



Friday 29th November 2019

Autumn Term : Edition 11

Dear Parents/Carers

Firstly, apologies for having to cancel the parent Maths/Reading Information Evening at such short notice on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> November. Unfortunately, we were unable to run this event due to staff illness. This will now take place on **Wednesday 4th December at 6.00pm**. Please just turn up childcare will, once again, be provided! We aim to be finished by 6.45pm.

School have been very lucky to have been awarded £2500 from Autism Aware UK. This huge amount of funding has been added to our music project. This week I ordered an outdoor stage and large scale outdoor musical instruments. The School Council were involved in deciding which items to purchase, we are all looking forward to seeing these items installed later this term.

There have been a lot of illnesses this week, affecting both staff and children. Hopefully everyone will return to school rested and healthy next week. Please remember that 48 hours needs to pass following the last incidence of either diarrhoea or sickness before your child returns to school.

Finally, thank you to all those parents/carers who donated a prize for our Christmas Fair in exchange for children enjoying a non-uniform day! Our Christmas Fair will be taking place in the School Hall from 3.30pm on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December. Please do come along, perhaps start, or finish, your Christmas shopping and help support our school by raising all important funds at the same time! Thank you.

Mrs Pearson

**Exciting Christmas News.....** This year we will not be having a whole school trip to a local theatre to watch a Pantomime. Instead, we are bringing a pantomime to the school! Oh yes we are! On **Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2020** the 'West End in Schools' Theatre Production Company will be performing 'Dick Whittington' to ALL children in the familiar surroundings of our School Hall. We would like to take this opportunity to thank The Friends of Bentham School for part-funding this lovely opportunity for children. As we are sure parents/carers will be aware the costs involved with bringing a pantomime to school are extensive, even with the significant and

gratefully received support of the FOBS. With this in mind, we are asking that parents/carers make a **voluntary contribution of £2.50 per child** towards the cost of the pantomime and provision of refreshments and interval snacks! Payment should be made via Parentpay by no later than **31<sup>st</sup> December 2019**. Thank you.

**Toast Café** To help school raise funds towards trips and residential visits, entrepreneurs, Abbie and Ella from year 6 will be selling toast every **MONDAY** break time from the Music Room. Toast will be priced at 10p per slice.

**Spring Menu Choices** This week, the new menu for the Spring Term has been sent home in children's book bags. There are lots of lovely warming lunches to enjoy on a cold Winter's day, including Roast Chicken, Glamorgan Sausage, Jam Roly Poly, Fruit Crumble and much more! If your child will be taking a school meal when we return to school in January, can parents/carers please complete meal choices, and return these to the School Office by Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2019. By way of information, our Fun Day Friday option will continue in the new term. Meal prices will continue to be charged at £2.10 per day for children in Nursery, FREE of charge for ALL children in Reception, years 1 and 2 and £2.55 per day for children in years 3,4,5 and 6. In some instances you may be eligible for Free School Meals or additional Pupil Premium funding. For more information, please see Sally in the School Office.

**Reminder : Youth Club** Bentham Youth Club are holding a fundraising Coffee Morning on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2019 at the Town Hall. The youth club is accessible to children of all ages, with lots of children from the school now regularly going along to the club and enjoying the wide range of activities on offer. To help support fundraising efforts for this important community provision, Bentham Youth Club are asking for donations for their prize raffle at the Coffee Morning. **Any donations would be gratefully received and can be handed into Sally at the School Office.** Please also remember to go along to the event and show your support. Thank you.

**PARENTPAY** Can we please remind parents/carers to regularly check their child's Parentpay account. At the time of writing there are **62** accounts showing as having outstanding balances. Please remember, if you are having difficulty meeting any payment, then

please do not hesitate to contact the school. In some circumstances, a payment plan or financial support could be put in place. Please be reassured that all discussions will be treated in the strictest of confidence.

To help with financial planning, and by way of a reminder, children in years 4 and 5 will be taking part in their residential visit to Bewerley Park from the 4<sup>th</sup> May 2020 to the 7<sup>th</sup> May 2020. We are asking that parents secure their child's place on this residential by paying a deposit of £100.00 (non-refundable) by no later than 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2020. Similarly, children in Year 6 will be taking part in a residential to Whitby from the 13<sup>th</sup> July 2020 to the 16<sup>th</sup> July 2020. Again, in order to secure a place, a non-refundable deposit of £100.00 needs to be made by no later than 27<sup>th</sup> March 2020. To assist with the financial outlay, Parentpay has been set up to allow parents/carers to make smaller balance reducing payments at any one time.

**Viking Workshop** On Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December children in classes 3,4 and 5 will all be taking part in a Viking Workshop. This will be a wonderful opportunity for children to engage in hands-on learning, whilst, at the same time, exploring the sometimes brutal and mysterious lives of our ancestors. This wonderful opportunity is FREE and is being funded by money raised at a previous sleepover.

**Caving Visit** On Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December, children in Year 6 have been given the opportunity to take part in a FREE caving experience at Long Churn Caves, Selside. Can we please remind parents to complete and return the Consent Forms for this visit to the School Office ASAP. Thank you.

**Reminder** If your child would like to join staff at this year's Christmas Crafts event on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December, please remember to return the reply form to school as quickly as possible, indicating which craft your child would like to take part in, together with payment of £4.00 (cash).

### **Festive Dates for your Dairy!**

**Non-Uniform Day (29/11/19)** in exchange for donations for this year's Christmas Fair.

**Christmas Fair** on 6<sup>th</sup> December from 3.30pm in the School Hall.

**Christmas Crafts** This annual event will be taking place after school on the 10<sup>th</sup> December.

**Carol Singing at Low Bentham Institute** On Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December, children in classes 3 and 5 will be carol singing to senior citizens at the Low Bentham Institute.

**Christmas Dinner and Jumper Day** ALL children in ALL classes are invited to join in with our annual Christmas Festive Feast on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December! Also on this day children are invited to come into school wearing a 'Christmas Jumper'. Rumour has it that Mrs Nelson will also be organising an 'Elf Run' for all Santa's little helpers. This year school will be festive fundraising for 'Save the Children' and local charity 'St John's Hospice', Lancaster. Look out for more information about how you can help.

**Nativity Performance** On Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December at 9.30am children in Nursery, Reception, Years 1 and 2 will perform their Nativity to an audience of Senior Citizens and Key Stage 2 children.

**Nativity Performance** On Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December at 6.00pm children in Nursery, Reception, Years 1 and 2 will perform their Nativity to parents/carers.

**Auction Mart Carol Service** On Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December children in all classes will be taking part in the Auction Mart's Carol Service from 2.30pm. Parents/carers are asked to make arrangements to collect children from the Auction Mart at 3.30pm. By way of information, the School Bus will be collecting children who use this service from the Auction Mart and transporting them home.

**CHRISTMAS PARTY DAY** On Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December we will all be enjoying Christmas Party Celebrations! There have been whisperings that a certain Mr Claus may travel from the North Pole to join in with the fun!

**What's on next week?**

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2019

Lunchtime Knitting Club

Lunchtime Board Games Club

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2019

Jordan's Lunchtime Football Club

Lunchtime Book Club

Afterschool Jigsaw Club (invited children)

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2019

Welcome back Mrs McGregor

Music Lessons : Mrs Brennan (Flute/Keyboard)

Music Lessons : Mr Hinchcliffe (Accordion)

Viking Workshop : Classes 3,4 and 5

6pm EYFS/KS1 Maths for Parents  
KS2 Reading for Parents

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2019

3.30pm Afterschool Pilates Club

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2019

Christmas Fair

**NO PRAISE ASSEMBLY**