

Autumn 1 Newsletter

BENTS GREEN SCHOOL 2026-27

MESSAGE FROM EXECUTIVE HEADTEACHER AND HEADS OF SCHOOL

Welcome to our Autumn 1 newsletter.

It has been such a pleasure to welcome everyone back to Bents Green and to see our students settling into the new school year. As we walk around school, we love seeing their smiles, enthusiasm and growing confidence, as well as the many moments of learning, friendship and achievement taking place each day. We feel incredibly proud of our students and of the care, patience and commitment shown by our staff. We would also like to thank our families for the trust, encouragement and support you give us. Working together makes such a difference, and it is what makes our school community so special.

We hope you enjoy reading about some of the lovely moments we have shared this half term. We wish all our students, families and staff a happy, restful half-term break, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back for Autumn 2.

Warmest wishes,
Laura, Emma and El





KEY DATES

23rd October-2nd November - October Half Term

20th November - Children in Need 2026

23rd November - Exams Celebration Evening (Gleadless & Ringinglow)

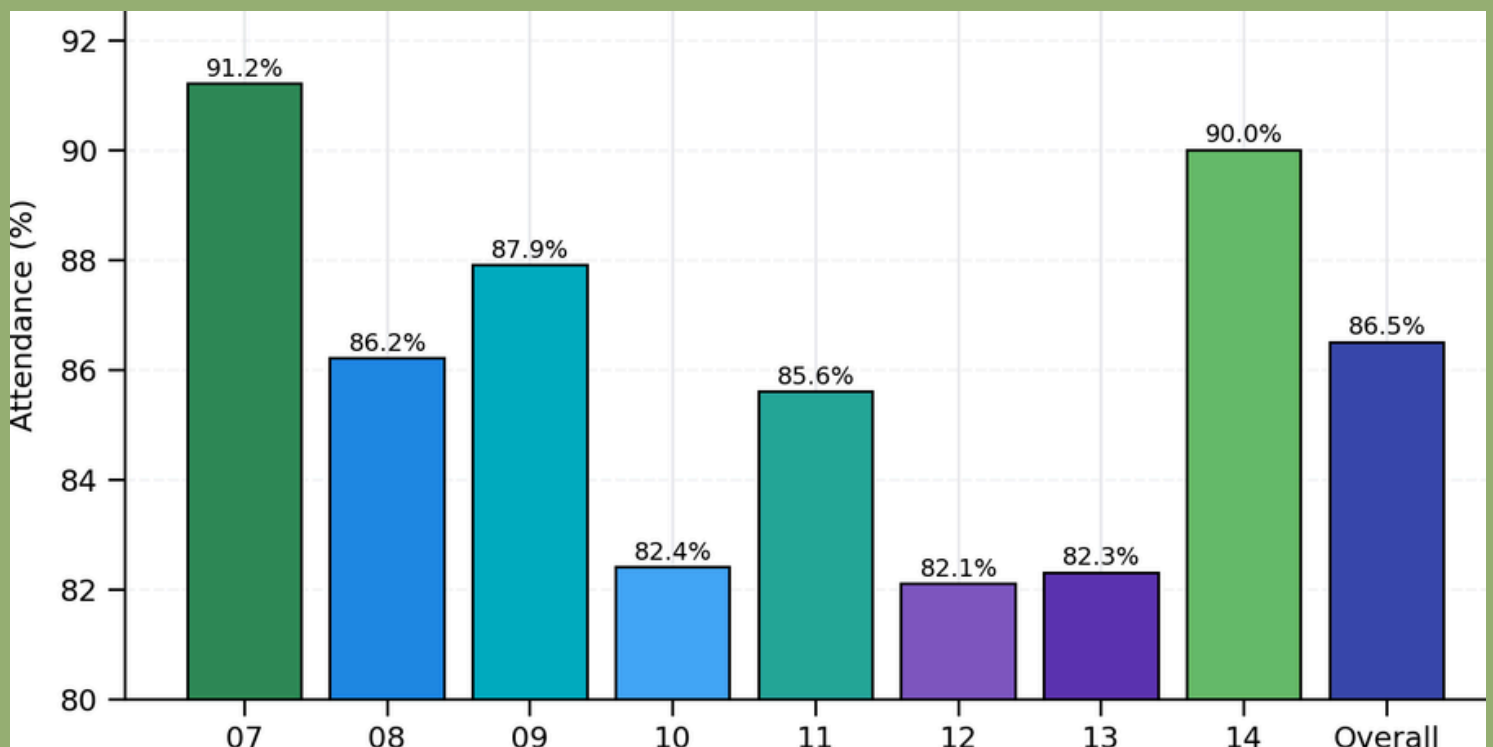
2nd December - Parent's Evening (Years 7, 8 and 9)

