



## Bengeo Primary School

## News on the Ninth!



Issue 11: 6<sup>th</sup> July

### Attendance

Congratulations to Monkey Puzzle class for the best attendance in June. The top three classes' attendance in June, together with their percentages, were:

Class	%
Monkey Puzzle	99.5%
Willow	99%
Laurel	98.2%

### Year 4 Hertford Town Tour



On Tuesday the 8<sup>th</sup> of June Oak class (year four) went on a historic tour around Hertford. Fun fact; there is an Anglo-

Saxon cemetery under Gravesons. How ironic is that!? We found out lots of new facts. One of the most interesting ones is that Queen Elizabeth I used to visit Hertford Castle lots as she grew up in the nearby Hatfield House. We also found out that Hertford Museum used to be on Fore Street. There is no longer an actual Hertford Castle anymore, but the Gatehouse and Norman walls are still in existence. This was written by, Harriet Thomas, Charlie Summers, Isobel Brennan and Aaron Kiggundu.



### Good-bye

As we approach the end of this academic year we say goodbye to Miss Freeman. Miss Freeman will be starting her maternity leave from the 1<sup>st</sup> September and we wish her, and her partner Simon, much luck and happiness going forward.

Miss Fricker, an experienced teacher, will be doing the maternity cover for Miss Freeman. She is looking forward very much to working with Oak class next year.

We also say goodbye to Mrs Butler, teaching assistant in Willow class. Mrs Butler will be starting her teacher training course in September and we wish her luck as she takes the next step in her career.

We welcome Mrs Ladbrooke, who will take over this post from September, along with Mrs Magee and Mrs Camp who will both be joining us in a learning support assistant capacity.

### Good luck

We wish Miss Prank and her future husband, Mr Burt, lots of luck for their wedding day on the 30<sup>th</sup> July. This has been long awaited as this was postponed from last year due to Covid-19. We are sure the day will be fantastic and wish them both much happiness for the future.

### Reports

Your child's annual report will be given out on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> July. These will also include attendance up to and including the 9<sup>th</sup> July.

If you have any comments or queries about the report that you wish to discuss, please arrange a meeting with your child's teacher.

### Lunch Payments

Please ensure that all dinner accounts are paid up to the end of term by the 16<sup>th</sup> July.

### New classes September 2021

<b>Teacher and new class</b>	<b>Previous class</b>
<b>Mrs Dove</b> Juniper Y6	Cedar
<b>Mr Young</b> Beech Y6	Pine
<b>Miss Peters</b> Pine Y5	Willow
<b>Miss Fricker</b> Cedar Y5	Oak
<b>Miss George</b> Oak Y4	Rowan
<b>Mrs Carter &amp; Ms Potts</b> Willow Y4	Monkey Puzzle
<b>Miss Prank</b> Rowan Year 3	Laurel
<b>Mr Barker</b> Monkey Puzzle Y3	Cherry Blossom
<b>Mrs Barrett</b> Cherry Blossom Y2	Holly
<b>Mrs Guy</b> Laurel Y2	Maple
<b>Mrs Laing &amp; Miss Taylor</b> Maple Y1	Apple
<b>Mrs Day and Mrs Bartlam</b> Holly Y1	Walnut
<b>Mrs Norris</b> Walnut YR	
<b>Mrs Cato and Mrs Coe</b> Apple YR	
<b>Mrs Dalby</b> Acorn Nursery	

### Daily Mile

**BENGEO 2 TOYKO** - We have made it to Tokyo! Huge congratulations to all the pupils, staff and parents who have supported this fantastic achievement. Since September 2020 the whole school has been running during the school day and through Lockdown pupils continued to run, cycle, walk and scoot, logging their distances or times spent exercising and telling their teachers. In April our school was offered an inspirational talk by Olympic athlete Danielle Waterman who also led each class on a warm up before the whole school took part in 'England does the Daily Mile', a national project to encourage all primary schools to participate in a Daily Mile on 30th April.

In total we have travelled over 9000 miles as a school, reaching Lapland in time for Christmas, to complete our journey in time for the Olympic start date on the 23rd of July.

