



Message from Ms Drew

The weather has certainly changed and winter is upon us. Make sure you wrap up warm and remember to bring your coat to school.

We have lots going on this week. Christmas arrives at Benthal on Friday 1st December with our annual BIG Benthal XMAS lights switch on and Winter Fair.

Come and join in the fun outside in the courtyard, the library for Santa's Grotto, Juniper class for the Festive Cinema and Magnolia Class for arts & crafts and glitter tattoos 3.30pm- 6.00pm. The lights will be switched on at approximately 4.00pm. There will be lots going on with festive music & food and activity stalls.

Santa Claus loved eating Chef Alex's Christmas dinner so much last year that he wrote to me to ask if he could come back. Of course I said yes, we would love to have him back!

This means that 'Dinner with Santa' is happening again for another year. Friday 1st December 6.30pm-8pm. You will need to pre-pay for your tickets by Thursday 30th November, as it is seat limited. I'm sure Santa will have a good appetite as our Chef Educator, Chef Alex, will be serving a two-course festive meal. It should be lots of fun, with music and games.

All the money raised will directly benefit our Benthal children, so please dig deep and give as much as you can. See you all there!

Ms Drew



CLASS ASSEMBLIES IN SPRING TERM

In the Spring term, each class will do an assembly. The assembly will take place in the large hall from 9.15am-9.30am.

Please see the dates below:

26 th January	Arbutus
2 nd February	Willow
9 th February	Beech
23 rd February	Hazel
8 th March	Serrula
15 th March	Elder
22 nd March	Magnolia

Parents/carers are invited and we hope to see many of you there.



For the Winter Fair, we would appreciate receiving donations of jam jars for our craft activity and also any soft toys you may have that are clean and in good condition (please remove any labels) for our Adopt-a-toy stall

PUPILS' MEDICAL INFORMATION

If your child has developed a new medical condition or allergy, please email the school office so we can update our records. If you would like to book a meeting with the school nurse, please request a self-referral form from the school office.

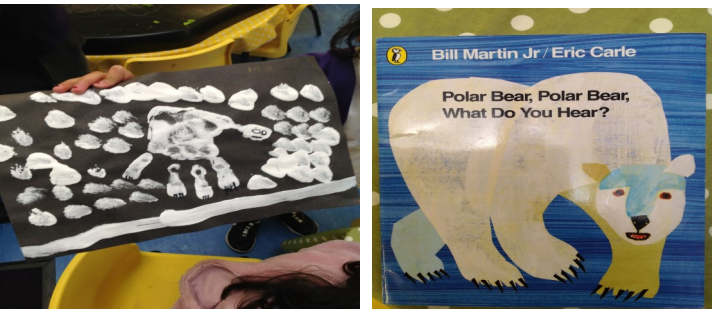
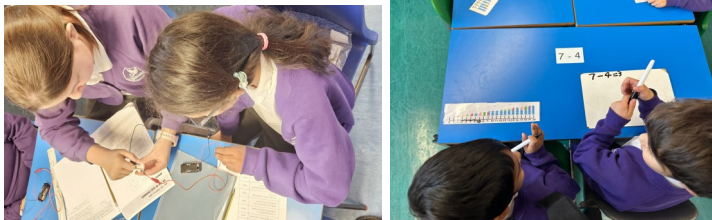
Please be reminded that only prescription medication can be administered by school staff during the school day.

In School Pantomime

Pupils from Year 1 to Year 4 will enjoy “Robin Hood” pantomime on **Friday 15th of December at school from 1pm-2pm**. The cost of the ticket is £13.50. Please make payment by Monday 11th of December via Scopay. Year 5 and 6 children who didn't have a ticket for Aladdin can attend the pantomime at school, please make payment using Scopay if you want your child to attend.

BENTHAL CURRICULUM NEWS

This week the children in Y4 Hazel class were learning about electricity during their science lesson. They made a 'human electrical circuit' to role play how electricity travels from the battery to power the light bulb. Year 3 went to the Barbican to see the London symphony Orchestra. Year 6 have also been learning about electricity. Year 2 followed instructions to make a fruit yoghurt pizza and next week they will write up their own instructions using imperative verbs and time conjunctions. Pine Reception class enjoyed the book “Oh No George” by Chris Haughton, talking about times when its difficult to be good and how it feels when you get told off like George does in the book for making a mess. Year 1 have been learning how to subtract on a number line. Nursery learnt about polar bears this week, they read the book—Polar Bear, Polar Bear What do you hear? - by our focus author Eric Carle. They learned that polar bears live in the cold Arctic and are very good swimmers. The children also made polar pictures using handprints.



DATES TO REMEMBER



Travelling Book Fair (in School)

27th November—1st December

Big Benthall Xmas Light Switch on and Winter Fair and Dinner with Santa

1st December 2023

KS1 Christmas Concert

8th December at 2.15pm

KS2 Carol Concert

13th December at 2.15pm

Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day

14th December 2023

Pantomime at School for Year 1 to Year 6

15th December 1pm to 2pm

Madrid trip meeting for Year 5 parents (targeted children only)

15th December 9.05-9.30am

Fundraising Cake Sale— Year 5 & Year 6

Friday 15th of December is the turn of Y5 & Y6 parents/carers in the junior playground

Last day of the term

Thursday 21st of December at 1.30pm (No play-centre)

Christmas Break

22nd December 2023-5th January 2024

Holiday Activity Scheme

2nd to 5th January 2024 (free for FSM children)

Inset Days 2023/24

8th of January 2024

3rd of June 2024

24th of July 2024

BENTHAL WINTER PLAYScheme

We are running a winter playscheme for children in all year groups from Nursery to Year 6, who are entitled to Free School Meals from **Tuesday 2nd January until Friday 5th January, from 10:00am - 2:00pm**.

This provision is free of charge and a nutritious lunch will be provided. Activities will include arts and crafts, a range of sports, indoor and outdoor games. The Playscheme will be run by Benthall's experienced playworkers and nursery nurses, who will ensure the children have lots of Christmas fun activities.

There will be a trip to Little Angel theatre on one of the days to see a Christmas puppet show (free of charge).

All children currently eligible will have received an email already. If you think you are eligible, or need help with your Free School Meals application, please contact the School Office.

Registration for places need to be received by **Friday 15th December at 9am**.

We also offer paid places to children not entitled to Free School Meals, the cost is £12 per day.

