

PARENT BULLETIN



Headteacher's Message

Dear all,

I hope that you are all well in this cold, dark January. Mental health is always important but in these winter months even more so. At the end of last term, I asked students across the school about how we could further improve what we do to support their mental health.

From this, we have actioned quite a few things: changes to the ALC at break and lunch; a Yr 11 chill afternoon to celebrate their PPE success; 'How To' revision sessions for Yr 11 looking at 2 specific knowledge retrieval techniques; and the introduction of a support app into KS5, which will now move to the whole school later this term.

On our staff inset day, we also spent time considering how we can ensure all students know we value their hard work and commitment.

I am now repeating this review cycle with acts of kindness and bullying to see what more we can do.

The government have also launched their attendance campaign this month, looking at further ways that we as a school can support good attendance. Many of their suggestions are already in place here, as it has been one of our key drivers for improvement this year. However, there are always areas for development and we will be putting more in place to ensure we are meeting the Government expectations and our own.

There was a really good turnout at the Year 11 parents' event last evening - thank you for your support. This matches the really promising PPE (mock examination) results that the cohort posted in December. The key messages from the evening have been echoed to students again in today's assembly. Especially the irrefutable fact that those students who attend Beechwood School 95% of the time or more, have a significantly better set of outcomes than those who do not reach this threshold.

If you have any concerns about your child's attendance, please call the attendance team on **01756 787293**, or get in touch by email at attendance@beechwood.slough.sch.uk, and they will be able to help you.

Anita Spires
Headteacher

Key Dates

Spring Term 2023 – 2024

Tuesday 23rd January

Yr9 Immunisations

Wednesday 24th January 24

Year 12/13 Reports to Parents

Wednesday 24th January 24

Yr12 Psychology Trip

Wednesday 24th and Thursday 25th January 24

GCSE Rock Climbing

Thursday 25th January 24

KS3 Reward New Year Party

Thursday 8th February 24

Year 12/13 Parent's Evening

Friday 9th February 24

Last day of Spring 1 Term

Monday 19th February 24

All years return to school

Thursday 29th February 24

Yr7 PGL Trip Parent Information Eve

RESPECT • EXCELLENCE • KINDNESS

Thank you for your kind support and generosity

Thanks to your kind support and generosity, our end of term non-uniform / Christmas jumper day raised over **£372.00** for the Slough Foodbank. We also received a fantastic amount of food items, which have been delivered and are now helping to support families in crisis.

Thank you again for your support – what an amazing school community we have!



MAKING A SPLASH AND RAISING CASH

We always like to celebrate our student's achievements, both inside and outside of school.

Mia Brown is to be congratulated on an outstanding swimming performance in the recent 39th Maidenhead Lions Swimarathon. Despite some personal challenges, Mia showed true determination by swimming lengths of the 25 meter pool for almost an hour!.

Mia was representing her swimming club – Leisure Focus Assisted Swimming – and along with her team members swam a total of 90 laps – that's a massively impressive total and we are so extremely proud of Mia for not only swimming so brilliantly, but for helping to raise over £20,000 so far, for local charities.

Mia was even cheered on by our ex-Prime Minister, Theresa May. Now that's something that doesn't happen every day!!

CONGRATULATIONS Mia. You should be very proud of yourself and your swimming team.



A Day on the Life of a School Therapy Dog

Hello, my name is Pom Bear. I am a 6-year-old Pomeranian (whatever that means) and proud to be the therapy dog at Beechwood School. My day starts with the usual breakfast, scratch and walk before I put on my Beechwood necktie and lead and then I know I am in work mode. The first thing we do on getting to school is ensure that the "School Dog" signs are up at both the student and public entrances. This means everyone is aware that I am on site that day.

I then go to breakfast club where I am made a fuss of and definitely do not get given titbits by the students after they have finished eating (I am not allowed). This means that I can check that everyone is ok and ready for the day ahead and I also get lots of belly rubs which is the most important thing, as we all know.

Sometimes I will be in assembly after that. We like to check that everyone knows how to approach dogs and what to do if you are scared or unsure. Some of the children that I work with used to be very afraid of dogs but are now my biggest fans.



Depending on the day of the week, I have a timetable to follow. This means each day is a bit different. I might be in a therapy session with our Educational Psychologist, Hannah, or an ELSA session with one of our trained staff. I also help with literacy interventions – although I am not a natural reader, I am a very good listener. I especially like books about animals and the great outdoors.

When a child is sad or upset, I can be very useful – I am told – in helping them to regulate and tell the teachers what is the problem. I think that is one of my very special skills (along with whirling in circles and digging holes.) I also seem to make everyone at Beechwood smile just by

existing. I get treated like a Queen and even get to wear a crown on occasion.

Being a therapy dog is very rewarding but also very tiring. After a day at school, I am ready for my tea and a nice cuddle on the sofa. I am told often that I am A GOOD GIRL so that is what I must be.



