



**BENEDICT HOUSE  
PREPARATORY SCHOOL**

# Autumn Newsletter

## October 2023

### Message From The Headmaster



Dear Parents,

What a busy few weeks it has been at Benedict House. We have had Vikings running around school terrorising everyone as part of Year 4's Viking workshop, Bikeability for Year 6 (thankfully fairly sunny!!) Conkerfest and many other events in school. October saw the celebration of Black History Month with guest speakers in assembly explaining the importance of this annual event. We were delighted to welcome Louisa, an amazing children's author, who read one of her books to the children; they were excited to hear that a set of her books has been donated to the school Library.

Several parents have been in touch to make suggestions about how, as a school, we can embrace our diversity. I would like to invite any parents and grandparents to an informal discussion group on Friday 10th November at 2.30pm. It will be an opportunity to share ideas, contacts and suggestions. I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible. Please email me if you are able to attend.

We are looking forward to welcoming Mrs Olive Hogan to the Benedict House family as part-time Year 1 teacher, to work alongside Mrs Websdale, forming another dynamic team, as Mrs Hart becomes our full time SENDCo; I know I can rely on you to make her welcome.

May I take this opportunity to wish you all a relaxing and enjoyable half term.

Warmest wishes,

Craig Wardle



The lovely Felicity was so proud of the poem she wrote – a very worthy Head Teacher's Award Winner!



**BENEDICT HOUSE  
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# Whole School News



**2023  
CELEBRATING  
OUR  
SISTERS**

**30TH SEPT | 31 OCT**



This month we have been celebrating Black History with some very special visitors. Louisa Kiwana Olafuyi, a best-selling author and co-founder of Kunda Kids, read some of her stories to the children. The children can find more of her books in the school library too. We also had some of our very own parents come to school to share black history with the children.



This week, Mrs Tedder and Mrs Allen had the pleasure of meeting with the newly elected school council reps from Years 2-6. They eagerly brought along their class suggestion boxes, and Thida had also kindly visited the classes from Pre-School to Year 1 to hear their views, and they all discussed important issues to the children. We heard some excellent suggestions for after-school clubs, school lunch options and how the children would like to better use the playground. Their actions from this meeting have been to find out ideas for an Inter House Competition to be held ideally before Christmas and activities that upper school may enjoy in aftercare. We will report back after our next meeting in November.



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# Chatterbox

As we are working hard to become an Eco-School, we asked the children, "How can we be more eco-friendly?"

Hannah – Cedar -  
We need to make sure we use the right bins for recycling different types of waste at school!



Jonathan – Willow –  
We could plant more trees and flowers to attract butterflies, bees and other wildlife.



Aziah and Oscar –  
Oak- We could raise money to buy a solar panel to put onto our school roof to make electricity.



Zeyar – Chestnut –  
We need to stop littering and put our rubbish in the bins.



Taushini – Birch –  
More of us should try to use electric vehicles to stop pollution.



Zola – Ash – We should try to walk, use the train or bus to come to school each day.





# Newsletter Team

Year 6

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Hi again, and welcome to Thida and Veselin's paragraph of October's newsletter! We would like to announce that the upper school and lower school suggestions boxes have arrived - and once they've been decorated, they will be placed somewhere in your class building for you to use! (Please ask your teacher where the suggestions boxes are located.) Next to the suggestions boxes, there will be a stack of paper slips. To make a suggestion, write it on a slip, and pop it into the box!

Also, your classes have elected school council members, we've selected a few suggestions from anonymous students that we'd like to tell you:

An oven in the steam room – An indoor playground – A sports hall – A gaming club – A rugby 7s team – More investigation equipment – Chemistry lessons – Ice cream – A bigger calm corner – Chat club – More toys – Class pets – Trials to get into sports teams – A Yr. 6 sleepover – A swing – A slide

One very popular suggestion was no more spinach and bacon turnovers – most people don't like them.

A shoutout to Caitlin Slater in Yr. 6 Oak, and her campaign for trousers for girls. It's getting colder – we're rooting for you, Caitlin!

