



BENGEO PRIMARY SCHOOL

News on the Ninth!



Issue 1: 9th September 2020

Welcome Back!

I hope that you all had a relaxing and enjoyable summer break and welcome back to what promises to be a busy autumn term. In particular I would like to welcome all new children joining us in Reception and Nursery as well as new starters across the school. I am sure that they will have a wonderful time at Bengeo.



Google Classroom

By the end of this week, Google Classroom should be set up for all classes from Reception to Year 6.

Please get in the habit of checking weekly to see if there are any messages from your child's teacher. From next week, Google Classroom will be used to set homework and work in the event of local lockdown, as well as if your child is off sick (when staff will endeavour to set work as soon as they can), so please familiarise yourself with this, and log on if you have not done so already.

The Government are working on how to give support to families without a device at home. Please let us know if you **do not** have a device that your child can use at home. You **will need** to have access to a BT hotspot. This will mean that, in the event of a local lockdown, we will be ready to place orders should this scheme become more widely available.



A plea – please could all Y1 – Y6 parents provide your child/ren with their own box of tissues that will be kept on their desk.

School Uniform

Your children look very smart in their uniforms.

As we are participating in more outdoor learning, as well as taking part in the daily mile, to save time please ensure your child wears comfortable black shoes which can be used to run in, or black trainers. Our target is for Bengo school to ‘virtually’ travel to Tokyo in time for the 2021 Olympics, a total of 5,918 miles! We will track Bengo's progress on a map, which all classes will be able to view.

Please limit earrings to small studs and ensure long hair is tied back using a plain hair tie. Watches and Fitbits (used as a watch) are fine to wear, but staff will ask pupils to remove any wristbands or additional jewellery/accessories.



Reminders

When dropping off your children, please arrive at your allotted time and leave the site immediately, Although tempting to catch up with friends you may not have seen for a while, it is

important that we clear the school grounds as quickly as we can to minimise any potential spread of the coronavirus. Please help us with this so that we can keep everyone who uses the site safe.

Early Years Pupil Premium

For all parents with children in our nursery, you might be able to help us claim additional funding for your child if you are in receipt of certain benefits. A letter and application form were in the welcome pack. Should you require any assistance, please pop in to the Office.

School Gateway App

Please could you download the ‘Gateway’ app on to your phone/ipad and keep the notifications on in order to ensure that you receive all communication about your child. If you require any help to do this, please contact the Office.



Year 6 - Enterprise Week

A huge thank you to last year's Year 6 who worked incredibly hard and used much creativity to find ways of raising money for the School through their Enterprise Week.

The winners of the challenge to raise the most amount of money were:
Beech - Splish Splash Car Wash
£322.50
Juniper - Sickly Smoothies £460

The total amount raised was £3965.00 which is an incredible amount. Well done and thank you to all Year 6 children who, throughout their time at Bengeo, have been a real credit to the School.

We wish them all much success in their secondary schools.

School Office

The school office will be open 8.45-9.15am and 3.00-3.30pm. Please remain behind the tape marked on the floor. Please, to maintain social distancing, only come into the Office if you have a query that **cannot be resolved on the telephone**. The post box just inside the door will be emptied daily, so pop any correspondence in there.

Unfortunately, we are unable to pass on water bottles, hats, coats, PE kit or homework to children during the day.

Welcome meetings and parent/teacher consultations

Unfortunately, we are not able to hold the usual welcome meetings in school, but teachers have produced a presentation with useful information about the year which you may like to watch with your children. These can be found under the parent section on our website.

Parent consultations will be held via 'virtual' meetings, across two weeks starting the week commencing 23rd November. You will be contacted

nearer the time with instructions on how this will work.



School Council

For this term, the School Council will comprise of the same children as last year, with representatives from Years 2-6.

Applying for School

The deadline for applications for the academic year beginning September 2021 for secondary schools is **Saturday 31st October 2020**, and for primary school it is 15th January 2021.

Prospective New Reception Parent Tours (2020/21)

Unfortunately, we are unable to offer parent tours to the school this term. All tours will be available remotely by the end of October. More on this to follow.

Secondary School Tours

Simon Balle – virtual tours, see website.

Sele – Saturday 10th October 9am – 12.30pm, by appointment only. (01992 581455)

Richard Hale – Provisionally, Monday 28th September 6 – 8pm & Tuesday 29th September 4 – 6pm – check website.

Presdales –Thursday 15th October 5.30-8.30pm.

Chauncy – Wednesday 7th October 6.15-9.15pm

Please check all school websites for up to date information and further details.



Birthday Sweets

As you are aware, we are having to limit things that are coming in to school to minimise risk of spreading coronavirus. Unfortunately, this means that we have to ask you not to bring in sweets when it is your child's birthday for the time being.



Covid symptoms

If your child is unwell, please ring 01992 582765 (from 8am), message on schoolcomms or email absence@bengeo.herts.sch.uk by 9.15 in the morning, and every subsequent morning for the duration of illness.

If we have not heard from you by 9:15am, you will receive a message/call from our Attendance Coordinator, Mrs Ogier, to enquire as to why your child is absent.

With regards to holiday absences, we will again be following the local council guidelines which can be found on the Hertsdirect website. Requests for holidays during term times cannot be authorised. Unauthorised absences over 15 sessions, which equates to 7 full days and one half day, per academic year, may result in a penalty notice.

We look forward to working with you on securing excellent attendance for your child.

School Dinners

School dinners are £2.50 for children in KS2. This fee is payable weekly or half termly. Unfortunately we are not able to allow a charge of more than £25.00 to remain unpaid as debts come directly out of the school budget, thereby affecting the educational provision of all pupils. Should this happen, your child will have to revert to packed lunches from home until this amount has been settled.

Dates for your Diary

21st Oct – Individual Photos

26th Oct – 30th Oct - HALF TERM

2nd Nov – Back to School

16th Dec – Xmas Lunch

18th Dec – School finishes at 1.30pm

(Full year ahead diary dates have been emailed to you)

'Here at Bengo 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.'

'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.'