ParentPay Issues

At the beginning of the term, we experienced a few issues with ParentPay, where students had had their ParentPay accounts topped up by parents, but when going to purchase a snack or lunch, ParentPay was not showing the cleared funds. We can only apologise for this and assure you that we have spoken to ParentPay about this issue.



ParentPay have explained that rarely, they experience a delay in the payments going through the system and that it can sometimes take up to 48 hours for funds to clear and that this can be dependent on the bank the parent/carer may use.

To help alleviate the problem, can we please ask for parents/carers, wherever possible, to top up their child's ParentPay account a couple of days before they may need it. This will hopefully help the issue, but doesn't of course resolve the technical difficulties ParentPay sometimes experience.

We would like to assure you that we are looking into these challenges and hope to at least minimise any disruption to students being able to purchase food through their accounts.

Students are told, that if they normally pay for their school meal and they experience any problems with payment in the restaurant, to go to Student Services, where they will be issued with a credit note for that day. No student should go without food during the school day and we want to ensure every student's welfare is looked after.

Please do continue to report any ParentPay issues to the school and we will do our utmost to support. *Thankyou*

VISIT FROM REME (Royal Electrical Mechanical Engineers) AND INFANTRY SOLDIERS

Year 11 students were fortunate enough to take part in activities last Friday, presented by REME (Royal Electrical Mechanical Engineers) and Infantry soldiers.

The students took part in DRILL, Rocket car engineering and listened to presentations, followed by lots of questions. A good day had by all.



RESPECT • EXCELLENCE • KINDNESS

THE BEECHWOOD MISSION:

TO PROVIDE AN EXCEPTIONAL LEARNING EXPERIENCE FOR ALL, WHERE POTENTIAL IS NURTURED AND RESPONSIBLE CITIZENS CREATED

Our curriculum summary is available to read on our [website](#). A copy of this document is also in full at the back of this parent bulletin.

We hope by sharing our curriculum aims, that parents/carers and students are fully informed about not only our vision for Kindness, Respect and Excellence (our 3 core values), but also Beechwood's improvement areas for this academic year for all key stages.

If you have any questions, please do speak to your child's Form Tutor or Director of Studies

BEECHWOOD SCHOOL CURRICULUM SUMMARY



Trust Mission	To use the power of education to create real opportunities that transform lives			
Beechwood Mission	To provide an exceptional learning experience for all, where potential is nurtured and responsible citizens created			
Vision	Respect	Excellence		Kindness
Curriculum Aims	Resilient, confident individuals who live safe, healthy and fulfilling lives	A curriculum that is characterised by a depth of knowledge and understanding and equips young people to be successful learners who enjoy school, achieve well and thrive in life beyond Beechwood		Responsible citizens who make a positive contribution to society
School Improvement Areas 23-24	Creating an intellectually challenging curriculum	Supporting all to fully access the curriculum	Providing opportunities within and beyond the classroom for quality character development	Ensuring a safe, calm and supportive environment
	KS3 (3 Year)		KS4 (2 Years)	
Breadth, balance and progression	Broad range of subjects including dedicated time for reading.		Level 3 and Level 2 pathways through Post 16 study. Dedicated/Supervised Assessment & Study periods, PSHCE and wellbeing.	
	English, Mathematics, Science, History, Geography, French or Spanish Religious Studies, Art, Computing, Design & Technology (including Food), Drama, Music, Physical Education, Religious Studies, PSHE.		3 Pathways to meet the needs of our students: Scholarship - 9 GCSE/BTEC subjects including a language Mastery - 9 GCSE/BTECs Progression - 8 GCSE/BTECs with additional English and Maths CORE: English, Mathematics, Combined Science, Geography or History, PE and PSHE (a language for some) Optional: Pick 4 GCSEs: Art, Business Studies, Computing, Design & Technology, Drama, Food & Nutrition, Geography, History, Media, Music, Physical Education, Religious Studies. BTECs: Creative i-media, Health & Social Care IT & Computing KS4: Taught to develop their capability, creativity & knowledge in CS, digital media & IT across the curriculum. Students also develop/apply their analytic, problem-solving, design, & thinking skills in all subject areas. Digital safety is part of the PSHCE curriculum Citizenship KS4: Taught through PSHE programme, assemblies, and the core curriculum offer. Also part of P&E, Humanities and Social Sciences RSE and Health KS4: Taught through PSHE programme, assemblies, and the core Science curriculum offer. Also part of PE & Social Sciences curriculum Level 3: A Levels: Biology, Business, Chemistry, Computer Science, Design & Technology, English Language & Literature, EPQ, Geography, History, Mathematics, Media Studies, Physical Education, Physics, Psychology, Religious Studies, Sociology. BTECs: Business, Applied Science, Health & Social Care, Criminology Level 2: BTECs: Business, Public Services.	
PSHCE 30 minutes per week during form time	Year 7: Transition & Safety, Developing Skills & Aspirations, Diversity, Health & Puberty, Building Relationships, Financial decision making. Year 8: Drugs & Alcohol, Community & Careers, Discrimination, Emotional Wellbeing, Identity and Relationships, Digital Literacy Year 9: Peer Influence, Gangs and Substance Abuse, Setting Goals, Respectful Relationships, Healthy Lifestyle, Employability Skills		Year 10: Mental Health, Financial Decision Making, Healthy Relationships, Exploring Influence, Addressing Extremism and Radiation, Work Experience. Year 11: Building for the future, Next steps, Communication in relationships, Families, Independence	
CEIAG	Heathrow STEM Generation	SEGRO School Challenge	STEM Careers & Enrichment Opportunities	GCSE options Advisor 121 sessions
	Speakers for school project (work experience) Assembly on T Levels/Apprenticeships Advisor 121 sessions Post 16 options Post 16 options/next step Advisor 121 sessions Post 18 options/next step Higher Ed Fair at Reading UCB- Apprenticeships and Career week & work experience for Year 12&13 Unlocking Degree Apprenticeships with Mars - Building Brighter Futures			
	Parent webinar, Career of the week, Careers briefings, Pathways, CTM and Speakers for school, Mentoring Day tutor consultations, Unitop Online careers matching programs, KUDOS, careers drop-ins with school careers advisor every Monday. Unitop rolled out to students and staff. HealthReach workshops. Work experience, industry conferences and networking opportunities.			
Measuring Impact	Our effectiveness is measured through Two key strands: Student Destinations and Student Outcomes. Destinations: All KS4 students EET; All KS5 students in first choice universities or Employment Outcomes: Attainment and progress at GCSE above average; Positive Progress 8; A/BTEC Level attainment Avg grade C+/Merit+.			

