

21st January 2022

FRIDAY NEWS

A nurturing family, learning together



Message from Mr Hiley

Unfortunately, this week, school have once again had to re-introduce 'bubbles' due to a significant outbreak of Covid infections at school. At the time of writing, we are hoping that the measures put in place will have started to take effect and transmission reduced. As outlined in my letter to all parents/carers dated the 18th January 2022, we have re-introduced the following measures:

- Minimising contact between classes, including lunchtimes and playtimes.
- Suspending whole school activities, including assemblies.
- Face coverings to be worn by all adults around school (unless medically exempt).
- Only essential visitors allowed into school.
- Requesting that social distancing is maintained and face coverings worn by parents/carers when approaching a member of school staff.
- Requesting that children are no allowed to mix with children from other classes (except siblings) at the beginning and end of the school day.

At this moment in time, we are not suspending Breakfast and After School Club – however we will be ensuring children from different bubbles at the out of hours provision are kept distanced.

Positive Covid cases increased over the past week particularly in classes 3,4 and 5. It is evident, through discussions with families involved that common symptoms this time around include sickness, tummy ache, vomiting and mouth ulcers alongside the more usual Covid symptoms (headache, sore throat, tiredness, cold-like symptoms, cough, fever and loss of taste and smell). As a result of these ever-changing symptoms, some cases are not being picked up and confirmed straight away.

In many cases, the onset of symptoms has been very rapid. In addition, school have also had some positive cases reported in children who have already previously tested positive for Covid before Christmas. This clearly demonstrates that past infection does not necessarily prevent re-infection.

Naturally, as a school we really want to bring this current outbreak under control as quickly and effectively as is possible. We are continuing to strongly

recommend that children are tested **DAILY** with an LFT test. Rules should be followed for self-isolation if a test is positive. Please remember that in some instances, the 'positive' reading is very faint. Even if the reading is very faint – this is still a POSITIVE test.

We do understand and sympathise that, for some, having to take daily tests is uncomfortable and time-consuming. However, if we all work together, we can hopefully get things back to 'normal' again sooner rather than later and avoid any class/school closures.

We have received reports from some parents that they are unable to secure LFD kits due to a shortage. We do have a small number of tests available for parents at school if they are unable to source testing kits. Please contact Sally in the School Office if you are unable to get hold of a Testing Kit.

You will have seen recent announcements about the removal of Covid restrictions nationally from next Wednesday. In line with guidance from the Department for Education and North Yorkshire Council, restrictions in school may well continue beyond this time due to the current outbreak. We will be reviewing the situation on Monday and will keep you informed. Thanking everyone for their continued support.

Coach Mark Gunn has now confirmed that he will, once again, be running a Spring Half Term Multi Sports and Activity Day on Tuesday 22nd February 2022. This action-packed day will be filled with children's favourite activities including games, NERF, obstacle courses, inflatables, Lego, let's craft and much more. Sessions are priced at £12 for half a day and £20 for a full day. More information will be sent home with children. Alternatively, please contact Coach Gunn at coachmarkgunn@gmail.com (07912 178917).

Have a lovely weekend.

Mr T Hiley

Interim Headteacher

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

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Covid Testing

By way of a reminder, children who are close contacts of someone with Covid19 are no longer required to isolate, unless they develop symptoms. However, it is advised to take DAILY LFD tests as they are at high risk of developing Covid-19 in the days after contact. Anyone who tests positive on an LFD test must now self-isolate for a minimum of five days. Isolation can end on day six following a negative test on day five, followed by a second negative test 24 hours later. If EITHER test is still positive, isolation MUST continue until there are TWO negative tests 24 hours apart or at the end of Day 10.

Car Parking

Can we remind parents about using the school's car park safely. Please do not double park, block other cars in, park in the gateway or abandon vehicles. Perhaps consider walking to school, or alternatively, if distance is the issue, driving only part of the journey to school, parking up in a safe and legal place and walking the remainder of the journey to school. Likewise, please do not block driveways or highways, please consider that these actions might have a significant impact should an emergency vehicle need access.

Return of Baby and Toddler Group

We are absolutely delighted to confirm that the Friends of Bentham School are once again offering a '@Covid secure' Baby and Toddler Group session, every Friday, term-time only in the School Hall. The next session will be on Friday 28th January 2022 from 9.30am until 11.00am. If you have a pre-school aged child, then please do pop along to this friendly informal group – we look forward to seeing you!

PE Days

Nursery:	Thursday (AM)
Class 1 :	Tuesday/Friday : PM (including Nursery children who stay for afternoon sessions)
Class 2 :	Tuesday/Wednesday
Class 3 :	Monday/Tuesday
Class 4 :	Monday/Tuesday
Class 5 :	Monday/Tuesday

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 FIVE hours per week, term-time only (12 noon – 1.00pm). 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 contact Sally in the School Office (admin@bentham.n-yorks.sch.uk) 015242 61412.

Dates for your Diary

Monday 24th January 2022

Sweet Lentil Curry and Rice
Quorn Dippers
Jacket Potato

Tuesday 25th January 2022

Chicken and Pasta Bake
Vegetable Hot Pot
Jacket Potato

3.30pm – 4.20pm After School Basketball Club

Wednesday 26th January 2022

Minced Beef and Yorkshire Pudding
Vegetable Casserole and Yorkshire Pudding
Jacket Potato

8.30am- 9.00am Maths Drop In (Year 6)

Thursday 27th January 2022

Fish Fingers
Veggie Burger in a Bun
Jacket Potato

3.30pm – 4.30pm Cookery Club 2 of 3

3.30pm – 4.15pm Maths Drop In (Year 6)

Friday 28th January 2022

Sausage and Mash
Vegetable Sausage and Mash
Jacket Potato

9.30am – 11.00am Baby and Toddler Group in the School Hall

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Bentham Spring Half Term 2022 Multi Sports Camp & Activity Day

Organised and led by Coach Gunn providing **ACTIVE TRUSTED CHILDCARE**

Tuesday 22nd February 2022 @ Bentham Community Primary School (LA2 7BP)

Timings, Ages & Cost...

9am-4pm
FREE 8am-5pm
extended hours

Reception to Y7
Boys & Girls
Ages 4-12

FULL DAY @ £20
HALF DAY @ £12



Sports & activities include...

Multi Sports
FUN GAMES
NERF
Obstacle Courses
Inflatables
Lego
Let's Craft
...plus lots more
fun & creative
games

JOIN THE TEAM... Young Aspiring Sports Leaders (ages 13-17) placements available

The action packed day filled with the children's favourite activities in a safe & secure environment will make the most of Bentham Community Primary School's fantastic indoor & outdoor spaces encouraging ALL attending children to make the most of their day having **#FUNwithFriendsAtCamp**

For further information or to make a booking please contact Coach Gunn at coachmarkgunn@gmail.com

'Coach Gunn Basketball'



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