



24th November 2017

Autumn Term Edition 11

This week has been a little wet and one or two children have arrived at school without a coat! As much as possible we will always get the children outside at playtime and lunchtime but please can you ensure your child brings a warm, waterproof coat to school with them.

I also write to inform you of further staffing changes in school. Mrs Steele will be leaving the school at the end of this term. Mrs Steele has welcomed many children into Nursery since taking over the role of Nursery Teacher from Mrs Heaton in May 2010. Mrs Steele's last day at school will be Friday 22nd December 2017. On behalf of the staff, governors, children, parents and families we would like to wish Mrs Steele all the very best for her future. I will of course update you on who will be teaching our Nursery children from January in the near future.

I am also delighted to let parents know that from January we will be able to offer 30 hours funded provision for 3 and 4 year old children. Many thanks to all those parents who have completed the forms and enabled us to ensure that this step would be feasible. More information will follow shortly to confirm arrangements.

I hope to see lots of you at the Christmas market this evening and hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Pearson

CANCELLED Unfortunately, as can sometimes be the case during the busy festive season, the school arranged to hold a fund-raising Key Stage 2 Sleepover on the evening of Friday 1st December, this is the same evening that Bentham will be hosting their 'Late Night Shopping' event. In order to support the local community and give children an opportunity to see Father Christmas (who it is rumoured will be visiting Bentham on that evening) the decision has been made to POSTPONE our sleepover until the New Year. To make financial arrangements less complicated, we are suggesting that refunds will not be made to parents who have deposit payment for the sleepover on Parentpay, alternatively, these will be carried forward in readiness for the new date in the New Year. If for any reason your child cannot attend the new date, then monies will be refunded

IMMEDIATELY. We hope this is a satisfactory arrangement for parents. Apologies for any inconvenience caused. We will let you know a new date after the Christmas holidays.

CONGRATULATIONS to Miss Hope Boocock and her partner Danny who welcomed baby George, weighing 8lbs 3oz, into the world on Friday 17th November 2017. George will be 'little brother' to Charlie and Effie – not doubt they will all be causing mischief already!

MSA (Established), MSA (Maternity Cover) and ATA (Maternity) Vacancies We currently have vacancies at the school for an ATA/MSA (Maternity Cover) and a permanent MSA. If you would like to become part of a friendly dedicated team and work at our wonderful Community Primary School, then please see NYCC's Job Website for more information and application forms. <https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/jobs-and-careers>. Two further adverts for part time General Teaching Assistants supporting children with specific needs will also be advertised shortly.

CHILDREN IN NEED Thank you to all those children (and parents) who took part in the school's fundraising efforts for Children in Need. We are extremely proud to announce that we raised an amazing £202.25. The Bake Off Prize Winners this year were, Liam, Ross, Abbie, Tallulah and Tallulah! WELL DONE everyone for your wonderful artistic and creative delicious baking efforts.

PARKING CONCERNS Following the recent decision to re-open the School Gates allowing parents to park in the Car Park whilst collecting and dropping children off, we have been advised by local residents, that some parents are still using Moons Acre to park their vehicles at school times. The residents have absolutely no issue with parents using this area, however, they do have concerns about where parents are parking as, on occasions, this is causing obstructions and blocking entry and exit routes. Residents are also concerned about the safety of children in and around the roads, as cars are often parked illegally in locations that block the vision of the roadway. Can parents please ensure that they park both safely and considerately. Thanking everyone for their continued understanding and support.

CROSSING PATROL We have been informed that they may not be a Crossing Patrol Service at the school on Thursday 30th November.

THE FRIENDS OF BENTHAM SCHOOL Can we just remind parents, friends and families that the FOB's Christmas Market takes place later today, 24th November, in the School Hall from 6.00pm until 8.00pm. Everyone is welcome – so please come along and support the school whilst doing some Christmas Shopping! **The Bentham and Beyond Calendar 2018** is available to purchase from School Reception, priced at a very reasonable £7.50 each these make lovely gifts for friends and families at Christmas. All proceeds of sale are being donated to the Friends of Bentham School whose fundraising efforts continue to support EVERY child in EVERY class.

URGENT REMINDER : YEAR SIX visit to The Houses of Parliament We are absolutely delighted to be once again planning an exciting, memorable and educational visit to the Houses of Parliament, having successfully secured one of the limited number of school tours and workshops available during 2018. This is a wonderful opportunity for children. Can parents please ensure that they make the deposit for this trip on Parentpay by no later than **Friday 1st December 17.**

HEALTHY EATING, HEALTHY LUNCHES... After much deliberation, calculations and benchmarking exercises, the Governors of Bentham Community Primary School have agreed that as from January 2018 the price of school dinners for children in years 3,4,5 and 6 will increase to £2.30 per meal, and for children in Nursery to £1.80 per meal (this price increase is in line with many local schools and is the first increase for well over five years). As I am sure parents will all agree, school meals continue to offer EXCELLENT value for money even with this small increase. All meals are made from FRESH LOCALLY sourced produce and offer a balanced nutritious meal for children at lunch-times. It is lovely to see children sitting around tables at lunch-time eating a warm 'home-cooked' meal, developing meal-time socialisation skills and abilities. Naturally, if you have any concerns, or wish to discuss this price increase further, then please do not hesitate to contact the school.

BREAKFAST CLUB... As we very quickly approach the festive season, can we just remind parents that our wonderful Breakfast Club is available every weekday morning from 8.00am. Full sessions are charged at £4.00 per child and include breakfast and refreshments, whilst half-sessions are available from 8.20am priced at £2.00 per child/session including

refreshments. Why not take advantage of some early morning childcare and set off early for a day's Christmas Shopping! Registration Forms are available from either Mrs Read, Breakfast Club Manager, or Sally at the School Office.

ACCIDENTS DO HAPPEN.... Can we encourage parents to check their children's book bags for minor injury letters, perhaps whilst checking for homework, on a daily basis? It is normal protocol that if a child sustains an injury at school they will receive a 'sticker' which clearly indicates to parents that an accident of a medical nature has taken place during the school day, however, on some occasions, these stickers have fallen off clothing. Following an incident at school which has involved First Aid, if, as a parent you have to take your child for further medical advice about an injury, can you please ensure that Sally in the School Office is made aware. In cases where follow-up treatment is required, there is a necessity for the school to report the injury to North Yorkshire County Council. Thank you.

QES Christmas Fair This year Queen Elizabeth School will be holding their Christmas Fair on the evening of Friday 1st December from 6.30pm to 8.30pm. Entry is £1.00 per adult and children FREE.

CRAVEN SCHOOLS JUDO LEAGUE League events are scheduled to take place, as follows:

09/02/2018 : Bentham C P School

Weigh In : 1300 – 1330 / Contests: 1330-1600

12/03/2018 : Bentham Judo Club Fixture

Weigh In : 1800 – 1830 / Contests: 1830 – 2030

15/06/2018 : Ingleton Primary School

Weigh In : 1300 – 1330 / Contests: 1330 – 1600

13/07/2017 : Settle Judo Club Fixture

Weigh In : 1730 – 1800 / 1800 – 2030

For more information please visit the Craven Schools Judo League website at

www.cravenjudo.co.uk/schoolsleague

IS BENTHAM AND DISTRICT DEMENTIA-FRIENDLY?

We have been asked if parents would be willing to complete a short questionnaire relating to Dementia? This is really important research, and ultimately helps the local community. Questionnaires are available at School Reception. Once completed these should be placed in the 'reply box' provided. Thank you.

