

7th March 2025

FRIDAY NEWS

A nurturing family, learning together



Message from Mrs Pearson

Earlier this week our Chair of Governors shared the news with parents/carers that I have resigned from my post as Co-Headteacher at Bentham C P School with effect from the 31st August 2025.

I have loved my time at Bentham School and have been here almost 11 years but it is time for a new challenge for me and perhaps a fresh pair of eyes for Bentham. I leave Bentham to lead two primary schools and this is something which I am excited about. As I explained to the children this week, I will see them at sporting events and any other opportunities where local schools get together. As I am not going very far, I will still continue to hear great things about Bentham School. For now, it is business as usual making sure the children in our school get the very best education possible.

Following on from last week's Friday News, and to further support reading and writing here at the school, Mrs Naylor is absolutely delighted to share that we have now enrolled all children from Reception to Year 6 onto 'Spelling Shed' an online platform. Spelling Shed encourages children to enjoy spelling and develop their writing skills. Children in Reception to Year 6 will be receiving their login details soon. Please support the school and your child with this fantastic new learning tool!

Over the course of the week, I have managed to pop into classrooms to see what children have been up to.

In Butterfly Class children have been enjoying pancakes with a variety of toppings, they have also enjoyed constructing and using their own Pancake Café. Our youngest children have also been enjoying the Spring weather and getting outside and, of course, they all absolutely loved Little City day! Please look out on Facebook and Tapestry for some lovely images of the day.

Next door in Hedgehog Class children have made Banana and Berry Juice linked to a twisted fairytale 'Little Red'. Children have also started studying

Kenya, looking at the weather and what children might pack if they went on holiday to this country.

In Rabbit Class, Miss Clarke has settled into class and is really enjoying getting to know children. Children have started to look at their new class book 'The Owl and the Pussycat' and have been thinking about what items they would take on their travels. Children in Year 2 have been doing lots of shape sorting, including 3D shapes. DT lessons have been all around healthy eating and food groups. Children will be designing their own healthy wraps over the coming week.

Children in Badger Class have been talking all about dreams, inspired by their new class book 'Seed of Doubt'. This led onto a lovely art activity where children have made their own dreamcatchers, nicely linking into the dream theme! Badger Class have also been very busy practising their times-tables. Mrs Naylor and Mrs Fox have asked that parents/carers help support children in learning their times tables and practice these at home.

Fox Class have been learning how to introduce themselves in Spanish, whilst in maths they have been comparing and rounding decimals. Next week, on Monday, children will be starting a new 'Curlew Project' supported by Ellie Parker from Wild Ingleborough who will be visiting children in class. On the 13th March, Fox Class will be taking part in a visit to Swarth Moor learning all about the rare black-faced darter dragonfly. More information can be found in the letter sent home last week.

In Owl class, children have been focussing on reading comprehension, with a little help from the 'Vocabulary Ninja'. This work has been encouraging children to think about what impression characters in text leave with them. In maths, children have been working on reasoning skills, with a range of word problems involving the four operations.

What a busy week!

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North Yorkshire Together's FEAST programme will be once again providing free activities for eligible children over the Easter holidays. Vouchers will be automatically generated and sent to parents/carers via e-mail. For more information about FEAST, or to check if you might be eligible, please visit :

[FAQs: Information for Families - North Yorkshire Together](#)

Finally, a number of staff have recently been asked by parents/carers to hand out buns, cakes and sweets at the end of the school day to children's class friends to celebrate birthdays. Can I please remind parents/carers that as a school we cannot be involved in handing out sweet treats. We would like to also encourage parents/carers to consider that whilst this might be a nice idea, some children can feel excluded if they have food allergies or intolerances. Thank you.

Have a wonderful weekend. Spring is in the air!

