



WELCOME TO OUR SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

08 February 2019

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends of the School,

We have enjoyed another super week of learning here at school. It was great to see so many photos of fun in the snow last week – it looks as though many families enjoyed their time together with sledging and snow building projects going on! Have a look on the display board at the office to spot your photo.

We have been really excited to hear lots of plans from different groups and there is really something for everyone going on at school next half term! Here are a few highlights to get you excited...

WWF Themed weeks set by the children – we will have an ECO challenge each week as our charity support to help save the planet. The pupils and staff are such passionate ambassadors to make a difference so please get involved.

World Book Day on Thursday 7th March; we are dressing up as favourite book characters again and taking part in a sponsored read which Mrs Miffing will be sending details about.

Site Clear Up Day on Saturday 9th March 9-11am; families and friends are invited to come and join Mr Lucas our Caretaker to get the wooded area in great condition for playtimes and fun.

In the meantime back at school this week...

Year R were full of excitement in telling me about lots of learning over the week but their highlight was measuring deep and shallow puddles in the Forest Schools work on Tuesday!

Year 1 loved performing super songs for the school and then joining many other schools at the Big Sing at The Anvil. Great work children!

Year 2 have really impressed Miss Kirby and Miss Kneller with their perseverance in mathematics in tackling some new and varied types of data. They are now experts in interpreting bar charts!

Year 3 have gone back in time today and have been experiencing lots of hands on learning about the Iron Age. They asked really good questions about weapons from that era and appointed Harry as their Chief for the day!

Year 4 have wowed Mrs Scott-Bromley with their very thoughtful and detailed drawings of Anglo-

Red Nose Day is being held on Friday 17th March with lots of fun activities planned.

Family Sponsored Walk on Saturday 23rd March – everyone and their dog (literally!) is welcome to get involved and take part in this super family activity.

Bentley Ball – this is going to be a wonderful event and Sally Dando and her team have got LOTS planned already to make this a very special event on Friday 29th March.

See below for more information on all these events – it's certainly going to be busy but a lot of fun!

Saxon house this week. They remembered a lot of information about life in this era and thoughtfully interpreted what it would have been like to live in an Anglo Saxon village.

Year 5 created wonderful Highway Man posters to sum up their unit of work about the poem. These can be seen proudly on display in their classroom.

Year 6 have filmed short plays to explain how the circulatory system works. They have used excellent scientific vocabulary as well as improving their labelling and detail in their own diagrams.



This is my last newsletter of the half term as this time next week I will be in hotter climates, but working hard in The Gambia! Thank you to so many of you who have taken the time to share your own experiences of travelling, top tips and to wish me well as I represent our school overseas. I leave on Thursday and Mrs Miffing will be here and in charge in my absence and I will look forward to sharing my experiences with you all on my return! The children have been busy creating cards for the children I meet and it is not too late to pass along any last donations which I can squeeze into my suitcase on Wednesday.

Have a great weekend,



Katy Pinchess, Headteacher

HOUSEKEEPING REMINDERS

Absence from School – If your child needs a planned absence from school for any reason, please complete the ‘Absence from School’ form **in advance**. These can be collected from the spinner. We do understand that some medical or dental appointments are urgent and can only be arranged during the school day, but we do ask that whenever possible you arrange them outside of school hours or in the holidays.

Reporting illness – please contact the school office on 01420 525010 between 8.15am and 8.55am if your child is unwell and will not be in school. Alternatively, you can email the office – adminoffice@bentley.hants.sch.uk – before 8.55am. You will need to contact the office **each day** of your child’s illness.

Change of home time arrangements – please let the member of staff on the gate know if the person collecting your child is different from the usual arrangement (ie if they are off on a play date), instead of emailing or calling the school office, unless there is a last minute, emergency change of plan. This will ensure both the class teacher and your child are clear on their going home plan. As you know we only have one person in the office.

Nail varnish – please ensure all children’s finger nails are clean of any nail varnish.

Walking to school – a reminder to walk on the pavements where possible, and not on the road

GOVERNORS AT THE GATE NEXT WEEK – SAY ‘HELLO’!

