



## Message from Ms Drew



Welcome back and I hope you all had a restful half term break.

Thank you to those Parents/Carers who spoke to our focus group from Grebot Donnelly Consultancy in July and September and shared your views. It was a very positive experience for us all.

From the findings in July and September we have already implemented suggestions that came from the discussions that you had. Parents/Carers said:

- You wanted more homework. We have added to the creative books project, Maths booklets for all children from Year 2 upwards.
- More help with homework. We have been running a homework club on Tuesdays from 3.30pm-4.30pm since September.
- More information for Year 6 to Year 7 transition. We will now combine the Year 6 SATS information meeting with how we support our pupils with transition to secondary school.
- More information about academic learning at Benthal—we have held Parent/Carer workshops on Maths and Phonics. We have also invited Parents/Carers in to see reading being taught in the Juniors and have recently seen 'Maths in Action' in the infant classrooms. Look out for future dates for Writing and Science in the Spring Term.

Please also remember that I am usually around in the playground at the start and end of the day, alongside other members of our Senior Leadership Team, we are very visible. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to come and talk to us.

Also, later on this term I will be sharing with you our academic achievements from our July pupil outcome data. It is very pleasing as in many subjects we are either broadly in line or above the national averages for pupil attainment.

Finally, we will be celebrating the end of Black History Month next week. Each class will share information about their historical or inspirational figure, and how they have impacted positively on everyday life now. I'm really looking forward to hearing about what the children have learnt. Enjoy the crisp Autumn days. Have a great weekend.

### Trips and Assemblies

#### Monday 4th November at 11am

Yr 3 trip to Barbican

#### Monday 11th November at 11am

Yr 1 trip to Barbican

#### Friday 15th Nov 9.15am

Hazel class assembly

#### Mon 25th November

Yr 4 to British Museum

#### Wednesday 11th Dec at 2.30pm

Juniors Carol Concert

#### Friday 13th Dec at 9.30am

EYFS and KS1 Christmas Show

#### Monday 16th Dec

EYFS and KS1 Pantomime in the small hall

#### Tuesday 17th Dec

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

#### Wednesday 18th Dec

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



### Dates to remember

#### Tuesday 5th Nov 3.30pm

Parent workshop—Talk through Games

#### Tuesday 5th Nov

Flouride Varnish (Reception and Yr 1)

#### Monday 11th November

Nasal Flu vaccination (Rec to Year 6) and

Remembrance Day (Poppies on sale in office)

#### Tuesday 12th November

Anti bullying workshop (for children)

#### Wednesday 13th November

Literacy Workshop for KS2 Parents/Carers

#### Thursday 14th November

Individual photographs

#### Thursday 28th November 3-6pm

Juniper Class Parents Evening

#### Friday 29th November

Annual Toy Dress Up day

#### Thursday 5th December 4-8pm

Parents Evening, Book Fair and Professionals Drop In.

#### Friday 6th December 3.45pm

Big Benthal Switch on— Christmas lights and Christmas Fair

#### Thursday 12th Dec

Christmas lunch

#### Thursday 19th Dec

Last day of term, school closes at 1.30pm



### Anti Bullying Workshops

Last month, we had an interactive anti-bullying workshop for Key Stage 2, aiming to encourage children and young people to respect themselves and each other at school, in their homes, communities and online. We plan to host more anti-bullying workshops to give the children the skills to stand up to bullies.



### Internet Safety

We would like to alert you that a new app has recently launched—the 'Face Cast' app. Although designed for those over 18, it allows children who state they are 13+ to access it and use live video mode, chat to strangers and earn in app coins. We would recommend that your child's phone or any device they may have access to, is regularly checked and, if this app is found, please consider removing it.



### Fundraising Christmas Fair

Our fundraising Christmas Fair will take place on Friday, December 6th after school. Benthal Big Christmas lights switch on will also happen too! This year we are fundraising for books for our new library. Please contact Friends Of Benthal on [friendsofbenthal@benthal.hackney.sch.uk](mailto:friendsofbenthal@benthal.hackney.sch.uk) if you can help in any way. Thank you



### Open Fun Day

Our next Open Fun Day will be held on Thursday, November 14th, 4-6pm. It's a great opportunity for our prospective parents to get to know each other, and see the school and facilities. Please tell your neighbours and anyone who might be interested in sending their children to Benthal. Here are some photos from the last Open Fun Day which was a great success.



### Benthal Values Certificate Winners

**MAGNOLIA**—Ezo and Sudais **ROWAN**—Elvin—**ELDER**—Ameerah **SERRULA**—Taivon and Sonja **HORNBEAM**— Theo and Suraya **HAZEL**—Shakyi and Summer **WILLOW**— Mariam and Uma **ARBUTUS**—Theo and Precious **ASH**—Gunja, Stacy, Tre and Amilah

### Key Stage 1 Maths Open Morning

On Wednesday, we had a Maths Open Morning for Key Stage 1. Thank you for coming! We hope you found it useful.



### Big Book Boost



#### **What is Big Book Boost?**

Big Book Boost is The Book People's brand new fundraising scheme. Every time you place an order with them over £10, they'll donate £1 to a school of your choice for them to spend on books! With your help, they aim to donate 1 Million Books to UK schools by 2022.

#### **How Can I be a Big Book Booster?**

Log into your account with The Book People and when you shop online, and select Benthal as your school. This will really help to keep our brand new library stocked with new exciting titles. If you require any further information, please visit their website, [www.thebookpeople.co.uk/bigbookboost](http://www.thebookpeople.co.uk/bigbookboost), or ask office staff. We will also have a fundraising book sale every Monday in Key Stage 2 playground, please come and see us there. All the money raised will go towards new books for the library.

This week in Nursery, we have been doing lots of work to develop our fine motor skills. We are learning to hold our pencil between our thumb, index and middle finger. Please can you help your child to do this at home.



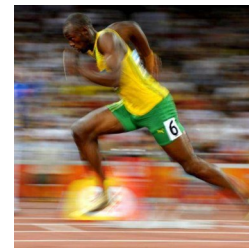
In Reception we have been learning about the people who help us. This week we found out about doctors and vets.



### In Year 1, we have been learning about Lewis Latimer



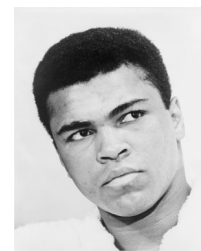
### In Year 2, we have been learning about Usain Bolt



### In Year 3, we have been learning about Barack Obama



### In Year 4, we have been learning about Muhammad Ali



### In Year 5, we have been learning about Oprah Winfrey



### In Year 6, we have been learning about Jesse Owens



### Attendance

Last weeks winners were Elder with 99.5 % attendance, well done!