



Message from Ms Drew

Welcome back! I hope you all had a good half term break.

The weather has certainly been changeable these last few weeks along with this the signs of spring are definitely with us. I have seen many of the Benthal daffodils starting to flower; it is lovely to see bright yellow colours everywhere after the darkness of winter. I have also started to see blossom on trees. Have a look on your way to school or home. What signs of spring do you see out and about?

We have begun our next block of learning with all classes beginning their BCC (Benthal Creative Curriculum) topics. The children will be immersed in historical or geographical skills helping them to know more and remember more. You will be able to see your child's 'irresistible learning' in their books at Parents Evening on Thursday 7th March. If you haven't already booked a slot to meet with your child's class teacher, then please do so it will be lovely to see you.

Not only is it Parents Evening on the 7th March, but it is also World Book Day. The children will be able to dress up as their favourite book character. I always like to guess the name of the book character from clues in the costume. There will be lots of book related activities happening too!

Have a great weekend,

Ms Drew

Benthal Speech and Language Team

Hannah Ricketts, who leads Benthal Speech and Language team, has done some amazing work with parents, children and staff at Benthal.

The SAL team have now also been recognised for their fantastic efforts in creating the Verbo app, they have created an online toolkit that empowers education staff to support children and young people's communication skills.

Verbo has recently been shortlisted as a finalist for The Digital Leaders Impact Awards in the Social Impact Health Teach category. In a rare opportunity to show appreciation for the services that support us in school, please do get involved and cast a vote! For more information, go to <https://www.impactawards.co.uk/view/voting/entry/276/>



Fundraising Friends of Benthal Cake Sales

We are pleased to announce new dates for our fundraising cake sales! We will need parent/carer volunteers to help with the sales on the day. If you are available, please let Friends of Benthal know on friendsofbenthal@benthal.hackney.sch.uk. Please bring your cake/biscuits/savoury snack donations to the school office in the morning (no nuts please).

Friday 8th of March - Nursery/Reception/Year 1 - courtyard



Friday 22nd of March—Year 2/3/4—in the main playground

Friday 26th of April - Year 5 and 6 - in the main playground



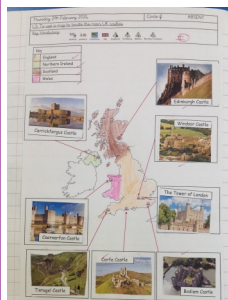
Fundraising Family Curry and Quiz Night

We are inviting parents/carers to join us on Friday 22nd of March, 6.30-8.30pm for a fun-filled evening which will allow you to meet other Benthal families, taste delicious food, cooked onsite by our Chef Alex and hopefully be the part of the winning team! Places are limited so please email the office to book a table!



CURRICULUM NEWS

Reception The children have been learning about doubling. They have been doubling numbers from 1-7!



Year 2 have been learning about features of defensive castles across the UK, alongside actions to help us remember them. By the end of the week, the children will have labelled the different castles we have been learning about onto a map of the UK. We are looking forward to our trip to the Tower of London on Tuesday 16th April.

Year 4 We looked at how tsunamis work by building our own tsunami models to start our unit about natural disasters. We reproduced and observed the brutal effect these large waves can have on land. But we also learnt (and tested) a way to protect the coast and control the damage tsunamis cause! Come and ask us!



Year 5 Willow Class have been learning about Shakespeare's work. The role played the first three acts of Macbeth.



Year 6 We have been exploring the historical West African kingdom of the Benin, located in present day Nigeria. We recreated popular African patterns for our Knowledge Harvest display, and designed traditional necklaces out of paper. We learned about the Benin culture and games they liked to play.



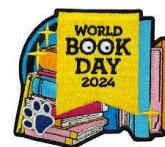
DATES TO REMEMBER

Parents Evening

Thursday 7th March

(4-7pm) with

Parent/carer school food taster session 4.00-5.30 pm in the main lunch hall



World Book Day

Thursday 7th March

Dress up as your favourite book character!



Serrula Class Assembly

Friday 8th of March, 9.15-9.30am

Elder Class Assembly

Friday 15th of March, 9.15-9.30am

Red Nose Day

Friday 15th March

Class Photos Day

Monday 18th March

Bikeability training for Year 5 and 6

18-22 March

Science Fair

Tuesday 19th of March

Magnolia Class Assembly

Friday 22nd of March, 9.15-9.30am

Benthal Easter Activities (KS2 playground)

Friday 22 March 3.30-4.30pm

Family Curry & Quiz Night

Friday 22 March 6:30-8.30pm

Easter Holiday Activity and Food Programme for children entitled to Free School Meals

Tuesday 2nd April - Friday 5th April

Year 4 Kench Hill Residential Trip

7th May - 10th May

Year 6 Cuffley Residential Trip

22nd May - 24th May

TERM DATES

Spring Term

9th January - 28th March

School ends at 1:30pm, no Playcentre

Easter Break

29th March - 14th April

Summer Term

15th April - 23rd July

School ends at 1.30pm, no Playcentre

Summer Half Term

27th May-31st May

Inset Days 2023/24

3rd June 2024

24th July 2024

Breaktime Snacks

Benthal is a healthy school, and we encourage all our children to get their five-a-day!



Please can parents only send fruit for break time snacks. We are seeing an increase in children bringing snacks to eat during morning break. However, these tend to be crisps and sugary treats, which are not allowed.