

Dear Parents/carers,

We have come to the end of another very busy half term at Benson and are very proud to say that all our children have been working exceptionally hard. End of unit tests have been carried out and pupil reviews will take place at the start of next half term. We look forward to welcoming parents/carers in to meet with teachers on 12th March to discuss how well your child is doing.

A huge thank you to parents who are supporting the **walk to school** initiative. It has helped reduce congestion at the front of the school. Please only make use of the 'stop and drop' area if an absolute last resort - it is still a very busy road and we are trying to reduce traffic outside the school gates. Have a wonderful half term break - but please encourage children to read every day.

Mrs Dennis

Year 2 Visit to Buddhist Temple

As part of our RE curriculum, we visited a Buddhist temple called Jethavana Buddhist Vihara. The children learnt about Buddhist beliefs and traditions and asked questions about the life of a Buddhist monk.



5 Great Instagram Safety Tips For Parents

Instagram is a picture and video sharing app. Users can post content and use hashtags to share experiences, thoughts or memories with an online community. You can follow your friends, family, celebrities and even companies on Instagram. Instagram allows live streaming. Instagram's terms of use state that the minimum age for users is 13.



Help keep your child safe by following five simple precautions:

- purge unknowns from their followers list
- enable "Private Account" mode.
- get their pictures off the Instagram map
- prevent future location sharing
- don't let them post personal information on their Instagram profile

@bensonschool 



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



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HALF TERM HISTORY HOMEWORK

Do You Know your local History?

The local Heritage Competition for Local Historians!

It's simple! Just tell us:

- **Who** are these people?
- **What** facts can you gather about one or more of them?
- **Devise** a creative way of telling us what you have found out that would interest visitors to Birmingham.



Choose someone to study for your homework from those listed below:

The "3 Gold Men" Statue found on Broad Street (Matthew Boulton, James Watt, William Murdoch)
OR

The "Three famous Marys of Birmingham" (Mary Sturge -1865, Florence Mary Barrow - 1876, Mary Lloyd - 1795)

Some of the information can be challenging to read so get your family involved. You can do your homework as a group or on your own.

It should be possible to display the entry on a board.

Please bring your homework in by 1st April 2019

The school will judge which entries will be sent through for the competition.

Winning Prizes

- 1st prize: £500 voucher to use at Peters on books for the school
- Runner Up: £250 voucher to use at Peters on books for the school

Prizes will be awarded and presented by Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and Culture - Cllr Jayne Francis and winning work will be displayed in the Birmingham City Council House with the winning child/children having a visit.

Dates for your Diary

Monday 25th February - school starts back for pupils

Wednesday 27th February - Y5 visit The Tower of London

Wednesday 6th March to Friday 8th March - Y3 residential to Woodlands Adventure Centre

Week beginning 11th March - STEM week focus for the whole school

Tuesday 12th March - Parents Consultations- 1:00 to 5:15 - appointments will be sent out, shortly

Wednesday 14th March - Forensic Science Lab for Y4 and Y5

Friday 22nd March - Y2 visit West Midland Safari Park

Wednesday 3rd April - visit Y3 Pizza Express

Friday 5th April - Guitar and Choir Concert

Monday 15th April to Friday 26th April - Easter Holiday (school closed)

Monday 6th May - Bank Holiday (school closed)

Monday 27th to Friday 31st May - Half Term week (school closed)

Monday 22nd July - school closed to pupils

Attendance Update

Please continue to support the school attendance target of 96% by only taking holidays when school is closed.

Current attendance is **94.5%** Since we last reported it, Birmingham City Council have issued further **fin**es to the total of **£120**.

Remember we are here to support you so if you get a letter concerning attendance from the school, please come in and talk to us - Claire Charczenko and Miss Rana.



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**Be Healthy
Schools' Award**

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The **Greet Teaching
School Alliance**

