



News on the Ninth

Issue 5: 9th
January 2020

BENGEO PRIMARY SCHOOL



Welcome

A very warm welcome back to 2020 and wishing all of our families a very Happy and Healthy New Year.

Attendance

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

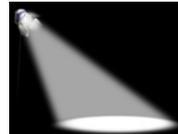
Class	%
Cedar	98.5%
Rowan	98.3%
MP/Pine	97.5%

100% Attendance for last term

Well done to the pupils from Reception to Y6 who achieved 100% attendance last term. All the children were given a certificate on the last day of term.

Pen Recycling

We are recycling our old whiteboard pens, felt tips and biros at school. There is a collection box under the chair in the Reception area if you would like to bring any in from home. Many thanks to Natalie Thomas who has offered to take these to a local collection point.



Spotlight on Miss Solonos



Hello, I'm Miss Solonos and I teach Year 3 Monkey Puzzle. I joined Bengeo Primary School in November 2019 after Miss Taylor went on

maternity leave. Previously, I worked in Hendon at The Hyde School which was my first ever teaching position. After three years working there, I sadly had to say goodbye as I recently relocated to Ware. When I am not teaching, I enjoy spending time with my friends and family as we are all very close. I have a large Greek family so we are often celebrating someone's birthday or wedding! I love going to the theatre and my favourite production that I have seen is 'Wicked'. As an enjoyable pastime, I like being creative and have become obsessed with making cards for particular occasions. My latest project is to design invitations for my wedding in May!

Miss Taylor has a baby girl!

Congratulations to Miss Taylor who has given birth to a lovely baby girl, Annie, weighing in at 8lb 12oz. Mother and baby are both doing well.

Laurel Parents' Christmas Charity Collection

At Christmas, Laurel class parents had a collection and donated £50 to The Book Trust, who give books to vulnerable children. They also donated £57.74 to Crisis; paying for two homeless people to be fed and kept warm over the Christmas holidays. Many thanks from the Laurel Class teaching team for your generosity in donating to these worthy causes.

Congratulations

Huge congratulations to Ms Potts who has not only successfully completed her Masters at Cambridge University in Primary Education, but was awarded the highest honour of a distinction. This reflects the many hours of hard work and her dedication, which is particularly impressive as she completed this whilst still working full time at Bengeo. We are all delighted for her and very proud of her achievement.

Dinner Money

School dinners are £12.50 per week (£72.50 this half term) for children in KS2. This fee is payable weekly or half termly. Unfortunately, we are not able to allow a charge of more than 2 weeks to remain unpaid. Should this happen, your child will have to revert to packed lunches until this amount has been settled.

Curriculum Evening

We have been very fortunate to have secured Dr Kathy Weston again to talk to us at our next curriculum evening, on Thursday 5th of March.

Dr Weston last joined us four years ago and parents were very appreciative of the invaluable insight and advice she gave during the evening. So much so that many of you requested a return visit.

Her talk this term will be on:

How to Raise a Resilient Child: A Parent's Guide

Probably one of the most popular talks on Dr Weston's menu, parents who attend this talk will leave understanding exactly what we mean by 'resilience' and understanding the powerful role that family plays in ensuring children grow up feeling emotionally, academically and physically resilient. No matter what comes their way, they will be prepared.

You can find out more about Dr Weston on her website:
<https://www.drkathyweston.com/>

Doors will be open from 6.30pm for a 7pm start and will last for approximately 2 hours.

Reception & Nursery Applications

Applications for our Nursery are open and forms are available in the office. Please return completed form asap. The deadline is 28th February.

If you are applying for a place for your child in Reception, please be reminded that the closing date is 15th January.

Performances

The week before Christmas was busy with wonderful performances, filling us all with Christmas cheer! Well done to all the children and thank you to all staff involved in such professional productions.

Thank you so much for the generous donations to our chosen charity. We raised £570 for The British Heart Foundation.



ICT TIP OF THE MONTH!

[NSPCC KS2 Staying Safe Online Quiz](#)

Peripatetic Music Lessons

Children can take individual music lessons on various instruments when they are in KS2. You can, at any time, note their interest and their name will go on a waiting list. To do so, please complete the form available from the office or download the form from the website (school/class info/music).

Modeshift Stars Award

Last term the school was accredited a bronze Modeshift Stars award. Modeshift Stars is a national organisation which works with businesses and schools to help encourage healthy and sustainable ways of travelling. We have achieved this award due to our ongoing dedication in teaching the children about healthier lifestyles, cleaner air and safer environments. We have also had people in to take road safety and scooter workshops. We would like to thank all parents who have supported us over the last year, by encouraging their children to walk to school when possible, and by parking sensibly when not.

However, there is always more that we can do to improve on this so please continue to think about healthy choices for our children and our environment.

Roofing Works

Please be aware that we will be having some remedial roofing work carried out this term for which scaffolding will be required. We will give you more information as soon as we have had our meeting with the roofers and county later this week. This work is

looking likely to commence within the next two weeks.

We are an 'Operation Encompass' School

The school has been given the opportunity to take part in a project that will run jointly between schools and Hertfordshire Constabulary.

Operation Encompass is the notification to schools, prior to the start of the next school day, of incidents where a child or young person has experienced or been exposed to any domestic abuse.

Operation Encompass will ensure that a member of the school staff, known as a Key Adult, is trained to allow them to liaise with the police and to use the information that has been shared in confidence. They will also ensure that the school is able to make provision for possible difficulties experienced by children, or their families, who have experienced a domestic abuse incident.

We are keen to offer the best support possible to all our pupils and we believe this will be extremely beneficial for all those involved

Parent Consultations

Parent consultations are on 12th Feb 3.30 – 6pm & 13th Feb 5.30 – 8pm.

The appointment system (<https://bengeo.parentseveningsystem.co.uk/>) will open for bookings at 10am on 20th January.

You may remember our request that your child/ren complete a 'Pupil Online Safety Declaration'; for those who have not yet done so, you will be

given this at the consultation for completion with your child, to be posted in a box available.

Dates for your Diary

23rd Jan – Year 1 Toy Workshop
7th Feb – Singing Club to Young Voices
11th Feb – Pine to Anglo-Saxon trip
12th Feb – Cedar to Anglo-Saxon trip
12th & 13th Feb Parent Consultation Evenings
17th – 21st Feb – HALF TERM
25th Feb – Year 4 Bird of Prey Workshop
27th Feb – Dance Festival
3rd March pm – Y6 to Crucial Crew
4th March – Class Photos
5th March – Curriculum Evening – Dr Kathy Weston – 7pm – 9pm.
12th March – Road Safety for Nursery, Reception and Year 1
20th March – Bring Mum to School Day
23rd March – Music Festival at Ware Drill Hall
3rd April – Nursery closed
3rd April – School finishes at 1.30pm
20th April – First Day of the Summer Term

You are getting this email because you are a parent/carer of a child at this school. Please e-mail us if you would like to stop receiving them.

Here at Bengeo we believe that the most successful school is a place where everyone is valued. We work together and aspire to be the best we can.'