

PARENT BULLETIN



Headteacher's Message

Dear all,

We have reached the end of the first term - how did that go by so quickly? There is a lot to celebrate at this time. Our prefects and Sixth Leaders are doing an amazing job of supporting the running of the school. We really would be lost without them.

We are also seeing leadership across the school in more ways than ever before. For example, the Year 10 volunteers who work with younger students to improve their reading fluency and are making a real difference already. Also, the Year 7 students who have been joining tours for potential new students and answering some tricky questions about the school's procedures, as if they have been here forever!

Open evening, as always, made me feel so proud at the level of student leadership and pride in their school. The visitor surveys commented especially on the knowledge, professionalism and commitment of our students.

To celebrate this, we are planning to hold our first ever prize giving in November. This will be a celebration of KS3 excellence across the curriculum and the wider school community. Departments have been asked for their nominated students in Years 7, 8 and 9. More to follow once we return.

Please continue to support with home study as you have been - the introduction of Seneca and other platforms is really helping to ensure all students are consolidating their learning. Last week, we were the highest ranked Slough school for Seneca engagement - well done and let's keep it up.

I wish you all a happy, restful and peaceful half term.

Anita Spires
Headteacher

Key Dates

Autumn Term Date 23 – 24

Mon 23rd to Fri 27th October

School closed – Half Term
Holiday

Monday 30th October

Return to school – all students

Tuesday 31st October

Years 7, 8, 9 & 10 Halloween
Discos

Thursday 9th November

Sixth Form Open Evening

Thursday 16th November

KS3 Prize Giving Evening –
Invitation Only

Monday 20th November

English in Action Trip to
London – A Level Students

Friday 8th December

Reward Trip to Hollywood
Bowl Maidenhead

Friday 15th December

End of Aut 2 Term – Half Day

RESPECT • EXCELLENCE • KINDNESS

GCSE Geography Field Trip to Bristol

Recently, 60 of our Year 11 GCSE Geography students, visited Bristol City centre, as part of their compulsory fieldwork. The student went around 4 different parts of Bristol, studying how effective development has been in the city.

Whilst on the trip, students attended a revision boat trip, which took them to 10 sites around Bristol, which they had studied in lesson.



Celebrating Maths Achievements

20 students across Years 8 and 9 were celebrating their achievements this morning at the Headteachers' Fab Friday meeting.

Every one of them had been awarded either a Bronze or Silver certificate following the Maths Challenge at the end of last summer term.

Bronze Awards were given to:

Aqsa Abdulla, Sophie Alisha Ashraf, Luqman Jan, Zakrya Rajan Noreen, Arshad Ahmed, Narin Armandzadeh, Katie Bryant, Amelia-Maria Bucko, Adrian Czemiecki, Keira Jones, Julia Kalmuk, Amelia Moon, Jaivon Robinson, Max Stevens, Aramis Vincent and Kornelia Zygmunt.

Silver Awards were given to:

Iris Merryweather, Alex Pidding, Kieran Bak, DanielAlexandru Coman, Jakub Singh, Amelia Ridgway and Kornelia Pietka.

A special mention to Amelia Ridgway for achieving 'Best in School'.



Just a few of our hardworking Maths students with their certificates.

CONGRATULATIONS to you all.

We're proud of each one of you.

RESPECT • EXCELLENCE • KINDNESS

CONGRATULATIONS AND WELCOME TO SIXTH FORM YEAR 12!

What a great start to the academic year our Year 12 students have had. After completing the rigorous Graduation Process, all students are now on their confirmed courses and working hard to achieve their goals. On the 5th October we welcomed Year 12 and their families into school to celebrate their achievements so far award winners.



Graduating into our Sixth Form

Amir Abdi	Ifraah Abdullahi	Anas Ahmed	Meena Al-Saadi
Sara Ali	Nouriane Amire	Rehan Azizi	Sham Azizi
Caiden Cooper	Tyler Dalton	Hana Elmi	Isaac Elmi
Illma Gouse	Anushka Grover	Aisha Hussain	Shil Hussain
Aisha Jatta	Alisha Khan	Rameesah Khan	Yaimundow Mbye
Fabian Mills	Sabiha Nazir	Wahida Saleh	Atnaan Sharif
Sumayah Taj	Adam Touati	Alan Urban	