WC 7th December - Christmas Market and Singalong (Ringinglow)

10th December - Christmas Concert (Handsworth Hub)

16th December - Christmas Shows and Stalls (Gleadless)

ATTENDANCE REPORT



DUKE OF EDINBURGH

Our Duke of Edinburgh (DofE) group recently completed a two-day expedition in Castleton, where they demonstrated resilience, teamwork, and independence. Throughout the expedition, pupils developed their map-reading and navigation skills, successfully following planned routes and working together to overcome challenges along the way.

The group also gained valuable camping and campcraft experience, including pitching tents, organising their campsite, and managing equipment. Pupils prepared and cooked their own meals, developing practical life skills as well as an understanding of healthy eating and self-sufficiency. The expedition was a fantastic opportunity for pupils to build confidence, problem-solving skills, and independence in an outdoor environment.



CHOIR

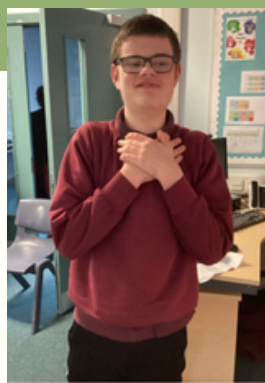
A brand-new Sing and Sign Choir started at Ringinglow in September which is providing students with the opportunity to share music together. It has been a great success so far!

Since September, students have been singing and signing 'You've got a Friend in Me' from Toy Story and 'Sing' by Gary Barlow. They have shown great enthusiasm and determination as they have practised co-ordinating their singing with the correct signs.

Not only have we seen improved singing and signing over the first few weeks, we have also seen an improvement in confidence amongst the students. Furthermore, with the choir being fully inclusive-open to all students from all year groups, we have seen students socialising and interacting with those in different year groups and different classes. It has been wonderful to see the children supporting each other and embracing a new way of expressing themselves through music.

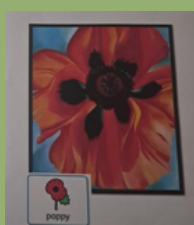
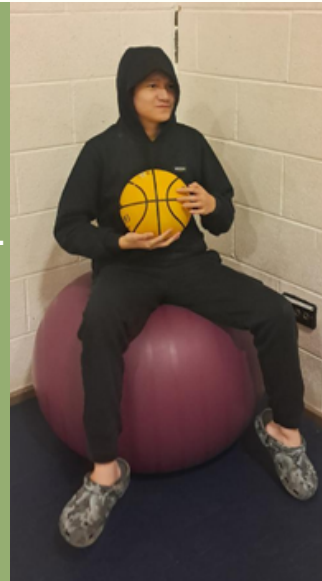
We look forward to learning more songs and sharing our performances with the wider school community in the coming months.

Well done to all our choir members for their fantastic effort and positive attitude!



BEECH

Beech class have settled back into school, into new spaces and with some new friends. We have enjoyed a topic on Plants and Rocks, reading "Jasper's Beanstalk" and growing beanstalks of our own! We made some beautiful collage poppies based on Georgia O'Keeffe's "Poppy" and we have used flowers to print with. We have been having "fun with food", exploring jelly and custard and making mud. And we continue to enjoy our music sessions with Sian, Forest School with Ciara and PE with Dan. And we are loving zooming around on the new go-karts!