Finally, it's time for... Question of the Month! But first, we'd like to tell you that we've selected a student's answer for last month's question – What's your favourite sandwich filling? We've selected Zeyar in Yr. 3 Chesnut – his answer was... Ham and cheese! Yum! 😊

But anyway, this month's question is... What's your favourite crisp flavour? Tell us and your answer might feature in the next newsletter!

Anyway, that's all from us – see you next time! 😊



# Preschool Owls and Badgers

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## We Love Pre-School!

It's amazing that we are at the end of our first half term with our lovely children. Everyone is absolutely loving life in Pre-School and eagerly running up the path in the morning, ready to see what excitement awaits them.

Highlights have included a visit from a barn owl and an African spotted owl, creating a model of Stickman using lots of chocolate, making our own playdoh and getting totally stuck in with our hands, and exploring the story of The Three Little Pigs by building a house of bricks using shaving foam and weetabix. The children then did their best to huff and puff and blow the house down!

It has also been wonderful to see how our older children have really stepped up to guide, help and look after their new friends. Thank you to Annabelle, Milania, Oscar, Jananie, Arlo, Jo, Loveneet, Arjan and Vihaan.





# Reception Squirrels and Hedgehogs

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For maths, Squirrels and Hedgehogs have been learning about size, mass and capacity. They have had fun using real scales and their hands to compare. They have then dived into pattern: making patterns, finishing patterns and ending patterns.

This term we have celebrated Harvest Festival with art and food donations, we had an amazing assembly. We have also been celebrating black History Month through culture, art and books.

This term, reception have been making salad wrap faces, sweet dessert faces and s'mores. It has been amazing seeing how everyone made a unique dish.





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# Year One

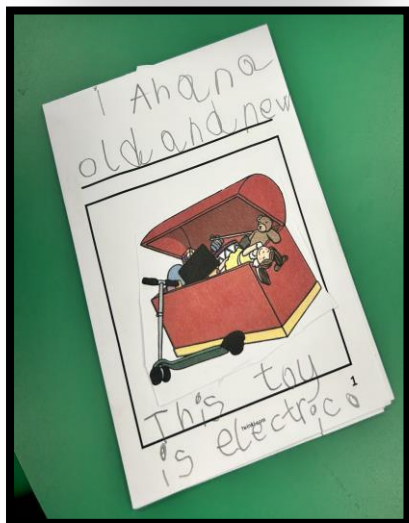
## Cherry and Holly

As part of their learning in Year 1, the children are expected to complete independent challenges. These challenges are different every week and it is the children's responsibility to locate the challenge, complete it, show an adult and then stamp the chart. We are so proud of how the children have taken to this and it is lovely to see each of them taking their learning further.



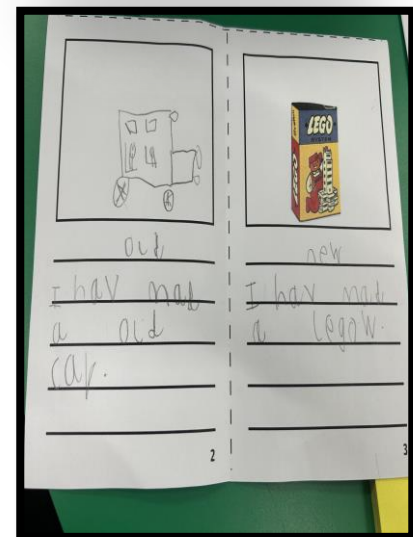
**Challenge 1**

Ahana	
Anastasia	
Elijah	
Felicity	
Henry	
Isaac	
Jayden	
Lochlann	
Louis	
Maya	
Micaiah	
Muhammad	
Rose	
Ryan	
Violet	



**Challenge 2**

Ahaan	
Anais	
Andrew	
Arlo	
Arya	
Aryan	
Estefan	
Harrison	
Henry	
Jomi	
Maisie	
Preesha	
Raphe	
Solaiman	
Titi	