Our Governors’ role is not in the operational running of the school which falls to the staff, but to look to the future of the school and plan strategically. We want to collect information and ideas to help shape what the school may look like in years to come. Next week we want to gather parental views on ‘The Broader Curriculum,’ which is now becoming a focus for Ofsted. We view our Bentley curriculum as being a real strength and we are interested in hearing what aspects of our school curriculum and wider opportunities do you, as parents and carers, most appreciate? This includes the way in which teachers plan and teach the full curriculum (PE, RE, humanities, French, English, mathematics, science, computing, art and design, DT) it also includes experiences such as school visits and visitors, special whole school topic weeks, charity work, residential visits, transition to secondary, sports activities and opportunities and enrichments through clubs and childcare. We are keen to know what matters and what you think is important for your children. Governors will be out at the gate welcoming you into school Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday mornings. There will also be a Governor in extra early on Tuesday to try and see those parents dropping off at Breakfast Club so we don’t miss seeing you!

ALL	CRAZE OF THE WEEK – Colouring and Drawing DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES Tuesday 12th – Alton Cross Country – Click here to register participation Friday 15th – Baden Powell Day – click here for details Monday 18th – Friday 22nd – Half Term	
PTFA	Click here for more details on these events Wednesday 13th – School Disco Friday 15th – Cake Sale at 3.15pm – raising funds for the Year 1 Classroom Friday 15th – PTFA Yr 2,3 & 4 Film night – Incredibles 2 Saturday 23rd March – Sponsored Walk Friday 29th March – Bentley Ball	
YEAR	SPECIAL EVENTS/TIMETABLE CHANGES/NOTES	STANDARD TIMETABLE
R	Show and tell this week: Monday – Orcas Tuesday - Penguins Wednesday – Turtles Thursday - Dolphins Friday – Seals	M – named wellies & coats Th – library F – PE kits & long hair tied up
1	Friday 15th – Show and Tell for Squirrels Friday 15th – Yr 1 breakfast – book with the office	M – Spellings W – PE Th – PE F – library, show & tell
2	Tuesday 12th – SeaCity visit. Full, smart school uniform, packed lunch and water bottle needed. Friday 15th – Show and Tell for Puffins Tuesday 26th – Year 2 Maths Lesson – details to follow	T – PE W – PE, library F – spellings, homework due
3	Wednesday 13th – Swimming costume/trunks, towel, swimming hat, healthy snack, verruca socks if needed	M – PE, homework due W – Swimming, recorders Th – library F – spellings
4	Tuesday 12th – Yr 4 Maths Lesson for parents 9am or 10am – book via adminoffice@bentley.hants.sch.uk	M – homework due, PE W – PE Th – library, recorders F – spellings
5		W – PE, homework due, timetables Th – PE, spelling test F – homework due, library
6		M – timetables W – PE, homework due, spellings F – library

WWF CHARITY CHALLENGES

For the next half term the School have committed to support the work of the WWF Charity. Instead of raising funds we are going to work on making a difference for the world. Here are the challenges which the children have come up with for us all to work on at home and school.

Week 1 – 25th February – Conduct a survey at home to find out what we recycle and what is composted. Have a conversation and think more about what we can and cannot commit to recycling. Whilst the grown-ups may be very confident about this it is worth stating that many of our pupils were unaware that we can recycle glass or what items cannot be recycled in the bins.

Week 2 – 4th March – Use a water bottle to collect all the non-recyclable CLEAN plastic (e.g. sweet wrappers, cling film, plastic food bags). Your aim is to push it into the bottle to create a solid ‘brick’ which will be collected and used to make new items.

Week 3 – 11th March – Water reduction. What can you do to help reduce the amount of water you use at home? Try some new baits – turn off the tap when you are brushing your teeth. Time your shower and try and reduce how much water you use.

Week 4 – 18th March – Electricity reduction.

Remember to turn off the lights when you leave the room. Turn off any electrical items which do not need to stay on.

Week 5 – 25th March – Write a letter to make a difference. Write your email or letter with your family’s support – who can you write to? Explain our WWF focus at school and ask for a change. What about a supermarket head office to request a simple plastic reduction (e.g. do cucumbers NEED to be covered in plastic?). Please let us know how you get on and share any replies!

Week 6 – 1st April – The big challenge – try and have a plastic free week. No disposable plastic in lunch boxes at school please and try and use none at home either. Recycle what you can. Do a check list from Week 1 – have you improved on your recycling at home and have we made a difference at school?

We hope that you will give our ideas a try and if you have any more suggestions please contact Madame Jones and/or Mrs Krempel through the adminoffice@bentley.hants.sch.uk as they are both our Recycling pioneers at school. They have sourced some other ideas which we will be piloting at school next half term. Some of these require some extra effort for the grown-ups but we know that our children are passionate to make a difference – let’s see what we can do in working together!

