

Dear Parents/carers,

We have had a super response to our new approaches to parking and walking in the mornings. Thank you to all of you for your support - we now have our Road Safety Champions who are a visible reminder and helping hand. Incidents of yellow line parking have dropped dramatically.

Cold weather is around and about - thank you all for ensuring that children are wrapped up warm. Please make sure we have your latest phone number so if we did need to close the school we would be able to let you know.

Mrs Dennis

Parking

Thank you to all our parents who have been parking safely away from the school - It has really helped reduce congestion outside the school gates.

A plea - Please do not park opposite the school in the Benson Road Industrial Estate. We have to remind you that lorries and fork lift trucks come in and out all day and it is not safe for pupils and parents to park there. Please respect this area and park else where.

Attendance

Dear Parents,

Thank you for your continued support with attendance and ensuring your children get to school on time and maintain good attendance (above 96%). As usual this information will be shared with you regarding your child at the next parents' evening.

Current attendance is 94.3%

In order to raise our attendance to be in line with government expectations (96%), we will be sending attendance review letters out in the post **if your child's attendance has fallen below 90%**. This will provide you with a good opportunity to come and talk to us about how we can help to raise your child's attendance.

Leave in term time has caused school's overall attendance to remain lower than the target of 96%. This is taken very seriously by Birmingham City Council. So far this year 5 families have been issued fines. Not all payment amounts are shared with us, however the total paid by two families was **£1136**.

Fines are determined by Birmingham City Council and some have resulted from court proceedings.

At Benson, we urge you to work with us and always come and talk to us if you are considering taking your children out of school during term time. Many parents do this and we have been able to help them. **Always inform us about any leave or other reasons your child is off from school.**

Thank you for your continued support,
Miss S Rana and Miss C Charczenko.

@bensonschool 



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Online safety tips for parents of primary school children 6-10 Year Olds



Here is a useful checkbox from internetmatters.org:

Put yourself in control

Make use of the parental controls on your home broadband and any internet-enabled devices. You can find out how at your broadband provider's website or by visiting internetmatters.org.

Search safely

Use safe search engines such as swiggle.org.uk or kids-search.com. Safe search settings can also be activated on Google and other search engines as well as YouTube. You can find out more at google.co.uk/safetycentre.

Agree boundaries

Be clear what your child can and can't do online – where they can use the internet, how much time they can spend online, the sites they can visit and the type of information they can share. Agree with your child when they can have a mobile phone or tablet.

Explore together

The best way to find out what your child is doing online is to ask them to tell you about it. Encourage them to use devices in communal areas so you can see what sites they're visiting and share with them.

Check if it's suitable

The age ratings that come with games, apps, films and social networks are a good guide to whether they're suitable for your child. The minimum age limit is 13 for several social networking sites, including Facebook and Instagram.

Make sure you check our website for further information on E-Safety

Cake Sale

Year 5 would like to thank all those who donated and bought from our cake sale. We raised over £300 and are now halfway towards our target.

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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