

26th November 2021

FRIDAY NEWS

A nurturing family, learning together



Message from Mr Hiley

Following on from my e-mail on Wednesday 24th November, I am delighted to report that after a concerted effort by all, at the time of writing no further Covid cases have been reported in school.

After thorough consideration of Risk Assessments by the school's Leadership and Management Team and having confirmed the position with NYCC's Public Health team I can confirm that school routines and procedures will return to pre-outbreak arrangements – subject to no further cases of Covid that could be linked to the outbreak being reported over the weekend period.

As from Monday 29th November this will mean that Breakfast and After School Club, including Basketball and Cooking Club will once again resume. We will also be welcoming visitors back into school but maintaining the requirement to wear a face covering (unless medically exempt) and continuing to promote good hygiene measures. Children from KS1 and KS2 will once again be able to 'mix' on the playground during breaktimes.

Whilst it appears that we have now seemed to stem this outbreak in school, I am sure there is no need to remind readers, that Covid is STILL present in HIGH numbers within the local community. We all must continue to be vigilant to prevent further outbreaks. Please continue to follow the advice around testing and self-isolation and please also remember that cold-like symptoms are the most common Covid symptoms in younger children. If symptomatic, we would strongly recommend carrying out an LFD test at home and follow this up with a PCR test if necessary. For people who have not yet experienced a positive LFD test please be aware that the line indicating a positive result can be very faint and that any line, however faint should prompt a PCR test. Please also be aware that PCR test results are ONLY valid for the date and time of the test. If symptoms persist, then please consider taking a further PCR test as Covid could have developed during the intervening days. Thanking everyone for their continued support.

This week temperatures have dipped, and whilst on some days the sun has shone, it has still been extremely cold outside. Can I please remind parents to send children to school with a warm waterproof coat a hat and pair of gloves! On rainy days it is also a good idea to pop a spare

pair of socks in book bags and ensure children have a pair of wellies at school. Whilst children in KS1 are provided with a piece of fruit for a morning snack, if you do send older child into school with a snack to consume during breaktimes, please ensure that they are healthy or a piece of fresh fruit. Thank you.

On Monday, Miss Webster will be sending home more details about this year's KS1 Christmas Performance, which this year will be 'The Prickly Hay'. We are planning to perform 'The Prickly Hay' to parents on Tuesday 14th December. It is anticipated that there will be two performances, one at 2.00pm and one at 6.00pm. Due to Covid, there will be restrictions on audience numbers, but provision has been made so that at least one parent of every child can be accommodated in the audience. For more information, please see the letter being sent home by Miss Webster next week. (Please bear in mind that any public performances will be dependent on the Covid situation at the time.)

To help with forward planning, I can now also confirm that Christmas Parties will be taking place across school on Thursday 16th December. On the day, children are all invited to come into school in their party clothes if they want to. There is a rumour that a certain Mr Claus may also have this date in his very busy seasonal diary..... But as with everything this year – there are no guarantees!

Don't forget, our school Christmas Lunch will be taking place on Friday 10th December, and all children are invited to join in with this seasonal feast! Meals are priced at £2.10 per meal for children in Nursery, FREE of charge for ALL children in Reception, Years 1 and 2 and £2.55 per meal for children in years 3,4,5 and 6. Christmas Lunch is also FREE for all children eligible for Free School Meals. Payment should be made via Parentpay prior to the 10th December. Also, on the 10th December is 'Christmas Jumper Day'. In return for wearing a Christmas Jumper or Christmas Accessories families are being encouraged to donate £1.00. All monies collected will go to a mental health charity.

On the 8th December the whole school, will be taking part in a Nativity at the Auction Mart. It is anticipated that parents will be invited, but more information will follow nearer the time.

26th November 2021

FRIDAY NEWS

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This week, Mrs Nelson has been busy collating Christmas Craft activities. Unfortunately, these afterschool workshops are now fully booked. If your child has missed out, there is a waiting list. Christmas Crafts will take place on the evening of Wednesday 8th December from 3.30pm to 5.00pm. Parents of children who are taking part need to make arrangements to collect children from school as they will not be allowed to walk home unaccompanied by an adult.

Orders from Art Projects for Schools have been sent home with children earlier this week. Hopefully everyone will be pleased with their purchases. If you do have any queries, or would like to order more items, then please contact Art Projects for Schools directly on 0800 027 1939 or visit www.apfs.org.uk.

Once again, thank you to everyone who supported children with their Children in Need Sponsored Walk or Mile with a Smile. Can parents please ensure that all sponsorship monies are returned to school by Monday 29th November at the very latest. On-line donations can still be made at:

www.justgiving.com/fundraising/bentham-community-primary-school.

All monies raised go to Children in Need.

Finally, can I please thank those parents who took the time to complete and return the Breakfast and After School Club Survey. Responses will be considered by a working party to ensure that the school continues to offer excellent out of hours care, relative to parents' needs.

Have a lovely weekend, stay safe.

Mr T Hiley

Interim Headteacher

Mobile Phones on school grounds.

We understand that parents and carers may wish to use mobile phones to make calls, check messages on social media etc while they are waiting for their children at the end of the school day and we are absolutely fine with this. We would ask however, that you do not use your device cameras to take photographs while on school premises. We have several families who have expressly asked that their children do not feature on any photographs taken in

school and it is an important safeguarding issue that we respect their wishes. If there is something specific you would like a photograph of, please have a word with your child's class teacher and we will be able to arrange it, if at all possible.

