

BENTHAL NEWS



Message from Ms Drew,

This is my last newsletter for the Spring Term. I cannot believe how quickly the time has passed since returning from the Christmas break. Spring is here now, with very mixed weather, I'm hoping that the sun will continue to shine next week and throughout the Easter break.

It has been a very busy term for the children and the staff. We have now completed the Art & DT block. The children have been busy producing wonderful and creative pieces of art work using a range of media from a diverse range of artists as inspiration and learning about the processes for DT.

After the Easter break, the school is going to have an increased focus on the children's attendance and punctuality. Our whole school attendance is stuck around 88% each week, which is not good. The national average is about 95-96%. This means that many children are having a four day week, which as you can imagine will really impact on their learning and social skills, if they are absent from school. We also have a number of children that arrive late for school most days of the week. Reading and phonics is the first lesson that is taught at Benthal. If your child is late most days even by fifteen minutes that is at least an hour of reading or phonics learning lost every week. An hour a week for six weeks is a full school day of learning completely lost, never to get back! We need to improve attendance and punctuality. The teachers and I will share with yourselves and the children on what we plan to do next term moving forward.

Please remember to sign up to Parents Evening, which will take place tomorrow, Thursday 26th of March. I hope you all will enjoy looking at all the 'irresistible learning' that the children have produced. Benthal staff have high expectations for all our pupils and it shows in the children's high quality work. Thank you to all the parents and carers that have attended the IEP meetings, Ms Joseph and the class teachers have told me they had good turnouts.

Finally, I would like to say thank you, to you, our Benthal families, thank you for your continued support and kind words; it has been much appreciated during a very difficult and upsetting time for our school community.

Have a good and restful Easter break and see you all on Monday 13th April 2026- there is no INSET day at Benthal.

Ms Drew

BENTHAL PRIMARY SCHOOL
OFSTED REG NO: 100260
DFE NO: 204/2872

HAF BENTHAL HOLIDAY ACTIVITY PLAYScheme EASTER 2026

Mon 30th March, Tue 31st March, Wed 1st April and Thu 2nd April

10am-2pm

Art and Craft, Board Games, Lego,
Indoor and Outdoor Games
Also
Planning outing to Kidzmania Soft
Play center, skating rink and Easter
egg hunt

Plus a nutritious lunch cooked fresh every day

Venue:
BENTHAL PRIMARY SCHOOL
BENTHAL ROAD LONDON N16 7AU

If you would like to book a place,
Please fill in online form using the link below.

<https://eequ.org/book/haf-summer-playscheme-2025-with-benthal-primary-school-18376>

For information, please call 0208 985 9310 or
send an email to
office@benthal.hackney.sch.uk

GOOD SCHOOL ATTENDANCE MEANS...

EXCELLENT
ATTENDANCE

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

90%	SERIOUS CONCERN Absent 19 days in a school year
94%	WARNING SIGNS Absent 11 days in a school year
96%	SATISFACTORY Absent 8 days in a school year

EVERY DAY COUNTS...

Learning is a progressive activity. Each lesson and each day builds on another. If your child is absent for lessons that include demonstrations, discussions, experiments and other participation activities as part of the daily learning activities, they are missing learning that cannot be made up.

Benefits of Good Attendance

- Pupils with good attendance generally achieve higher grades.
- Pupils with good attendance generally enjoy school more.
- Having a good education will help to give your child the best possible start in life.
- Good school attendance helps to develop other responsible patterns of behaviour.

Some Risks of Poor Attendance !

- Pupils are likely to miss learning activities that their classmates have taken part in, which could mean they fall behind.
- They miss out on social interaction with friends/classmates - this can have a negative effect on the wellbeing and self-esteem.
- Low attendance is associated with anti-social behaviour and poor learning behaviours

Curriculum News- KS1

Year 1

In Science, Year 1 carried out an investigation into how different materials can be bent and stretched. We explored items such as clay, pipe cleaners and even our socks to see how they responded to different forces. The children used scientific vocabulary including *flexible*, *rigid*, *stretchy* and *stiff* to describe their observations. There was plenty of careful testing (and a little bit of enthusiastic sock-stretching!), but we were pleased to report that no socks were harmed beyond their usual wear and tear.