Graduating into Year 12 with honours* *Special recognition in one area*

Hadi Abdah – Public Services	Hind Ahmed – Philosophy & Ethics
Bisma Ditta Noreen – BTEC Business St.	George Hill – Applied Science
Amber Jandu – Psychology	Sidhra Khodabocus – Forensics & Criminology
Brajan Kuczynski – BTEC Business Studies	Maryam Malik – Health & Social Care
Abdera Nadeem – BTEC Business Studies	Ahmad Nasir – Information Technology
Malaika Salam – Philosophy & Ethics	Raghal Saleh – Psychology
Ikra Salman Fazil – English Literature	Chloe Scaife – Health & Social Care
Prathamesh Shiraskar – Applied Science	Theo Skeete – Psychology
Wiktoria Szczepanska – Sociology	Maison Table – Information Technology

Graduating into Year 12 with honours* *Special recognition in two areas*

Aayat Akram – Information Technology and Media Studies
Memoona Altaf – Philosophy & Ethics and Sociology
Elda Beka – Business Studies and Forensics & Criminology
Simran Cheema – Business Studies (x 2)
Phillipa Hughes – English Literature and Health & Social Care
Nasra Kalaf – Applied Science and Media Studies
Vinny Lane – Sociology and English Literature
Muhammad Rehan – English Literature and Media Studies

Graduating into Year 12 with honours* *Special recognition in three areas*

Gurpriya Bhambra – Business Studies, Maths and Public Services

Graduating into Year 12 with honours* *Special tutor recognition*

Hind Ahmed VI AIN	Fatima Khalid VI ALA
Raghal Saleh VI KDE	Theo Skeet VI SBY
George Hill VI TFE	

RESPECT • EXCELLENCE • KINDNESS

Congratulations go to the following students for exemplary attendance and punctuality

Hadi Abdah
Aayat Akram
Nouriane Amir
Caiden Cooper
Alisha Hussain
Fatima Khalid
Brajan Kuczynski
Abeera Nadeem
Anosha Rajan Noreen
Fathima Ikra Salman Fazil
Sumayah Taj

Ifraah Abdullahi
Meena Al-Saadi
Elda Beka
Bisma Ditta Noreen
Amber Jandu
Alisha Khan
Vinny Lane
Ahmad Nasir
Malaika Salam
Atnaan Sharif
Adam Touati

Hind Ahmed
Memoona Altaf
Gurpriya Bhambra
Anushka Grover
Aishatou Jatta
Sidhra Khodabocus
Fabian Mills
Sabiha Nazir
Raghal Saleh
Maison Table
Alan Urban

Hind and Raghal wanted to share with you, more about their first half term as a Beechwood Sixth Former ...

*So far, I have found Beechwood Sixth Form to be very welcoming and supportive. The teachers and Sixth Formers have helped me adapt to the transition from Year 11 and to a new school. Ensuring that students remain on task during study sessions, teachers encourage students to consistently work hard. During the Graduation Evening, it felt rewarding to receive certificates based on our hard work and celebrate our achievements. It has made me want to aim higher and succeed in my A-levels. Beechwood Sixth Form has been very encouraging and I believe it holds many opportunities to develop and progress further. **Raghal Saleh, VI KDE***

My transition into Beechwood has certainly been an interesting and exciting experience. Getting used to a new environment is difficult but Beechwood has made it easier for me. I remember getting lost during the first week as this school is much larger than my last, but everyone was so kind and guided me to where I should go. The Director of Sixth Form Studies, Ms Doncaster, and Deputy Director of Sixth Form Studies, Ms Milner, are the nicest people I have met! They have been kind and welcoming to me, and all other students.

*I am so grateful to all the teachers, especially my form tutor, Mr Iniaghe, for how kind and welcoming he has been to me. As much as you can say the rules are strict, they are extremely helpful to me academically, with no distractions I am able to focus on my work and get things done efficiently. As a Sixth Former I get many study sessions where I always have work to do or assignments to finish. This routine allows me to be able to spend my study time efficiently and effectively. Another aspect of Beechwood which intrigued me was the Graduation Evening. It was an event to celebrate our Graduation from Year 11 into Sixth Form. This event, which does not happen at other schools, was an excellent way to celebrate our transition as well as the hard work and success so far. I am proud to be a member of Beechwood Sixth Form and I am excited for what the future at Beechwood holds. **Hind Ahmed, VI AIN***

SAVE THE DATE ... Sixth Form Open Evening – Thursday 9th November.



We are encouraging all our current Year 10 **and** Year 11 students to come along to our Sixth Form Open Evening. The evening will give you the opportunity to explore what options are available following your Year 11 GCSEs examinations.

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

Sixth Form PPEs Next Half term

Good luck to all our Sixth Formers in their exams next term. Please use the Study Habit suggestions to help ensure you develop effective study habits!