Packed Lunches

As we head into the colder months, can we please ask that parents of children who bring a packed lunch to school do not pack flasks/containers containing hot foods/liquids. As I am sure parents will appreciate, the temperature of flask contents can vary immensely, and school are unable to check the temperature prior to consumption. This could lead to a child being scalded or burnt. Likewise, if the hot content of a flask is accidentally spilt, this could also result in a child getting scalded. If you would prefer your child to have a warm dinner over the winter months, then it is not too late to order a school meal. School meals are excellent value for money, and freshly prepared from locally sourced ingredients on a daily basis in our own school kitchen. For a further copy of the menu please see Sally in the School Office.

SPORTS CAMP

Coach Mark Gunn has confirmed that there are no more 'funded' places available at the Sports Camp that will be taking place at school at the start of January 2022. These places were allocated on a first-come-first-served basis to children who receive benefit related Free School Meals and have now all been filled. There are, however, a couple of non-funded places available.

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 3rd December 2021 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!

Covid-19

There is clear evidence (ZOE Covid Study) that a runny nose and cold like symptoms are now the most common symptoms of Covid infection in unvaccinated children. This is challenging as we move into the usual Autumn cold

26th November 2021

FRIDAY NEWS

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and flu season therefore, we would strongly recommend that if your child is showing mild cold symptoms including a runny or blocked nose you test regularly with an LFD (Lateral Flow Device) test. By following guidance, we can help prevent the spread of Covid and protect our friends, families and communities. Advice from the Government continues to state:

“Do not use a rapid lateral flow test if you have COVID-19 symptoms as listed on the NHS website. [Get a PCR test](#) as soon as possible and [self-isolate](#), while awaiting the result even if symptoms are mild”.

For more information, please visit

<https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>.

Please do not send your child to school if they have any symptoms that could be attributable to Covid without undertaking an appropriate test. Please remember, that in line with advice from the Local Authority, it may be deemed necessary to send a child home, or not accept them in class if they are displaying covid symptoms and have not been tested. As is always the case, thank you to everyone in advance for their co-operation, support and understanding.

PE Days

With apologies for any confusion caused due to a printing error on last week's Friday News, please see below for amended 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	

Christmas Reading Challenge North Yorkshire Libraries will be running a Christmas Reading Challenge for 4–11-year-olds from Saturday 20th November. As a reward for reading children will be able to earn stickers, prizes and certificates. For more information, please see the

attached leaflet, or contact North Yorkshire Libraries on 01609 534547. www.northyorks.gov.uk/libraries.

Dates for your Diary

Monday 29th November 2021

Minced Beef and Dumplings
Country Vegetable Casserole and Dumplings
Jacket Potato

Tuesday 30th November 2021

Cheese and Tomato Pasta
Quorn Dippers
Jacket Potato
3.30pm-4.20pm After School Basketball Club

Wednesday 1st DECEMBER 2021

Roast Pork
Veggie Burger
Jacket Potato

Thursday 2nd December 2021

Chicken Korma
Vegetable Korma
Jacket Potato
3.30pm-4.30pm After School Cooking Club (Week 2 of 3 for Group 1)
3.30pm-4.30pm CREST Science Club

Friday 3rd December 2021

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

Fun-Day-Friday

Battered Fish
Roasted Vegetable Parcel
Jacket Potato

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

Return Sponsorship Money for Children in Need by no later than Monday 29th November.

Return Swimming Consents by 6th December 2021 (C4)

Return Parental Agreements by 3rd December 2021 (N)

Return Coach Mark Gunn's Multi Sports Camp Booking Form ASAP (R,1,2,3,4,5,6)

Order Photos : <https://tinypixels.getphoto.co.uk>

Return Menu Choices by 10th December 2021 (All)

Apply for a child's Reception Place by 15th January 2022 (N)

26th November 2021

FRIDAY NEWS

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Festive Dates for your Diary...

08/12/2021 : Christmas Crafts Evening

08/12/2021 : Auction Mart Nativity

10/12/2021 : Christmas Dinner

10/12/2021 : Christmas Jumper Day

14/12/2021 : The Prickly Hay Performance (EYFS/KS1)

16/12/2021 : Christmas Party Day

17/12/2021 : Last day of Term school closes at 3.30pm

04/01/2022: Coach Gunn's Holiday Sports Camp

05/01/2022 : School Re-opens



26th November 2021

FRIDAY NEWS

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FREE

Christmas Reading Challenge



**Read four library books before
Christmas and earn stickers,
prizes, a certificate, and a
personalised bauble for your tree!**

Ask at your local library for details

From 20th Nov

Ages 4-11

26th November 2021

FRIDAY NEWS

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CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY CAMP



SANDYLANDS, SKIPTON
20TH - 22ND DECEMBER 2021

10AM-3PM



BOYS AND GIRLS CAMPS RUNNING SEPARATELY

BOOK NOW

WWW.SOCCERHUB.ORG.UK

OR FOR
FURTHER
INFO

LYNSEY@SOCCERHUB.ORG.UK

CALL JORDAN ON 07702 497273



@soccerhubcoaching

Sp Adobe Spark

26th November 2021

FRIDAY NEWS

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Bentham Community
Primary School