



19th May 2017

Summer Term Edition 4

Bentham CP School
Headteacher: Mrs Claire Pearson
"Building our future, step by step"
www.benthamcpschool.org.uk

I would like to begin this week by thanking all those families who have joined the school at one of our Big Dig days over the past few months. I know that weekends are busy times for families but we really do appreciate all your help in creating our new outdoor area. Last Saturday was fantastic with lots of helpers and bark, gravel, pebbles and soil was moved into the right places. Our outdoor area is really taking shape and although we have more to do, it will soon be used by children in their learning. Thank you also to Mrs McGregor who has led this project so far and whose passion for outdoor learning has steered this development in school. We expect more Big Dig days in the future so don't put your gardening gloves and spades away just yet!

"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much."

Helen Keller

This week has seen our Year 2 children completing some statutory tests. We have tried our best to ensure that these have been carried out in a supportive, warm atmosphere where the children are put first rather than the results of the test. The Year 2 children have worked very hard and like with Year 6 have tried their best which is all that we can ask of them.

Plans are under way for an end of term performance. Please see the school calendar for dates of performances and keep your eye out for letters in book bags over the next few weeks giving information about costumes and tickets. We really appreciate your support with these events.

I also met with Mr Waugh this week, a music teacher, who will be delivering music lessons to whole classes starting in September. Children in two classes will be learning how to play a musical instrument throughout the year, which they will be allowed to bring home to practice (sorry Mums and Dads!) and it is really exciting that our plans to increase and improve music learning in school has already begun to take shape.

Have a wonderful weekend, I am going to the Lake District, so fingers crossed for sunny weather!

Mrs Pearson

Walk to School Week Thank you to all those children and parents who supported the national 'Walk to School Week'. Thank you also to those who were able to join in with the 'walking train' on the morning of Wednesday 17th May, thankfully the weather was kind and not a repeat of that experienced earlier in the week (although it must be said our Wildlife Garden very much appreciated the recent downpours!).

Wildlife Garden As our project moves forward, we are looking at future developments. With this in mind we are hoping to create a 'Bug Hotel' for children to enjoy, observe and maintain. If you, or anyone you know, have any old bits of drainpipe, small pieces of carpet, twigs, old bamboos, broken stone, broken pottery, pine cones or air bricks that they would like to donate to this project, it would be very much appreciated.

Christian Aid Envelopes Any collection envelopes can be brought into school and handed into the school office.

Approach of Half-Term As we approach the half-way point of our Summer Term, can we just remind parents to check that they do not have any school sports kit at home. We are missing a number of t-shirts and hoodies, which means that when our children take part in cluster events and represent their school we are struggling to find kit! **By way of a reminder** Parentpay accounts should also be at **ZERO** when we close for Summer on Friday 21st July. This is particularly important for accounts belonging to children in YEAR 6. Please be assured that any 'credits' will be either refunded (leavers' only), transferred to sibling accounts or carried forward into the next academic year. Unfortunately, this year, any outstanding debts will be referred to North Yorkshire County Council with a view to them filing the same at County Court.

First Aid in a Day On Thursday 8th June children in Class 5 will be taking part in St John Ambulance first aid training. The aim of the course is to ensure that children are equipped with the skills TO BE The difference in a first aid emergency.

Reminder, If you haven't already! Please go online and register your Co-Op members card and choose Bentham School as your 'Community Fundraising' option. This is because, the FOBS are now part of the Co-Ops Community fundraising project. If parents, friends or family shop at the Co-Op can they please go on-line and register Bentham School as their chosen 'Community Fundraising' option Then every time they shop at the Co-Op and use their 'members card' a donation will be made by the Co-Op to the school – what could be easier!

KS2 Victorian Day This is taking place on Tuesday 23rd May and will support work based around 'Inventors and Inventions'. Children in classes 3,4 and 5 will explore the Victorian era and are encouraged to come into school on the 23rd dressed as a typical Victorian child ... no real soot please!

Community First Responders North Yorkshire are currently recruiting Community First Responders. Please see leaflets distributed via book bags, or alternatively visit www.communityresponders.yas.nhs.uk.

KS2 Summer Sleepover Mrs Pearson and Miss Thwaite have once again signed up to host a sleepover here at the school..... This will hopefully be a 'camping' (no Glamping involved) experience taking place on the school field during the evening of Friday 16th June. More details have been sent home in book bags. If your child would like to take part, then please ensure that you complete and return the reply slip by no later than Friday 26th May. Thank you.

Home Time Can we please remind parents that Nursery finishes at 12.00 m/d and main school at 3.30pm. Can parents please ensure that they try their utmost to be on time to collect their children. We appreciate there may, at times, be occasions when parents are unavoidably delayed, but in some cases, this can cause distress to children. Thank you.

The Story of Light Next week children from all classes will be given the opportunity to take part in workshops taking place at Bentham Methodist Church. For details on dates and times please take a look at the school's calendar on our wonderful website.

Martin House Children's Hospice On Friday 26th May school will be supporting Gavin Phillis, the Craven School Games Organiser, in his fundraising efforts for Martin House Children's Hospice. Please see the

separate letter sent home in book bags for more information.

Countryside Day Children in classes 3,4 and 5 will be taking part in the Yorkshire Agricultural Society's Countryside Day being held at the Great Yorkshire Showground on Wednesday 14th June 2017. Further details about this educational excursion have been sent home via book bags. By way of a reminder, and so that parents can pre-plan, children will need to be at school on the day by 08.00am at the VERY LATEST. In order for your child to take part please ensure that consent forms have been returned to school and payment for the trip has been made via Parentpay by no later than Monday 29th May 2017.

Planning for the future..... As you will be aware from previous editions of the Friday News, Sports Day has been scheduled to take place on **Wednesday 12th July**. Children should wear a t-shirt in the colour that represents their 'house' at the event. If you have any queries about this, then please speak to your child's class teacher. We are also planning to hold a whole school picnic on this day, and Mrs Leak has kindly agreed to provide wonderful packed lunches for all. These are priced at £2.10 per child in classes 3,4 and 5, £1.60 for children in Nursery and FREE OF CHARGE to children in classes 1 and 2. Picnic boxes will be made up of ham, turkey and cheese sandwiches, a sausage roll, pizza, vegetable sticks, biscuits and fruit bags.

Itchy little issues.... Unfortunately, there has recently been an increase in the number of parents reporting cases of head-lice at the school. These itchy little pests can be easily treated and we would encourage parents to check their child's hair regularly for any signs of inhabitancy!! For more details about treatment options, please contact a pharmacist. Prescriptions for treatment can also be obtained from GP Surgeries.

Class Photographs On Thursday 25th May Tempest Photography will be on site taking Class group photographs. These are lovely group photographs of children in their classes alongside their friends and make a lovely keep-safe for the future. Any purchases of pictures also help raise all important funds for the school. Can parents ensure that all children are wearing our smart school uniform on Thursday. Thank you.

