

Drinks in School

We encourage the children to bring water bottles to school, especially when it is warm. Please only put water in the bottles for the classroom as sticky squash is not easy to clean up! Children may have squash in lunchboxes. Please do not include any fizzy drinks or glass bottles.

Children are allowed a chocolate biscuit in their lunch box but not a chocolate bar. If you can buy it in the biscuit aisle you can have it!

PE

Children should have a change of clothes for PE. A yellow t-shirt, black shorts and trainers should be worn for PE with tracksuit bottoms/sweatshirts available for colder weather. All items should be labelled and in a small bag. Tracksuits will only be worn outside. Earrings should be removed for PE lessons. If ears are recently pierced, earrings may be taped. Parents are asked to provide tape for their children. This is a short term allowance.

Dates For Your Diary

October

10th - 9:15 a.m. in the village hall - all welcome

14th & 16th - Parents' Evening

18th - School Closed - training day

21st - 25th - Half-Term

29th - Individual School Photograph - 1:00 p.m. in Village Hall.

November

20th - Bring Dad to School Morning - details to follow

25th - Flu Vaccines - Whole School

Vision Screening - Reception children only

December

11th - 1:30 p.m. - Reception and Key Stage 1 Performance - in village hall

12th - 6:00 p.m. - Reception and Key Stage 1 Performance - in village hall

13th - Christmas Jumper Day

17th - Class Christmas Parties

18th - Last Day of School

2020 - January

3rd - School Closed - training day

6th - Children back to school.

BENWICK PRIMARY SCHOOL

SEPTEMBER 2019



WELCOME BACK

I would like to start by welcoming our 12 new Reception children to Benwick Primary School. I hope they will enjoy their time here.

Count me in!

Cambridgeshire County Council

Please apply even if your child has Universal Free Meals.

If you apply for free school meals for your child, and tell us that you are on a low income, you should secure significant additional funding for their school, called **Pupil Premium**.

Schools spend this money on anything that can help these children do well at school, including trips, activities and extra support.

Check the eligibility criteria and apply online www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals or call 01223 703 200

Break-time Snacks

Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are provided with fruit every day. If we have any left over, KS2 are offered it.

You are encouraged to send fruit or a similar healthy snack for your child if they are in KS2 (Year 3-Year 6).

Please note children should not be eating from their packed lunch and chocolate, sweets or biscuits are not allowed.

Dinner Money

Dinner money costs are **£2.35** per meal. The Lunchtime Company have told us that we are not required to provide meals for children without payment, so if you do not send in payment for a meal the school office will ring you to ask you to bring in a packed lunch.

Invoices will be sent out next week to parents who owe for meals. Please ensure that this is paid as soon as possible. You can pay online via SIMSPAY. Links are on the school website

All children in KS1 (Reception, Yr 1 & Yr 2) are entitled to free school meals.

Packed Lunches

We try to encourage children to bring healthy lunches to school. **Please no large chocolate bars.** As a rule of thumb - if you can buy it in the biscuit aisle it is fine, e.g. KitKat / Penguin but not if it is in the sweet aisle e.g. Dairy Milk, Mars Bars, Crunchie!).

MORNINGS / ABSENCE

MORNING ROUTINE

All class teachers will be on the playground at 8:45 a.m. to collect their class. A whistle will be blown to signal the time for children to line up in their classes. Once the playground has cleared the gate will be locked and the main gate will need to be used. If your child arrives after this time and before registration they will still head to their classroom independently. This is to minimise the amount of adults entering the school building and ensure we reduce the risk of any incident occurring. If your child arrives to school late after 8.55 a.m. they must enter the school through the main reception to be registered.

Reception parents will still be invited to bring their child into class until October half-term (we ask parents not to bring pushchairs into school). After this settling in time reception children will also line up with the rest of the school.

We are keen to ensure this does not affect our communication with parents. If you would like to speak to your child's class teacher we ask that you wait until the class is dismissed at the end of the day or we welcome you to arrange a meeting via the school office.

Arrival after 9:00 a.m. will be marked as late. If your child / children arrive after 9:05 a.m. they will be marked as unauthorised. If lateness is persistent the Education Welfare Officer will become involved.

If your child is unable to attend school please contact the school office or the absence will be marked as unauthorised. Messages from siblings or other children are not acceptable.

Birthdays

With an increase in children not being allowed to eat a range of foods for a variety of reasons, we respectfully ask that you do not send in sweets or cakes on your child's birthday. We celebrate their birthdays in our Friday morning celebration assembly where the children will have their birthday acknowledged with a song and a birthday certificate from all of us here at Benwick Primary School.

Play Equipment

The play equipment in the school grounds are designed for primary age children. Please note, if you allow your younger children to use the equipment while dropping off or waiting for your child / children to leave school, it is your responsibility and NOT the schools.

Car-Park - Zig-Zag Lines

The Governors wish to bring to your attention that it is against the law to park on the yellow zig-zag lines. We would also remind you not to drop off children or to park cars in the car-park (staff parking only) or to use the entrance to turn around. Please also make sure that children (including pre-school children) DO NOT use the car-park as a play area before or after school. It is not advisable to stand across the entrance of the car-park when waiting at 3:10 p.m. for your child.

Burwell - 22nd - 24th January 2020

Once again we will be taking Year 5/6 children to Burwell for a 3 day residential in the spring term. A letter was sent out on Thursday 12th September - if you would like your child / children to take part please send a deposit of £20 to secure your child's place. You can also pay via SIMSPAY.

Voice In A Million (VIAM)

Once again we will be taking a group of KS2 children to the VIAM concert at Wembley Arena on Wednesday 18th March. Rehearsals for this event will begin shortly at lunch times.

If you would like your child / children to take part please encourage them to come along to Choir. Starting TUESDAY 17th SEPTEMBER. Mrs Clutton will be taking choir practice especially for this concert. There will be a charge for your child if they participate. Details were sent home on Thursday 12th September

Bicycles and Scooters

Although I encourage children to cycle / scoot to school I would like to remind you that they should get off of them before coming down the path next to the village hall or on the school playground. This includes pre-school children. I would also encourage children to wear cycle helmets.