



Bentham Community  
Primary School

Bentham C P School  
Low Bentham Road  
Bentham  
Lancaster  
LA2 7BP

Headteacher: Mrs C A Pearson  
Member of

The Three Peaks Family of Schools

Tel & Fax: 015242 61412

[admin@bentham.n-yorks.sch.uk](mailto:admin@bentham.n-yorks.sch.uk)

[www.benthamcpschool.org.uk](http://www.benthamcpschool.org.uk)

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Dear Parents

Happy New Year and welcome back to school! I hope everyone had a lovely Christmas - I am sure Santa visited every house delivering gifts. The end of the Autumn term was a slightly busy one and school very much appreciated all your support with all the events that took place. Christmas is a fantastic time to work in school and although we were all ready for a rest, children included, we very much enjoyed all the events that took place.

By way of information, please find below details of some staffing changes that will be taking place as we start the Spring term:-

### Class 1

Mrs Chapman will be teaching her usual days but, in addition, will be teaching Thursday and Friday afternoons. Mrs Chapman's teaching commitment will increase further when Mrs McGregor begins her maternity leave, which is anticipated to be mid-February 2019, Mrs Chapman will then teach every day, during both the morning and afternoon with the exception of Monday afternoons, when Miss Allan, who the children already know, will be teaching the class.

### Class 3

Parents of children in Class 3 will be aware that Mrs Hodgson was not very well last term, unfortunately, Mrs Hodgson will not be in school until following the February half term. I am sure you will join me in wishing Mrs Hodgson a speedy recovery and we all hope that she is back to full physical fitness soon. I am pleased to advise parents, that Mrs Cryer will be teaching in Class 3 during the period that Mrs Hodgson is not in school. Children will have been given the opportunity to meet Mrs Cryer earlier today. I am delighted that we have been able to secure a teacher who is able to teach full time for the whole duration of Mrs Hodgson's absence, as this will provide continuity for the children. Mrs Cryer is a very experienced teacher, with particular expertise in Year 2. I am sure you will all welcome her to our school and help her to settle in.

### Class 5

Mrs McGregor will be teaching in Class 5 on a Thursday and Friday afternoon for the next few weeks and is looking forward to spending more time with Years 5 and 6. I will continue to teach Class 5 for a lesson a week - this term my lesson will be PE!

### Spanish

Hopefully children have been coming home talking a little bit of Spanish during last term? Miss Allan has been doing a wonderful job teaching all our children how to speak and sing in Spanish. Spanish lessons will continue this term, and will be taking place on a Tuesday.



Another small change to staffing this term, is that I will not be in school on a Monday. During my absence, Mrs McGregor will be 'filling my shoes' until she commences maternity leave. At this point, Mrs Chapman will then be taking over the role of Special Educational Needs Co-coordinator and will be the main point of contact in school on a Monday when I will not be present.

The school are very lucky to have two students in school during the Spring term. Miss Gough and Miss Etheridge both of whom are completing their teaching degree at the University of Cumbria and will be with us for the next 10 weeks. Miss Gough and Miss Etheridge are both embarking on their final teaching placement, with Miss Gough in Class 3 and Miss Etheridge in Class 4. We are very pleased to be asked by the university to support both students, who are taking the first steps in their teaching career. We look forward to Miss Gough and Miss Etheridge becoming part of our school community this term.

Whilst the above may seem like quite a lot of change, it will all just happen and life in school for the children will alter very little. As is always the case, if you have questions about any of the above then please do come and speak to me. I will continue to try and be in the playground before and after school, or you are welcome to pop in and see me or make a phone call, whichever is easiest.

By way of information, I will be sending home a list of important diary dates at the end of the week and class teachers will be updating class pages on the website shortly - please do take the time to have a look.

Finally, please can I take this opportunity to remind parents that children should not be in school, without parental supervision, before 8.50am. If children arrive at school prior to this time, please use our Breakfast Club provision.

Many thanks for your continued support

Yours sincerely

Mrs C Pearson  
Headteacher