

22nd December 2023

FRIDAY NEWS

A nurturing family, learning together



Message from Mrs Pearson and Mrs McGregor

We have made it to the end of a very long term! We would like to thank you all for your support with your child's education this term and in particular with the many events that have happened in school in the run up to the Christmas holidays. It has been lovely to see so many families engaging in everything that we have provided and it has been fantastic to receive lots of lovely comments and compliments from parents/carers.

We would encourage parents/carers whose financial circumstances may have recently changed to apply for Free School Meals and some additional financial support, this includes parents of children in Reception, years 1 and 2, who might be missing out on some additional funding and free activities for their child. All applications are made in the strictest of confidence. Application forms are available from the school office. Alternatively, applications can be made on-line (more information at the end of this Newsletter).

As a quick reminder to parents/carers of children in Nursery, and in line with North Yorkshire Council's funding rate per hour for children in our Nursery provision, school are having to make a small increase in the price of 'additional' hours to parents/carers. From January 2024 charges for 'additional' hours in our Nursery provision will be as follows :

3.00pm to 3.30pm : £2.45 per session
12.00pm to 3.00pm : £14.70 (£4.90 per hour)
12.00pm to 3.30pm : £17.15

On Friday evening, it was lovely to see so many children and families joining in with the community Walk of Light Lantern Parade. Once again thank you to Pioneer Projects for involving the school with this wonderful community project.

On Thursday school appeared to turn into one large Glitter Ball with a few sequins thrown in here and there! It was lovely to see so many children dressed in their party clothes and enjoying an end of term 'Festive Celebration' with their friends and classmates.

In January Hedgehog and Rabbit Class will be learning about our School in the past. Children would love it if some parents/carers and Grandparents (or even Great-Grandparents), who came to Bentham School would come into Hedgehog and Rabbit Class and tell children all about what school was like 'in their day'. Children will have lots of questions to ask! If anyone is interested and willing, please let Mrs Harrison, Mrs Cryer or Sally in the School Office know.

During the first week back to school, children in Reception through to Year 6 will all be taking part in an exciting 'Tri-Golf' session on Thursday 11th with SportsCool. Can parents/carers please ensure that children come to school in their PE kit on this day. We do still have a number of places available at the SportsCool After School Club for children in years 3,4,5 and 6. Places can be secured by making payment via Parentpay.

Can we please also remind parents/carers of children in Fox Class that the first of ten swimming lessons will start for children on Friday 12th January. If you have not already done so, please consider making a voluntary contribution towards the cost of these lessons via Parentpay. Please also ensure that children have their swimming kit with them on Fridays.

Finally, on behalf of all the staff and Governors here at the school, wishing everyone a Very Happy Christmas and New Year. See everyone in 2024 and ready to start the new Spring Term.

Mrs Pearson and Mrs McGregor

First Week of Term

Monday 8th January 2024
SCHOOL CLOSED

Tuesday 9th January 2024
School Re-opens

Chicken Korma and Rice
Vegetable and Sweet Potato Bake
Jacket Potato

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Primary School

PLACES STILL AVAILABLE – SPEAK TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE

3.30pm KANGA Sports After School Club : Invited Children (1/5) – KS1

Wednesday 10th January 2024

Roast Pork and Stuffing
Vegetable Cottage Pie
Jacket Potato

4.00pm Governors' Meeting

Thursday 11th January 2024

SportsCool Activity (R,1,2,3,4,5,6)

Beef Chilli Wrap
Vegetable Quesadilla
Jacket Potato

10.00am Keyboard Lessons (NYC Music Service)

3.30pm SportsCool After School Club (3,4,5 and 6) (1/5)

PLACES STILL AVAILABLE – BOOK VIA PARENTPAY

Friday 12th January 2024

Fun Day Friday : all children invited to join in with a school lunch

Fish Fingers
Vegetable Roll
Jacket Potato

1.00pm FOX Class Swimming Lessons (1/10)

3.00pm Celebration Assembly.

Safeguarding Information – Keeping Children Safe

Breathe easy

“He would have been much too young and would have been much too weak to release himself.”

Coroner's report, blind cord strangulation

Such a scary thought that something could stop your child breathing. But, the steps to stop that happening are simple and make sense.

Window blinds – It can take just 15 seconds for a toddler to lose consciousness if a blind cord is caught around their neck – and they can die in just two to three minutes.

- Fit a cleat hook or tensioner to keep blind cords and chains safely away and always use them. New blinds should come with these
- Consider cord free blinds for children's rooms
- Remember children may climb and get higher than you think. Move bedroom furniture away from cords and chains
- Make sure the cords on the back of Roman blinds are connected using a device that breaks under pressure.

Sleeping and slings – babies can be suffocated by things they can't push away.

- A clear cot is a safe cot – avoid duvets, pillows and cot bumpers
- Don't sleep on the sofa with your baby as it increases their chances of suffocation massively
- If you're exhausted or have been drinking or smoking, or if they are premature or low birth weight, don't sleep with your baby in your bed
- Follow the T.I.C.K.S advice for slings or carriers www.babyslugsafety.co.uk



Nappy sacks – young babies naturally grasp things and pull them to their mouths, but aren't able to pull them away. They can suffocate on flimsy nappy sacks.

- Store nappy sacks well out of reach of babies
- Never store nappy sacks under the cot mattress.

Choking – babies and young children are still learning to chew, swallow and breathe in the right order. There's no sound to warn you. But there are simple ways to stop it happening.

- Don't prop a baby's bottle up to feed them
- Cut round food like grapes, tomatoes and big blueberries in half lengthways or quarters, not just across
- Cut hard food like carrots, apples, sausages and cheese into thin strips, and chop nuts up small
- Avoid popcorn, marshmallows and hard round sweets like mini eggs or boiled sweets
- Put small parts from older children's toys out of reach
- Watch the Chokeables film for first aid advice www.sja.org.uk/thechokeables

www.capt.org.uk

[@ChildAccidentPreventionTrust](https://www.facebook.com/ChildAccidentPreventionTrust)

[@capt_charity](https://www.instagram.com/capt_charity)

child accident
prevention trust

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Primary School

Apply for free school meals online

If you would like to apply for free school meals for your child, simply login to your **Synergy Parent Portal** account and follow the process outlined below. If you have previously applied for school admissions or funding for your two year old you will most likely already have an account. If not, you can easily [create an account here](#).

STEP 1
Enter your National Insurance Number/National Asylum Support Service (NASS) number and date of birth.

STEP 2
Select the child(ren) you wish to apply for. If you have previously applied for a school place for your child they will already appear on the dropdown list. If your child does not appear automatically, they can easily be added by entering their forename, surname, date of birth and gender.

STEP 3
Attach any supporting documentation, if necessary, this could include documents such as a copy of your Universal Credit statement.

STEP 4
A message will then be displayed stating that we will be in touch with confirmation details. The school(s) at which your child(ren) attends will be notified as soon as the application has been fully processed by our team (5 working days). Your child(ren) can then begin enjoying free school meals once the school has received this notification.

If your application is unsuccessful you can then move to a further screen to find out why this may be the case.

If you need help or wish to discuss your application please contact us:
Phone: 01609 533 405
Email: schoolwelfare@northyorks.gov.uk



A selection of activities available in your area

KANGA
Holiday club to keep you children active, well-fed, and having fun

WILD EXPLORERS
Nurturing and fun forest school

SELFA
A safe and inclusive space for all - SEND exclusive, for members only

Book your **FREE** space now!

FEAST is available for all children and young people across North Yorkshire with free places and a free meal for eligible children and young people.

feastny.org