Year 13 PPE Timetable November/December 2023					
DATE	Day	SUBJECT	Starts	Duration	Room
30 November 2023	Thursday	Science BTEC	8:40	2hrs	Hall
		BTEC Health and Social Care unit 2	11:30	1hr30m	
		A level English Literature P1		2hrs	
01 December 2023	Friday	Business P1	8:40	2hrs	Hall
		Business BTEC P1		2hrs	
		Biology P1		2hrs	
		Philosophy & Ethics		2hrs	
		Sociology P1	11:30	2hrs	
		Physics		2hrs	
		Chemistry P1		2hrs	
04 December 2023	Monday	Media St. P1	8:40	2hrs	Hall
		Psychology P1		2hrs	
		Computer Sc P1		2hrs	
		English Lit P2	11:30	2hrs	
05 December 2023	Tuesday	Maths Paper 1: Pure and Statistics	8:40	2hrs 30m	Hall
		Business P2	11:30	2hrs	
		Business BTEC P2		2hr	
		Biology P2		2hrs	
06 December 2023	Wednesday	Computer Sc P2	8:40	2hrs	Hall
		Media St. P2		2hrs	
		Psychology P2		2hrs	
		Sociology P2	11:30	2hrs	
		Chemistry P2		2hrs	
07 December 2023	Thursday	Maths Paper 2: Pure and Mechanics	8:40	2hrs 30m	Hall
07 December 2023	Thursday	Year 13 Photography Practical day			Art

Year 12 PPE Timetable November/December 2023					
DATE	Day	SUBJECT	Starts	Duration	Room
30 November 2023	Thursday	LEVEL 2 Public services: The role and work of the public services	8:40	1hr	Hall
01 December 2023	Friday	LEVEL 3 BTEC BTEC INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY Unit 1	8:40	1hr30m	P2
04 December 2023	Monday	LEVEL 3 BTEC INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY Unit 2	8:40	2hrs	P1

REMINDERS:

Meet in the restaurant 10 minutes before the start of your exam and check the seating plan
 Bring a clear bottle of water - label removed
 Bring all of the required equipment in a clear pencil case
 Phones, headphones and smart watches to be removed, turned off and placed in your bag
 Students with Access Arrangements are to go to P8



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!

Supporting our students



Students in all year groups celebrated Black History Month this October - this year's theme is all about '**Saluting our Sisters**'.

Black women have been at the heart of social justice movements throughout history, courageously battling oppression and advocating for change. However, their accomplishments have frequently been neglected or forgotten.

Black History Month 2023 offered a significant opportunity for students to acknowledge and celebrate the outstanding achievements of black women, by focusing on honouring the matriarchs of movements and saluting our sisters!

STUDENT VOICE and STUDENT COUNCIL

Leah Buckingham, Senior Prefect with responsibility for Student Voice and Student Council attended Eton Summer School with fellow students, Joanna and Mo. R. This is what Leah had to say about the experience ...

"Myself, Joanna and Mo spent a week at Eton school (24th to 28th of July), living like the boys and having 8am to 9pm days. Beechwood was one of only a small number of schools that participated, as only 60 students went from places like Slough, Milton Keynes, South London and Aylesbury.



While spending the week there we had a range of life skills lessons, like resilience, pitching yourself, effective communication, presenting, making an impact, creative problem solving and growth mindset.

Alongside these lessons we also participated in a range of activities like sports, an Eton mess making competition, talent show, quiz night, disco and BBQ and a Dorney lake and private tour around Windsor Castle".

Auditions for 'Annie'



Audition for a production of 'Annie' took place this term and the cast has been confirmed. Congratulations to the following students on landing your parts. We look forward to watching the play in the New Year.

Kornelia Pietka – Annie, **Fayth Wallis** – Molly, **Lily Portsmouth** – Kate, **Grace Carter** – Tessie, **Reagan Nutter** – Pepper, **Luisa Page** – July, **Lily May Oliver** – Duffy, **Veronica Somide** – Miss Hannigan, **Francisca Somide** – Grace Farrell, **Aleksander Witkowski** – Oliver Warbucks, **Prathamesh Shiraskar** – Rooster Hannigan,

Manuela Reeves – Lily St Regis, **Magdalena Chojnowska** – Drake, **Narin Armandzadeh** – Mrs Greer, **Courtney Allsop** – Mrs Pugh, **Luisa Page** and **Lily May Oliver** – Cecille and Annette, **Jalon Mensah** – Bundles and McCloskey, **Courtney Allsop** – Apple seller and Dog Catcher, **Patricia Kijek** – Sandy the dog, **Megan Owen** – Lt. Ward, **Jalon Mensah** – Bert Healy, **Francisca / Veronika and Manuela** – Bert Healy's Girls, **Patricia Kijek** – Radio Announcer, **Narin Armandzadeh** – Sound Effects Woman, **Jalon Mensah** – President FDR.