To provide an exceptional educational experience for all where potential is nurtured and responsible citizens created.

PE NEWS

January Netball Results

Year 11 were triumphant against local rivals Langley Grammar School when they met on a very cold Wednesday night.

The match started in our favour, with LGS only having 6 players and losing the coin toss for the first centre.

Beechwood pulled away in the first quarter going 3-0 up, followed by a tense second quarter, where LGS pulled back three goals to make it 4-3 to Beechwood. However, brilliant work by **Maime McNally** & **Jasmine Singh** meant that the third quarter was an easy one, going 7-3 up.

The lead continued into the fourth quarter with some mentionable defence holding off the LGS team to finish the game 12-3.

What a fabulous game and lovely feedback from the LGS PE staff who umpired.

Unfortunately, on the same evening, the Year 7 newly founded netball team, had their first proper match against LGS. The girls played phenomenally, considering that some of them have only been to one training session and had some great highlights in their game.



Brilliant play by **Tori Allen-Clark** (GD) and **Ellese Murray** (GK) in completely new positions, made it hard for the shooters on the opposition's side, alongside some great interceptions by **Zarah Khan** in the centre third. Lastly, some really hard graft by our GS/GA combo with **Lilly Damarell** and **Sylvie Gardener** trying to break through the very tall LGS defence. It wasn't meant to be and we did lose this time, but we are ready to come back fighting.

SPORTS LEADERS PROGRAMME

The PE Team have been working hard to put together a programme for our Year 9-13 students this year, that will build confidence, communication skills and teamwork, through assisting and leading on sporting events within school, our local community and the borough.

Since the start of January, we have been receiving many applications for our new **Sports Leaders Programme** and over the last week, we have been holding interviews with Mr Meredith (Sports Leaders Coordinator) and Miss Cain (Head of PE), to see who has what it takes to embark on this new journey with us.

The successful candidates will be able to take part in organising, leading and running after school clubs, fun days and local primary sports events over the upcoming months, alongside completing a Level 2 Leadership in the community qualification.

We are so excited to see who has what it takes and to celebrate all of the special achievements that are to come!

If you are in Years 7 or 8 you may want to start thinking about your chances next year to become involved!!



To provide an exceptional educational experience for all where potential is nurtured and responsible citizens created.

TVLP CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOP DAY AUTHOR ALI SPARKES.

Award winning author Ali Sparkes visited Slough based TVLP schools Beechwood, Langley Academy and Herschel on Thursday, 18th January, to inspire and motivate the students of year 7 and 8 to enter the TVLP creative writing competition.

Ali, author of the popular Shape shifter series and writer of the award-winning book Frozen in time, motivated and inspired students with her presentations.

Beechwood school opted for an all-out big author assembly. Ali talked about her interesting journey into becoming a published author and offered tips and encouragement for creative writing.

Langley and Herschel opted for a creative writing workshop style with her brilliant X factor delivery. Books are often chosen by 3 key indicators. The cover, the blurb and the front page.

The students proceeded to be introduced to a number of Ali's books through the x factor system then in mixed groups created their own blurbs and first pages with the help of Ali's experience. As she will be judging the competition many tips and useful advice was relayed.

The students in groups then presented their own written work to the rest of the team using the same X factor categories. Some very interesting stories and ideas were created across all three schools.

