



Friday 23rd March 2018

Spring Term Edition 10

Dear Parents

On Monday evening, I attended the Bentham Youth Café AGM where I was able to find out about the wonderful plans that are being made to extend provisions that are available to children and young people in Bentham and surrounding villages. I would encourage anyone who has any spare time, whether it be to help run the Youth Café or organise fundraising events, to get in touch with Bentham Youth Café. It is a real asset to our community.

Wednesday afternoon saw a Basketball festival in school for children in Classes 4 and 5. The afternoon enabled children to show off the skills that they have learnt over the past term. We also welcomed children from Giggleswick Primary School who took part in the afternoon. A photograph of the winning team is on our website.

The School Hall was filled with music on Thursday as children from Classes 3 and 4 showcased the songs that they have been learning over the term with Mr Waugh. Playing a musical instrument is a skill that takes time and patience and it was wonderful to hear a selection of songs played linked to children's topics.

As I type this newsletter, children are arriving at school wearing wigs, costumes, funny hats and face paints. The staff have also embraced the day and have dug deep into their dressing up boxes to join in the fun all in aid of Sport Relief!

Next week we would like to invite parents/carers of children from Class 1 and Class 3 into school for two 'Stay and Learn sessions'; this is an opportunity for parents/carers to come into school and join in a lesson, look at children's learning and find out a bit more about what happens in their child's class.

On Tuesday 27th March from 9.00 until 10.00 parents/carers of children in Class 3 are invited into the classroom whilst on **Wednesday 28th March from 9.00 until 10.00 it is the turn of parents/carers of children in Class 1.** Please do come and join us for any or all of the hour, we look forward to seeing you.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Pearson

URGENT REMINDER : Child Tax Credits/Working Tax Credits/Universal Credits If you qualify for Universal Credits then your child is ENTITLED to a Free School Meal. It is important that parents/carers apply NOW as new earning thresholds will be introduced by the Government as from 1st April 2018. If awarded Free School Meals these will continue to be provided until at least 2022 – regardless of any increase/amendment to earnings. Applications need to be made by no later than 31/03/2018. For more information, or for an application form, please contact the School Office. Please be reassured that all applications will be dealt with in the STRICTEST OF CONFIDENCE. Do not miss out on what you are entitled to.

Summer Term 2018 Menu The Summer term's new and exciting Menu will soon be available on the School's Website. There are lots of delicious and nutritious meals to choose from, including Summer Grab Bags on Tuesdays and Thursdays. All meals are prepared daily, on site, using only fresh and locally sourced ingredients. Not only do school meals offer excellent nutritional value and form part of a balanced diet, they are also still brilliant value for money at only £2.30 per day per child for children in years 3,4,5, and 6; £1.80 for children in Nursery and FREE of charge for ALL children in Reception, year 1 and year 2. Over Summer we will be continuing with our 'Fun Day Friday' option. This is where children who do not usually have a school meal are encouraged to try a meal on a 'Friday'. There is no need to pre-book, meals can be ordered during Registration time in class. Payment should be made via Parentpay and we would request that parents ensure that their child's account is up-to-date at all times. Thank you.

Swimming Lessons Following on from last week's Friday News, we have been contacted by The Pool Manager at Settle Swimming Pool. Settle Pool currently have a number of places available for swimming lessons, after school, for children of ALL abilities and ALL ages. Lessons are currently priced at **£4.50 per child per lesson** (fees payable up-front termly). For more information, or to secure a place for your child, then please contact the pool directly on 01729 823 626. Thank you.

Basketball and Multi-Sports : Skipton (Easter Holidays) Coach Mark Gunn, who many parents will know through the school's After School Basketball Club has provided information about an Easter Holidays 2018 Basketball and Multi-Sport Camp. The provision will take place at Craven Leisure's Multi Use Games area in Aireville Park, Skipton. There are lots of

exciting activities taking place over the week commencing 3rd April 2018. For more information about the schedule for the week, or a booking form please see Sally in the School Office.

Jammie Dodgers There will be no 'Jammie Dodgers' on Wednesday 28th March 2018. Apologies for any inconvenience.

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.

North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue have recently contacted North Yorkshire County Council and requested that they pass information onto parents about the dangers of fire.

Last year, North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue saw a spike in DELIBERATE fires over the Easter Holidays and are actively campaigning to reduce this number this year. North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue have asked for help from parents, this can be by simply checking on their children's plans and ensuring that matches and lighters are kept somewhere that isn't easily accessible. NY Fire and Rescue would like to remind parents that deliberately starting a fire is against the law, and even small fires can endanger lives. Fire spreads quickly and can be unpredictable.

If parents have any concerns that their child(ren) have a fascination with fire, they can make a CONFIDENTIAL referral to the Fire Service through a 'firesetter network', simply call 0800 074 0064 (Freephone) or e-mail safeguarding@northyorkshirefire.gov.uk. Thank you.

REMINDER : The Friends of Bentham School '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 ... Thank you to all those children, parents, families and members of the local community who supported the school's Sports Relief Fundraising efforts by taking part, sponsoring and encouraging participation in the 'Wacky Walk' fundraiser! Pictures of children are available on the school's website, they have certainly 'brightened' up the school's newsfeed! More information about the amount of money raised for Sports Relief will be available shortly. Once again a BIG THANK YOU for EVERYONE'S efforts.

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.

26/03/18 Easter Bake-Off Event

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

27/03/18 Quick Sticks Hockey Tournament

28/03/18 CANCELLED : Jammie Dodgers

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

PARENTPAY Polite Reminder : There are still a number of payments outstanding on Parentpay. Can we please request that parents check accounts over the Easter Holiday to ensure that they are all up-to-date. At the time of writing there are 73 accounts with balances showing as outstanding. Thank you.

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.