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

Duke of Edinburgh – BRONZE Award

Students embarked on their journeys from Hodgemoor Wood on the 9th of September. To complete their bronze award, they were required to fulfil the 20 DofE conditions, which involves cooking a hot dinner at camp, adhering to the country code and carrying all equipment needed as a team.

The students spent 6 hours in the countryside, walking, navigating and using routes they had previously put together during a separate training day. The weather was extremely hot, creating an extra challenge for the students.

All individuals made it to the campsite (Dorney Wood Scout Camp) in good time, where they erected their tents and ate their dinner. As the evening grew, students then sat around the camp and enjoyed S'mores, before heading to bed for a well-earned rest.

Students were up by 7:00am the next morning and out of the camp by 8:30pm, on their second excursion. Yet another 6 hours took them back to the starting location back at Hodgemoor Wood. Again, this was a very successful journey, even with the achy legs and sore feet! All but one group made it back in the expected timeframe however, there was one group that tripped at the final hurdle, extending their journey by about 45 mins to the final checkpoint.

Here are a few words students said about the expedition:

"I really enjoyed my time out with friends and have created memories that will last forever" - Marnie Year 10

"I really enjoyed the build up to the expedition. My favourite part was at the campsite when all the groups met up and had a great laugh around the campfire" - Beloslava Year 10



Embracing New Opportunities

Duke of Edinburgh – SILVER Award

Students embarked on their journeys from Reigate Heath Car Park on the 28th of September, to complete their silver qualifying expedition.

It was very similar to Bronze, where they were required to fulfil the 20 DofE conditions. The main difference being the duration of the expedition. This time they were required to spend 3 days and 2 nights in the wild.

The students spent 7 hours in the countryside, walking and navigating, using routes they had previously put together during their training day the week before.

All individuals made it to both campsites in good time, where they erected their tents and prepared their dinner. The weather for the practice expedition was extremely poor, with rain all day and night. However, this was all made up on the qualifying expedition, as the weather was much better and more enjoyable. Because of the really poor weather on the practice, this better prepared the students for the qualifying expedition. I am sure that they still created long lasting memories.

Students were up by 7:00am and out of the camp by 8:30pm on their second excursion, which was better than the practice expedition. Yet another 7 hours took them to the finish location which was at Albury Heath Car Park. This is where they all celebrated completing their Silver DofE Award.

Here are a few words students said about the expedition:

"I really enjoyed the walks with the amazing views. So beautiful, especially Leaf Hill." - Leah Year 11

"I am really impressed with myself, as I thought I could never complete it. I am really grateful for the instructors, staff and my group for pushing me through this and getting me to the end line. Now thinking back to it, I really do miss it and wish we could do it again" - Jennifer Year 11

"Mr Meredith and Mr Nasib are amazing people, we can't thank them enough!" - Everyone

"When and how can we start our Gold?" - Dziugas



THE DUKE OF
EDINBURGH'S AWARD

If you're interested in finding out more about the Duke Of Edinburgh's Awards, then please visit <https://www.dofe.org/>
Perhaps you'd like to consider taking part next year?



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

Engaging Students in Reading

Students are actively engaged in reading fluency intervention.

Working alongside their peers and with teacher supervision, students are working hard in developing their reading skills.



Year 11 Independent Home Study

All Year 11 students need to ensure they're following an independent home study timetable to get the most out of their PPE examinations, that are scheduled for November. If anyone needs any guidance or support with this, please speak to your Form Tutor.

Good attendance is also critical. Your attendance needs to be above 95% - it's an important year and every day counts. You can achieve great GCSE results if you put the work in.

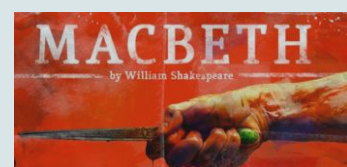
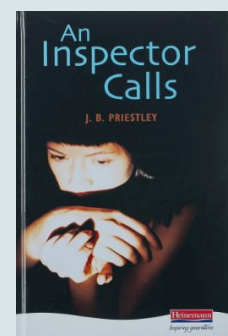
As a reminder, here are just the English Literature and Language topics you need to be actively revising:

Language Paper 2 (2 hrs)

- Section A: fiction extracts
- Section B: Creative Writing

Literature Paper (2 hrs)

- Section A
- Question a) comparative poetry
- Question b) another moment in *An Inspector Calls*
- Section B
- *Macbeth*



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

Why is reading so important?



