

# Benhurst Primary School

Benhurst Avenue  
Elm Park  
Hornchurch  
Essex  
RM12 4QS

Tel: 01708 450807  
Email: [office@benhurst.havering.sch.uk](mailto:office@benhurst.havering.sch.uk)  
Website: [www.benhurst.havering.sch.uk](http://www.benhurst.havering.sch.uk)  
Twitter: @BenhurstPrimary



Head teacher: Mr D. Denchfield BA (Hons) NPQH

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2019

Dear Parent and Carers,

Below is some important information and key dates that you should be aware of.

### Children in Need Day

Thank you for supporting last week's Children in Need Day! It was lovely to see the children and staff supporting such a worthy cause by wearing pyjamas or Children in Need outfits and making/donating so many cakes.

Special thanks must go to the Pupil Parliament and Miss Britton who organised the day and oversaw the cake sale. I am pleased to announce we raised £684-07, all of which will be donated to the charity. Well done and thank you, this is our highest ever total!

### Attendance

Our overall attendance is 96.84%, which is slightly above the national average of 96%. Of the 3.16% of absences, 0.9% were for unauthorised holiday requests.

We will continue to award termly attendance badges for children who have attendance of 98% or higher. Thank you for your continued support with your child's good attendance.

### Vouchers for free books!

We are collecting coupons from The Sun newspaper for free books for our school. Please send in any coupons to Mrs Sheehan via the school office. We need 3500 by January in order to claim for £600 of reading materials. Thank you! <https://thesunfreebooksforschools.co.uk/>

### Parking

Thank you to the vast majority of our parents who drive to school and park in a sensible and safe manner. Can I remind you that vehicles should not be parked or wait on the yellow zig zag markings and that parking over a local resident's driveway does not reflect well on you and our school.

We have also had a report of a parent leaving a very young child in their car whilst they collected a child from school. Should this happen again, we would need to consider referring such actions to social service.

### **FOB Christmas Bazaar - Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November**

This starts after school and runs until 6-30. It would be fantastic to see you for this event which is a lovely way to mark the start of the festive period whilst raising much needed funds for our school!

### **School Christmas Cards - week beginning Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December**

For children who wish to send cards to children and staff, we will have a red post box opposite 5D for the children to use. Each day, volunteers from Year 6 will sort and distribute the mail to each class. The children really enjoy receiving their cards this way and we could encourage all children to use the post box.

### **School Christmas Performances - week beginning Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December**

We are very much looking forward to our Christmas Performances. Thank you for your support in preparing your child/children for these events; the children are very excited about performing!

I would also like to thank the many KS2 parents who have given permission for their child/children to attend the Tuesday evening performance. This is especially important to parents who work and unable to take the time off during the school day. We will send a whole school text during the afternoon of Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December to confirm if the KS2 performances will go ahead (as they are outside, we are heavily dependent on the weather). Unfortunately, due to the school being closed for the General Election on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December, we are unable to offer a reserve day.

We have timetabled the afternoon performances to finish near to the end of the school day. For this reason, you will not be able to collect your child/ren at the end of an afternoon concert. You may wait in the hall until just before home time before going to the playground to collect your child/ren as normal. Thank you.

Following the Christmas Concerts next month, there will be a collection for St Francis Hospice. This was chosen by the Pupil Parliament after careful consideration from a number of very worthwhile charities.

### **St Nicholas Church Service - Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December**

We will be holding two services at St Nicholas Church which friends and family are very welcome to attend. The seats are limited but you are very welcome. We anticipate the service will last for 45 minutes.

9-30 service - RI, 1P, 2M, 3B, 4B, 5B, 6L

2-15 service - RK, 1G, 2T, 3EH, 4G, 5D, 6H

### **Class Parties - Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December**

The children are encouraged to bring in age appropriate party clothes, which they can wear for the party in the afternoon. School uniform must still be worn in the morning.

We would also be grateful for donations for your child's class party that could include any from the following:

Crisps/ Pringles/Iced Gems

Biscuits

Small Cakes

Mini sausages

Chicken Nuggets

Sausage Rolls

Wraps

Breadsticks

We would request that contributions do not contain nuts. The school will provide water and fruit cordial throughout the afternoon as well as paper plates and disposable cups.

If your child has a specific allergy or dietary requirement, you may provide your child with a specific plate of food for the party. This should be clearly labelled.





## Final day of term - Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December

Our final day of term is always very busy as we prepare for the Christmas break. The children will be completing any outstanding Christmas activities, tidying their trays/lockers and attending a whole school assembly. However, we are happy for children to bring in games to play with their friends once these activities have been completed. These must not be electronic devices, phones, iPods etc.

We would also encourage the children (and staff) to wear a festive jumper/hat to school for the last day of the term instead of their school jumper/cardigan. This is not a complete non-uniform day and children are still required to wear the remaining school uniform as usual.

### Key Dates

Key events are on the school calendar - <https://benhurst.havering.sch.uk/calendar/calendar>

Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> November	- Y5 Wonderdome Planetarium workshop (letter on website)
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> November	- Y4 trip to London Aquarium (letter on website)
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> November	- Y5/6 Athletics (letter to those selected)
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> November	- Police Officer visiting Y2 (pm)
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> November	- Y3/4 Athletics (letter to those selected)
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> November	- Choir singing at Elm Park Illuminations (letter on website)
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> November	- FOB Christmas Fete (after school)
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December	- School Christmas Post Box starts
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> December	- Choir at Romford Market attending (letter on website)
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> December	- Final day of school clubs (ABACUS and Karate to continue)
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> December	- Christmas Performance week (YR, Y1/2 & KS2 letter on website)
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	- School Closed (General Election)
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	- Whole School visit to Queens Theatre (uniform worn as usual)
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	- St Nicholas Church service
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	- FOB Discos (KS1 4-00/5-30 KS2 6-00/7-30) Tickets via Squid
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	- School Christmas lunch (menu to be emailed 9/12)
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	- Class parties (pm)
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	- Non-electronic games from home.
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	- Christmas Jumper/hats Day (just for fun!)
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	- Final day of term (3-30 finish)
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> January	- School closed - INSET day
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> January	- School open (8-50 start). All clubs restart.

Please do not hesitate to get in contact should you require any additional information or have any queries.

Yours sincerely,



Mr D Denchfield  
Head teacher