



Friday 18th October 2019

Autumn Term : Edition 6

Dear Parents/Carers

Unfortunately, earlier today, I had to cancel the 'Parent Coffee Morning' – apologies for any inconvenience caused. I was hoping to discuss with parents how we, as a school, are developing our curriculum. I was also hoping to bring up the provision of an After School Club again.

Unfortunately, following a previous request for feedback and a plea on the school's Facebook page, requesting views from a parent/carers perspective about 'out of school' needs and requirements, particularly an after school club provision, I have only received a couple of responses! Could I please make one more request that parents/carers provide some feedback to the school indicating if they would be interested in using an afterschool club and, if so, what they would like to see the school offer? Currently, there are not enough parents requiring an afterschool club and it would not be a viable option. Thank you.

This week, appointments for Parent Evening interviews have been sent home via children's book bags. Teaching staff have done their very best to accommodate appointment requests so I am hopeful that days and times allocated will be suitable. If for any reason you are unable to attend an appointment, then please speak to Sally in the School Office.

Our Autumn Crafts evening was a huge success. It was lovely to see so many children taking part in an afterschool activity which was both creative and a lovely social experience. Thank you to Miss Tierney for organising this event. If you missed out this time, look out for information next term about Christmas Crafts!

Finally, please remember that if you would like your child to receive a free flu vaccination at school on the 5th November, then online consent needs to be completed by no later than 3.30pm today. For more information please visit www.hdft.nhs.uk/flu-consent and use the school's code of 121380.

Mrs Pearson

CAVING TRIP Unfortunately, due to heavy rainfall, the recent caving trip for a number of children in Year

4 was cancelled. This visit has now been re-arranged to take place on Thursday 24th October. More information about this re-scheduled visit will be sent home via children's book bags.

MSA Vacancy Children at school are looking for an enthusiastic, friendly and approachable person to join the MSA Team at school. This post is for TWO hours per week, term-time only (12 noon – 1.00pm on Thursdays and Fridays). The post-holder will help with the supervision of children over the lunchtime break both in the School Hall and playground helping to provide a safe and caring environment. An enhanced DBS Disclosure is required for appointment to this post which the school will undertake for any successful applicant. For more information and an application form, please see Sally in the School Office.

School Meals Next week there will be a couple of menu changes to school meals, these will be as follows:

Monday : Pasta Bolognese/Falafel Burger/Jacket Potato/Cheese Grab Bag

Tuesday : Salmon Nibbles/5-a-day Veggie Pasta/Jacket Potato/Tuna Grab Bag

Wednesday : Pork Steak with Yorkshire Puddings/Vegetable Roast/Jacket Potato/Ham Grab Bag

Thursday : Moroccan Chicken/Loaded Potato Skins/Jacket Potato/Tuna Grab Bag

Friday : Sausage and Mash/Jacket Potato/Cheese Grab Bag

Please remember that when we return to school on Monday 4th November after the Half Term holidays there will NO LONGER be grab bags available on the menu. School will still be continuing to offer children who do not usually take a school meal an opportunity to join in with 'Fun Day Friday'. Every Friday a warm school meal can be ordered by children during registration. School meals are excellent value for money, and are priced at ONLY £2.10 per meal for children in Nursery, FREE of CHARGE FOR ALL children in reception, years 1 and 2 and £2.55 per child per day for children in years 3,4 and 5. Payment should be made via Parentpay.

BONFIRE LUNCH Remember, remember the 5th November! On Tuesday 5th November ALL children are all invited to join a special celebration 'Bonfire Lunch'. On the menu: Burger in a Bun, Chips, Sweetcorn, Peas and Tomato Sauce, Jacket Potatoes, Iced Buns, Yoghurt or Fresh Fruit. Please see above for information about meal prices.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS As a school we continually strive to achieve a 'whole' school attendance of 97% or above – but we need your help. We cannot emphasise enough the importance of good attendance at school. It has been proven that children who attend school both regularly and on time tend to achieve higher levels of attainment and maximise their chances at any future success. There is a significant amount of evidence supporting the importance of the link between attendance and attainment. Whole school attendance also has an impact on Ofsted outcomes – with schools showing poor attendance being heavily scrutinised and judgements affected. With this in mind, can we please ask parents/carers to take attendance, and the impact of the same, into consideration when planning for family holidays etc. and to try to avoid requesting time off during term-time?

As 'food for thought' attendance at the school for the week was **98.26%** with Class 5 once again having the highest level of attendance for the week. Thank you for your support with attendance.