RED NOSE DAY

The theme chosen by the children is “Super Silly, super heroes and sweets” so start planning your creative dressing up now (or come casual). On Friday 17th March there will be a mufti-day donation and there will be a sweet shop available at playtime run by the children. Red noses will be on sale in school as soon as they arrive in school.

BADEN POWELL DAY

To mark **Baden Powell day** which falls in half term children are invited to come into school on Friday 15th February in their uniforms – Brownies, Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Guides and Rainbows. Show your pride in what you do by letting us all know your commitments. We look forward to seeing all the different uniforms!

SITE CLEAR UP DAY

Mr Lucas is holding a tidy up day at the back of school from 9-11am on Saturday 9th March. Please come along with your gloves, secateurs and sensible clothing (whatever the weather!). The plan is to trim back and clear underfoot in the woods in preparation for the warmer spring weather when the children love to play at the back of school. Children are welcome but must be supervised by an adult. If you could come along with an estate car or trailer and take a load to the tip afterwards we would be VERY grateful. Please sign up at the office.

PTFA UPDATE

Wednesday 13th – School Disco – The chaps from CM Sports will be selecting the tunes and our wonderful teaching staff will be providing refreshments. Tickets are £3.00 and can be purchased from the PTFA website by [clicking here](#). But don't delay – bookings close on 12th February at 7pm. Ticket price refreshments. The infant disco is from 4.30pm – 5.45pm and the Junior disco from 6pm – 7.15pm.

Friday 15th – Cake Sale at 3.15pm – delicious homemade and shop bought biscuits will be on sale after school in the playground. Please come and support the fundraising efforts of Year 1. All the monies raised will go towards a purchase for the Year 1 Classroom

Friday 15th – Film night for Years 2, 3 & 4 – Incredibles 2 – join us in the Sports Hall to watch this great sequel! Tickets are £3.50 each and available from the PTFA website by [clicking here](#). But don't delay – bookings close on 14th February at 5pm. This movie is rated PG.

Saturday 23rd March – Family Sponsored Walk – join us for a walk around our beautiful village on Saturday 23rd March. Starting at school at 2pm for our families with Infant children and little ones and 2.30pm for families with Junior and older children, we will make our way around the village, heading towards the station.

All participating families will be given a map and details of the scavenger hunt which will include a number of items to collect or photograph along the way. The walk will end back at school where hot and cold drinks, delicious cakes and yummy biscuits will be available.

The route is approximately three miles and, whilst on public footpaths, does go over stiles so will not be appropriate for children in buggies. You are welcome to bring dogs along, but they must be kept on leads at all times. Everyone is welcome to join in – we just ask that you register your participation with a donation of £2 per family. You can do this by [clicking here](#). We are hoping each family will raise at least £20 in sponsorship – this can be done by [clicking here](#).

All funds raised at this event will go towards paying for new playground markings. Our current ones are looking a little tired and desperately need renewing but the cost of £3,000 is simply outside of the school budget. Your support in this event will help us reach the target!

Friday 29th March – Bentley Ball – Our very first Bentley Ball will be held on 29th March 2019 from 7pm and we are delighted to be hosting this event in the beautiful setting of Bury Court Barn. Everyone is welcome to join what promises to be a fabulous event. We will be kicking off with a welcome drink on arrival, followed by a delicious three course meal and plenty of opportunity to hit the dance floor and show everyone your groovy moves! With tickets being sold already, don't miss out on this evening to remember. It's the perfect opportunity to get some friends together, and help us raise money to replace our school minibus.

During the evening there will be a 'promises auction', and this is where we need the help of our local community. Do you have a contribution you could offer to add to our auction? This could be anything from pet sitting, car washing, or baking a cake to hair styling, a couple of hours of DIY or gardening or cleaning or perhaps you have a holiday home which could be used for a weekend/week or you have a company that could donate a prize? We are open to anything and everything!

Do you have a business you would like to promote? You can place an advertisement in our programme for the evening for as little as £25! Perhaps you'd like to buy a table and bring your clients along? Or even sponsor an element of the evening?

If you have any offers for the promises auction, would like to advertise, are interested in sponsoring part of the event or you want to buy your tickets please email bentleyball19@gmail.com or [click here](#) if you have access to the PTFA website. We look forward to hearing from you.