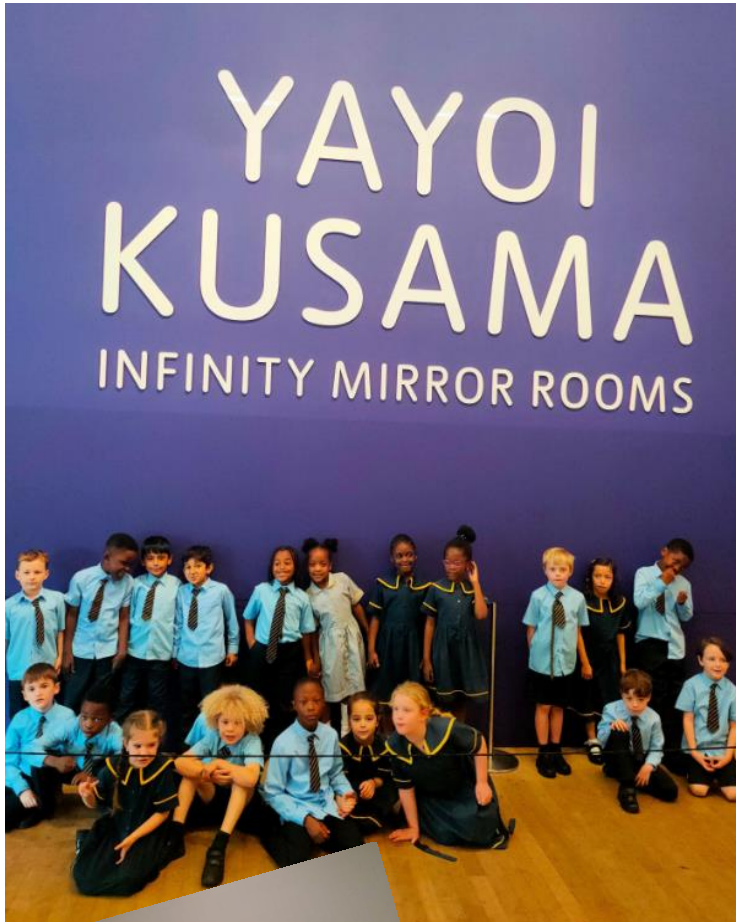




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**Year Two**  
**Ash**



**Year 2 had a great trip to the Tate Modern to see work by the artist we are studying. They particularly loved the infinity mirror rooms.**



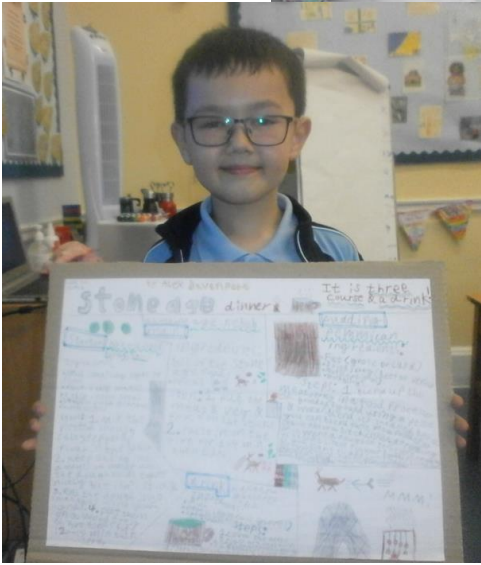
**After the visit to the Yayoi Kusama art installation, we got to learn a bit about London and the River Thames (also about swans which were in the river).**





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## Year Three Chestnut



Year Three are really enjoying the topic work learning about the Stone Age. We have experimented with different media to create sketches of Stone Age style cave art. We have been really proud of all the creative work we have been producing at home. We even researched in the library to learn more about this fascinating time period.





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# Year Four Birch and Willow



Birch and Willow classes have loved delving into the world of the Vikings and Anglo-Saxons this term.



The children have discovered how the Vikings lived, where they came from, immersed themselves in their culture and beliefs and brought this learning to life during their Viking workshop – even experiencing a Viking raid!



