



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 next week, with children going to the panto and Little Angel Puppets coming to the school and of course our annual BIG Benthal XMAS lights switch on and Winter Fair on Friday 6th December when Christmas arrives at Benthal!

Come and join in the fun outside in the courtyard, the library for Santa's Grotto, Aspen class for the Festive Cinema, Magnolia Class for arts & crafts and glitter tattoos, the small hall for the bouncy castle and lots more 3.30pm- 5.30pm. The lights will be switched on at approximately 4.00-4.15pm. There will be lots going on with festive music, food and activity stalls.

At the start of the week, I also received a letter from the North Pole! Santa Claus had such a lovely time last year eating the beautiful Christmas dinner made by Chef Alex and the kitchen team and meeting our wonderful Benthal children and their families that he was checking to see if he could come back again for dinner. I immediately wrote back and said YES, it will be lovely to see him and gave him the date and time, Friday 6th December 6.15-8.15pm. If you would like to have 'Dinner with Santa', please make sure you pre-pay for your tickets, by Thursday 5th December, as it is seat limited. Chef Alex, will be serving a two-course festive meal. It should be lots of fun, with music and games and of course, Santa!

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!

Have a great weekend,

Ms Drew

Benthal Primary School
Christmas Lights
Switch On &
WINTER FAIR
Friday 6th December
3:30pm - 5:30pm

Santa's Grotto
 Bouncy Castle
 Tombola
 Cinema
 Games & Crafts
 Festive refreshments
 and lots more!!

Please contact the School Office
 if you would like to volunteer or host a stall
 office@benthal.hackney.sch.uk / 020 8985 9310

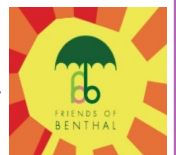
BENTHAL WINTER FAIR

Calling all parents and carers! We are super excited to host our annual fundraising winter fair, but we need your help to make it a success!

Can you help with crafts or food stalls? Can you help organise Santa's Grotto or manage bookings for our Christmas cinema?

Get in touch via the School Office or email the Friends of Benthal at friendsofbenthal@gmail.com.

Thank you!



Payment for school services

Parents/carers are reminded that the payment is required for any school service in advance, that includes extended services, after-school clubs, school trips and music lessons.

Please ensure that you have paid for the Christmas shows before the day as unfortunately unless the payment is received, you child will not be able to attend.

Curriculum News

Reception Pine have been reading 'Oh No, George' by Chris Haughton and are learning how to retell it using Makaton signs and actions. We have also enjoyed related art activities.



Year 5 Birch have been looking at the work of Clara Ledesma, a Dominican-born American artist best known for her paintings in the post World War II era. We enjoyed blending and layering colours together, drawing in the style of the artist. We used our drawing tools with control and dexterity to recreate Ledesma's signature drawings.



Year 5 Willow class have been exploring instructional and explanation texts. In this photo you can see us reading and acting out the words!



Year 6 used their drawing skills and knowledge of geometry to create perspective drawings in their WW2 topic. They learned how to use techniques such as vanishing points and angles to make their artwork look three-dimensional, combining maths and creativity in their designs.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Year 6 to 'Pinocchio' at Stratford East

Tuesday 3rd December

Year 3 & 4 Pantomime at Hackney Empire

Tuesday 3rd December

Nursery - Year 2 Christmas Show in School

Tuesday 3rd December at 1.30pm

Year 4 Trip to Apollo Music Concert

Thursday 5th December

Xmas Lights Switch On & Winter Fair

Friday 6th December at 3.30pm

Dinner with Santa

Friday 6th December at 6.15pm

Year 2 Trip to Barbican

Monday 9th December at 9.30am

KS2 (Years 3-6) Carol Concert

Wednesday 11th December at 2pm



Christmas School Lunch & Jumper Day

Thursday 12th December

Willow Class Assembly - New Date!