GRAVES

As part of their ASDAN Healthy Living unit, Graves Class have been developing their understanding of the importance of maintaining a healthy lifestyle and good personal hygiene. Pupils enjoyed a trip on the tram, which provided valuable opportunities to practise life skills, including travelling safely on public transport, following routines, and interacting appropriately within the community.

The class have also been taking regular walks in local heritage parks, promoting the benefits of physical activity and spending time outdoors. These experiences have encouraged pupils to make healthy lifestyle choices, improve their wellbeing, and develop greater independence. Through these practical activities, pupils have gained a better understanding of how healthy habits, exercise, and personal hygiene contribute to overall health and wellbeing.



WILLOW

Willow class have enjoyed the topic of Plants and Rocks this half term and have been learning lots of different things on this theme. In Communication and Literacy, we followed instructions to plant a seed, then practised writing for instruction by listing the steps needed.

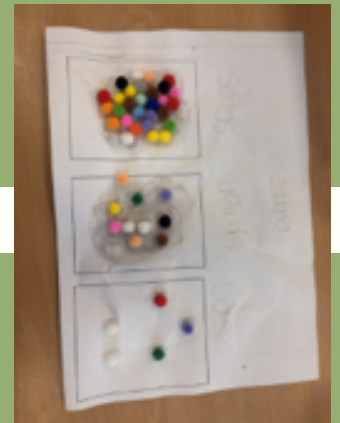


ARENA

Arena class have enjoyed a fantastic term of learning across the curriculum. In Food technology, we explored healthy eating and nutritious food choices. We made delicious, scrambled egg muffins with peppers and spring onions. The pupils enjoyed preparing the ingredients and discovering how healthy foods can be both tasty and fun to make.

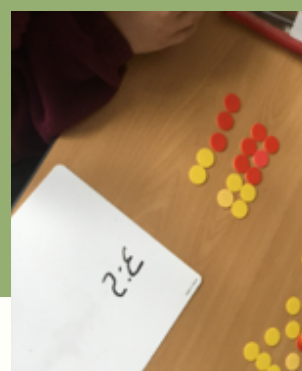
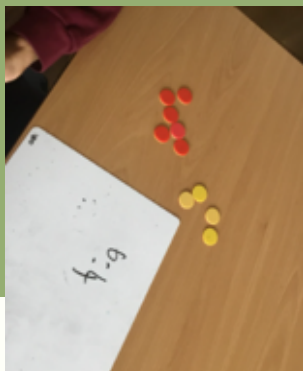


In Science, we investigated solids, liquids and gases. Pupils took part in a practical activity using pompoms to represent particles, helping them to explore how particles behave in different states of matter.



During Maths, we explored ratios by using different coloured counters to create our own examples. This activity helped us to visualise and understand how ratios show the relationship between the amounts in each group.

Well done to all our pupils for their enthusiasm, curiosity and brilliant participation this half term!





APPLE

Apple Class have had a super start to the year. Everyone accepted and celebrated the new year, exploring their new class and bonding with one another. We have done lots of amazing work and play this term, which we are excited to share with you...

We have started most days with sensory play and reading. Each day, students have chances to independently explore the sensory activity on offer, usually involving paint to create some very fun artwork, and sit with one another to see how their friends create too. We then sit in circle time and read a different story every day, which normally involves lots of laughter and excitement all together.

It has been amazing to see them explore new spaces too. Whether outdoor learning, music, or PE, Apple Class has taken different spaces in their stride and have loved discovering new interests too.

Each student has done amazing work on their Phonics and Maths skills, practicing with different activities like flash cards and tracing. All of Apple Class has engaged beautifully in these tasks, showing great improvement and development on each task given to them.

We are all so proud of Apple Class, and it is lovely to see both their individual personalities and friendships develop each day. Well done Apple Class: we are excited to see you all keep growing!



ARTS

This half term, Arts class students have been attending college visits. These visits provide students with valuable opportunities to explore different college environments, learn about available courses, and begin preparing for their next steps after Bents Green School.

