



Friday 16TH March 2018

Spring Term Edition 9

I would like to start this week's newsletter by thanking the Friends of Bentham School for supporting the visit from Andy Seed, a famous author, which took place last Friday. Andy Seed led a whole school assembly and workshops with Classes 2, 3, 4 and 5. Andy also shared his published books and passed his secret of how to be a successful writer onto children - ...you'll have to ask the children the secret formula!

This week has seen the children going beyond the four walls of the class room. Class 4 have been swimming, Class 2 have been to Godly Play, we have had a Netball team match at Settle College and Year 5 have been to the local Rewind to Easter event. Children in year 6 took part in 'Crucial Crew', which is organised by North Yorkshire Police and Mr Waugh has been leading music lessons in Classes 3 and 4. As I write, Baby and Toddler Group is running in the School Hall. This week has really highlighted the many varied activities that happen in our school!

I have also had the pleasure of meeting new families who will be joining our school after the Easter holidays - welcome to those parents and children who will be joining our Nursery after Easter.

Finally, I am very pleased to announce that the sleepover date has been re-arranged for children in Years 3 to Year 6. This will now be on 27th April 2018. Children who have already paid will automatically be added to the list of participants, but if your child would like to join in, then please let us know.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Pearson

Chair of Governors Unfortunately, we have recently received a letter of resignation from Mr David Tuohy, our Chair of Governors. This will mean that Mr Tuohy will no longer serve as a Governor for Bentham Community Primary School. Whilst we respect the decision Mr Tuohy has made due to personal commitments, we would like to take this opportunity of formally thanking Mr Tuohy for all his hard work, dedication and continued support of the school. Mr Tuohy, alongside other members of the Board, has relentlessly strived to resolve any on-going issues with the building, improve the 'whole school' experience

for parents, children, carers, extended family and members of the community, all whilst continually battling against budgetary constraints faced by education. We would like to wish Mr Tuohy all the very best for the future.

After School Clubs : Can you help? As a school we are continually striving to improve our 'service' to parents, carers and children. Recently, a number of after-school club activities have been offered to children, whilst some of the provision provided has been free of charge, there has been a cost involved in others, with the school heavily subsidising the cost per child for parents. After School Clubs have included Film Club, Basketball, Jammie Dodgers, Spanish Club and Judo. We are dedicated to enhancing a child's overall learning experience at school and are keen to promote after school club activities. However, historically there has been a very poor up-take in attendance at some clubs, meaning that they have been cancelled. As a parent, we are interested to find out how you feel about after school clubs? We are also interested in finding out what type of clubs you would like to see offered to children after school in the future? Finally, we would like parents to consider what would prevent them/their children attending an afterschool club – this could be due to other commitments or financial implications – please be honest. **Unfortunately we have only received two responses to date**, however, we are keen to give parents a further opportunity to have their say. Please e-mail replies to admin@bentham.n-yorks.sch.uk. Alternatively, leave a message with Sally in the School Office. All responses will be treated in the strictest of confidence. Hopefully by continuing to work together as a school community we can deliver even bigger and better things. Thank you.

Friday News Please remember if you want to continue receiving a paper copy of the Friday News, then please let Sally in the School Office know. Thank you.

Parent Governor Vacancy We are pleased to announce that Mrs Gemma Knapp (parent to Louisa and Jacob) has submitted a successful nomination to fill the vacancy of Parent Governor on our Board of Governors.

Class 3 Swimming Unfortunately there has been some confusion around next term's swimming lessons! Can we just confirm that only children in YEAR 3 from Class 3 will be taking part in lessons at Settle Pool as from Monday 16th April 2018. We have been made aware that parents are currently

experiencing difficulty securing 'private' swimming lessons for children 'out of school time'. With this in mind, we did investigate the possibility of including children from Year 2 in weekly swimming lessons. However, at the current time, due to health and safety regulations, it will NOT be possible for children in year 2 to join those children from year 3. Apologies for any disappointment.