- A quarter of students at 15 still have a reading age of 12 or below. There is a significant correlation between students reading ability and eventual performance across all subjects at GCSE, which is just as strong in maths and sciences as it is in arts subjects.
- The overwhelming majority of students – four in five – will be less likely to have the literacy skills to access a GCSE curriculum at Year 7.
- The gender gap in reading ability widens at secondary school, with girls outperforming boys, whereas the gap in reading ability between FSM and non-FSM students remains static between Years 7 and 11.

Reading make you smarter



- It's a fact! People who read do better in all subjects
- People who read more know more about a variety of subjects
- Reading builds confidence
- Reading builds and improves vocabulary
- Reading improves writing
- Reading exercises your brain and helps you to concentrate
- Reading improves your memory
- Reading stimulates your imagination
- Reading teaches compassion and empathy and stirs our senses

How to improve your reading and how the school support you



- Improve the decoding skills of students at Key Stage 3
- Enhance vocabulary acquisition
- Increase the amount of time students read
- Develop, implement, test and embed a process for the reading of text within subjects
- Develop, implement, test and embed a systematic improvement of Key Stage 3 Literacy (Reading) and the use of evidence-informed practice
- Develop schools' ability to undertake a Response to Intervention approach, matching intervention to identified needs
- Improve students' social and emotional development

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

Recommended Reads for October

Key Stage 3 (Years 7 – 9)

Curse Breaker by Simon Tudhope



Seagrave is a prison guard in the city of Mirewick, who finds himself on the wrong side of the bars. He has been imprisoned for just hearing a single whispered word – “Skerramore” – from an unknown woman as she was locked up. As fellow prisoners speak of a coming invasion and deadly sleepwalkers roaming the streets at night, Seagrave is despondently awaiting his execution at the hands of the power-hungry Mayor Eldritch and the mysterious Order who rule the city. Suddenly there’s a noise outside Seagrave’s cell and the door creaks open – he’s free.

After that, the entire story is up to the reader.

Key Stage 4 (Years 10 – 11)

Channel Fear by Lisa Richardson

A heart-in-mouth YA horror-thriller, perfect for teen fans of *The Haunting of Hill House*. YouTube ghost hunting stars, Zach and Lucas, disappeared at an undisclosed location several months ago.

Iris, who heads up her own unsuccessful channel with co-hosts Byron and his girlfriend Molly, is obsessed with the duo, and has been searching for the location ever since. Then, she stumbles across long-abandoned Thornhanger House. The trio set aside their toxic love triangle when they find Zach and Lucas’s abandoned equipment inside ... complete with their last day of filming.

As they watch the footage, a horrifying truth emerges: whatever came for Zach and Lucas, is coming for them to.

A horror/thriller with a fresh angle by Lisa Richardson, a mesmerising new voice from YA readers. *The Haunting of Hill House* meets *The Blair Witch Project* with a social media spin and breath-taking twists, spooky found footage, chilling ghost stories, serious jump scares, a love triangle and a girl, so obsessed by fame, she’ll put herself and her friends in danger. This is unmissable.



Key Stage 3 (Years 7 – 9)

Stone by Finbar Hawkins



7-year-old Sam is not coping well with his Dad’s death. Killed while serving in Afghanistan, his father was more at home in the woods and hills around their Wiltshire village, sharing tales of Nordic gods and the legends surrounding the famous chalk White Horse with his son. Haunted by his last angry words to his father, Sam tries to escape his family’s grief by attending a friend’s party. It’s there that he first meets the mysterious Oona. A newcomer to their small village, she immediately captures Sam’s attention with her affinity for tarot readings. After struggling through the funeral, Sam seeks solace on the hills where he stumbles across a mysterious white stone, icy cold and flecked with silver sparkles. Upon touching it, Sam’s convinced he hears his Dad’s voice calling to him. Even stranger, he then starts to see visions of girls dancing on the hillside and of himself soaring through the air like an owl.

“A scrying stone ... The witches used them in their magick ... to tell the future, to read the past ... to open other worlds.”

Convinced the visions are just a manifestation of his grief, Sam returns to school and tries to block out his loss. Things soon start to spiral out of control, however. When jealousy over Oona prompts a classroom row, touching the stone brings on more visions and out-of-character behaviour including fighting and joyriding.

While delving into local legends with Oona, Sam also reluctantly accepts his Mum’s request to see a therapist. It’s fellow patient Bill who is able to connect with Sam the most though, sharing his sense of loss and wish for second chances. As Halloween approaches, Sam’s visions become more frequent and engrossing and he becomes convinced that, somehow, he will see his Dad again...

