



# Weekly Newsletter



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Friday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2021

Dear Parents,

It has been a super busy week across Benhall Infant and Pre-School this week. We welcomed our reception children into assembly for the first time this week and they have shown us just how ready they are to be part of whole school assembly with some super **Ready** sitting and listening. We also started a quieter lunch time club, where children can eat and play together if they find the hubbub of the dining hall and main playground too much! Christmas nativity rehearsals are continuing across school and we can't wait to showcase what the children can do in our performances later in the term - fingers crossed!

## Reception

This week in Reception, the children have been absolutely smashing their singing practice for the Nativity. We can't wait to share the performance with you all.

It has been fantastic to see so many favourite books brought in from home to share in school. It really has ignited an excitement for reading and the love of books is an absolute delight.

Instead of our planned Parent Pop In next Wednesday, we will be putting the children's books outside in the playground at the end of the day on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday for you to have a look at. Sorry it can't be held inside the classrooms just yet.

## Year 1

Another week gone and we can't believe how busy it has been! This week Year 1 have loved learning all about Diwali and have enjoyed making Rangoli patterns with various materials and drawing them outside with chalk. We have had a go at constructing a bridge to help Rama save Sita, drawn Mehndi patterns, designed our own travel brochures to help others discover India, made beautiful wax resistant elephants in the studio and explored our senses. Year 1 were brilliant at sharing why odd sock day is so important and loved talking about their different socks. It was so lovely to see everyone in their bright and colourful clothing in aid of Children in Need which made sharing all of our hard work at parent pop even more special. What a brilliant end to the week! Wishing you all a restful weekend 😊

## Year 2

Our fabulous year 2 teams have been truly amazing this week. They have shown us just what a purple learner should look like in action. The children have been researching the important role that animals played in war and continued to reflect on why we remember those impacted by war at this time of year. The children have also used the poetry skills they learnt over the last two weeks in our Write Stuff unit about fireworks to create their own poems about Remembrance. On Thursday the children blew Miss Morris away when she introduced Philosophy for Children in our RE lesson. The children heard the story of Creation and looked at poetry and art based on this story and discussed what it means to Christians. They then debated in a really mature a respectful way if God had created earth as described in the Bible. Have a great weekend everyone!

## Pre-School

In Pre-School this week we have continued with our theme to learn all about 'autumn' looking at different animals that hibernate at this time of year how the weather changes and what happens. The children have created leaf owls, handprint tree's and been on a number hunt for pine cones, shared autumn stories and explored the maze. On Friday we celebrated 'Children in Need' with the children coming in dressed in bright colours, thank you for the donations. In Silver Family we had a HAPPY BIRTHDAY to Connor and Dillon also

to our Mr Wintle. Next week we continue to look at Autumn. Have a pleasant weekend, The Pre-School Team.



### **Super School Council**

Our Super School Council will have their next meeting on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> November. Miss Morris has accepted the invitation that we sent to her last week and we will be working with Miss Morris to think about how we can make Benhall an even better place to be. We will keep you updated with the outcomes of the meeting. 😊

### **Purple Learning**

This week each class have discussed what it means to be **Safe**. Each class has had the opportunity to discuss the importance of being safe in and out of school. One of the important points that came out of the discussions was that it isn't just about keeping yourself safe but also keeping others safe too. Lots of conversations were had and some of our top school safety tips across the classes are: always sit on chairs properly, make sure you face the right way when lining up, always move slowly and carefully around the lunchtime hall, wash your hands regularly and always help anyone that is hurt on the playground. As I am sure you will all agree the children of Benhall are fabulous safety superstars! 😊

### **Anti Bullying week**

This week in school the children have focussed carefully on what it means to be a good friend and a super citizen of Benhall Community. We felt it tied in perfectly with our purple learning that "celebrating others" is always important.

In our assemblies the children have listened to Miss Morris read *Introducing Teddy*, a story all about being yourself. In Miss Bilton's assembly the children gathered "kindness words" that we all put into our imaginary pockets but know they are there and can be used at any time!

The children have talked in class meetings about the signs of bullying, what you should do if you think you are being bullied and how you might help someone if you think someone else is being bullied. We thought about friendly words we can say to each other, games which can involve lots of people so nobody feels left out and we also talked about how it may make you feel if you were to be bullied. It has also been wonderful to see so many odd socks! 😊

### **PTA News**

The Hamper Scamper Box for collecting donations of food is outside the school office. Please help this charity by donating non-perishable food items such as such as tinned food, tea, long life milk, squash, pasta, cooking sauces and breakfast cereal. They also invite festive donations to include in Christmas hampers, such as chocolates, stuffing mix, biscuits, cranberry sauce, etc. Last day for donations is 30<sup>th</sup> November.

### **NEW Parent App coming soon**

We will soon be launching the Parent App. We will use the app to send you messages instead of a text so please look out for the link by email with log on details for you to download to your phone.

### **Support Room Makeover**

You will have seen on tapestry that we are in the process of giving Miss Everett's old office a bit of a makeover. It is now a calm space that children can retreat to when they are feeling overwhelmed or just wish to learn in a smaller group with an adult. Miss Everett's sister has transformed the space with a beautiful mural. We would like to send her a huge thank you for all her hard work - we love it. Thank you to Diamond Dave who has also been busy refreshing the rest of the paint work and creating a frame for a blackboard that will be added soon!



### Reverse Advent Calendar

We will be having a reverse advent calendar again this year. This was so well supported last time we did this and we know our fabulous families won't let us down this year!

How does a reverse advent calendar work?

Christmas is a lovely chance to teach our children about the joy of giving as well as receiving. We invite you to give a small item of non-perishable food on any day in December that we will add to our advent calendar that we will take to the food bank on the last day of term. Thank you for sharing the Christmas love! Mrs Pain

### Farewell Jersey (Violet Class)

Jersey recently moved house but was keen to finish the school year with us before changing schools. Unfortunately the journey into school has proven to be just too much and Jersey will be starting a new school closer to her home on Monday. We are so sad to see her go and really hope that she will keep in touch with us and share all her new adventures. I asked her friends in violet class to describe Jersey and these are some of the words they used:

**Always smiling, funny, bright eyes, kind, a good friend, a purple learner, quiet, has good ideas, my friend!**  
Good luck in your new school Jersey we will miss you so much!



Have a safe and restful weekend everyone.

**Miss Morris and the Benhall Team xx**