Finally, can we just take this opportunity to remind parents, if they have not already done so, to return Swimming Consent Forms to the School Office and make a contribution towards the cost of lessons via Parentpay as quickly as possible. Unfortunately, there are still a number of payments outstanding for children who were provided with lessons earlier in the year from Classes 4 and 5.

Netball Tournament Well done to those children who recently took part in a Netball Cluster event on Monday 12th March at Settle. Freya, Oliver, Rio, Emily, Robyn, Aniesha and Tom were a credit to the school and played exceptionally well. Our team secured fourth position overall in the competition. Well done everyone.

Fair Trade Treats Thank you to all those children who took part in the recent Fair Trade Treats event organised by Mrs Harrison. School managed to raise £121.00 for this worthy cause. Thank you and well done.

Growing up in North Yorkshire : 2018 Pupil Survey We have agreed to take part in the 2018 Growing up in North Yorkshire Survey for young people. This will involve children from Year 2 to Year 6. Information gained from this survey provides knowledge and understanding about the lifestyles and learning of children and young people in North Yorkshire. For more information please see the letter sent home with children via book-bags.

The Friends of Bentham School have recently announced that they will be holding an 'Easter Bake-Off' competition.... This eggciting event will take place on Monday 26th March 2018 and children are encouraged to bring to school home baked cakes, biscuits, buns, sponges, tray bakes, cup-cakes, gateaux, home-made Easter Eggs etc... Entries will be judged after registration, with one lucky winner per class winning an Easter Egg prize. Goodies will then be sold at playtimes for 30p each and afterschool (if there are any left!). This really is a fundraising eggstravaganza for eggeryone to enjoy!

On the last day of term, 29th March 2018, the FOBS will once again be selling bags of sweets at their now infamous 'Tuck Shop' event.

Please remember that proceeds of sale from ALL FOBS events help EVERY CHILD in EVERY CLASS. Thank you.

'Wacky Walk' for Sport Relief 2018 This year school will be supporting 'Sport Relief' by encouraging children (and parents) to take part in a 'Wacky Walk' on Friday 23rd March 2018. This sponsored walk will involve children walking through Bentham and along the river dressed in attire that is as wild and wacky as possible! For more information, please see the letter previously sent home via children's book bags. For a further copy of the letter, or another Sponsorship Form please see Sally in the School Office. Thank you.

Dates for your Diary As you will see we have lots of exciting opportunities and experiences planned for children over the coming months. Some of the planned visits will incur a small charge to parents; by giving parents plenty of prior warning, we are hoping we will provide an opportunity for parents to both save and plan for future expenditure – we hope this helps.

21/03/28 Basketball Afternoon with Giggleswick School (Class 4 and Class 5)

31/03/18 Governors' Meeting

**22/03/18 Music Assembly (Classes 3 and 4).
2.45pm : Parents welcome.**

22/03/18 Film Club : More info to follow (Year 2 – 6)

23/03/18 Sports Relief 'Wacky Walk' (Year 1 – 6)

26/03/18 Easter Bake-Off Event

27/03/18 Visit to Gillgarth Farm (Class 2)

29/03/18 Tuck Shop (FOBS)

29/03/18 SCHOOL CLOSSES FOR EASTER HOLIDAYS

16/04/18 SCHOOL OPENS

07/05/18 School Closed : May Day

08/05/18 Bewerley Park Residential (Year 5)

24/05/18 Class Photos (Provisional booking)

25/05/18 SCHOOL CLOSSES

04/06/18 SCHOOL OPENS

Nursery Do you know a child who might be wanting to start in our Nursery from September 2018? If so, please encourage their parents to contact school and place their names on the waiting list. We are currently in the process of planning our classes and provision for the next academic year; it would be really useful to know how many 3 year old children there are currently living in Bentham and surrounding catchment areas, whose parents are intending to send them to our Nursery. Thank you.