

# BENWICK PRIMARY SCHOOL

## FEBRUARY 2016



Welcome back and a Happy New Year to you all. It has been a busy half term. We welcome three trainee teachers who are hoping to qualify this Summer. Miss Goodale is working in Class 4, Miss Paige in Class 2 and Miss Bean in Class 1. We wish them a successful placement and every good luck for their future in teaching.

A big thank you to Mrs Wood, Mrs Hinson and Mrs Barnes who have stepped into the breach to teach Class 3 this term. Mrs Goulbourne will be Class 3's teacher after Easter and she is really looking forward to joining our school.

### 05/01/16 - Steve Smallman Visit

As part of our schools cluster, we are part of a project called Chattering Champions. As part of this project each setting received a visit from author Steve Smallman, who has written books such as The Lamb Who Came for Dinner, Bumbletum and The Very Greedy Bear. He worked with each class creating a story and drawing characters as he went along. Some of the children's follow-up work will be sent to Steve who will help the children to improve their work further.



### 07/01/16 - Police Visit Class 4

The children had a special visit from PC Kajzer and PCSO Moll from Cambridgeshire Police. They were invited into school to talk about how the children can keep themselves safe and what action to take if they needed to contact the police. The children were also given the opportunity to try on different pieces of the police uniform, including a bulletproof vest and helmets. The morning was rounded off with the children taking it in turns to explore the police van. We all had a fabulous morning.

### 13/01/16 - Indoor 5 a-side 'A' Team Football

On 13th January Miss Wakefield and I took Leon (Yr 6), Jake (Yr 6), Seb (Yr 6), Mason (Yr 5), Alfie (Yr 4) and Thomas (Yr 4) to Neale-Wade to play in the annual inter-village 'A' Team Football Tournament. Our first game was against Doddington which we drew 1-1. We then lost to Wimblington 1-2. Then we beat Manea 2-0. Our final match was against Christchurch and the boys played out of their skins! We won 7-0! An amazing achievement.

We came second in the tournament thanks to our brilliant goal difference! Well done team.





## 18th - 20th January Burwell House Residential Visit



Miss Wakefield, Mrs Fiore and I took 16 excited Yr 5 and Yr 6 Children to Burwell House for a 3-day residential. On arrival the children played the Snail Game - an opportunity to explore the wonderful grounds - lots of nooks and crannies to clamber through and trees to hide behind. In the afternoon we learnt how to use an 8-point compass and were introduced to the TV Studio. Everyone was given a job to do from cameraman to director, floor manager to sound director. The children were then given the opportunity to explore their bedrooms - a very exciting time before we had dinner.



In the evening we played bingo and tried to calm down before going to bed!! LOL!! This did not happen!! Children were finally asleep around 11:00 p.m. and unfortunately were running up and down the corridors at 5:20 a.m.! This does not make for happy staff! However, we spent a good morning in the TV Studio making our News Programmes. We have these on a memory stick which you are welcome to borrow if you would like to see it.



Please see me if interested.

The afternoon was spent on team challenges, where the children displayed real teamwork to earn 'eggs' for the next day's Great Eggscape! They also made clay faces. That evening they were asleep after about 2 minutes!! And no-one stirred until 6:45 a.m. Much better!



The final morning was spent completing The Great Eggscape. They used their 'eggs' to purchase items to make a craft to protect a real raw egg when it was launched from the top of the second floor fire escape!

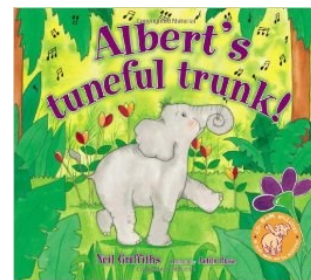


Of all the teams only 1 team's egg survived (a team from Christchurch). Our last game was Burwell Fox. The children were the foxes. The adults were the farmers - out to get the foxes. Basically a game of hide and seek but the children have to find clues in the grounds so have to move around.



We left at 2:00 p.m. tired but happy!

