



## Benwick Primary School Newsletter No 20 – 7<sup>th</sup> May 2021



### **Dear Parents & Carers,**

The term is flying by, it's hard to believe we have had 4 weeks this term already!

### **Library:**

We are looking forward to our new library being installed in the half-term holiday and we will then be ready to catalogue and shelve our 1000 new books along with existing ones. We are looking for some dedicated volunteers who would like to help with this (with training) and could spare an afternoon per week to volunteer in the library. If you think you'd like to help please contact the office by Wednesday next week. Thank you.

### **Parent communication:**

We work hard to keep in close contact with parents and carers to keep you informed of what's going on and how your child is doing. We do this through a number of channels: email, dojo, newsletters, topic grids, class newsletters, facebook, parents evening (with interim reports), end of year reports, telephone calls through lockdown and as required. If you feel there is something else we could be doing to keep you updated we will always consider new ideas, do let us know.

### **Covid safety:**

Last week we forwarded a letter from Jonathon Lewis with reminders about current restrictions which will not be lifted until 17<sup>th</sup> May at the earliest. Some schools are seeing spikes of infection once again and so we must remain vigilant, we have done so well at Benwick and want to keep up this good work. If you haven't had a chance to read this letter yet, some of his key points are:

- Continue with good hand hygiene. Encourage children and staff to wash their hands regularly (throughout the school day and before and after school)
- Indoor mixing is not permitted – so sleepovers, parties and playdates should not take place, and car sharing should be avoided.
- Secondary age pupils, and adults, to take a twice weekly lateral flow test and report all results, even when they are void or negative. Lateral flow tests should not be used for children under 12 or anyone displaying symptoms.
- Families should self-isolate if anyone in their household has symptoms. Staff should continue to remain vigilant around symptoms in school

### **KS2 Mindfulness:**

In the second half of this half term, I have arranged for mindfulness sessions to be delivered, by a trained practitioner, to all KS2 children as part of their PSHE work. We will be holding a remote information session for parents on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> May at 6pm, where Annabel Talbot (no relation) will explain the outline of the work and the benefits and you will have an opportunity to ask any questions. A link to this meeting will be emailed to KS2 parents next week.

### **KS2 Plays:**

In the summer term KS2 would normally produce a big summer play/musical. We were not able to do this last year due to the pandemic, and we don't want children and families to completely miss out again this year. Therefore, each KS2 class will produce a mini play and this will be recorded to be shared with families, or, if we are permitted, performed outside to class parents. It will be on a much smaller scale, and linked to class learning, but will give the children an important opportunity to perform. More details nearer the time!

### **Dinner money:**

Please pay any dinner money via Sims pay, we are unable to accept cash or cheques I'm afraid! Thank you.

*Together We Can: Staff-Pupils-Family*

### Behaviour:

We promote positive behaviour at all times. Learning to behave in a socially acceptable way is part of the overall learning experience of school life and some children need more support with this than others. We always address behaviour difficulties, just as we would difficulties with reading and spelling etc, however this is done, where possible, away from others. Our behaviour policy, and associated policies, are on our website. We look to parents and carers to support us in helping give children what they need in order to flourish and thank you for helping us support positive behaviour at Benwick.

### Healthy food for snack and packed lunches:

Please ensure only healthy snacks and packed lunches are sent in for the children. Additives and high amounts of added sugars can have a detrimental impact on children's behaviour as well as their overall health. Thank you.

### Staffing update:

We are pleased to inform you that Miss Angell will be returning on 7<sup>th</sup> June, following her maternity leave. Miss Norris will remain with Doves to ensure continuity and Miss Angell will be working with groups and individuals across the school on intervention and catch up work. Mrs Peters will be relinquishing her role as lunchtime supervisor from 19<sup>th</sup> May, this post will be filled internally. Mrs Hart has decided to step down from her regular TA post, to concentrate on her crafting interests, from Friday 14<sup>th</sup> May but will remain a relief TA so we will still see lots of her we hope. We have appointed a new TA, Miss Whitby, who will be working in Owls' class from 14<sup>th</sup> May. We wish our leavers every happiness for the future and wholeheartedly welcome our returners and new staff!

### Uniform:

School uniform helps children feel part of the school community and promotes positive behaviour and readiness for learning. Whilst we know the pandemic has caused some difficulties in shopping for school shoes and other uniform items, we do expect children to continue to wear school uniform and school PE kit where they have uniform that fits comfortably as well as black shoes/trainers. Children should not wear brightly coloured hoodies and trainers to school. We have some good quality pre-loved uniform, please contact us if you would like us to check if we have something in your child's size. Thank you for supporting us with this.

### Positive Cases of Covid-19 Notifications:

If your child should test positive for Covid-19 over the weekend please let me know straight away. For this reason only, please text: 07570707587 as soon as possible to provide details, thank you  
Have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes, **Mrs Clare Talbot – Headteacher**



### Diary Dates

#### Important dates:

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> May 6pm – Mindfulness Information session for KS2 Parents (remote) – details to follow  
Friday 14<sup>th</sup> May – STEM Day whole school workshop day  
Friday 21<sup>st</sup> May Skateboard/Scooter Workshop Day – details to follow  
Monday 31<sup>st</sup> May-Friday 4<sup>th</sup> June – Half-Term Week  
Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June INSET day – school closed to children  
Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> June & Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> June – Life Bus  
Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> July – Last Day of the school year



01354 677266

[www.benwick.cambs.sch.uk](http://www.benwick.cambs.sch.uk)

#### Contact Us:



[office@benwick.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:office@benwick.cambs.sch.uk)



[facebook.com/BenwickPrimarySchool](https://facebook.com/BenwickPrimarySchool)

At Benwick Primary School, we are fully committed to the safeguarding of pupils and take e-Safety very seriously. With the support of parents, we pro-actively teach our pupils how to keep themselves safe, including online.

**Together We Can: Staff-Pupils-Family**