Thank you to Ali Sparkes for such an engaging and stimulating assembly.

Please see competition details overleaf and a link to Ali's website below, where you can see the trailer to her new book just launched - 100 summers!

[Ali Sparkes - Children's author of the popular Shapeshifter series of books](#)



TVLP
CREATIVE WRITING
COMPETITION

**Building Other Worlds
Alternative Reality**

Its time to think creatively!

In just 500 words take us
to another time or place.

Competition Launch Date
Monday 15th January
For students in year 7 and 8
Competition Closing Date
Friday 9th February

Email your writing to
J.Kemp@tvlp.org.uk



Be inspired to write and
create by
Author Ali Sparkes
Thursday 18th January

Create a time we want
to travel to.
#motivated to write!



Embracing New Opportunities

LAUNCH of our new PE Kit and PE Kit Supplier

We are pleased to announce the arrival of our new PE kit and confirm that School Days Direct are our new supplier. This means that all your school uniform needs can be met in one place.

Moving forward, please purchase your child's PE kit from School Days Direct. **There is no requirement to purchase new kit, if your child's old-style kit still fits them. Students will be able to wear both types of kit for the foreseeable future.** To visit School Days Direct website and view the Beechwood PE Kit, please following this link - [https://www.schooldaysdirect.co.uk/product-category/school-uniform/beechwood-school/p-e-kit-beechwood-school/](https://www schooldaysdirect.co.uk/product-category/school-uniform/beechwood-school/p-e-kit-beechwood-school/)



SCHOOL DAYS DIRECT
The Uniform Specialist

BEECHWOOD SCHOOL P.E. KIT

Available to purchase from School Days Direct
from Monday 15th January 2024



To purchase uniform, visit our website:
www.schooldaysdirect.co.uk or pop into our store.



OPENING HOURS
Monday to Friday
8:00am to 5:00pm
Saturday
9:00am to 5:00pm

Please buy your uniform **EARLY** to avoid the queues during the Back-to-School rush*

*The Back-to-School rush begins around mid-August, therefore please try to shop before then, where possible.

Additional Hours During Summer Holidays

School Days Direct Limited, 20A Buckingham Avenue, Slough, Berkshire, SL1 4QA
T: 01628 665353 | E: info@schooldaysdirect.co.uk | W: www.schooldaysdirect.co.uk
[/schooldaysdirect](https://www.facebook.com/schooldaysdirect) [/schooldaysdirect](https://www.instagram.com/schooldaysdirect)

Embracing New Opportunities

NEW YEAR, NEW OPPORTUNITIES

PE Extra Curricular Activities

Spring 1

Monday 3.10pm-4.10pm	Tuesday 3.10pm-4.10pm	Wednesday 3.10pm-4.10pm	Thursday 3.10pm-4.10pm	Friday 3.10pm-4.10pm
Year 9 & 10 Boys Football JPO	All Years Basketball Thames Valley Cavaliers	Year 11 GCSE Moderation Football SMH	Year 7&8 Netball JCA *pending meetings	COMPULSORY Coursework Intervention JCA/UAN
Year 9, 10 Netball SBH/ TCH	Year 7 & 8 Boys Football JPO	Year 10/11 Moderation Badminton UAN/JCA/IPR	Year 12 & 13 Volleyball JPO *pending meetings	
Year 7 & 8 Girls Football Sixth formers	Year 10/11 GCSE Moderation Table Tennis SMH	Year 11 GCSE Moderation Netball SBH		

What's on in the ALC?

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Before school	Breakfast club 8-8:20am	Breakfast club 8-8:20am	Breakfast club 8-8:20am	Breakfast club 8-8:20am	Breakfast club 8-8:20am
Break	Craft club/Games	Craft club/Games	Craft club/Games	Craft club/Games	Craft club/Games
Lunch	Craft Club	Board games	Craft club	Craft club Community group	Craft club/ Mindful coloring
After school	Homework support club 3:00-4:00pm	Homework support club 3:00-4:00pm	Homework support club/ Croche Club 3:00-4:00pm	Homework support club 3:00-4:00pm	Homework support club 3:00-3:30pm

Breakfast Club is a free club, open to all students.

The Community group on a Thursday lunchtime is for students who want to help organise food bank collections, bake sales and other activities for our local community.

ALC time is also a great opportunity to choose a new book, or simply catch up with some homework.

