



Friday News
8th January 2016

Building our future, step by step

<http://www.benthamcpschool.org.uk>

WELCOME back to the Spring Term. We hope that everyone had a wonderful Christmas holiday despite the terrible and disruptive weather conditions which were endured throughout the northern counties.

As parents will be more than aware the unprecedented amount of rainfall which fell over the Christmas period caused devastation to many communities and families, and unfortunately our wonderful new school also suffered at the hands of Mother Nature. We would just like to take this opportunity to thank parents for their continued support and to apologise once again for any inconvenience caused due to the closure of the School prior to Christmas. Closing a school is never an easy decision, but in the interests of health and safety a necessary one. Staff and Governors are actively working alongside North Yorkshire County Council and building contractors to ensure that remedial actions are being undertaken as a matter of urgency.

PROGRESS AND EFFORT GRADES Please check your child's book-bag for this document. If you would like to discuss these grades with your child's teacher, or have any queries relating to the grades, then please do not hesitate to arrange a meeting.

PARENTS' EVENINGS This term Parents' Evenings will be taking place on Monday 29th February and Thursday 3rd March 2016.

SWIMMING : Class FIVE children will be swimming on Monday 11th January 2016.

'STAY AND PLAY' sessions take place in the School's Community Room every Thursday from 1.30pm. These FREE sessions are aimed at pre-school parents and children.

Parents' Coffee Morning The next Coffee Morning will be taking place on Friday 15th January 2016. Please come along to this informal meeting and meet with Governors and members of staff.

First Aid 'Bleeding and Bandaging' Workshop. On Friday 12th February 2016 members of St John's Ambulance will be visiting the School and undertaking a FREE First Aid Workshop with children in Year 6. There will be lots of practice at bandaging, applying plasters and putting casualties in the recovery position. Thank you to St John's Ambulance for providing this wonderful life-skills workshop to children in Class 5.

WELL DONE to members of Matterhorn who collected the most House Points during the Autumn Term. Members of this house group will be rewarded with a party to celebrate their success.

CONTACT TELEPHONE NUMBERS Can parents please ensure that the School Office hold correct contact details. This is especially important where mobile telephones and our texting service are concerned. If you do not notify the office of any mobile number changes you will not receive texts keeping you up-to-date with school news.

ZUMBA SESSIONS We are once again running FREE Zumba Sessions for children in classes 3,4 and 5. These sessions take place in the School hall after school on Thursdays with Mrs Mercer finishing at 4.15pm.

IMPORTANT DATES Can parents please ensure that they try their best to ensure that children are at school on the following assessment dates.

9 th to 12 th May 2016	Key Stage 2 SATS Week (Classes 3,4 and 5)
May 2016	Key Stage 1 SATS Week (Classes 1 and 2)
13 th to 24 th June 2016	Year 1 Phonics Testing

MATHS DAY On Friday 29th January 2016 school will be hosting a Maths Day. The day will be dedicated to mathematics and children will take part in lots of interesting and educational mathematically based challenges.

FUNDRAISING SLEEPOVER We are in the process of arranging an exciting fun-packed sleep-over for Key Stage 2 children in our school hall. It is anticipated that this night of adventure will take place on Friday 5th February from 5.00pm. There will be a charge of £10.00 per child, but this will include food, entertainment, lots of fun and even more adventure. Children will be collected from the School Hall at 9.30am on the morning of Saturday 6th February – more details about this event to follow.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS Studies have shown that those children with a good attendance ethos at primary level, tend to continue with the trend throughout their educational journey and working lives. During the final week in December, class attendance was as follows:-

Class One	98.18%	Class Four	98.15%
Class Two	97.78%	Class Five	95.00%
Class Three	97.50%		

The ‘whole school’ percentage for attendance since the start of the new academic year is currently 96.71% (this does need to improve). For our school to be judged as ‘Outstanding’ we need to have an annual attendance percentage of 97% or above. We would once again request that parents please consider the attendance factor when arranging holidays, medical appointments etc., during term-time. Thanking parents in anticipation for their continued support, understanding and co-operation.

Well Done to those 38 children who received Certificates for 100% attendance during the Autumn Term.

DISABLED PARKING Can parents please ensure that they do not park in the Disabled Parking spaces when collecting children from school, these spaces should be left available for Disabled Parking Permit holders only – thanking everyone for their co-operation.

PARENTS MEETING There will be a meeting on Wednesday 20th January (time to be confirmed) for parents of those Year 6 children who are taking part in the trip to London on 28th January 2016.

THANK YOU to Mrs Linda Clemence of Settle, who very kindly donated a painting by former Headmistress Lillian Clark to the School. Miss Clark was Headmistress between 1929 and 1961. We have also been very fortunate to receive a donation of a portrait of Theodore Bayley Hardy who was also very closely associated with the School and whose Memorial Plaque is displayed at the entrance to the School Hall.

Introduction to Working in Adult Social Care The Adult Learning and Skills Service for the Craven area are offering an 8 week course starting on Thursday 14th January 2016 at Foundation House, Skipton from 10.00am to 2.30pm on the topic of working in adult social care. For information, please contact 01609 533945/craven.adultlearning@northyorks.gov.uk