Embracing New Opportunities

TVLP LEADERSHIP EVENT

On Tuesday, 3rd October, myself and multiple other members of the Senior Leadership team, travelled to Hershel Grammar School to take part in a Thames Valley Leadership Programme, alongside multiple other schools.

When we arrived, we were first enlightened by a powerful speech about leadership from the Key-note Speaker Myriam Raja, who spoke about her experiences growing up in an unsupportive environment. We then were moved into teams of five to seven, including members of multiple other schools, and were encouraged to get to know each other through a series of ice-breaker activities, such as the 'category game' and 'two truths and a lie'. This allowed us to form a sense of unity with our team members before moving on to team building activities.

After break, we were informed that we had to begin our 'Dragon's Den' planning, and were supplied with equipment and a booklet to aid our plan. The plan stated that we had to create an idea that would help raise money for a charity of our choice, when only given £100 to start with. My team, consisting of George, Lindsay and two members from Eton College, decided on creating a fundraising fair to raise money for Age UK and the elderly who struggle with dementia. We spent over an hour planning our event, reviewing funding and perfecting our speeches before we were escorted into the main hall to present our idea to the Dragons. After watching the pitches from other groups, we made our way up to the stage and delivered our idea confidently to the Dragons, and they responded really well! However, after a short intermission to allow the Dragons to discuss, unfortunately we did not win the £100 to go towards our idea, but we were all assured that everyone did exceedingly well with their ideas as well as their presentations.

Finally, after a prompt celebration assembly for the winners, as well as the Dragons for committing their time to the event, it was time to say our goodbyes to our new friends and make our departure.

From this experience, I have developed valuable skills such as public speaking, leadership and problem solving, and I am very glad that I was offered the opportunity to be able to take part in the TVLP Leadership Event.

Chloe Strachan Year 13



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.

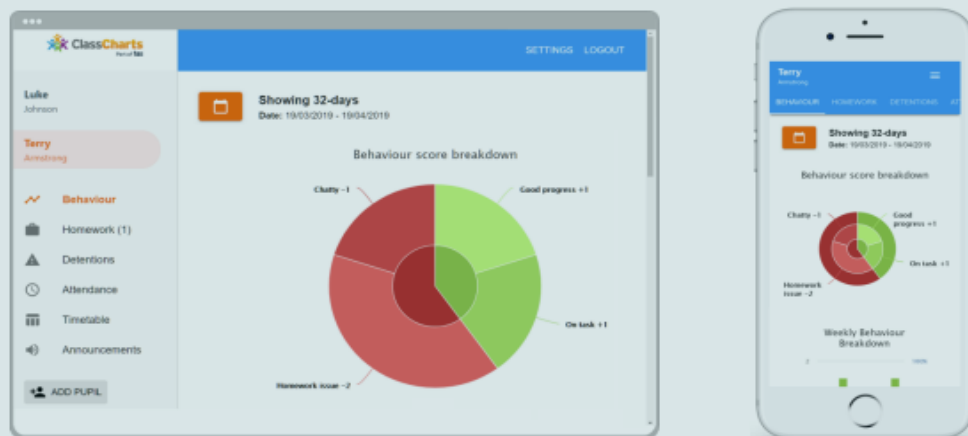
The App gives every parent/carer access to the ratio between positive and negative behaviour as well as being notified if a student receives an after school detention, including the reason, length of the detention and the name of the member of staff who set the detention. **If you haven't already downloaded 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](#)

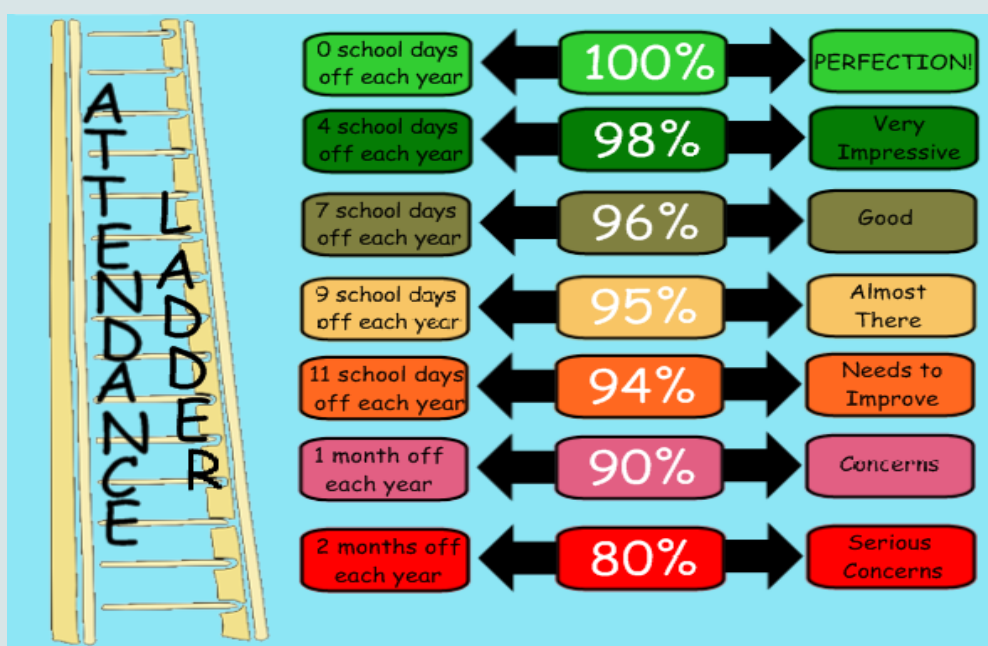
To provide an exceptional educational experience for all where potential is nurtured and responsible citizens created.



