

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year to you all - although I think you will agree the holidays seem a long time ago.

The new term has started well—thank you all for getting children to school on time—teachers are reading with children from 8:40 so please take advantage of this. Gates are shutting at 8:55 to ensure children are registered on time.

You may have noticed that congestion in the morning is much improved—we are trying to stop parking outside the gates so that lift givers can stop and drop. Can I ask for consideration in the afternoons too please. It really is a busy road.

Tea & Toast for any parents who want to drop in starts again on Friday 25th January at 9am. Please come to the office and they will help.

Do have a wonderful weekend.

Mrs Dennis

This year, the whole school will be working hard to achieve the UNICEF Rights Respecting School Bronze Award. This means that the children will be continuing their learning about their rights as outlined in the Convention on the Rights of a Child. Some lucky children will be chosen by their teachers to become UNICEF Ambassadors to help us lead the school towards achieving the award. Application forms will be sent out for children to apply and we encourage you to support your child in applying if they wish to become an ambassador. You can find more information on the award and the rights of children on the UNICEF website.



Mayan Day

On Wednesday, Year 5 had a visit from Big Nose, a Mayan tribesman. He taught us lots of interesting things about Mayan history. We learnt to count to ten in Mayan, which is a dying language, and we learnt about their traditions, dress and social class system. As part of the workshop, some of us tried raw cocoa and 90% chocolate. This was because the Mayans discovered the cocoa bean. We also had the chance to role play life as a Mayan. All of Year 5 had a fantastic day!



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Be Healthy Schools' Award "There are no limits to what we can achieve"



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This year, Benson Community School are taking part in Living Streets WOW challenge as part of our work around Road Safety. This week, Raji from Living Streets visited school to explain the programme to the pupils.

What is WOW?

WOW is Living Streets all year round ‘walk to school challenge!’

Pupils record how they get to school each day on the interactive WOW Travel Tracker and those who walk (skate, scoot, cycle or Park & Stride!) at least once per week for a month are rewarded with a themed badge. There are 7 badges to collect before the end of the year! WOW will help develop **healthy lifelong habits and reduce congestion at the school gates**, all before the school day begins!

What if we can’t walk to school?

If you live too far away or don’t have time to walk the whole way to school, you can Park and Stride to earn your WOW badge. Park or hop off public transport at least ten minutes away from the school and walk the rest of the way.

Parents will be receiving more information via letters shortly, but please do ask your children about the WOW challenge and sustainable travel to school.

Parking Pledge Letter

You should have received our parking pledge letter last week. Could you please make sure you fill the consent form and hand the letter to school (by an adult) as soon as possible



Girls’ Football Club

Girl's Football will begin again as usual from next week. It will run on Thursdays until 4:15pm.

School Inset Days

Friday 1st February 2019

School closed to Pupils

Monday 22nd July 2019

School closed to Pupils

Monday 2nd & Tuesday 3rd September 2019

School closed to pupils

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