



Message from Ms Drew



Welcome back! I hope you all had a restful and rejuvenating half term holiday. Whilst the weather has been unpredictable, signs of Spring are upon us. Look out for all the daffodils around the school. The tree blossom will be here soon too.

I know it will be another busy half term at Benthal starting with World Book Day and our Enabling Enterprise Challenge Day. Hackney Gazette have promised to come in and take photos of what will be a fantastic day. Look out for the photos in the local press soon. Also remember class photographs are the following day on Friday 6th March.

The 100% attendance and no lates winners had a fantastic time with me at the Rio Cinema. We all enjoyed watching 'Secret Life of Pets 2' while eating popcorn. It was a wonderful way to reward those children's achievement. There will be another trip for the 100% attendance and no lates winners for the Spring Term. Watch this space.

In addition, we are fully aware of the crisis that is appearing in many countries around the world, including the UK. I want to reassure you that we have been following the advice from Public Health England and the Department for Education. Older children have been proactive too by designing and placing 'Wash your Hands' posters around the school. We have also been showing the children how to wash their hands effectively. Please encourage your child to wash their hands throughout the day, not just at meal times or after using the toilet. We will continue to keep you updated via our website and through our text messaging service. Remember, unless you or your child have been advised to self isolate, your child should still be attending school.

Finally, Benthal Parent Voice had their first official meeting on 14th February. Both the Parent Governor and myself felt that it was a productive meeting. Your child's class reps will be speaking to you again soon in preparation for our next meeting. Look out for them.

Coronavirus advice from the Department of Public Health

If you have returned from the following specific areas since 19th February, you should call NHS 111 and stay indoors for two weeks and avoid contact with other people even if you do not have symptoms.

Iran, Specific lockdown areas in Northern Italy, Special care zones in South Korea, Hubei province

If you have returned from the following areas since 19 February and have developed symptoms, however mild, you should stay indoors at home and avoid contact with other people immediately and call NHS 111:

Northern Italy (defined by a line above, and not including, Pisa, Florence and Rimini) Vietnam Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar

If you have a cough, or fever or shortness of breath and have visited any of the following areas in the last 14 days, stay indoors and call NHS 111 informing them of your recent travel:

China, apart from Hubei province, Thailand, Japan, Republic of Korea, apart from special care zones, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Singapore, Malaysia, Macau



Benthal Newsletter

It is important to keep up-to-date and read our fortnightly newsletter on the Benthal website. Please be reminded that there are paper copies of the newsletter available from the school office. Due to the Benthal sustainability programme, supported by Eco Warriors Benthal club, we calculated it would cost £30 per child per academic year, totalling over £3,000 per year to print. This is the reason why we have stopped automatically printing a copy for each child. In addition to being on our website, starting from this week we will send it to all parents by email. Please provide your email address if you have not already done so, our email is office@benthal.hackney.sch.uk. Our newsletter is available online and will be sent to parent's app, please ask the office staff how to download it.



Trips

Monday 9th March

Hazel Class to Maritime Museum



Thursday 19th March

Beech Class to Maritime Museum

Monday 23rd March

Yr 4 to Steve McQueen Project at Tate Britain

12th May—15th May

Year 4 to Kench Hill

18th May—22nd May

Year 6 to Frylands

Dates to remember

Thursday 5th March

World Book Day

Friday 6th March

Class Photographs

Friday 13th March at 9.15am

Willow Class Assembly

Thursday 19th March at 9.15am

Birch Class Assembly

Friday 20th March at 9.15am

Year 1 Assembly (Juniper & Magnolia)

Thursday 26th March

Parents evening and Book Fair

Friday 27th March at 9.15am

KS2 Musical showcase

Friday 3rd April at 1.30pm

End of Term School closes 1.30pm



Term Dates 2019-2020

- End of Term - Friday 3 April 2020 **Finish at 1.30pm**

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

Year 6 transition workshop about keeping safe and knife crime at school

Our Year 6 pupils had a transition to Year 7 with a Keeping Safe and Knife Crime Workshop at school on the last day before the half term break.

"The officer was honest in a child-friendly way" - Carter

"It was great—PC David was very knowledgeable" - Clementine

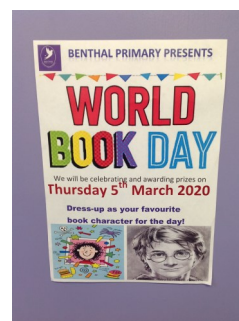
"PC David was helpful and very educational. He answered our questions and clarified lots of things for us" - Amit

"The workshop was great—the officer told us about knife crime in a kid friendly way" Amilah



World Book Day

We will be celebrating World Book Day on Thursday 5th March. Your child should come to school dressed up as their favourite book character. Prizes for best costume for each year group will be given on the day. Children will participate in a number of educational activities this week to promote reading and literacy.



Benthal Values Certificate Winners

MAGNOLIA—Erin —JUNIPER—Isa, Ayaan and Kelly ELDER— Abdul HORNBEAM— Finn HAZEL— Nyi-Ala WILLOW—Malachi ARBUTUS— Shae

WILLOW— Max ARBUTUS— Shae ASH— Torin

100% Attendance with no lates to Rio Cinema trip



Friends of Benthall

Friends of Benthall now have a justgiving page where anyone can give Benthall a donation. Please click on the link on the website to donate, no donation is too small. Thank you for your continued support.



Sports Relief Day Friday 13th March

The school will be participating in Sports Relief on Friday 13th March. Pupils will be able to come to school in a sports kit of their choice, with a donation of £1. We will also be participating in a sports relief mile run by all the children and staff. This will be followed by a Sponsored serenity session, which is a mass mindfulness session in which the whole school will take part, in both the large and small halls. We will also be selling wrist bands in the school office throughout the week. The money goes to a range of charities, to do with tackling homelessness, championing mental health, and protecting children's futures. All classes will be receiving a link to learning resources, so the children can organise some activity based focus for the day. We would like to invite you to join us with running the mile. Each class will have a slot. Check our Twitter page for the times. We look forward to the week and anticipate your support.

Library Volunteers

We had the first session of our family library on Friday and we would like to remind you that you are welcome to use our library with your younger siblings on Fridays 9-10am. We also are opening the library to pupils during lunchtime so if you could spare a couple of hours (from 12-1.30pm), your help will be much appreciated. Training and lunch will be provided! Please talk to the office staff, or email us at office@benthall.hackney.sch.uk.



Spanish Trip

Hola Padres!

Twelve Children from our Year 5 classes visited Madrid from the 10th February—14th February and had an amazing time. The children visited Colegio Raimundo Lulio our partner Spanish school where they were given a very warm welcome by the Spanish children singing in both Spanish and English. As part of the trip the children also visited famous places in Madrid like the Reina Sofia Museum, where the famous Guernica painting by Pablo Picasso is on display. The Real Madrid Football Stadium Tour turned out to become one of the highlights of the trip as well as the city walking tour. The children learned about the Spanish Royals, the bear and the strawberry tree (El Oso y el Madroño) which is the official crest of Madrid, Sobrino de Botin (the oldest restaurant in the world) and walked on the narrowest street in Madrid. These are just some of the activities that the children took part in as part of a week long visit to Madrid and of course they had endless opportunities to practice their Spanish, which is taught at Benthall across both Key Stages. A big thank you to Ms Williams, Ms Ward and Ms Raymond who accompanied the children.



Attendance

Last week, our winners were Beech with 97.9% attendance. Well done! Our whole school attendance was 95.1%.

Remember, our whole school target is to be above 96.7% each week.