The Friends of Bentham School will be meeting at 2.30pm on Wednesday 23rd October here at the school. All parents/carers are welcome to go along and join the FOBS at this informal friendly meeting. Can we just remind parents that the fundraising efforts of the FOBS are invaluable to the school and that EVERY CHILD in EVERY CLASS benefits from funds raised by this amazing group of volunteers. Thank you.

Growing Healthy Can we remind parents/carers of children in Reception, that if they wish to opt out of the Heath Screening programme run by Harrogate and District NHS Foundation Trust, then they need to contact the Healthy Child Team by e-mailing Children&families@northyorks.gov.uk or calling 01609 780780. By way of a reminder, height and weight checks for children in both Reception and Year 6 are part of a National Child Measurement Programme, more information about this programme can be accessed at <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-weight/national-child-measurement-programme/>.

Primary School Place for children for September 2020 Can we please remind parents/carers of children currently in Nursery, that they need to apply for a primary school place for children who are due to start in their Reception year at school during September 2020. The deadline for applications is 15th

January 2020. For more information, please visit www.northyorks.gov.uk/school-admissions or, alternatively, contact the School Admissions Team on 01609 533679. Thank you.

Secondary School Places for children CURRENTLY in Year 6 Whilst it may seem a long way off, parents/carers of children born between 01/09/2008 and 31/08/2009 are being asked to start applying for secondary school places for children who are due to transfer from primary to secondary school in September 2020. Information has been sent home in book bags and any further questions you may have can be answered by the School's Admissions Team on 01609 533679. E-mail : schooladmissions@northyorks.gov.uk. Please note all applications need to be completed by no later than **31st October 2019**. After this date an application will be treated as **LATE**.

Aldi's Kit for Schools : Get Set to Eat Fresh Thank you to everyone so far who has helped the school to collect Team GB stickers! At the time of writing we are only six stickers short of being able to claim a free Sports Kit and enter a prize draw to win £20,000. With the deadline of the 3rd November quickly approaching to enter and claim we are hoping that somebody, somewhere, will donate a few last stickers!!

The Book People As everyone will agree every child has the right to read. To help support reading in schools, The Book People have introduced a new school fundraising scheme called 'Big Book Boost'. For every order over £10 placed online with The Book People a donation of £1 will be made to our school. All donations received will help school to purchase more books for our lovely library, meaning that EVERY CHILD in EVERY class will benefit. With Christmas around the corner, what better opportunity could there be to not only purchase someone a book, but to also fundraise for the school! Simply :

1. Make an online purchase over £10
2. Select Bentham C P School at the Checkout thebookpeople.co.uk

North Central Area Accordion and Music Championships On Saturday 16th November at The Bailey, Skipton Building Society, Skipton the Craven Accordion Orchestra will be hosting an 'Accordion and Music Championships' event. There will be classes for ALL ages and ALL abilities, including solos, duets, groups and orchestras. For more information, please contact Harry on 07401 768356 or Danny (school's

accordion teacher) on 07517 998790.

Tech-Makers Pioneer Projects in partnership with North Yorkshire County Council will be hosting a Tech-Makers session at Bentham Community Library from 10.30am to 12.30pm on Thursday 31st October 2019. Admission is FREE of charge for children of 8 years and over. There will be opportunities to explore Virtual Reality, Lego Mindstorms, Makey Makeys, Raspberry Pi, Micro-bits and much more! For further information, please contact 01609 534533 or visit library@pioneerprojects.org.uk.

What's on this week?

Monday 21st October 2019

1.00pm Class 5 Swimming

2.00pm Reading to Dogs

Tuesday 22nd October 2019

Jordan's Lunchtime Football Club

Lunchtime Book Club

Wednesday 23rd October 2019

Music Lessons : Mrs Brennan (Flute/Keyboard)

Music Lessons : Mr Hinchcliffe (Accordion)

10.45am Class 2 : Godly Play

1.30pm Class 4 Godly Play

2.30pm FOBS Meeting

3.30pm – 6.20pm Parent Evening

Thursday 24th October 2019

9.00am : Caving Trip for group of children

3.30pm KS1 Multiskills club (last one)

3.30pm – 6.20pm Parent Evening

Friday 25th October 2019

9.00am Baby and Toddler Group (School Hall)

3.00pm Praise Assembly

3.30pm FOBS Tuck Shop

SCHOOL CLOSES FOR HALF TERM

REMINDER Can parents/carers please ensure that they check their child's Parentpay account regularly to ensure that services are in credit? If you have any difficulty accessing Parentpay then please see Sally in the School Office. Please remember if you do not have access to the Internet, then payment can be taken manually either over the phone or at the office.