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.

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

SPORTING News from Autumn Term 1

CONGRATULATIONS to our Year 9 netball team who won their match against Baylis School on the 11th October. It was even more special, as it was their first ever win! Hard work and determination definitely pay off.

Well Done to Tamana, Francisca, Fatima, Veronica, Keira, Makanaka, Nikola, Amelia and Manuela.

Football Fixture Results this term – not all wins, but the teams should be proud of how well they played.

Date	Year Group	Score	Opponent	Player of the Match
20.9	8	0 – 3	Langley Grammar	Aaron Corentin
27.9	10	6 – 3	St Josephs	Danny Chaplin
4.10	8	1 – 5	Westgate	Reggie Goldthorpe
9.10	11	2 – 1	Pioneer	Wali Jafri
9.10	11	2 – 2	St Josephs	Kyngston Miller
10.10	9	2 – 2	Windsor Boys	
12.10	10	2 – 5	Windsor Boys	Julian Garate
18.10	10	1 – 4	Churchmead	

Match report- Jonas, Julian & Connor

Year 9 boys played Windsor boys in the first game of the season.

Windsor boys had many chances in the opening 15 minutes, some great saves from Adrian kept the score at 0-0. Beechwood took the lead, against the run of play with a team goal which got Windsor boys to step up their game.

Windsor boys came out strongly and equalized in the first minute of the second half before going 2-1 up towards the end of the second half.

The last play of game, thirty seconds to go, Jonas played a ball to Arthur, who played Julian a through ball which Julian chipped over the keeper into the net. A final score of 2 – 2.

Man of the match: Adrian, for the amazing saves.

Basketball Fixture Results this term – a great start this term.

Date	Year Group	Score	Opponent	Player of the Match
4.10	9 /10 /11	22 – 16	Pioneer	

Netball Fixture Results this term – a great start this term.

Date	Year Group	Score	Opponent	Player of the Match
26.9	11	2 – 2	Ditton Park	
26.9	11	0 – 4	St Josephs	
10.10	11	2 – 4	Langley Grammar	Alex
10.10	11	3 – 1	Ditton Park	Cindy
10.10	11	5 – 2	St Josephs	Jasmin
10.10	11	3 – 0	Herschel	Megan
10.10	11	3 – 1	UCGS	Maime
10.10	11	2 – 3	Westgate	Alex
10.10	11	4 – 7	St Bernards A	Megan
10.10	11	5 – 1	St Bernards B	Cindy
11.10	9	6 – 3	Baylis	Weronika
12.10	11	17 – 11	Pioneer	Alex

Supporting our students

Beechwood Mobile Phone Approach



All phones will be collected in by form tutors at morning roll call. They will be stored in foam insert boxes in a locked cabinet inside the student services offices.

Phones will be returned at afternoon registration. No student will leave the classroom until all phones have been returned and all students confirm that they have their property.

If a need to contact your child arises during the school day, please contact the school. If a student needs reassurance during the school day, they should speak to their form tutor/DDoS/DoS who will decide if contact with a parent is required.



If there has been an incident involving online interactions, parents/carers and students are encouraged to let school know as soon as possible so that we can offer support.

We will continue to look at positive and safe use of technology as part of our school curriculum.

Student leaders, including our anti-bullying ambassadors, will be on hand alongside our trained staff, to offer support with mental health and social issues throughout the school day.

We will continue to support as well as to connect families with helpful professionals / networks when they are concerned about their child(ren) at home / in the community

FOOD PARCELS FOR FAMILIES IN NEED

Many families are struggling in the current cost of living crisis.

If you feel like you need some support and a food parcel may help you, please pop along to our main reception on a Wednesday evening, between 3.30pm and 5pm.

