



Friday 26th January 2018

Spring Term Edition 3

This week seems to have flown by and, once again, I have lots of news to share with you. Children in Classes 2 and 3 are now taught by Mrs Woodhouse on a Tuesday or Wednesday afternoon. This enables Mrs Hodgson and Miss Richardson to have some valuable time out of class to fulfil their leadership roles. Please do pop in and say hello to Mrs Woodhouse. We will soon be interviewing for an Advanced Teaching Assistant position in school to cover Miss Boocock's role in Reception until she returns from maternity leave. We have had a number of applications and we are looking forward to welcoming a new member of staff to our team soon. Unfortunately we have had no interest in our lunchtime midday supervisor role, 3 days a week from 12.00-1.00pm. If you know of anyone who would like to care for and look after our children on a lunchtime, then please ask them to get in touch.

This week I had a meeting with our School Council who were given the task of choosing new items of playground equipment from lots of colourful catalogues! A wooden trim trail will soon be appearing on the field for the children to use at playtimes and lunchtimes. We just need to finalise our choices and place the order! This project is being funded by the Co-op's donation to the FOBS and the PE and Sports Grant the school receives.

I have recently been applying for grants to fund the purchase of various musical and art equipment at the school. This is part of a whole school initiative to improve the resources we have in school for children to use to both broaden their talents and interests in creative areas, theatrical arts and music. The school recently submitted a final plea for financial assistance to the Town Council as part of their annual precept grant, unfortunately the Town Council sadly chose not to support their local school and we were unsuccessful in being awarded the remaining monies the school needs in order that the project can 'get off the ground'. Naturally, this is very disappointing when we are the local community primary school. With school budgets increasingly stretched, we are constantly having to turn to alternative sources to secure funding which enables the school to provide above and beyond for our children. Therefore if you know of any local sources of funding for schools, then

please let me know and help get this exciting project off the ground!

Have a lovely weekend. Mrs Pearson

Film Club Miss Thwaite and Miss Mulligan will be hosting Film Club on Thursday 1st February. For more information, look out for the posters in school.

Stay and Learn Class 2 parents are invited to '**Stay and Learn**' on Thursday 1st February from 2.50pm. Please do come and join your child in their class to find out more about what happens whilst they are at school. We will be holding more Stay and Learn opportunities for other classes in the near future.

Parent Contact Details Please can you ensure you update the school office with any changes of phone numbers and/or address. This week and last week, we have, on occasion, needed to contact a parent and discovered that all the numbers we hold on file are either incorrect or no longer in service.

Attendance We ask once again that parents consider not taking children out of school for routine appointments such as dental, medical, optical. Proof of any appointments during the school day is always required. If you fail to provide this, your child's absence may be recorded as unauthorised which could lead to a referral to the Prevention Service. If your child is absent from school for any reason, please remember you should notify the School Office before 9.30am. Thank you.

Brainbuilder Club This term, Mrs Hodgson continues to run Brainbuilder Club, on a Thursday lunchtime. The club is for any children who wish to complete their homework in school, or for any child who needs to complete their homework in school to ensure it is completed! Remember Brainbuilder homework is designed to let children choose their level of challenge and we would encourage parents to support their child in completing this learning at home.

Reminder : Parents' Evening Please return your reply slip to your child's class teacher by no later than Friday 9th February 2018. Thank you to all those parents who have already returned appointment requests. Due to the large volume of requests, appointments are now being collated; this means that the remaining time-slots will now be allocated on a first-come-first-served basis. By way of information, Monday 26th February 2018 is nearly full to capacity, there are however slots still available on Wednesday 28th February. Thank you.

The Friends of Bentham School are busy planning a Disco which will take place on the evening of Wednesday 7th February. Tickets will be on sale from any member of the FOBS in the school playground, morning and afternoon. There will also be a Friday afternoon Tuck Shop on the 9th February.....more information to follow.

Early Years Can parents of children in Nursery and Reception please remember to put hats and gloves in children's book bags..... these are used not only during breaks and lunch-time but also during activities in class that take place in the school's outdoor provision. Thank you.

Run Bike Run – Off Road Fun Remember on Saturday 27th January 2018 from 1.00pm there will be a Run Bike Run event taking place at Giggleswick Junior School Pavilion (BD24 0DG). Entry fees are £10 per child up to 16 years old and £15 per multiple sibling and family teams. There are three races in total, each with different distances. Participants will have to walk the course at 1.30pm with races starting at 2.00pm. For more information, please contact either Jill Eccleston on 07955 342 344 (infor@runbikefun.co.uk) Andy Mouncey on 07799 063 115 (andy@doingbigandscary.com).

Reminder School Uniform is now available from Tesco on-line, this includes book bags. For more information, please visit:-

<https://www.tesco.com/direct/ues/>

Can we just remind parents to ensure that their child's name is clearly written in all items of uniform. This ensures that clothing can be easily returned to its owner!

Reminder As from 8th January 2018 a small increase to the cost of a school meal was agreed by Governors. This means that meals are priced at £1.80 per day for children in Nursery, FREE of charge to children in Reception, Year 1 and 2 and £2.30 per day for children in years 3,4,5 and 6. School meals offer excellent value for money, allowing children to enjoy a warm, home-prepared, healthy lunch whilst developing their social skills alongside their friends.

If parents would like the opportunity for their child to 'try' a school meal, then why not take advantage of our 'Fun Day Friday'? Every Friday all children in all classes are given the opportunity to have a school lunch, these can be ordered at Registration time in classrooms. On Friday 2nd February Fish Fingers, Jacket Potatoes and Vegetable Moussaka are all on the Menu.

Parent Governor Vacancy As from 2nd March 2018 there will be a vacancy on the School's Board of Governors for a Parent Governor. This is a demanding role that requires commitment, dedication and the willingness to take part in training and development over the course of an academic year. At the same time, being a Governor is also very rewarding. The school are particularly seeking applicants with experience in health and safety, finances, premises, human resources and/or specific curriculum areas. Further details about how to nominate yourself for this exciting opportunity have been sent home via children's book bags. Naturally, if you would like to discuss this opportunity, or require further details about the role of a Parent Governor, then please do not hesitate to contact the school. Please note the deadline for nominations is Friday 16th March 2018 at 09.00am.

Home School Link Worker Miss Angela Tierney has now re-located to the School's Library! Miss Tierney is available to support parents and families with any worries or concerns they might have about children and/or home life. If you would like a confidential chat with Miss Tierney then please do not hesitate to contact her on either 015242 61412, via e-mail at hslw@bentham.n-yorks.sch.uk, or simply pop into the School Library at 3.30pm.

'Working together to support children, young people and their families'

Breakfast Club The school's Breakfast Club runs every week day morning during term-time from 08.00am. The cost per child is £4.00 per full session (08.00am to 08.50am including breakfast) and £2.00 per child per half session (08.20am to 08.50am – refreshments included).

Basketball Following the wonderful success of the school's After School Basketball Club which is run by England qualified Coach Mark Gunn, we are pleased to be in a position to announce that we have secured further afterschool Basketball sessions for children in years 3,4,5 and 6 starting on Wednesday 21st February 2018 from 3.30pm to 4.20pm for the duration of six weeks. The price of the course per child is £16.00 (the school are subsidising the full cost to parents). If your child is interested in taking part, then please complete and return the reply slip provided on Coach Mark Gunn's letter (sent home in Bookbags), and return the same to the School Office together with payment as quickly as possible. Places will be offered on a first-come-first-served basis.