

# Great Bentley Primary School Newsletter



[www.greatbentley.essex.sch.uk](http://www.greatbentley.essex.sch.uk)

## 20th October 2017

### **Message from Mrs Cooke**

This week we have been visited by three commissioners from Essex County Council and Councillor Lynda McWilliams. They came to find out about our school Well-Being hub and have invited us to run a workshop at a regional conference. They were impressed with the work of the team and got to see a snippet of the hub in action. Well done to all involved- especially the children! Well done to Year 2 for their assembly this week. They were so proud of themselves and their teachers were proud too! Well done.

Half term challenge: Pumpkin carving competition time! If your child would like to enter they need to bring their carved pumpkin with their name and class clearly labelled on the first day back. Entries will cost £1 and they will be judged and returned on the same day ready for Halloween! We'll include a photo of the winning entry on the next newsletter. All funds will go to the PTA school funds pot.

We have fabulous news - Jamie and Luke, our Head Boy and Deputy presented to the PTA, funding for the school sports kits and have received a further donation - fantastic! Well done to the boys for making this happen!

Finally, please can we remind parents and carers that as a school we are always keen to work with you to ensure the best provision for our children, if you have a query or concern please do make an appointment to see the class teacher, myself or Mrs Caffull. The use of social media to express your concerns does not solve any problems and when we as a school read the comments it is very disheartening for staff. We have a very committed team and promise that we will always listen and seek to work with you to find resolutions.

Wishing you all a very happy half term and looking forward to seeing these amazing pumpkins!

Mrs Cooke  
Head of School

### **School Dinners - £2.00 per meal. Next week will be Week 1 of the new Winter 2017 Menu with a change to the menu on Thursday (Halloween menu)**

**Monday:** Pizza (cheese, pepperoni or Hawaiian), served with pasta, sweetcorn, baked beans and coleslaw - Apple sponge & custard

**Tuesday:** Homemade cottage pie (Quorn cottage pie (v)), served with carrots, peas, gravy and bread - Homemade flapjack with apples

**Wednesday:** Chicken nuggets (vegetable nuggets (v)), served with chips, sweetcorn and baked beans with optional ketchup - Lemon drizzle cake

**Thursday: Halloween Menu** Zombie finger chipolatas (vegetarian sausages (v)), served with rats tail curly fries, scary hoops, blood sucking beans, ghost teeth sweetcorn and optional vampire blood (tomato sauce) - screaming mouth doughnuts and sauce or freaky fruit or yucky yogurt

**Friday:** Fish fingers (Quorn dippers (v)) served with crispy potato cubes, peas, sweetcorn or baked beans - Warm chocolate brownies

### **Lighter Bites (offered as an alternative to the main course)**

**Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday** - Jacket potato served with a choice of cheese, coleslaw, tuna mayonnaise or baked beans.

*A salad bar is available daily to accompany both main menu and lighter bites; fresh fruit and yogurts are also available each day along with drinks of milk, juice and water. Please could you encourage your child to say clearly at registration if they are having a Hot Dinner, Lighter Bites or Sandwiches (packed lunch) thank you.*

**Polite Reminder about Nut Allergies - Some children have severe nut allergies, we therefore kindly request that NO NUT products are included in packed lunches. Thank you.**

### **Late Arrivals**

We have a number of children who are arriving late for school, which is unsettling for the child and disrupting for the class. May we remind parents/carers that the school gate opens at 08:40am. At 8:50am the whistle is blown in playground ready for the children to line up and registration is taken at 08:55am. Supervision of pupils is provided from 8.40am and no child should be on the school premises prior to this time, unless authorised.

Children should enter the school via the side gate; with the exception of reception children, who have their own entrance. At the end of the day children should be collected from the school playground at 3.15pm.

### ***Uniform Shop***

Please note that the next uniform shop will be on **Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2017**, 9.00am-10.00am and 3.00pm-3.30pm. School uniform can also be ordered at any time using our Uniform Order Sheet; this can be found on our website and in the school foyer. Please ensure you enclose payment with your order. We will endeavour to turn orders around as quickly as possible (stock dependant). We hope this makes things a little easier for you.

### ***Parking***

Please can we remind parents to be considerate of Great Bentley residents when parking during school drop-off and pick-up times. We have had local residents complaining that their drive ways have been blocked. Please use the village hall car park or railway station car park. Thank you.

### ***Dates for the Diary***

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October - Half Term

Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> October - Year 6 Crucial Crew (details to follow)

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> November - Year 5 Space Centre Trip

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> November - PTA School Disco KS1 5.30pm-6.30pm, KS2 6.45pm-8.00pm

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November - Parent Pop-in, after school, a chance to come and celebrate your children's work in their class room

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November - Adults Quiz Night (details to follow)

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November - Children In Need Spotacular themed day

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November - Non-pupil day

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> November - Non-pupil day

### ***Healthy Snack Reminder***

We encourage children to have a healthy snack during break time. This can be either a piece of fruit or a healthy cereal bar. Chocolate, sweets or crisps is not acceptable.

### ***Secondary School Applications for September 2018 - Reminder for Year 6 Parents***

As you may be aware, the statutory closing date for applications from parents of Year 6 children (for a secondary school place in Year 7 from September 2018) is 31st October 2017. Applications can be made via our website [www.essex.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.essex.gov.uk/admissions).

### ***Request from Year 5***

Please can Year 5 have any empty clear plastic bottles with labels taken off, any size bottle is appreciated. Thank you Miss Fares.

### ***Flu Vaccination Clarification***

Currently, all children in Essex in Reception to Year 6 are eligible to receive a flu vaccine through the national childhood flu programme as Essex is a former pilot site. Vaccinations will be taking place in school on 4th December 2017. Confirmation letters from NHS will be sent out in due course.

### ***Message from the Friends of Great Bentley Primary School***

Tickets for the Halloween themed disco (fancy dress is optional) will be on sale at £2.50 each from Monday 30th October at the school gates before and after school. The disco is on Thursday 2nd November and the times will be 5.30pm - 6.30pm for KS1 and 6.45pm - 8.00pm for KS2. As always refreshments will be on sale including hot dogs, sweets and drinks.

At the same time we will be selling tickets for the adults Quiz Night which takes place on Friday 10th November. This is always a popular event and tickets usually sell fast so please book your place early. Tickets for this are £5 per person and we have teams of 6 per table. Bring your own drinks and nibbles - it's a great night! A flyer will be sent out with further details.

### ***Parent/Carer Assemblies***

You are invited to come along to the Parent/Carer Assemblies. These assemblies will start at 10.30am and we ask that you sign in at the main office from 10.15am. Please find details below for this term:-

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November - Year 4

Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November - Year 6

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November - Year 5

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December - Reception Class

### ***Low Noise Fireworks***

Shorefields School in Clacton are holding a low noise fireworks display at 4.30pm on 5<sup>th</sup> November 2017 on Plough Corner, Weeley Heath. This is particularly aimed at SEN families. Advance bookings only, see leaflets in our school reception area.

***Did you know/Fact for the week***  
***Samhainophobia is the fear of Halloween***