



News on the Ninth

Issue 5: 9th February 2018

BENGEO PRIMARY SCHOOL



Attendance

Congratulations to Juniper class for the best attendance in January. The top three classes for attendance, together with their percentages, were:

Class	%
Juniper	98.1%
Oak	97.8%
Walnut	97.5%

Music concert

Children who learn a musical instrument in school, or are in the orchestra or choir, will be performing at our Bengeo Music Evening at 7pm on Tuesday 6th March 2018. This will take place in the KS2 Hall (not the KS1 Hall as in previous years). It promises to be a very enjoyable and rewarding evening.

Quarry Talk

Dr Adam came to talk to Year 3 children about issues regarding the proposed Bengeo quarry. He presented arguments for and against and answered children's prepared questions. They then had a class debate looking at both sides of the issue. Children also voted for or against the proposal, with the majority voting against.

"I think it helped us to understand what is actually happening with the quarry. He explained in a lot of detail and it made me want to stop the quarry." Libby, MP Class

"It helped me because it made me think about why the quarry might happen." Tom, MP class

"I didn't know that there still might be a quarry going on" Max, Chestnut class

"I realised that the quarry might affect a lot of nature." Daisy, Chestnut class



Air Ambulance Assembly

A representative from the Essex & Herts Air Ambulance visited the school, with his friend Pilot Pete, to explain the importance of the service they provide. We will now be launching our initiative to raise money for this worthwhile cause.



On Friday 2nd March at 3pm, there will be a cake sale in the KS1 hall in aid of this term's charity (chosen by the School Council). Please can children bring in a donation of cakes on the morning of Friday 2nd March (no nut products please). We will also be selling Air Ambulance themed toys and gifts, ranging from £1 to £6.

On Friday 23rd March we would like children to bring in the pots/boxes of change they have been collecting over the past term.

Thank you for your continued support on behalf of our chosen charity.

Cycling Proficiency



Congratulations to all our cyclists who took part in their Cycling Proficiency training and passed. We hope you enjoy cycling and continue to do so safely in the future.

Parking

Unfortunately, we have received a complaint from the Estate Management company for Buckwells Field about inconsiderate parking. We ask that you park legally, safely and thoughtfully, ensuring that you are not blocking anyone in or blocking a drive/parking bay. Please also note that Cowper Crescent is a bus route and therefore there needs to be sufficient room for the bus to pass. Thank you in advance for your cooperation. The Nursery car park will be re-opening at the beginning of March.

Internet Safety

The internet is an exciting and fun place for adults and children to use and explore educationally and socially. The challenge for parents, carers and teachers is to make sure our children are aware and understand how to be safe when using the internet and related technologies.

In view of this, Mr Newland, our ICT specialist, we will be giving monthly bitesize tips to support parents.

INTERNET SAFETY TOP TIPS!

Contact your **Internet Service Provider** for details on how to setup **Parental Controls** on your home broadband. You can setup things such as restrictions to specific websites or during specific times in the day

Old £10 Notes

Please be aware that the old £10 notes cease to be legal tender on 28th February. From 1st March we will, therefore, no longer be able to accept them.

Foundation Stage Outside Area

We have just finalised plans for the complete refurbishment of the Foundation Stage outside area with work commencing in the Easter holidays.

This is an incredibly exciting project which will transform outside play and learning for our children in Nursery and Reception.



Book Week 19th- 24th March

This year's Book Week will take place over the week beginning 19th March. The Book Fair will be arriving the week before and will be open on Wednesday 14th, Thursday 15th, Monday 19th and Tuesday 20th March. It will take place in Key Stage 1 hall, after school for 30 minutes. Teachers will endeavour to take their classes around the Book Fair during the day so that they have an idea about the books available. There will be more information for parents/carers nearer the time. Activities for Book Week will take place in classes and assemblies. There will be a dressing-up day on Friday, 23rd March where children can dress as a character from a favourite bed-time story or wear pyjamas as if ready for their bed-time story. We would like children to be ready to share their favourite story, bringing along the book if possible. Donations for the day will be supporting Essex & Herts Air Ambulance, as chosen by our School Council.



School Dinners

School dinner cost for next half term is £66.70. Payment can be made weekly, monthly or half termly. Please ensure you are not more than two weeks in arrears at a time. Thank you. For your information, after Easter, dinner charges will increase to £2.40 a day.

Schoolcomms

Please ensure that you have downloaded the school gateway app (and turn on notifications) to enable us to communicate with you efficiently and cost effectively.

Dates for your Diary

12th – 16th February Half Term

- 21st February – Y5 to West Stow
- 27th February – Y6 to Crucial Crew
- 28th February – Y2 Great Fire of London workshop
- 1st March – World Book Day
- 6th March – Music Concert 7pm
- 9th March – Bring Mum to School Day
- 12th March – Y4 to Verulamium Museum
- 12th March – Y1 to Toy Museum
- 16th March – BPA Disco
- 19th March – Hertford & Ware Music Festival
- 19th – 23rd March Book Week
- 23rd March – Book Week Dress-up Day
- 21st March – Class Photos
- 27th March – Parent Consultations 3.40 – 6.00pm
- 28th March – Parent Consultations 5.40 – 8.00pm
- 28th March – Nursery Closed for consultations
- 29th March – Nursery Closed
- 29th March – Last day of Spring term **(1.30pm finish)**.

Tuesday 17th April – Back to School

Wishing everyone a very happy half term.