



Message from Mrs Drew



Here we are, Autumn Term is at an end already. It has been a fantastic term, we've had open days, lots of parent workshops for reading and phonics and maths, including using simple games to encourage discussion and talk at home. Classes have been all over London, visiting the British Museum, Horniman Museum, Queen Elizabeth Park, The Barbican, Bikeability for Year 5, EE Challenge Day and a visit for some Year 6 pupils to Global. Haverst festival, Winter Toy Appeal and of course the Key stage 2 Carol Concert and Key stage 1 Christmas Show. We've even been on the BBC London news and in the Hackney Citizen. This is in addition to all the academic lessons, reading, writing, maths, science, Benthal Creative Curriculum and all the irresistible learning that takes place every day at Benthal. #irresistiblelearningatbenthal

Thank you to all the staff for their unrelenting expertise, passion and dedication for all the children at Benthal. Also a huge thank you to all parents/carers for your continued support in making Benthal a fantastic community school #thisisbenthal. Follow us on Benthal twitter.

I wish you all a very Happy Christmas, a safe holiday and peaceful New Year. Goodbye 2019, hello a new decade, 2020!

Trips and Assemblies

Monday 16th Dec

EYFS and KS1 Pantomime in the small hall



Tuesday 17th Dec

Yrs 4 & 6 to 'Dick Whittington and His Cat' panto

Wednesday 18th Dec

Yrs 3 & 5 to 'Dick Whittington and His Cat' panto

10th February—14th February

Year 5 Madrid Residential Trip

12th May—15th May

Year 4 to Kench Hill

18th May—22nd May

Year 6 to Frylands

Dates to remember

Thursday 19th Dec

Last day of term, school closes at 1.30pm—No Playcentre.

Tuesday 7th January

Back to School (breakfast club and playcentre open as usual).

Afterschool clubs will start week beginning 13th January



Attendance Champions

We take attendance very seriously and would like to congratulate children who have achieved 100% attendance this term. The children work so hard all year round, and the curriculum is varied and fast paced, so it's vital that the children do not miss time off school. Pupils with 100% attendance and no lates in the Autumn Term will receive a special surprise trip in January, so watch this space!



Sustainability at Benthal

Our Eco Warriors sustainability after school club has been a huge success this term and the children have been learning about how we recycle at Benthal and the ways in which we are committed to being mindful about our impact on the environment. We do this in a number of ways at Benthal, including our food waste recycling and our commitment to no paper handtowels in the classrooms since 2016. Our Early Years children also enjoy weekly Forest School lessons to introduce them to learning about the outdoor environment. Please see below an amazing Recycling poster designed by our Eco Warriors Club. In addition, they planted 50 tree saplings around the school grounds last week. This was part of the National Tree Week initiative by the Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan. It's been great to put trees back after we had to have some removed during the summer with the playground improvements. In the new year the Eco Warriors club will be looking at how clean our air is around the school and comparing it to other schools in the local area.

#nationaltreeweek



Term Dates 2019-2020

Spring Term 2020

- Tues 7 Jan— Back to School
- Half Term - Monday 17 - Friday 21 February 2020
- End - Friday 3 April 2020

Summer Term 2020

- Start - Monday 20 April 2020
- Half Term - Monday 25 - Friday 29 May 2020
- Inset Day—Mon 1st June 2020
- Last day for Children—Friday 17 July 2020

Reception Applications Deadline



If your child attends Benthal Nursery you will still need to apply for a Reception place online. The deadline for applications is January 15th, 2020. If you need any more information on this or help with your application, please ask for help at the school office. We offer support sessions on Monday 16th December, Tuesday 7th January and Monday 13th December, at 3.45-4.30pm.

Nursery



If you know somebody who has a 3 year old child, please tell them about our excellent EYFS provision. We have a few full time and part time spaces available. Our Nursery is open from 8am-6pm Monday to Friday in (term time only) for a January start and has excellent outdoor space.

Benthal Values Certificate Winners

MAGNOLIA— Ayaz ROWAN— Mariam—ELDER— Dilan and Avni SERRULA—Izabela and Abubaukker HORNBEAM— Sassanya and Kaiya M HAZEL— Astrid WILLOW— Harper and Jasmine ARBUTUS— Jessica and Hazen ASH— Tre

Key Stage 2 Playground Developments

We are very excited to let you know that we have now started the installation of the outdoor gym in the Key Stage 2 playground. At Benthall, we strongly believe that PE and sport activities are very important for pupils' wellbeing, enrichment and development. We offer our pupils lunchtime Sports activities and afterschool clubs include Football, Gymnastics and Tennis. Years 3 & 4 have swimming lessons and Years 5 & 6 go sailing. We champion PE for its potential to promote health and encourage lifelong physical activity, therefore the selection of equipment for our outdoor gym has kept this in mind. It has been carefully chosen by the School Council. The work will be finished by the end of the term and ready for the children to enjoy from January 2020.



Benthall Winter Fair

We would like to say a big Thank You to Friends of Benthall for organising another successful Winter Fair, particularly Davina, who oversees the Winter Fair. This year it was held on Friday for the first time, due to parents' requests and it was a very well attended and fun-filled evening for the whole school community. Check out our twitter for more photos. The activities included Santa's Grotto, Palm reading, Christmas cinema, face painting, arts and crafts and much more! Please see below some pictures of the night. In two hours, we raised a fantastic £1,183.93!

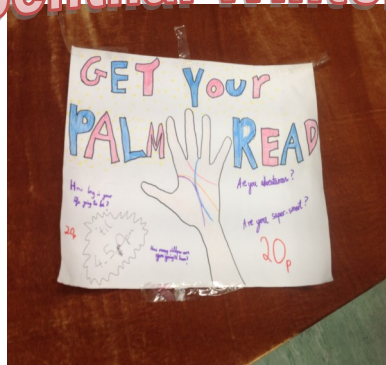
This will be used for buying more books for our new family library, due to open in January 2020.



Big Benthall Christmas Lights Switch on



Benthall Winter Fair



Key stage 2 Carol Singing Concert



Key Stage 1 Christmas Show



Attendance

Last weeks winners were Elder with 98.1% attendance, well done!