Here's the link if you want to view our journey:

<https://triphappy.com/e/2178335>

Many thanks to Miss Chandler and Mrs Holman for coordinating this project.

### SPORTS DAYS

All classes have now taken part in a sports morning/afternoon, apart from nursery, who have theirs planned for tomorrow. The children have enjoyed taking part in a round robin style mix of activities, working together in teams.





## Our Voice

Our Voice is a pupil research group currently made up of a small number of KS2 pupils. The research group is in its third year and was started by Ms Potts when she was studying for a Master's degree at Cambridge University. The aim of the group is to give Bengeo pupils a say on some of the decisions that affect them in terms of school policy and practice, for example, homework, sports provision, uniform, assemblies, lesson design, etc. With the support of Ms Potts, the children gather the views of other pupils on their own topic or a topic currently being considered by school leaders. They then analyse the results and present a report, sometimes including recommendations. All school leaders have made a commitment to consider the implications of the research when making decisions; some changes to assemblies, homework and reading provision have already happened. Currently Our Voice is researching pupils' views on plastic use and on 'bubbles'.

In 2021, Our Voice replaced the School Council as the voice of Bengeo pupils as it was felt that a more representative view on important issues could be better managed by a research group. From September 2021, more KS2 pupils may join Our Voice and be trained in social research methods as long as they are happy to make a weekly lunchtime commitment and have a passion for ensuring that pupils have their say. Children from all year groups, where appropriate, may be asked to complete questionnaires or be interviewed and teachers will ensure that children are supported in giving their own views.

Katie, Karis, Florence, Harry and Raphael from Cedar Class are the current Our Voice members. They will help train new members of the group in the new academic year.



## Covid-19 update

Currently there is one class closed due to Covid-19.

Several individual children are self-isolating either because they have Covid – 19, or because they have been in close contact with someone who has Covid-19. Please can I ask you all to play your part as we move through to the end of term. You will be aware that cases have risen exponentially over the last weeks and, unfortunately, many secondary schools have closed bubbles due to the many children who have Covid-19. We have had to send several children home over the past few days with either a cough or high temperature.

**Please do not send your child(ren) to school if they have any symptoms of coronavirus (which include a cough or temperature).** If you're not sure, consult the online NHS symptom checker at: [www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/](http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/)

Other symptoms have now been recognised as connected with Covid;

headache, bad stomach, fatigue and sore throats. The government guidance is that parents err on the side of caution with these symptoms.

If you, or anyone in your family, has symptoms please book a **PCR test (do not rely on a LFT)**. To book a test go to: [www.nhs.uk/coronavirus](http://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus) or call 119 if you do not have internet access.

### **Lateral Flow Tests**

Many thanks to all parents who continue to regularly test with Lateral Flow Tests (LFT) at home – doing so definitely helps reduce the risk of transmission.

If you do test positive, please email [admin@bengeo.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@bengeo.herts.sch.uk), isolate as a family and book a PCR test.

### **Finally...**

It has been a privilege leading Bengeo School and working closely with such a supportive and forward thinking staff over the past five and a half years.

Your children are a delight to work with. They are articulate, interested in the world around them, supportive of each other, friendly and have a great sense of humour. They consistently display excellent attitudes to learning and their behaviour is exemplary. I am very proud of their achievements, as I am sure you are.

I would like to thank you all for your support and words of encouragement, particularly so during this very challenging past year. Thank you for the considerable efforts you went to when supporting your children with their home learning during lockdown. I continue to be awe of you.

I wish all of you much luck and happiness in the future. I will miss you.

Mrs Starkiss

**Dates for your Diary** (*Diary dates are subject to possible changes/cancellations due to Covid restrictions*)

14<sup>th</sup> – Nursery Pirate Day

16<sup>th</sup> July – Y2 Camp Day

16<sup>th</sup> July – Year 6 to Three Lakes – Edge activity day

19<sup>th</sup> July – Beech to Chessington

20<sup>th</sup> July – Last day of term. **School closes at 1.30pm**

**1<sup>st</sup> September – Inset Day**

**2<sup>nd</sup> September – children return to school**

*'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.'*

*'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.'*