Supporting our students

ENJOYING ARTS AND CRAFTS IN THE ALC

There are plenty of opportunities for students to get involved in arts and crafts in their spare time. The ALC always encourages students to get involved and here are just some of the lovely art and craft projects students have been enjoying, whilst also learning about the Chinese New Year of the Dragon



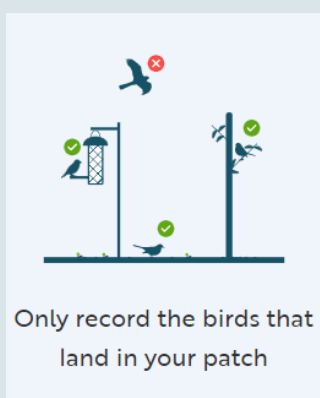
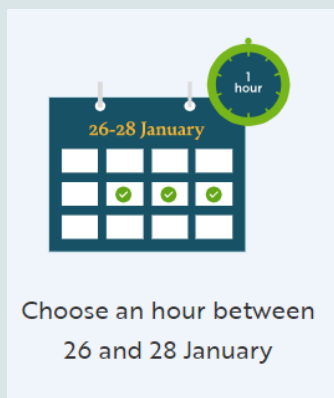
JANUARY CRAFTS



BIG GARDEN BIRDWATCH

The next Big Garden Birdwatch is taking place between the 26th and 28th January. If you'd like to get involved, please visit the RSPB website at <https://www.rspb.org.uk/whats-happening/big-garden-birdwatch> for your free guide.

Why not give this free activity a go!



Supporting Parents and Students

CLASSCHARTS in School

CLASSCHARTS is widely used in school and allows teachers and parents/carers to track positive and negative behaviour of students in school.

The App gives every parent/carer access to the ratio between positive and negative behaviour as well as being notified if a student receives an after school detention, including the reason, length of the detention and the name of the member of staff who set the detention. **If you haven't already downloaded the Parents App, we actively encourage you to do so. If you require any support with this, please contact your child's Director of Studies or Form Tutor.**

What is Class Charts for parents?

Depending on how your school has set up our system, you will be able to use Class Charts to keep track of your child's [behaviour](#), view [attendance](#) records, access their weekly [timetable](#), view assigned [homework](#) tasks, track scheduled [detentions](#), create [wellbeing](#) submissions and view announcements from their school.

If you have more than one child, you can access Class Charts information about your children from a single, centralised parent account.

Class Charts for parents can be accessed via our [website](#), or through our [iOS](#) and [Android](#) apps.



You should have received a [Parent code](#) from your school, which will look similar to the example code shown on the right.

This code is used to set up your [Class Charts parent account](#), which is covered on the next page.

ABC123

For more information, please visit the [Parent Information guide](#)

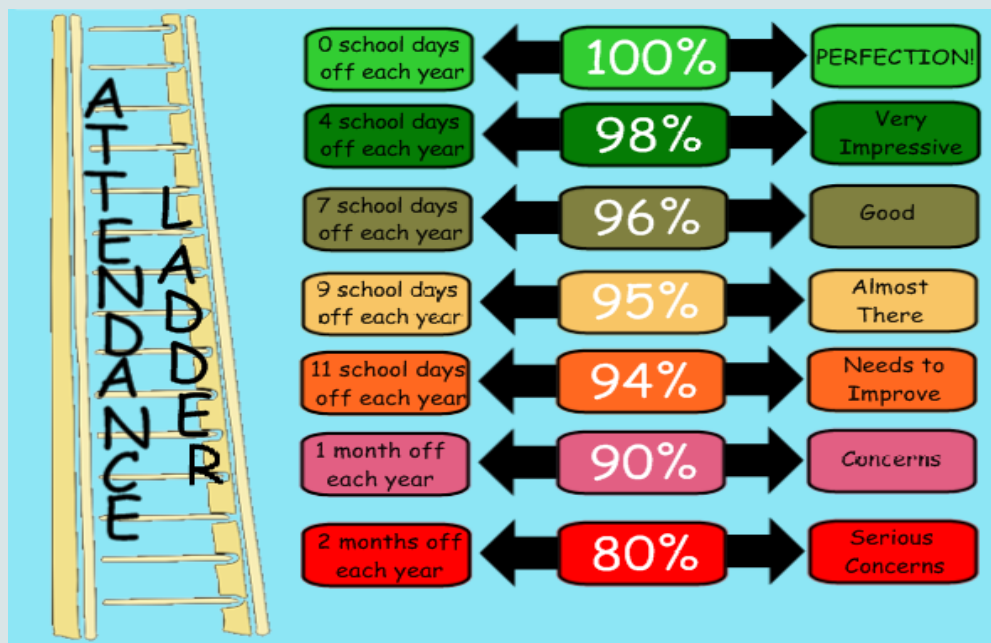
To provide an exceptional educational experience for all where potential is nurtured and responsible citizens created.



Attendance remains a national issue and we are tightening down, as are all schools across the country, on our measures to help improve it.

The Headteacher will be unable to authorise any holiday requests during term time, unless there are extenuating circumstances and evidence is provided.

Please remember if you take your child out of school for a period of 5 or more days, without permission from the Headteacher, we are duty bound to report your child's absence to Slough Borough Council and they may issue you a fine.



Evidence shows that the students with the highest attendance throughout their time in school gain the best GCSE and A Level results. Research has found that students who performed better both at the end of primary and secondary school missed fewer days than those who didn't perform as well. **Please help us, help your child to reach their full potential, by ensuring they attend school each day.**

A reminder: If your child is too unwell to be in school, please ensure you report your child's absence every day of the absence period, by calling the **attendance line on 01756 787293** and leaving a message, **text to 07786 201170** or email attendance@beechwood.slough.sch.uk.