My account of the Viking day...  
1. I have started the topic in chronological order. I decided what I wanted the class and we thought about it.  
2. We started by talking about writing and illiterate.  
3. We found that Vikings came from Northern Europe which is now known as Scandinavia and learn how they lived.  
4. The Vikings attacked Britain because they took what they wanted.  
5. I loved something you didn't expect the Viking gods. I like the most because it was the god of thunder.  
6. He played Viking games and didn't of that era would have played.  
7. We found out that how some of great significance for Vikings they often carried weapons with their swords and axes on their belts.  
8. I also learned that graves was the most common way of the Viking world.  
9. Vikings used axles for making beads and travelling.  
10. Woolen was a Viking ship and a Swedish King. He was the son of a politician called King Ragnar Lothbrok.  
11. Woolen was a popular arrangement in travelling.  
12. I most enjoyed when we played a battle because I could get in the fight.



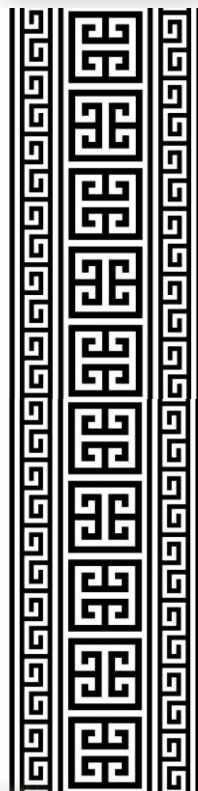
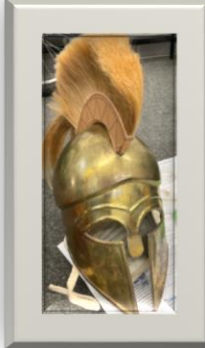


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# Year Five Cedar

Cedar class have been immersed in Greek culture, warfare, myth and legend this term. This included writing their own myth on paper they aged themselves and enjoying a workshop/dress up day from the fantastic 'Portals To The Past'.

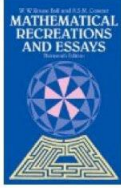
History was brought to life in riveting fashion.





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# Year Six Oak



**Four 4s Problem**

4	+	4	+	4	+	4	=	1	6
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- 1  $4 \div 4 + 4 - 4$
- 2  $4 \div 4 + 4 \div 4$
- 3  $(4 + 4 + 4) \div 4$
- 4  $4 + (4 - 4) \times 4$
- 5  $(4 \times 4 + 4) \div 4$
- 6  $4 + (4 + 4) \div 4$
- 7  $4 + 4 - 4 + 4$
- 8  $4 \times 4 - 4 - 4$
- 9  $4 + 4 + 4 \div 4$
- 10  $(44 - 4) \div 4$

4	+	4	+	4	x	4	=	4	8
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Year Six have delved deeper into Holes and created some excellent written work in connection with this fictional book. They have also been working incredibly hard in Maths looking at fine tuning their understanding of four operations and found the 'four fours investigation' challenging. Everyone enjoyed our fantastic trip to the Tower of London which brought to life our crime and punishment topic. Below is Thida's review.



## Review of the Tower of London - Thida Stirrup; Yr 6 Oak

I think the Tower of London is a really lovely place; there are lots of great attractions and stunning scenery - plus there's always a special souvenir in the gift shop for you to take home! It's great for school trips and family outings, with funny and interactive tours that you can easily book on your phone - with the hilarious guides dressed up as medieval lords and ladies, you won't help but burst into laughter! Speaking of school trips, you can also book a slot in the mysterious lunch area, so your children will feel like elizabethan prisoners while they dine! One attraction I would highly recommend is the Royal Mint - the place where (in the olden times) money was made! There are fun stories to read, ancient coins to gaze upon in wonder, and, best of all, exciting mini games to play! The only little things I think could be improved are the prices of the gift shop - everything is a bit overcharged - and the ice cream van; I wish it accepted cash payment too! But other than that, a really wonderful place!

Picture of the Tower of London:



Trip Advisor Rating:



Year 6 have also been out on the roads learning how to be safe when using their bikes. Much fun was had putting their new skills and knowledge to the test.





