**![me_Benwick__Logo_GIF[1]]()Benwick Primary School**

**High Street, Benwick, March, Cambs. PE15 0XA**

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17/10/2019

Dear Parent/Carer,

We would like to share with you some changes that are taking place.  I hope that you are able to embrace the use of technology along with us on our journey.

**‘SIMSPAY’** We have recently started using 'SIMSPAY' for payment of school dinner money and school trips, this has been received extremely well and we appreciate everyone who so far has signed up.

If you did not receive a notification email please ensure the school office has the most up to date inf ©ormation.

To support you with this change a Laptop will be placed in the school reception area to enable you to be supported with our new payment system.

We hope to have converted everyone over to our ‘cashless system’ for the 1st January 2020.

The benefits of using SIMSPAY includes:

* the ability to make safe and secure online payments at any time of the day.
* the ability to make payments in person via Pay Point and Post Office counters.
* the ability to make payments via debit or credit card.
* the ability to identify when payments are due and whether sufficient funds are available.
* the ability to receive email notifications when a balance falls below a set amount.
* the ability to view current balances payment history and when your child had a meal.

**‘UNIFORM’** We are **now** able to provide you with a link direct with School Trends when ordering uniform using the web link (also found on our website).  This allows you to order and pay direct to School Trends online and have your purchases delivered to home or school for a small fee.  We hope that you will use this method as it will save time and cut out the ‘middle-man’.  Of course if you still require uniform quickly you can check with the school office if we have any stock.

 <https://www.schooltrends.co.uk/uniform/BenwickPrimarySchoolPE150XA>

**PTO**

**‘E-schools’**

Our school website has lots of capabilities <http://www.benwick.cambs.sch.uk/website> and is able to connect with parents/carers through the ‘eSchools’ app.  Week commencing 28th October login details will be sent out to enable you to log in to the app via your smart phone both on Apple and Android devices.  This will allow the school to send electronic letters, free text messages and a whole host of other benefits.

Your help is very much appreciated during this exciting transition in technology.  We would hope that it will help save you time and ensure the school becomes more environmentally friendly.

Kind Regards

Mrs K Hill

School Finance Secretary