Please note that an appointment does not necessarily require a full day off school. Your child must attend school, before and after an appointment, if it is during the middle of the school day. We encourage appointments to be made at the very start or very end of the school day, to minimise disruption.

Please encourage your child to be at school on time. Punctuality matters and students should be ready for roll call at 08:40am. Registration closes at 9am and a child arriving after this time, without medical proof, will receive an authorised mark for the morning session. Attendance is also important for each lesson throughout the day and all students should attend their lessons on time.

Thank you for your continued support.

REWARDING EXCELLENT ATTENDANCE AND ATTITUDE TO WORK

SUPPORTING GOOD ATTENDANCE ...

We are at the time of year when illness is on a rise, with common colds and coughs as the main culprit. Below are the expectations we have at Beechwood and guidance on whether your child should be in school or not:

Common illnesses:

Cough/Colds – Your child can come to school. Please give your child paracetamol and encourage them to drink plenty of fluids.

High Temperature – Your child should remain home until their fever goes away. If the temperature continues for five days or more, seek medical advice.

Conjunctivitis – Your child can come to school. Please encourage hand washing regularly to prevent spread of infection.

Headache, earache and stomach ache – Your child can come to school. Just let staff know they have felt unwell and we will keep a close eye on them. Give your child paracetamol and plenty of fluids to drink.

Period Pain – Your child can come to school. Give paracetamol. Should your child need sanitary products whilst in school, they can go to the first aid room, where products are available.

Sore throat, tonsillitis and glandular fever – Your child can come to school. Give your child paracetamol and plenty of fluids to drink

More information is available regarding further illnesses and what to do by following the below link:
<https://frimley-healthiertogether.nhs.uk/parentscarers/child-unwell-ok-go-nurseryschool>

ITS ALL ABOUT MAKING GOOD CHOICES

Our students can continue to be rewarded for excellent attendance and positive attitude to work and school life.

After our successful reward bowling trip last term, we're now holding a further reward event in the shape of a Key Stage 3 New Year Party on the 25th January.

Further reward trips and events will take place during the school year, so please encourage your child(ren) to always be on time and attend school every day.





EFFECTIVE STUDY HABITS



Successful students have learned how to study smarter, not harder.



CHOOSE SPECIFIC TIMES TO STUDY

Work when it's best for you! A routine helps to mentally prepare you.



PLAN YOUR TIME & STICK TO IT

Delaying a study session because of a difficult task is procrastinating and can mean misunderstood/sloppy work later.



GET, THEN STAY, ORGANISED

Create a revision timetable/schedule to help you remain on track.



TACKLE WEAKER AREAS FIRST

Your mental energies are highest at the beginning of study sessions



SET SPECIFIC GOALS

For each Study Sessions, day & week. This helps you remain focused so it is easy to evaluate your progress.



ASK FOR HELP

When it is needed phone a friend or ask your teacher/s.



TAKE SHORT BREAKS

It is productive to take a break and refresh your energy



MAINTAIN A HEALTHY DIET

Good nutrition should be part of your study plan. The better the fuel your brain gets, the better you'll study.



DRINK WATER

Drinking water improves sleep, short term memory & concentration.



MAINTAIN A POSITIVE ATTITUDE

Thinking negatively can drag down our moods, actions & health. Learning how to stay positive is invaluable in leading a happy life.

If you aren't willing to work for it, don't complain about not having it!



GEMS

Autism & ADHD Support Service
East Berkshire

Parent and Carer Autism Online support session

Friday 2nd February 10am – 11.15am

Join our online session to:

- learn and discuss, how to have meaningful communication with your child
- how to support your child with communicating with other people

How to communicate
with your **Autistic** child



**Sign Up
Today!**

Available for families
residing in, or have a
registered GP in East
Berkshire

**To book your place contact
GEMS:
Gems.4Health@nhs.net
0800 999 1342**

Please provide your full name, email address,
phone number, child's pathway
(suspected/waiting assessment/diagnosed)
and local authority

What Children & Young People Need to Know about **FREE SPEECH** VS **HATE SPEECH**

Everyone in the UK has the right of "freedom of expression". That's the right to voice your opinions and share information and ideas with others. It's not the right to say whatever you want without regard for others' feelings and values. We all have a responsibility to use this right properly: being respectful and inclusive to others. Whether online or offline, communication attacking or discriminating against groups or individuals (because of protected characteristics like race or religion) is hate speech, not free speech.

Free speech is a person's legal right to share information, opinions and ideas without fear of retaliation, censorship or legal consequences. This freedom of expression is recognised in international human rights legislation, and here's what it does for us in our day-to-day lives ...

The Human Rights Act 1988 states that everyone has the right to express themselves freely – even if their views are unpopular and might offend others.

