



Message from Ms Drew

We certainly have had a very busy two weeks back after half term. Year 1 and 2 visited the Barbican for a music concert, they thoroughly enjoyed it. We had a wonderful Black History Celebration Assembly, last week, where all the classes shared their learning about significant black icons that have had a positive effect on all our lives.

This week Year 3 and 5 have had Road Safety Workshops. There are more workshops to come for the other year groups, in the next few weeks. We also had a visitor from Hackney Education and they were extremely impressed with the children's outstanding behaviour in class, the high levels of engagement in their learning and how polite the children were. I felt very proud of all the children and the staff.

Of course we have had Parents Evening last night and IEP meetings this week. Thank you for coming, it was lovely to see you and for you to have the opportunity to look at your child's 'irresistible learning'. The teachers have told me that it was good to be able to discuss any concerns now, rather than at the end of the term. I hope you have found it useful to have it earlier too.

Finally, it is Anti-Bullying Week next week. The theme this year from the Anti-Bullying Alliance is 'Make a Noise about Bullying'. We will begin the week by everyone wearing 'Odd Socks' on Monday 13th November, to celebrate that we are all unique!

Also, it is Armistice Day this weekend; remember to wear your poppy with pride. 'At the 11th hour, on the 11th day, of the 11th month we will remember.'

Have a good weekend.

Ms Drew



CURRICULUM NEWS—PINE CLASS

In Pine Class, we have been learning about Diwali and the story of Rama and Sita this week. We made our own Diwa lamps and practiced tracing lines with Mehndi tubes (filled with Henna paste). Some of us also got temporary Henna tattoos.



CURRICULUM NEWS—NURSERY

In nursery we have been learning about Diwali. The festival of light. We made Rangoli patterns and mehndi. We learned that Diwali is often celebrated with food and fireworks.



Friends of Benthall Fundraising Bake Sale

Massive thanks to Years 2, 3 and 4 parents and carers for donating the cakes and for staying to help sell the cakes last week. Thank you Friends of Benthall for coordinating it. Friday's bake sale was a huge success. Years 2,3 and 4 raised £156.70—AMAZING.

Remember it will be the turn of **Year 5 and 6 parents/carers on Friday 15th**

December and their cake sale will be held in the **junior playground.**

Please bring your cake donations to the school office on the day.

Contact Lizzy if you can help in any way: 07944911852.



PANTOMIMES As part of the end of term trip some year 5 and 6 will be going to the Hackney Empire on 24th of November to see "Aladdin" pantomime. The cost of the trip is £13.50, tickets are limited and will be distributed on a "first come, first served" basis, so please pay online by 17th of November. The children will have an early lunch on the day, leave the school at 12.45pm and will arrive back at school at approximately at 4.30pm (we will text you exact time of arrival on the day).



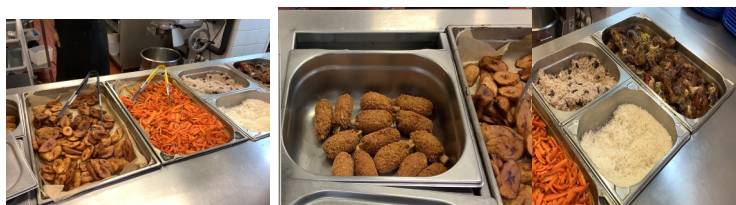
Pupils from Year 1 to Year 4 will enjoy "**Robin Hood**" pantomime on **Friday 15th of December at school from 1pm-2pm.** The cost of the ticket is £13.50. Please make the payment by Monday 11th of December via Scopyay.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Benthall celebrated Black History Month with a special assembly, aiming to promote Black contributions to the British society, foster an understanding of Black history and share the impact of Black heritage and culture.



As we continue tasting cuisines of the world we celebrated Black History Month by having a Caribbean themed lunch on Friday 3rd of November. Pupils were treated to rice and kidney peas, jerk chicken, crispy jackfruit wings and fried plantain — Delicious



DATES TO REMEMBER



Barbican Centre trip (LSO)

20th November—Year 3 & 4

Travelling Book Fair (in School)

27th November—1st December

Hackney Empire Pantomime—Aladdin

24th November at 1.30pm for Years 5 and 6

Big Benthall Xmas Light Switch on & 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

14th December 2023

Pantomime at School for Year 1 to Year 4

15th December 1pm to 2pm

Last day of the term

Thursday 21st of December at 1.30pm

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

Travelling Book Fair

In order to raise funds and promote reading, Benthall will host a Travelling book fair from **27th November to 1st December 2023.** A wide range of fiction and non-fiction books will be on sale for all ages including pre-school, please remember that we only accept cash for book purchases.

SCHOLASTIC
BOOK FAIRS

2 YEAR OLD NURSERY PROVISION

We are very excited to share the news that Benthall will extend its nursery provision to 2-year olds from January 2024. To be eligible for 15 hours of free childcare, you should be in receipt of a qualifying benefit such as income support, income-based jobseekers allowance, or your 2 year old must fit into one of the categories of children who have additional needs. Please note that your child has to turn 2 before January 2024 and you need to apply online by end of December at the latest.

If you are interested, please speak to the office staff, who will help you to fill in the application.

You can find more information here:

<https://portal.learningtrust.co.uk/Synergy/>

<https://www.gov.uk/help-with-childcare-costs/free-childcare-2-year-olds#content>

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