

# Benwick Primary School



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## Benwick Briefing 25/10/2024

Dear Parents/ Carers

### Message from Mrs Talbot:

It's been a bumper week of activities to end this half-term; Swans enjoyed a fascinating visit from Kelsang Malaya, a Buddhist Nun from the Drolma Buddhist centre in Peterborough to complete this term's RE work and have completed their swimming assessments, Owls and Swans have enriched their science curriculum during a visit to the university Botanic Gardens in Cambridge and were lucky to have a lovely Autumnal sunny day. Doves have been wowing the staff with their maths skills, focusing on doubles, near doubles and adding 3 one digit numbers and Robins have been pumpkin perfect with stories, cooking and craft! We have all rounded off Black History Month with some amazing African Drumming!

It will be an equally busy half-term as we head towards Christmas after the break with lots to look forward to, please do keep an eye on the dates section of this email each week, we keep it updated as we aim to give you as much notice of forthcoming events as possible.

We enjoy welcoming families in to school and it was particularly wonderful to see SO many family members at KS1's share and shine last week, 84! We were delighted with the support, as were the children, and we will need to think carefully about the best way to organise the nativity performances (dates already in the dates section) so that we can seat everyone and parents can hear the voices of the children performing. For your forward planning, it is likely we will allocate 2 audience seats per child in Robins and Doves, to be able to safely allow all children to be represented.

We had a fantastic response to Parents meetings with 99% of children represented through face to face, Teams or telephone meetings with our teachers. These are such important meetings and we thank you for engaging with us so well.

The children and staff are looking forward to the well-deserved break next week, we will see you back in November.

Have a great half-term,

Best Wishes,  
Mrs Talbot - Headteacher

### Food Hygiene Rating

We are super proud of our kitchen team securing another 5\* food hygiene rating. Don't forget school meals are cooked fresh daily on site. You can order your child's lunches for after half term now and don't forget our Sparkle Spectacular lunch on the 5th November to celebrate Bonfire night.

### Poppy Appeal

We have poppies in school which will be available for sale when we return to school on Monday 4th November. We suggest a minimum donation of the following items:

Wristband/Snap band- £1

Poppy Keyrings- £1

Material bracelets- £1

Pin badges- £1

Traditional poppies- 50p

### **TT Rockstars**

Exciting news!! As school we are going to relaunch TT Rockstars.

What is Times Tables Rock Stars?

Times Tables Rock Stars is an award-winning maths learning platform where children can practice their times tables like a rock star!

Suitable for all learners from Year 1 and up, the question-based games automatically adapt to each child's unique learning needs, helping them to recall their times tables in record speed. Accessible on any device, via the app or browser, children can play anytime, anywhere.

For Reception children we will be using NumBots. NumBots is all about every child achieving the 'triple win' of understanding, recall and fluency in mental addition and subtraction, so that they move from counting to calculating.

Friday 8th November will be relaunch day!!!

To make the relaunch exciting we are asking children to dress up as a rock star so they can wear wigs, jeans, t-shirts (no crop tops or sandals and long hair should still be tied up please) and really enjoy the day!! Please see attached documents for ideas. There will be battles between bands and other competitions going on that day and into the following week as it is national maths week!!

### **Mental Health Coffee Morning**

On Wednesday 13th November we will be hosting a mental health coffee morning for parents/ carers who would like to know more about how to support your child's mental health. We will meet in the Village hall Rainbow room at 9am. More details attached. Please do come join us if you can.

### **Children in Need**

On Friday 15th November, we would like the children to take part and help to raise money for this year's Children in Need. We have decided to do a non-uniform day with a theme of 'Wear something spotty'. Donations of £1 would be appreciated. Children can choose to wear anything which has spots and is of course suitable for school and the colder weather. (No crop tops or sandals please) Other Children in Need clothing such as T-Shirts and Pudsey ears is also acceptable.

The Gladiators are supporting this year's event and in class the children will be designing gladiator outfits for Pudsey Bear.

Lastly, if your child would like to donate silver coins too, we will be trying to use them to go round the edge of a giant Pudsey.

From  
Benwick School Council

### **Reception 2025**

Do you have a child that will be starting in Reception in September 2025? We will be hosting a school tour on Wednesday 13th November at 10am, giving you the opportunity to look round and meet the staff before you apply for your school place.

### **Education Inclusion Family Advisor**

EIFA workshops for November and the beginning of December are attached. These are really helpful workshops covering everything from helping children with worry or anger, to healthy sleep and how to help parents remain calm during challenging situations. Please do register for the workshops. They are all online, easy to book and no more than 1.5 hours.

Have a lovely weekend.

Kind Regards  
Mrs Rachael Barton  
School Secretary

### **Important Dates:**

Monday 28th October- Friday 1st November	Half Term
Friday 8th November	TT Rockstars Day- Dress as a rockstar
Monday 11th November	Remembrance Assembly 10.45am- All Welcome
Wednesday 13th November	Mental Health Coffee Morning 9am-10am
Wednesday 13th November	Reception 2025 School Tour
Friday 15th November	Children in Need
Tuesday 17th December	KS1 Nativity Performance 9.15am & 2.15pm
Wednesday 18th December	Whole School Panto Trip
Thursday 19th December	Christmas Dinner
Thursday 19th December	KS2 Christmas Carols 2.30pm
Monday 23rd December- Monday 6th January	Christmas Holidays
Monday 6th January 2025	INSET DAY- No children in school
Monday 17th- Friday 21st February 2025	Half Term
Thursday 20th March 2025	YR & YR6 National child measurement programme
Friday 4th April 2025	INSET DAY- No children in school
Monday 7th- Monday- Monday 21st April 2025	Easter Holidays
Tuesday 29th April 2025	Bikeability Level 1
Monday 5th May 2025	Bank Holiday
Monday 12th May- Thursday 15th May	YR6 SATs
Monday 26th- Friday 30th May 2025	Half Term
Monday 2nd June 2025	INSET DAY- No children in school
Wednesday 23rd July 2025	INSET DAY- No children in school
Thursday 24th July- Friday 29th August 2025	Summer Holidays