Freedom of expression encourages listening to others and allowing opposing views to be heard. It's important to respect someone's opinion, even if we disagree with it. Free speech lets us engage in meaningful discussions with people who feel differently.

Any concept could potentially offend someone. Galileo's ideas were incredibly offensive to many at the time, while not everyone agrees with Darwin's theory today. Freely exchanging ideas promotes progress.

Free speech allows us to engage people we disagree with in a debate. The ability to challenge others' views is healthy – while having ours challenged helps us learn how to deal with criticism and think deeply about what we say and believe.

Free speech is a powerful tool for change, justice and reform. Many modern UK rights – such as women being allowed to vote or decent working conditions – couldn't have been achieved without it.

Freedom of expression includes the right not to do something, like not standing up for – or singing – the national anthem. Even though some people would find that offensive, it isn't illegal.

Hate speech refers to any communication – like talking, texting or posting online – which displays prejudice against someone's identity. Derogatory, demonising and dehumanising statements, threats, identity-based insults, offensive name-calling and slurs would all count as hate speech. Here are some common forms it takes ...

Targeting people or groups because of who they are – including but not limited to aspects such as race, sexuality, religion or a disability – and verbally abusing them with slurs and name-calling. The Equality Act 2010 has more information on this.

Content that dehumanises people based on those same attributes: referring to them as if they were animals, objects or other non-human entities, for example.

Calling for violence or hatred against certain people or groups and justifying and glorifying those actions.

Claiming that specific types of people are physically, mentally or morally inferior (or even that they are criminals) to encourage others to view them in the same way.

Making up or repeating insults about a person or group because something about their identity is different to the person who's posting.

Promoting the segregation of certain groups, or discrimination against them, because of who they are.

Meet Our Expert

The Global Equality Collective is an online community for teachers, schools and businesses, a collection of hundreds of subject matter experts in diversity, equality and inclusion, and the organisation behind the DEC app, the world's first app for diversity, equality and inclusion.

GLOBAL
EQUALITY
COLLECTIVE

The
National
College

NOS National
Online
Safety
#WakeUpWednesday

Source: <https://www.equalitycollective.org.uk/news/2020/04/04/online-safety>
<https://www.equalitycollective.org.uk/news/2020/04/04/online-safety>



@natonlineafety



/NationalOnlineSafety



@nationalonlineafety



@national_online_safety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 15.01.2023

Did you know?



Berkshire Healthcare
NHS Foundation Trust

1 in 4 teenagers will experience mental health difficulties

If you're feeling **low** or **anxious**, the **Slough Mental Health Support Team** could help



The Slough mental health support team (MHST) works in your school to support you before things get too difficult.



We meet with people who are feeling low or anxious to help them understand and learn how to manage these feelings.



We'll come into school to help you, your teachers and your parents/carers to understand more about mental health.

Ask for help

If you'd like some **support with your mental health**, you can speak to any **member of staff at school** who will put you in touch with us. You can also email:



CAMHSGettingHelpEast@berkshire.nhs.uk

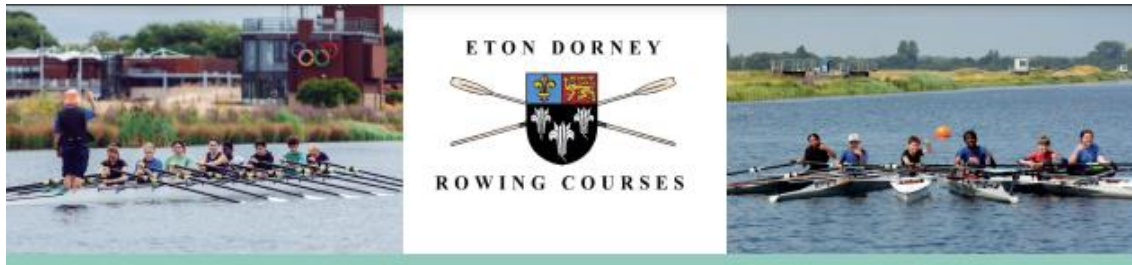


cypf.berkshirehealthcare.nhs.uk/mhst

An opportunity to learn how to ROW - this is FREE to our students if they would be interested. All you need to be able to do is tread water for 2 minutes & swim 50m. It is open to children aged 12-16 years.

The sessions are during the summer but interest needs to be logged as soon as possible, by emailing h.vines@dorneylake.co.uk

This is an amazing opportunity, particularly for Year 10 students who are taking GCSE PE, as they could use it as one of their sports!



ETON DORNEY ROWING COURSES 2024



Course 1

22 July 2024 - 26 July 2024

Course 2

29 July 2024 - 2 August 2024

Price per course £390.

The Eton Dorney Rowing Courses are non-residential courses based at Dorney Lake for 12 - 16 year olds. Rowers of all abilities welcome, no experience necessary.

Free places available for students attending UK state schools.



63% of students attended from UK state schools.