# Music News

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Last week the sun shone, and it was the perfect opportunity for the younger children to take the *boomwhackers* outside and run them along the picket fence. They learned that the longer the tube, the lower the sound. Year 4 were more sophisticated, sending musical chords of *boomwhackers* down the staircase. What a satisfying sound they made as they bounced off each step!



Year 3 cellists playing remarkably well after just a few lessons.

Year 6 have been learning chords on their ukuleles



This week Reception children had fun trying to trick the class by playing percussion instruments hidden behind a door for the class to work out what they were playing. They guessed them all correctly!

And after half term we start on music for Christmas!



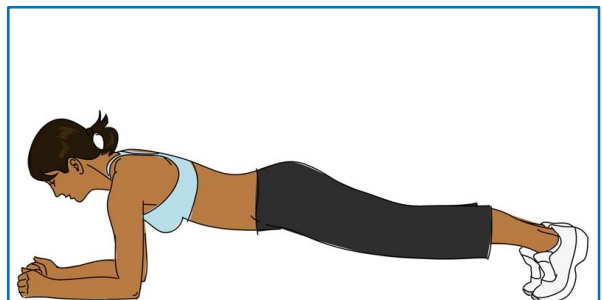
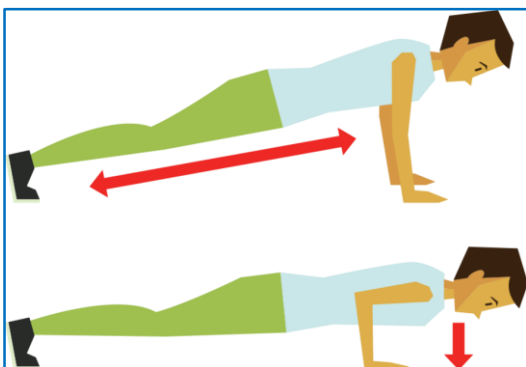
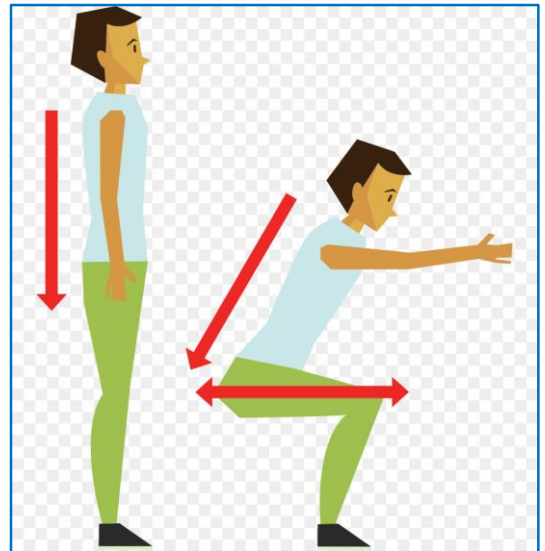
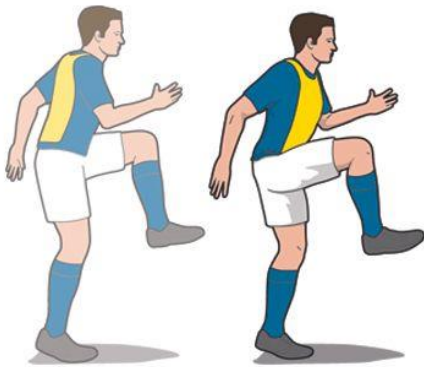


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## PE News

### Keeping Active

It has been great to see so many children being active through P.E, Wake and Shake, afterschool clubs, matches, tournaments and more! This month in Wake and Shake, we did high knees, squats, lunges, plank and push-ups. Why not challenge yourself at home and even get a parent or adult involved!





