



3rd November 2017

Autumn Term Edition 8

Communication with parents is something which, as a school, we are always trying to improve and focus on to ensure you know what is happening in school. Please look in your child's book bag this week and take 10 minutes to read through the information. There is a lot happening in school over the next few weeks and we thank you in advance for your support.

Bentham C P School has been in the news quite a bit recently. Hopefully you have seen the feature about the school in the Bentham News publication. This was a wonderful opportunity for us to showcase our school and let people know about what is happening in their community school, who perhaps don't have children here. If you have not seen the article, there are some copies available in school, just ask Sally.

In other exciting news, Miss Thwaite has been shortlisted for an award. The Lancaster Guardian Education Awards include an 'Inspirational Teacher' category and I am very pleased to say that Miss Thwaite has been nominated and shortlisted for this award. As you will hopefully be aware, Miss Thwaite has transformed our school lunchtimes and created a greater awareness of the food we eat and where it comes from. Running both the SNAG group and Eco-council has enabled the school to gain two awards this year and it is for these initiatives that Miss Thwaite has been nominated and will hopefully, fingers crossed, win an award. We are very proud of Miss Thwaite and are looking forward to the awards evening later in the month. Watch this space!

This week I have enjoyed a lovely occasion with the children in Class 3. Hot chocolate, cream, marshmallows AND cake was a lovely reward for them having the best attendance last half term. The Head Boy and Girl, Tom and Erika helped me prepare and serve the food and drinks and maybe got a sneaky hot chocolate too!

Have a lovely weekend and see you all next week.

Mrs Pearson

URGENT REMINDER Can parents of children in Year 6, please ensure that they have applied for secondary school places. The deadline for applications was the 31/10/17. For more information, please contact School Admissions on 01609 533679.

PARENTS' EVENINGS Thank you to all those parents who sent replies for appointments at November's Parents' Evenings. Hopefully, everyone will be happy with the appointment times allocated, and will find that where children have siblings at school, there is only a small waiting time in between appointments. Please look out in Book Bags for confirmation of times.

PETER PAN A MUSICAL ADVENTURE As we are sure everyone is aware, we are hoping to take all children from Reception through to Year 6 inclusive to The Winter Gardens, Blackpool on Tuesday 19th December to experience a live musical theatre production of Peter Pan. Can we just remind parents, if they have not already done so, to return Consent Forms to the School Office and to deposit payment for the magical adventure on Parentpay. Thank you.

LAUNCH OF E-MAIL COMMUNICATIONS Once again, thank you to those parents who have provided the school with their e-mail contact. We have started to e-mail communications out, together with putting them on the School's Website and sending out paper copies. It is anticipated that, in the future, we will stop sending paper copies of correspondence to parents who have provided their e-mail (except in cases where reply slips are required). During the roll-out period of e-mailing we would encourage parents to check their 'Junk E-mail Folders'. If you would like to up-date e-mail contact details at any time, then please see Sally in the School Office. Thank you.

CHILDREN IN NEED This year we will once again be fundraising for Children in Need by hosting our very own Pudsey 'Bake-Off'. This will take place over two rounds, the first of which will be on **Monday 6th November**, where children will be encouraged to bring along home-baked cakes to the School Hall. These will be sold at break-times for 20p each. On Monday 13th November, we are asking that children bring along Biscuits and Tray bakes and on Friday 17th November children are invited to take part in a non-uniform day. For more information, please see the leaflet which has been sent home via children's' Book Bags. Thank you.

DIARY DATES Please look out in book bags for Mrs Pearson's letter to parents which gives lots of details about what is happening this half term, including, a Senior Citizens Christmas Afternoon and Remembrance Service.

REMINDER Can parents of children in classes 1 and 2 please remember to return Consent Forms and make payment for the visit to Skipton Castle which is taking place on 16th November 2017.

EXPERIENCE DAY In support of children's World War Two topic work in school, children in Classes 4 and 5 will be given the opportunity to take part in an evacuation experience day on Thursday 23rd November 2017. Can we please remind parents to return the consent slip to school by Friday 10th November in order for children to take part in this FREE activity. Finally, can we just take this opportunity to thank the Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust for financially supporting this day and sourcing the same.

THE FRIENDS OF BENTHAM SCHOOL Thank you to the FOBs for organising the wonderful Halloween Disco that took place on Wednesday 1st November 2017. To help raise even more funds for the school, and to encourage parents to have a good old 'early Spring Clean', the FOBS have also arranged for a Bag 2 School collection to take place on Thursday 23rd November 2017. If you have any unwanted, but good quality, adults' and children's clothing, paired shoes, hats, belts, handbags, ties and soft-toys, then please place these in the Bag 2 School collection bags sent home with children, and leave them at school on the morning of Thursday 23rd November. Unfortunately, bags cannot contain items such as bedding, curtains, towels, household linen, workwear, schoolwear or bric-a-brac.

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION The school are selling various items on behalf of the Poppy Appeal from School Reception. We are requesting that minimum donations of £1.00 are made for items such as wrist bands, pencils, rulers etc. Traditional poppies are also available on a donation basis.

ODD SOCKS DAY for ANTI BULLYING We are absolutely sure that EVERYONE will agree that there should be a ZERO tolerance of Bullying in any shape or format at any point in life. To help endorse this message we will be actively taking part in Anti-Bullying week which starts on Monday 13th November

until Friday 17th November. This year the theme is 'All Different – All Equal'. Throughout the week children will be actively involved in various activities, workshops and assemblies – all that we are asking to show that children, parents and families are dedicated and supportive of anti-bullying measures is for children to wear ODD SOCKS on **Monday 13th November 2017**. For more information please look out in children's book bags. Thank you.

Bentham and Beyond Calendar 2018 Copies of this locally produced Calendar are on sale at school reception priced at £7.50 each. These calendars make wonderful gifts for friends and relatives at Christmas and ALL PROCEEDS of sale go to The Friends of Bentham School, whose fundraising efforts continue support EVERY child in EVERY class in the school.

Run, Bike, Run.... Off Road Fun..... On Sunday 26th November at the Giggleswick Junior School Pavilion, Mil Lane, BD24 ODG Run Bike Fun will be holding an 'Off Road Fun' event. Registration for entries starts at 1.00pm with the actual event commencing at 2.00pm. There is a £10.00 entry fee per child up to 16 years old with a £15.00 per multiple sibling and family team fee. There are various race distances and all that is needed on the day is a suitable safe bike, helmet, trainers, clothes to cycle and run in together with one willing adult volunteer to help you keep warm and dry - also needed is a BIG SMILE and probably a spare set of clothes! As is usually the format the event is all for fun, there will be no times recorded. For more information, please contact either Jill Eccleston on 07955 342344 (info@runbikefun.co.uk) or Andy Mouncey on 07799 063115 (andy@doingbigandscary.com).

GOODENBER PLAY AREA are holding a Coffee Morning to help raise funds on Saturday 4th November at the Town Hall from 10.00am until 12.00 mid-day. Entry is FREE of charge.

CHRISTMAS SLEEPOVER for children in Key Stage 2 (years 3,4,5 and 6) will be taking place on Friday 1st December 2017. Please look out in children's book bags for more information and payment details.

FINALLY.....CAN YOU HELP? Mrs Harrison and Miss Thwaite are busy collecting glass jars..... these can be any shape or size, but are URGENTLY needed by children in Classes 4 and 5 for the week beginning 27th November. Thank you.