Bookings open on our website on Tuesday 20 February 2024.



Telephone: 01753 370546

Email:

Etonrowingcourses@etoncollege.org.uk

www.etoncollege.com/rowingcourses



BASKETBALL CLUB



Boys & girls | All abilities welcome
Tuesdays

4.30-5.30pm **Year 3&4** | 5.30-6.30pm **Year 5&6**
6.30-7.30pm **Year 7-11**

Beechwood School, Long Readings Lane, Slough SL2 1QE

For information call Lorien on 07703 056303
or email admin@fullcourtconnections.co.uk



BEECHWOOD SCHOOL CURRICULUM SUMMARY



Trust Mission	To use the power of education to create real opportunities that transform lives										
Beechwood Mission	To provide an exceptional learning experience for all, where potential is nurtured and responsible citizens created										
Vision	Respect	Excellence		Kindness							
Curriculum Aims	Resilient, confident individuals who live safe, healthy and fulfilling lives	A curriculum that is characterised by a depth of knowledge and understanding and equips young people to be successful learners who enjoy school, achieve well and thrive in life beyond Beechwood		Responsible citizens who make a positive contribution to society							
School Improvement Areas 23-24	Creating an intellectually challenging curriculum	Supporting all to fully access the curriculum		Providing opportunities within and beyond the classroom for quality character development	Ensuring a safe, calm and supportive environment						
Breadth, balance and progression	KS3 (3 Year)		KS4 (2 Years)		KS5						
PSHCE 30 minutes per week during form time	Broad range of subjects including dedicated time for reading.	3 Pathways to meet the needs of our students: Schoolwide - 9 GCSE/BTEC subjects including a language Mastery - 9 GCSE/BTECs Progression - 8 GCSE/BTECs with additional English and Maths CORE: English, Mathematics, Combined Science, Geography or History, PE and PSHCE (a language for some) Optional: Pick 4 GCSEs: Art, Business Studies, Computing, Design & Technology, Drama, Food & Nutrition, Geography, History, Media, Music, Physical Education, Religious Studies. BTECs: Creative i-media, Health & Social Care IT & Computing KS4 : Taught to develop their capability, creativity & knowledge in CS, digital media & IT across the curriculum. Students also develop/apply their analytic, problem-solving, design, & thinking skills in all subject areas. Digital safety is part of the PSHCE curriculum Citizenship KS4 : Taught through PSHCE programme, assemblies, and the core curriculum offer. Also part of P&E: Humanities and Social Sciences RSE and Health KS4 : Taught through PSHCE programme, assemblies, and the core Science curriculum offer. Also part of PE & Social Sciences curriculum		Level 3: A Levels: Biology, Business, Chemistry, Computer Science, Design & Technology, English Language & Literature, EPQ, Geography, History, Mathematics, Media Studies, Physical Education, Physics, Psychology, Religious Studies, Sociology. BTECs: Business, Applied Science, Health & Social Care, Criminology Level 2: BTECs: Business, Public Services.							
	Year 7: Transition & Safety, Developing Skills & Aspirations, Diversity, Health & Puberty, Building Relationships, Financial decision making. Year 8: Drugs & Alcohol, Community & Careers, Discrimination, Emotional Wellbeing, Identity and Relationships, Digital Literacy Year 9: Peer Influence, Gangs and Substance Abuse, Setting Goals, Respectful Relationships, Healthy Lifestyle, Employability Skills	Year 10: Mental Health, Financial Decision Making, Healthy Relationships, Exploring Influence, Addressing Extremism and Radicalisation , Work Experience. Year 11: Building for the future, Next steps, Communication in relationships, Families, Independence		Year 12 & 13: Health & Wellbeing, Choices & Pathways, Adult relationships & new opportunities, Personal Safety and the law, Financial choices, media & advertising, Contraception and relationships, including abuse							
CEIAG	Heathrow STEM Generation	SEGRO School Challenge	STEM Careers & Enrichment Opportunities	GCSE options Advisor 121 sessions	Speakers for school project (work experience)	Assembly on T Levels/ Apprenticeships	Advisor 121 sessions	Post 18 options/next step	Higher Ed Fair at Reading	UCB- Apprenticeships and Career week & work experience for Year 12&13	Unlocking Degree Apprenticeships with Mars - Building Brighter Futures
Measuring Impact	Parent webinar, Career of the week, Careers briefings, Pathways, CTM and Speakers for school, Mentoring Day tutor consultations, ins with school careers advisor every Monday. Unifrog rolled out to students and staff. HealthReach workshops. Work experience, industry conferences and networking opportunities.										
	Our effectiveness is measured through Two key strands: Student Destinations and Student Outcomes. Destinations: All KS4 students EET; All KS5 students in first choice universities or Employment Outcomes: Attainment and progress at GCSE above average; Positive Progress 8; ABTEC Level attainment Avg grade C+/Merit+.										

See also: [Curriculum Statement](#); [Character Curriculum](#); [Personal Development Statement](#)