provision at our school. Money will go towards purchasing equipment that will benefit all children in all classes.

SETTLE COLLEGE Open Day This academic year, Settle College will be hosting an Open Day with a difference! Due to Covid19 restrictions Settle College have made the decision to create a 'Virtual Open Evening'. Students will NOT be invited into Settle College. The 'Virtual Open Evening' will take place on Thursday 1st October 2020 from 6.00pm to 8.00pm and can be

accessed via Settle College's website :
www.settlecollege.org.uk/openday2020

There will be a virtual tour and opportunities to visit different departments. There will be activities to complete and a range of talks and presentations will be taking place on topics such as :

Who we are
Academic curriculum
Pastoral Support
Enrichment Opportunities
Sport

If you are unable to access this online Virtual Open Evening, please contact office staff at Settle College on 01729 822 451.

Data Capture Form Can parents/carers please ensure that they have completed and returned children's Data Capture Forms and First Aid Forms to the School Office by no later than Monday 21st September 2020. It is particularly important this academic year that mobile numbers and e-mail addresses are up-to-date. Thank you.

Ingleborough Ascent (and descent) On Monday 28th September children in year 6 will be taking part in an ascent of Ingleborough. There will be no charge for this visit and we would like to thank the Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust for funding this opportunity in FULL. Thank you also to Olly Roberts Outdoors for organising this outdoor activity. Parents of children taking part should ensure that completed consent forms are returned to school by no later than Monday 21st September 2020. Thank you.

Office Closure On the morning of Tuesday 22nd September the School Office will be closed. Messages can be left on the school's answerphone or e-mailed to admin@bentham.n-yorks.sch.uk. Thank you.