# Dates for your Diary

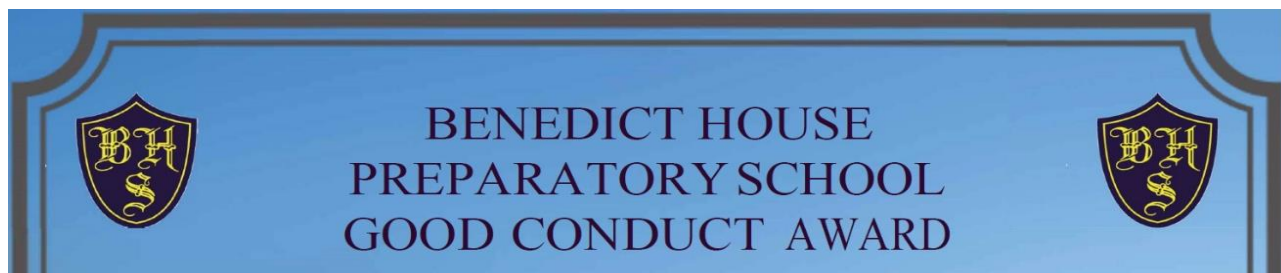
**BENEDICT HOUSE**  
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## November 2023

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
<b>30<sup>th</sup></b> Balanceability 11:00am – 12pm (Reception)	<b>31<sup>st</sup></b> Halloween  Diwali  Years 5&6 Football Tournament at Bromley High (1pm-4pm)	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Nov</b>  Athlete visit @1:00/1:20pm	<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b> Book Fair  Individual School Photos	<b>3<sup>rd</sup></b> Year 6 Bexley Citizenship Scheme at Erith Fire Station 10am-12am  Book Fair	<b>4<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>6<sup>th</sup></b> Year 6 class assembly 9.00am (Y6 parents welcome)  Balanceability 11:00am – 12pm (Reception)  Book Fair  Parents' Evening 1	<b>7<sup>th</sup></b> Book Fair  PCSO Steve Graves to visit PS, R, Yr 6 10am-12pm	<b>8<sup>th</sup></b> Book fair  Squirrels to Vue Bromley Into Film Festival	<b>9<sup>th</sup></b> Book Fair  Chatsworth Football Festival (10:30-2:30pm)  Hedgehogs to Vue Eltham Into Film Festival	<b>10<sup>th</sup></b> Remembrance Day  Year 4 Class assembly 9am (Y4 parents welcome)  Y5 'Into Film' trip to Vue Eltham	<b>11<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>12<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>13<sup>th</sup></b> Anti-bullying week  Balanceability 11:00am – 12pm (Reception)  Parents' Evening 2	<b>14<sup>th</sup></b> Children's Nasal Flu Vaccinations  Year 1 visit – Pizza Express	<b>15<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>16<sup>th</sup></b> Drumming Workshop EYFS and KS1	<b>17<sup>th</sup></b> Year 5 Class Assembly 9am (Y5 parents welcom e)  PS Afternoon Tea Main Hall 2.30	<b>18<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>19<sup>th</sup></b>

# Celebrations

Week Beginning 25th September 2023



Pre-school - Owls Badgers	Anabelle Paul	For always being kind and helpful in class. for joining in more during directed activities.
Reception Hedgehogs	Shasha	For independent writing and putting effort in all learning.
Squirrels	Nala	For working really hard and being a helpful and polite member of Squirrels class.
Year 1 Cherry	Ryan	For settling well into year 1.
Year 1 Holly	Arlo	For always listening and doing the right thing.
Year 2 Ash	Olivia G	Exceptional effort in her classwork and homework.
Year 3 Chestnut	Harleen	For displaying an excellent attitude to learning.
Year 4 Birch	Jack	For settling brilliantly at BHPS and trying his best at all times.
Year 4 Willow	Jonathan	For showing dedication towards all of his work.
Year 5 Cedar	Flynn	For being ready to be on task and learn each day.
Year 6 Oak	Cassie	For being an excellent role model to others, always completing homework and doing everything to the best of her ability.

Heads Awards	Reason
Caitlin, Samara, Mia, Tanek, Aaliyah, Anika, Cassie, Thida - Oak	For amazing Spanish presentations, they had created for homework.
Maisie & Maya – Cherry & Holly	For extending their learning and completing some fantastic work.