Thursday 12th December at 9.15am

Year 5 & 6 Pantomime at Hackney Empire

Friday 13th December

Class Parties

Thursday 19th December at 2pm

Last Day of School

Friday 20th December - School finishes at 1.30pm

Dental Team Visit for Rec and Yr1

Wednesday 22nd January 2025

Year 4 Residential Trip to Kench Hill

Tuesday 6th - Friday 9th May 2025

TERM DATES

Christmas Break

Friday 20th December - Friday 3rd January 2025

Monday 6th Jan 2025 - All pupils back to school

peep

- Meet other parents and children
- Why join a Peep group?
- Welcoming and friendly
- Tips on supporting children's learning
- Singing and stories
- Fun activities to try in the group and at home
- Non-judgemental space

Peep Learning Together Programme

We have been running interactive workshops for our nursery parents and pupils, facilitated by a certified practitioner from Hackney Family and Information Services. The Peep LTP is an evidence-based initiative by Hackney Education helping parents and carers to support their young children's development by building on play and learning opportunities in everyday life.

Thank you to all the families that been joining us so far. Sessions will continue on Tuesday mornings from 9:00-10.30am on Dec 3rd, 10th and 17th.



Should I keep my child off school?



Yes

Until...

Chickenpox	at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over
Diarrhoea and Vomiting	48 hours after their last episode
Cold and Flu-like illness (including COVID-19)	they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend. Follow the national guidance if they've tested positive for COVID-19.
Impetigo	their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics
Measles	4 days after the rash first appeared
Mumps	5 days after the swelling started
Scabies	they've had their first treatment
Scarlet Fever	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics
Whooping Cough	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics

No

but make sure you let their school or nursery know about...

Hand, foot and mouth	Glandular fever
Head lice	Tonsillitis
Threadworms	Slapped cheek



SCAN ME

Advice and guidance

To find out more, search for health protection in schools or scan the QR code or visit <https://qrco.de/minfec>.

It's Panto Season!

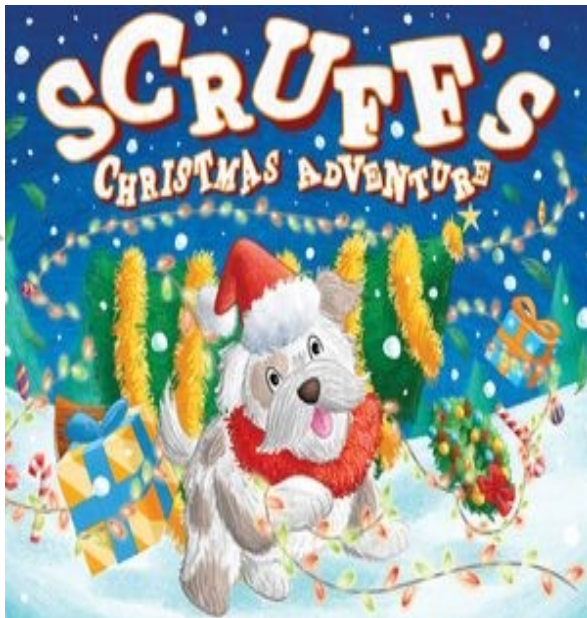
As part of the run-up to Christmas, we are pleased to offer pupils in Years 3 to 6 the opportunity to attend a performance of Dick Whittington and His Cat at the Hackney Empire this December.

Join Dick on his search for fortune, fame and new beginnings! Along the way, he'll experience the adventure of a lifetime, battling rats, falling in love, and finding himself on the path to becoming the Mayor of London.

Get ready for a joyful reimagining of this classic rags to riches tale, featuring all your favourite pantomime ingredients. From an unbelievable cast to extravagant costumes; from audience participation to sensational song and dance numbers - what more could you ask for?!

If you would like your child to attend, please ensure you purchase a ticket via Scopay. Places are limited!

Years 3-4 will be going on Tues 3 Dec.
Years 5-6 will be going on Fri 13 Dec.



For pupils in Mulberry Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and 2, we are excited to announce that the highly acclaimed Little Angel Theatre will be coming to Benthall to perform a brand-new, interactive and heart-warming show for the festive season.

It's Christmas Eve, and Scruff the puppy can't sleep – how can a little dog like him find a totally *paw-some* gift for his owner?

Join Scruff on a tail-wagging journey filled with magical puppetry, hilarious characters, and plenty of audience interaction. Maybe you can help Scruff find the best possible gift just in time for Christmas!

The show will take place in the Small Hall on **Tuesday 3 Dec at 1:30pm.**

Tickets are available via Scopay. Nursery parents can accompany their child for the show (one parent per family please).