STAFF NEWS

Many parents, governors and friends of the school have noticed we have been missing a very important member of our Office Team this term. The lovely Mrs Gallagher, our very experienced Office Manager, has been away due to ill health. Sharon is usually here Monday to Wednesday holding the fort in our very busy school office. I have seen Sharon this week and she asked me to pass on her thanks for the lovely flowers from staff and for the cards made by our children to wish her well in her recovery. Sharon asked me to let you all know that she has been diagnosed with a lung condition and she is waiting for further investigations. Some of you may already know that Sharon suffers with Lupus, which is an auto immune disease. She is in the very best hands for her health care and thanks to her super husband Pete (who lots of you know from their teamwork in running the bar at PTFA events!), but she has now been prescribed oxygen so if you do bump into her out and about she wanted people to know in advance. Sharon is missing everyone terribly and it would be lovely if you do see her to say hello and catch her up on the news of your family. She sends lots of love to everyone.

In other staff news Miss Smith came back to school this week and said a big thank you to Mrs Burns for covering in Year R whilst she was away. Miss Triggs has her last Thursday here next week in KS1 as Mrs Woods will be back after half term from her maternity leave. Mrs Woods will be working with Year 1 and 2 on Thursdays to release the teachers for their PPA time.

CAKE SALES

As you know each year group raises money at a cake sale. Homemade and shop bought cakes and biscuits are donated and sold and all the proceeds go to the classes. So far this year they have chosen to spend their cake sale money on:

Year 6 – coach contribution for Young Voices

Year 4 – minimix and wet play resources

Year 5 – coach contribution for Young Voices and art materials, colour pens and pencils

Year 3 – wet play games and back playground equipment

HEALTHY RECIPES

At Bentley, we regularly share ideas with the children about making healthy choices for our behaviour, food, drink and life-styles, which is why I have recently started the process to accredit all of the hard work that the children and staff promote. The Well-being award! It is a lengthy process to evaluate what we already have in place for our Bentley children, but also come up with some new ideas to further our understanding of mindfulness and well-being. A week ago, your child came home with a 'Sugar Smart World' pack from Change 4 Life which I hope has given some useful information about sugar intake. In addition, there is a selection of healthy recipes which are fun to complete at home. [Please click here](#) to have a look and try the recipes. Feel free to send a photo of your making/eating/enjoying these healthy and fun meals to me. I would love to see them!

Mrs Vogel

THANK YOU TO...

... the Patey family for the fabulous pirate ship and super game

... the Handa family for the gazebo

ATISHOOOOO...

...please could each Year 3 child bring in a box of tissues

INFORMATION YOU MAY FIND USEFUL



Alton's Traditional Pancake Race

Tuesday 19th February
10.45am, Public Gardens



Races for Children & Teams

Grab your Frying Pans and don your Aprons

For Flipping Good Fun at Alton's Pancake Race



Registration Opens 10.45am - Races Start 11.30am

Categories: Preschool, 5-7yrs, 8-11yrs, 12-16yrs & TEAMS (up to 8 people)

**Prizes for Race Winners
and Best Fancy Dress**

Kindly donated by
Sweet Chocolate, Westbrook Walk, Alton

**FREE HOT PANCAKES
from 11am - Midday**

Being served by the
Greater Alton Project Churches

Organised by Alton Town Council, 01420 83986, www.alton.gov.uk



LOVE YOUR LIBRARY



Just for Ewe!

Sheep stories and crafts

Alton Library
Thursday 21 February
2.15pm - 3.15pm

Ages 4-8

Children under 8 must be accompanied by a parent/carer

www.hants.gov.uk/library



Tea at 3!
3pm to 5pm every
Monday at Bentley
Church Hall



UPCOMING EVENTS

at Bentley, Binsted and Froyle churches



Come along to Messy Church on
Sunday at Binsted School from 3.30pm
to 5.30pm. All ages are invited.
Entrance is free. Join us for fun, crafts,
celebration and food!

JOIN US ON THE

10th **OF**

FEB

9.30am Bentley - Morning Worship
with Children's Groups

11am Froyle - Holy Communion

3.30pm Binsted - Messy Church

Benefice Prayer Meeting

Every Monday from 9am to 10am.

All are welcome to come along - just pop in.

Monday 11th February is at Froyle.

Monday 18th February is at Bentley.

Monday 25th February is at Binsted.





Gnomeo & Juliet

**CHILDREN'S
HALF TERM FILM**

22nd Feb
Friday @ 10AM

£3 PER CHILD

Bentley Toddler Group

Dottie Tots

Tickets available on the door at Bentley Memorial Hall, Alton Road, Bentley GU10 5NB
or reserve your tickets by emailing communications@dottietots.co.uk

Snacks & drinks on sale