Elizabeth in Birch - For supporting her classmate with great patience and kindness without being asked.

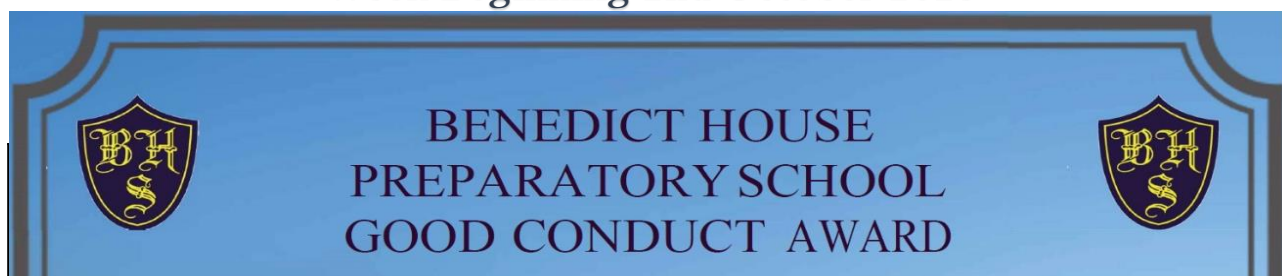


Pen Licence  
Year 4 -  
Taushini  
and Zane



# Celebrations

Week Beginning 2nd October 2023



## BENEDICT HOUSE PREPARATORY SCHOOL GOOD CONDUCT AWARD

Pre-school - Owls	Aletheia	For settling so beautifully into life at Benedict House.
Badgers	Azaezul	For becoming more vocal in class.
Reception Hedgehogs Squirrels	Raphael  Aidan	Being an amazing friend.  For asking more questions in class and sharing his wonderful ideas.
Year 1 Cherry	Lochlann	For taking charge of his independent challenges and working hard to complete them.
Year 1 Holly	Andrew G	For showing creativity in the junk modelling area.
Year 2 Ash	Athalia	For the best writing she has ever done in Phonics.
Year 3 Chestnut	Tori	For excellent effort during swimming lessons.
Year 4 Birch	Keira	For showing more confidence in lesson time, during the input and independent activities.
Year 5 Cedar	Vaneesha	For the attention to detail and quality of her homework activities.
Year 6 Oak	Swenik	For excellent reasoning answers in maths this week.

Heads Awards Name	Reason
Aviela - Birch	For working mostly independently in Maths, despite saying she didn't understand at the start of the lesson! Great perseverance!
Malik - Ash	For extra effort in Topic work about trains
Athalia - Ash	For amazing writing in RWI.
Alva, Lorcan, Ben, Eli, - Ash	Fantastic maths with partitioning and number names.



*Pen  
Licence  
Year  
4 Desire  
and  
Tiwalola.*

# Celebrations

Week Beginning 2nd October 2023

Maths Whizzards
Year 1 Cherry - Ryan
Year 1 Holly - Jomi
Year 2 Ash - Zola
Year 3 Chestnut - Alex
Year 4 Birch - Ela
Year 4 Willow - Rayan
Year 5 Cedar - Layla
Year 6 Oak - Tanek