**Story Sacks** - Before the Christmas break, Class 1 had a visitor. As part of 'Chattering Champions', Mrs Margaret High, came to read a story called 'Albert's Tuneful Trunk!' to the children. She brought a story sack to help her tell the story. This sack contained a range of objects to make the story exciting to listen to. In January Mrs High came back with another story sack, to tell a story called 'There Was an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Fly', which class 1 and 2 enjoyed enormously. After the stories, the children enjoyed a range of fun activities related to what they had heard.



## School Term Dates and Closures - September 2016 to July 2017

### Autumn Term 2016

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> and Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> September - School closed - teacher training days

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September - **ALL** children return to school

Reception children will be in school until 12:10 p.m.

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> September - Reception children will be in school until 1:10 p.m.

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> September - Reception children start all day

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October - School closed - teacher training day

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> to Friday 28<sup>th</sup> October - School closed - half-term

Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> December - Last day of Autumn Term

### Spring Term 2017

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January - School closed - teacher training day

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February to Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February - school closed - half-term

Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March - Last day of Spring Term

### Summer Term 2017

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> April - First day back to school

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May - School closed - May Day Holiday

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May - School closed - teacher training day

Monday 29<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June - school closed - half-term

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July - Last day of school year.

## Premier Sports

Unfortunately Mr Cooper broke his leg last weekend playing football so it is unlikely we will see him until after Easter. We wish him a speedy recovery. In the meantime Premier Sports will provide alternative coaches so PE and clubs will not be affected.

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

#### February

15<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> Half-Term

#### March

2<sup>nd</sup> - World Book Day - fancy dress and events.

Girls 5 a-side Football at Parkfield.

3<sup>rd</sup> - Voice In A Million.

7<sup>th</sup> - Parents Evening (day 1).

8<sup>th</sup> - Class 4 trip to Stibbington for a WW2 Evacuation Day. Children will require a packed lunch.

9<sup>th</sup> - Parents Evening (day 2).

Year 5 visit to Safety Zone at March Fire Station.

15<sup>th</sup> - Bring Mum to School Morning.

16<sup>th</sup> - Class 4 Assembly - 9:10 a.m. in the village hall.

18<sup>th</sup> - Sports Relief - details to follow.

22<sup>nd</sup> - Rotary Club of Chatteris Schools Make Music Concert at Cromwell Community College at 6:30 p.m. (Choir)

23<sup>rd</sup> Class 2 Assembly at 9:10 a.m. in the village hall.

8 a-side Football Tournament, 1:15 p.m. here at Benwick.

24<sup>th</sup> - Last day of school.

#### Summer Term

##### April

11<sup>th</sup> - School closed - teacher training day.

12<sup>th</sup> - Pupils back to school after Easter Break.

21<sup>st</sup> - Class 1 Assembly at 9:10 a.m. in the village hall.

22<sup>nd</sup> - Swimming (5 weeks) for Class 3 - details to follow.

29<sup>th</sup> - Netball Tournament at Doddington.

##### May

**All absence of leave in May will be unauthorised, without exception.**

**KS1 will be sitting their SAT's throughout May.**

9<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> Year 6 SAT's week.

11<sup>th</sup> - Artist, Paul Priestly will work with the children.

19<sup>th</sup> - Class 3 Assembly at 9:10 a.m. in the village hall.

27<sup>th</sup> - School closed - teacher training day.

May 30<sup>th</sup> - June 3<sup>rd</sup> Half-Term

##### June

6<sup>th</sup> - Library Resource Centre Day at Cromwell for children transferring to Cromwell in September.

10<sup>th</sup> - Swimming (5 weeks) for Class 4 - details to follow.

**Week Beginning 13<sup>th</sup> June - Year 1 Phonics Test**

14<sup>th</sup> - Sports Day 1:30 p.m. in the school field

16<sup>th</sup> - Whole School Photograph.

##### July

5<sup>th</sup> - KS2 Performance at 1:30 p.m. in the village hall.

7<sup>th</sup> - KS2 Performance at 7:00 p.m. in the village hall.

13<sup>th</sup> - KS2 Athletics event at Parkfield.

19<sup>th</sup> - Doody Circus Day.

21<sup>st</sup> - Last day of term.