



BENSON C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL

*Providing a rich,
stimulating & enjoyable
environment, where
children can begin their
learning journey &
prepare for adult life*



NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 8

Message from Mrs Crolla

Our value for this term is: Forgiveness

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year! I hope that you all enjoyed a wonderful Christmas break. The children certainly seem to be pleased to be back and are working incredibly hard already. Please do keep your eyes on the website for dates because this is a short term.

Thank you to Mrs Tanner for organising a fantastic Young Voices Trip; the children thoroughly enjoyed themselves and behaved beautifully. It was great to see so many parents there too.



Key Dates

January

18.1 School Census Day

26.1 Ash Class Celebration Assembly

February

09.2 Maple Class Celebration Assembly

End of Term 3

12.2 – 16.2 Half term

19.2 Term 4 Begins

Other dates:

9.3 Chestnut Class Celebration Assembly

23.3 Hawthorn Class Celebration

Assembly

27.4 Sycamore Class Celebration

Assembly

14.5 Key Stage 2 Sats Week

18.5 Oak Class Celebration Assembly

Congratulations to:

Ash Class for the highest percentage of attendance terms 1 and 2

Hot Chocolate Friday Winners:

Molly F

Thomas H

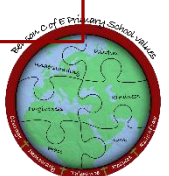
Thea K

Flora D

Bethany G

Amelie S

Alice H





Reminder! Lunch Price Increase From January

Following a decision by the Resources Committee of the Governing Body, it has been agreed that from 1st January the price of a school lunch will rise to **£2.10**. **The price of a school lunch has remained static for the last few years so we would ask for your understanding in this matter.**

School Money

Please check any remaining money owed to the school. Many thanks.

School Census Day Thursday 18th January

The universal free school meals funding for infant free meals is calculated on Census Day. In order to encourage as many children from Elm, Oak and Chestnut classes to have a hot lunch, we have added some of their favourite things to the usual menu for that day. Burgers(Beef or Veggie) with wedges, jacket potatoes with cheese and beans, followed by jelly or ice cream. This funding really helps our school so please encourage your child to have a hot dinner on Thursday. Thank you!

Attendance and Sickness

It is the season for colds, flu and sickness. Please stop this spreading by observing the 48 hour rule if your child is sick or has diarrhoea.

In line with the attendance policy, I am unable to authorise any family holidays in term time. For any appointments or time out of school, please complete an absence request form found on the school website.

<http://www.bensoncofeprimary.org.uk/key-documents>

School attendance is monitored by the local authority and Ofsted. The persistent absence percentages of this school have risen since 2015 so as a school, we are higher than the national percentage. Please help us by refraining from taking family holidays in term time.

School Admissions for September 2018 - *Deadline 15th January*

Admission information is available here:

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/content/admissions-infant-and-primary-schools>

Unfortunately, existing children in the Nursery Class **do not** automatically have a place so please apply through Oxfordshire County Council, if you wish your child to join us in Reception in 2018. The deadline for submitting your choices is the 15th January.





Follow us on Twitter - @BensonCofE

Teachers will trial this over the next term to share photos or celebrate curriculum news with our followers. Main school notices will still be shared via the School Website and text messaging service. For Safeguarding reasons, this is a closed group so if you wish to follow us, **please email your name and twitter handle to the office**. Please be patient whilst we add those requesting to follow us. We aim to share other sites that may be of interest to the children.

Sports News

Wake Up, Shake Up - Every Friday at 8.30am

Thank you to Miss Stovold for starting this for us. It has been great to see so many children, parents and staff taking part in the routines. For those of you who haven't seen this, the music starts at 8.30am every Friday, on the main playground.

Sports Clubs

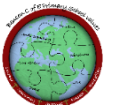
All clubs start next week. Payments should be made via cheque or School Money before the club begins please. Please collect your children from the Peace Garden (main entrance) **Please refrain from using the staff car park when collecting children.**

PE Kit

Please ensure that your child has their PE kit in school every day. This should include a Benson t-shirt, blue shorts and well fitting trainers.

Swimming Year 4

This begins next Monday, 15th January. Please ensure that your child has a swimming hat, towel and costume/trunks.





FOBS News

Welcome back and Happy New Year to all! We had a very busy term leading up to Christmas with many exciting activities. Thanks to all your help and contributions, exact details of money raised to follow in our newsletter next week.

In advance of this, we would like to say a huge thank you to all the team who gave up their time in this very busy term. Joy Skeels and the Teaching team for the wonderful Christmas cards, Helen Lowe for Nativity teas, Marie Finch for film night, Jo Chapman and Ian Skeels for the Nativity DVD, Dionne Simpson for the Xmas raffle, Jennie Batt and DJ Chrimbo for the Xmas Disco, Anna Pollock, Helen Lowe and all the helpers for the Gospel Choir refreshments, All the helpers at the Wallingford 1155 Firework night, Alice Jones-Evans for the Christmas shop and all parents who baked for the Nativity teas, Gospel Choir Concert and Children in need cake sale.

How can you help us this year? Please come to our meeting next week. We need more new faces to help us continue to provide this years schedule of events. Please don't leave it for someone else to do, get involved, you will be surprised at how much fun you will have!

Do you want the school to have a summer fayre? - We need a small team of organisers to make it happen, without this team this event will not take place. Hope to see you at the next meeting. **Wednesday 17th 7.30pm - 9pm ICT Suite at the school. Please enter via the Early years garden.**

Benches For Bark Area - help urgently required

You will have seen that the benches to complete the Bark Area have now arrived. They are extremely heavy! If anyone can spare some time **next Friday at 2.30pm** to help move these into position, please let the office know.