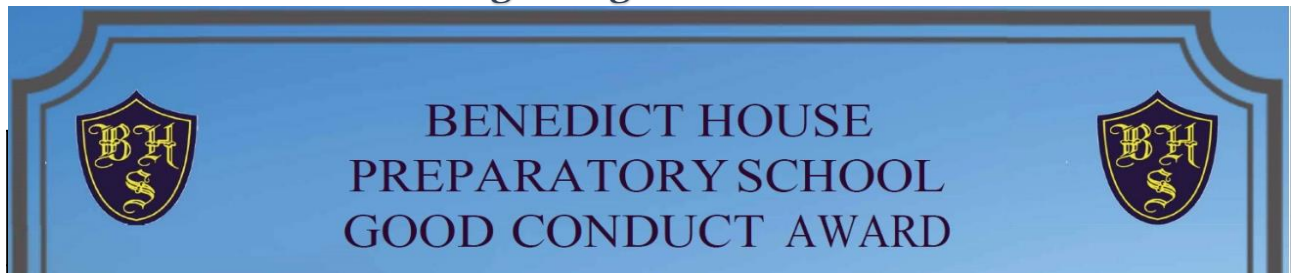


Kindness Leaves Name and Class	Reason
Autumn in Cedar	For looking out for a friend in the lunch hall.
Cassie in Oak	For being considerate to an upset friend.
Malik in Ash	For helping to pick up the dinner plates that fell on the floor.
Sienna in Squirrels	For being warm and welcoming to a new friend in reception and showing her around our classrooms.
Emmie in Squirrels	For being warm and welcoming to a new friend in reception and showing her around our classrooms.
Mayva in Squirrels	For being warm and welcoming to a new friend in reception and showing her around our classrooms.
Nala in Squirrels	For being warm and welcoming to a new friend in reception and showing her around our classrooms.
Felicity in Cherry	For helping a member of the class.
Solaiman in Holly	For helping a friend do up their buttons



# Celebrations

Week Beginning 9th October 2023



Pre-school - Owls	Rehaan	For becoming so much braver about coming into school very morning.
Badgers	Arjan	For becoming more confident while narrating small world Play.
Reception Squirrels	Feranmi	For always working hard and completing her work to a high standard.
Year 1 Cherry	Rose	For always trying her best and working hard.
Year 1 Holly	Andrew	For some amazing creations in the junk modelling area
Year 2 Ash	Calvin	For always giving feedback and responding to questions in class.
Year 3 Chestnut	Shekinah-Glory	Excellent effort with her homework to create a Stone Age recipe
Year 4 Birch	Harrison	For fantastic focus and listening skills during the Viking day.
Year 5 Cedar	Maria	For her tolerant and inclusive attitude
Year 6 Oak	Kiana	For a fantastic start to school life at Benedict House.

Heads Awards Name	Reason
Felicity – Cherry	For a fabulous rhyming poem about bath time



Keira – For looking out for her new classmate and patiently taking time to help her adjust to new routines.

# Celebrations

Week Beginning 9th October 2023

## Maths Whizzards

Year 1 Cherry - Ryan

Year 1 Holly - Ahaan

Year 2 - Zola

Year 3 - Petra

Year 4 Birch - Keira

Year 4 Willow - Max

Year 5 - Layla

Year 6 - Gursimran



Hello ! I'm Attendance Ted, the newest member of the Benedict House family.

I will be awarded to the class in Upper School with the highest attendance percentage for the week, Look out for my brother, Attendance Bear who will go to the class in Lower School with the highest attendance for that week.



Attendance Ted (Upper School) – winning class:  
Willow

Attendance Bear (Lower School) - winning class:  
Squirrels



## News From Home

**BENEDICT HOUSE**  
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Akanaka had a grading again in Martial Arts recently and is now at Green Belt Senior level. Fantastic work Akanaka – we are so proud of you!

If you have some news from home that you would like to share with the Benedict House community, please email Mrs Allen [amy.allen@benedicthouseprepschool.co.uk](mailto:amy.allen@benedicthouseprepschool.co.uk)

# CHATSWORTH SCHOOLS



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**BENEDICT HOUSE**  
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## News From FOBH

### **AGM held on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October**

#### New Committee members

The new roles appointed for the 2022-2023 FOBH committee are:

Chair is Claire Onuoha

Co-Chair is Tayler Skyers-Salih

Secretary is Omasan George

Vice Secretary is Mel Walker

Treasurer is Jyoti Katragadda

Vice Treasurer is Adedoyin Showunmi

Uniform Co-ordinator is Teniola Ayodeji-Oyeniya

Creative/Decorations Lead is Janani Balachander

Communications Lead is Helene Waigo

Aisha Osi Efa will join the core committee and Keji Lawrence and Keji Malik are joining the volunteer group.