Mrs C Pearson
Headteacher

Monday 10th March 2025

Fish Star
Pizza Pin Wheel (v)
Jacket Potato (v)

1.00pm Curlew Project (Fox Class)
1.30pm Badger Class (Library Visit)

Rabbit Class PE
Badger Class PE

Tuesday 11th March 2025

Sweet and Sour Pork
Quorn Dippers (v)
Jacket Potato

Fox Class PE
Owl Class PE
3.30pm to 4.30pm KANGA After School Club

Wednesday 12th March 2025

Roast Chicken and Yorkshire Pudding
Veggie Loaf and Yorkshire Pudding (v)

1.00pm Fox Class (Library Visit)
1.00pm Year 1 (Hedgehog Class) Forest School
Rabbit Class PE
Butterfly Class and Hedgehog Reception : PE
3.30pm to 4.20pm Ambitions Gymnastics After School Club

Thursday 13th March 2025

Macaroni Cheese
Cheese and Tomato Pasta (v)
Jacket Potato (v)

9.30am Visit to Swarth Moor (Fox Class)
1.00pm Forest School (Badger Class)
Hedgehog Class (Year 1) : PE

3.30pm Maths SATs Club (Invited children)

Friday 14th March 2025

Fun Day Friday – all children invited to join in and try a school lunch!

Beef Burger
Lentil and Veggie Burger (v)
Jacket Potato

1.00pm Fox Class Swimming (including some Year 6 children)
Owl Class PE

1.00pm Year 6 Visit to Settle College (DT)

3.00pm Celebration Assembly (Parents/Carers welcome)

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Safeguarding Information – Keeping Children Safe

This Week, Wake-up-Wednesday is all about using technology to boost reading skills.

Safe around roads

“One act of bad driving robbed the world of a beautiful, intelligent and caring young person. Our lives have been turned upside down by our daughter’s death.”

Bereaved Dad whose daughter was killed in a car accident

It can be hard knowing how best to teach your child to stay safe. Here we help you to break it down and keep it simple.

Pedestrians – younger children

- Get young children into the habit of holding your hand or use walking reins
- Ask questions while you’re out to help them understand simple ideas like ‘fast’ and ‘slow’
- You can start teaching the Green Cross Code from age five, encouraging children to stop, look, listen and think
- But they won’t always remember safety rules, especially if they’re excited or spot a friend across the road
- Children will copy what you do, so try to avoid stepping into the road without checking for traffic first. If you can do the right thing, it will help them get into good habits.



In the car

- Make sure your car seat is the right one for your child’s height and weight and for your car – not all seats fit all cars

Cycling

- Get your child into the habit of wearing their helmet. If you cycle as a family, remember to wear yours too
- Look out for cycle training. Many schools offer courses to help children gain practical skills.

Driving

- speed is everything when it comes to a child’s chances of survival. They’re 3.5 times more likely to die if hit by a car doing between 30-40 mph.
- Keep an eye on your speed
- Keep your phone in the glove compartment so it can’t distract you.

www.capt.org.uk



Apply for free school meals online

If you would like to apply for free school meals for your child, simply login to your [Synergy Parent Portal account](#) and follow the process outlined below. If you have previously applied for school admissions or funding for your two year old you will most likely already have an account. If not, you can easily [create an account here](#).

- STEP 1**
Enter your National Insurance Number/National Asylum Support Service (NASS) number and date of birth.
- STEP 2**
Select the child(ren) you wish to apply for. If you have previously applied for a school place for your child they will already appear on the dropdown list. If your child does not appear automatically, they can easily be added by entering their forename, surname, date of birth and gender.
- STEP 3**
Attach any supporting documentation, if necessary, this could include documents such as a copy of your Universal Credit statement.
- STEP 4**
A message will then be displayed stating that we will be in touch with confirmation details. The school(s) at which your child(ren) attends will be notified as soon as the application has been fully processed by our team (5 working days). Your child(ren) can then begin enjoying free school meals once the school has received this notification.



If your application is unsuccessful you can then move to a further screen to find out why this may be the case.

If you need help or wish to discuss your application please contact us:
Phone: 01609 533 405
Email: schoolwelfare@northyorks.gov.uk



ATTENDANCE MATTERS

As a school we cannot emphasise enough the importance of good attendance.

Attendance at our school NEEDS TO IMPROVE. If you need any support with your child around either attendance, or lateness issues, please get in touch with the School.