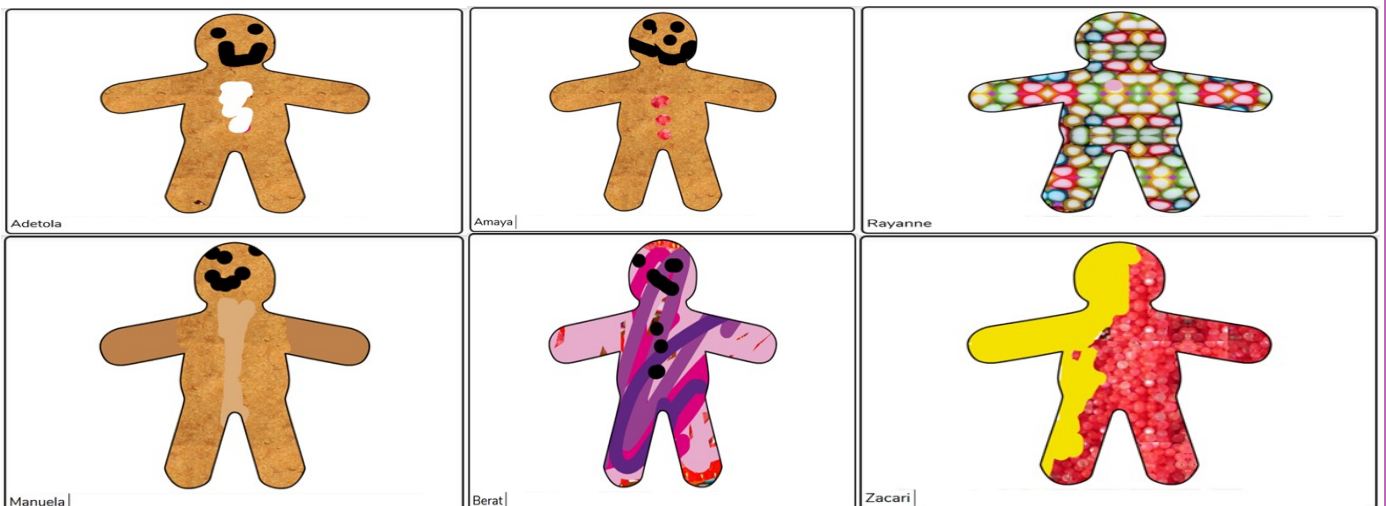


In Literacy, Year 1 enjoyed reading *Bedtime Stories for Monsters* by Ed Vere. The children had great fun designing and creating their own monsters using a variety of materials. Afterwards, we developed our descriptive writing skills by using adjectives to describe our monsters, thinking carefully about their appearance and personality. Thankfully, all monsters were safely returned home at the end of the day and no teachers were eaten in the process!



In Computing, Year 1 became digital designers as we created our very own gingerbread men using paint tools. The children experimented with different colours, brushes and shapes to add buttons, icing details and some very creative expressions!

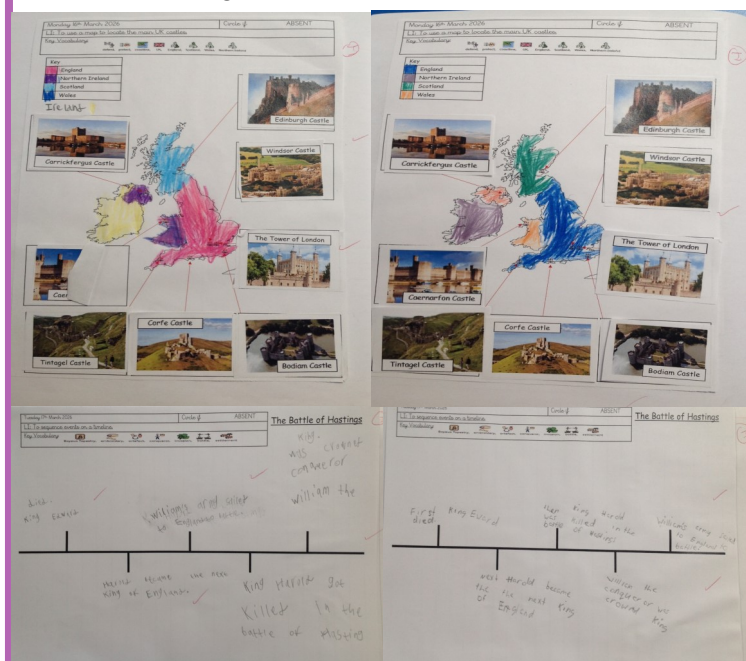
The best part was that none of our gingerbread men tried to run away from the screen (although a few looked like they were thinking about it!).



Curriculum News

Year 2

This week in BCC Year 2 continued learning about the topic of Castles and their historical significance. For Geography they looked at key castles around the UK and located these on a map. They also created a timeline to record and present key historical events around the time castles were built, leading up to the Battle of Hastings.



Curriculum News Year 5 and Year 6



We have had another successful Bike ability training session for our years 5 and 6 pupils. This year the duration of the sessions covered two weeks in order to provide as many of our Year 6 pupils the opportunity to develop their cycling proficiency.

The sessions also coincided with a Bike Surgery, where many of our families brought in their bikes for a check. All the work was provided free of charge. Thanks to all our families and Hackney Cycling for making the last two weeks a success and well done to our pupils who passed their Level 1 or Level 2 with flying colours.

TERM DATES 2025/2026

Parents Evening

Thursday 26th March

Parents Food Taster Session

Thursday 26th March, 4 - 6pm

Easter Break

Monday 30th March - Friday 10th April

Benthal HAF Playscheme

Monday 30th March - April 2nd April

Summer Term begins

Monday 13th April

The Tower of London Trip

Friday 17th April - Year 2

Bank Holiday

Monday 4th May

Year 4 and 5 Kench Hill residential trip

Tuesday 12—Friday 15th of May

Half Term

Monday 25th - Friday 29th May

INSET Day

Monday 1st June **No pupils attend**

Summer Term ends

Friday 17th July at 1:30pm **No Playcentre**

British Museum Trip

Tuesday 2nd June –Year 5

INSET Day

Monday 20th July **No pupils attend**

CHANGE OF CONTACT

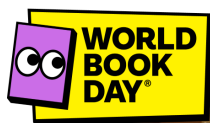
Please inform the office about any change of contact details. If you have unsubscribed from school emails in error, you can re-subscribe in order not to miss out on vital school information. Please be reminded that if you have T2P app, you will not get text alerts, please check your app for updates. Please be reminded that you can find Benthal term dates in the newsletter as well as on Benthal website.

World book day



Benthal's World Book Day celebrations was a day to remember! The atmosphere was filled with creativity and excitement as all the children immersed themselves in a range of fun, interactive activities inspired by some of the most popular and engaging book titles.

**READ
YOUR WAY**



Red Nose Day

Red Noses will be on sale in the school office on Friday 27th of March at £2.50 each. Please note, Red Noses are not suitable for children under 7 years of age due to small parts.

