

# Benton Park News



Target Attendance Figure:  
96%

Whole School Attendance to  
date: 95.22%

14<sup>th</sup> July 2017

Well a huge thank you to our wonderful parents and carers who have supported the school this year in so many ways. Firstly to all the Friends of Benton Park who turned up on Friday and helped set up the school fair and then ran stalls – a HUGE thank you as this was a really great chance for children to enjoy a different opportunity and to raise some much needed funds for the school. I don't know the final total yet but I do know that all the fundraising makes a big difference. The pantomime and Shakespeare are all booked for next year so money raised means that all the children can enjoy these treats.

Thanks too to the many parents on Monday who helped on the wettest trip to the Rising Sun Park. What was amazing was that despite the rain not a child nor an adult complained. And we were very wet! Unfortunately we had no choice to keep going and some classes still managed to catch two newts in the pond dipping!! Sadly the rain saw off the Reception classes' sports day. It is unlikely that we will be able to fit this in before the end of term, though if we get good enough weather we might simply go out and do it with the children.



Rising Sun Fun with KS1!

## Scottish Opera Production

Children in Y5 and Y6 were also stars last week when they performed three times in the Scottish Opera production of Tam'O Shanter. It was amazing to see children working at this level of performance and when the Y6 children performed at the Sage we were overwhelmed by the standard. A great number of parents came out to support this too and we are again extremely grateful.

**Unfortunately it has been brought to my attention that there were some postings on Facebook of the children doing their sports' day. Please can I remind you that posting school events on Facebook is not allowed. If this happens again I will be forced to stop any photography by parents at school events.**

## Social Media

The school has also been approached about the social media site Snapchat. This site now allows very personal information of people's whereabouts to be shared. This is automatically updated and you are already on the maps unless you go into your settings and select **ghost mode**. This hides you from the map and no one can see your location. Furthermore your child will also be able to access "stories" posted by anyone who chooses to make their story public. These glow yellow on their maps but their story could be read by your child. This is on snapchat regardless of your mode.

If your child has a mobile device and is using this site our advice is to ensure that the app is in ghost mode and to monitor at all times your child's internet and social media usage. Please remember that social media sites are for children of 13 years and older and that primary aged children should not be navigating the internet without strong safe practices, including sharing their device use with their parents. The school can help you but parents and carers need to be aware of their child's internet life and you are ultimately responsible for their safety.

Miss Alice Witherow  
Website: [www.bentonpark.newcastle.sch.uk](http://www.bentonpark.newcastle.sch.uk)  
School Office 0191 2665122

**We still have spaces available in Nursery for September 2017. Please contact the office for more details!**

### School Reports

Tonight your child takes home their reports and is informed of their next class teacher. This can be difficult for children who often find changing teachers and classes difficult. Please remember that the school is very experienced in organising class groups and a great deal of thought has been put into who goes where and why. I am always happy to discuss any concerns but I do not move children from one class to another unless the problem continues in September, where we will monitor concerns and make adjustments only if we feel it necessary. Please do speak to us about concerns so we are aware that your child is anxious. Likewise if there is anything in the report that you are concerned about please speak to your child's class teacher first.

### Transition

The children will get the chance to meet their next class teacher on Wednesday morning. Y2 have had a few practices in the big yard and reception have had some story time with their new classes. All these things help with the transition. A separate letter about transition morning is in your child's report envelope.

### Dear Parents and Carers

As we reach the end of the school year, it is timely to reflect on the life of the school. Benton Park Primary delivers a great, all-round education for your children with fantastic academic outcomes and great sporting, cultural and other opportunities. I visit a lot of other schools both in Newcastle and across the region and always come away confident that the leadership, staff and provision at Benton Park are outstanding. No school is perfect but I am also confident that Benton Park is always striving to improve and be even better in this ever-changing and more challenging world of education.

I would like to thank my fellow governors for all their hard work and dedication. The governing body does a great job of both holding the school leadership to account and supporting them and I know we all enjoy being part of the successful set up at Benton Park Primary.

I hope everyone has a great summer break and I look forward to another exciting year.

Best wishes

Jane Edminson  
Chair of Governors

## Term Dates 2017/18



Autumn Term	
<b>Teacher Training Day – School closed to pupils</b>	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> September 2017
School opens	Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> September 2017
School ends for half term	Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> October 2017
<b>Teacher Training Day – School closed to pupils</b>	Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> October 2017
School re-opens	Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> October
School ends for Christmas	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December 2017

Spring Term	
School opens	Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> January 2018
School ends for half term	Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> February 2018
<b>Teacher Training Day – School closed to pupils</b>	Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> February 2018
School re-opens	Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> February 2018
School ends for Easter	Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> March 2018

Summer Term	
School opens	Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> April 2018
<b>Bank Holiday</b>	Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> May 2018
School ends for half term	Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> May 2018
School re-opens	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> June 2018
School ends for Summer	Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> July 2018