You will be able to collect food and hygiene products.

There is no need to book an appointment, just come along and a member of our staff will help you.



CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) INFORMATION



The latest Government advice on Covid, is that for the vast majority of people, it is a mild illness.

Covid presents a low risk to children and young people. This, combined with high vaccination rates in the population, means there are no longer specific rules relating to Covid-19 in schools.

If your child is exhibiting Covid symptoms, has a positive test result and if feeling unwell, the advice is to try and stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 3 days. If your child feels able to study during this time, online work will be provided. Your child should then return to school, when they are well enough to do so.

RESPECT • EXCELLENCE • KINDNESS

HALLOWEEN Fun in the ALC this week



There is always a lot going on in the ALC – why not try out the Breakfast Club, or pop along during morning break and lunchtime, to get involved in art and crafts, play board games, or just catch up with a friend. *Everyone is welcome*

Student Librarians

Zuzanna:

"I like to help out in the library/ALC because people here are very nice and I love helping people pick out books".

Kamile:

"I enjoy working in the library as I find it interesting to see how everything works and getting work experience along the way."



Meet our new librarians

Kamile y11 and Zuzanna y9.

They are happy to help over break and lunchtime.

Beechwood School promotes reading for all year groups across the school community. Simply click on the link below to see our diverse selection of books on:
<https://beechwood.oliverasp.co.uk/library/home/browse/list>

RESPECT • EXCELLENCE • KINDNESS

We expect our students to present themselves smartly and be wearing full school uniform. Uniform can be purchased directly through School Days Direct. Please contact them for any of your school uniform needs.

Students may continue to wear the purple school jumper, but have the choice to wear either a round neck, or V-neck black sweater too.

Please note, School Days Direct do not currently supply our PE kit. PE Kit should continue to be purchased through the link on our website.

**SCHOOL DAYS DIRECT**
The Uniform Specialist

**BEECHWOOD SCHOOL UNIFORM
PRICE LIST 2023**

Black Eco Blazer - <i>Embroidered with School Badge</i>	£28.50	White Shirts/Blouses	£13.95
* V-Neck Classic Sweatshirt - <i>Embroidered with School Badge</i>	£11.50	Black School Trousers	£15.95
OR		Black Knee-Length School Skirt	£16.99
* Crew Neck Classic Sweatshirt - <i>Embroidered with School Badge</i>	£11.50	Black or White Socks (Pack of 5)	£7.50
Multi-Striped School Tie	£5.50	Iron-On Name Tapes	£3.95

* Optional Items



Some of our female students are unfortunately wearing skirts that do not conform to school uniform rules. Skirts should not be of a stretch fabric and must be an appropriate length – on or just above the knee. We have managed to source a very affordable school skirt from Amazon and include the link below, in case any parent/carer wishes to take a look.

https://www.amazon.co.uk/dp/B0BCZQYCVK?psc=1&ref=ppx_yo2ov_dt_b_product_details

If you are struggling financially and purchasing uniform items is a concern, then please get in touch with your child's Director of Studies. We may be able to help you.

We also have quite a few 'pre-loved' items, that are in very good condition and can be gifted to students. Please get in touch with Miss Whitrod in Student Services, if you'd like more information.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about THE DANGERS OF VAPING

Data collected for ASH (Action on Smoking and Health) shows an increase in 11 to 17-year-olds experimenting with vaping: from 7.7% in 2022 to 11.6% in 2023. It's concerning that these age-restricted products are getting into the hands of under 18s as most contain nicotine, which can be detrimental to brain development and cause long-term addiction. Some schools have reported students having their focus in lessons affected by nicotine cravings; vaping in school toilets; and even trying vapes found in their local park. Raising awareness of the risks among young people could help to prevent these problems from escalating and reduce the number of young vapers.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

NICOTINE ADDICTION

Since they were initially developed to help people stop smoking, the vast majority of vape liquids contain nicotine. Not only is this a highly addictive stimulant, but it can also have detrimental effects on brain development in the under-25s. Nicotine can decrease the ability to pay attention, weaken impulse control, affect mood and increase the likelihood of substance addiction as an adult.

WHAT IS VAPING?

Vapes contain a liquid (vape juice/e-liquid) that is heated by a battery and evaporates, creating a chemical vapour which the user inhales. They can be disposable (once the liquid or battery runs out, the vape is thrown away) or rechargeable (the user replaces the liquid and recharges the battery on demand). Most vape liquids contain nicotine and other chemicals.

LACK OF AWARENESS

A proportion of young people tend to view vapes as harmless, mainly because of the products' appearance and the perception (often strengthened on social media) that "vaping is cool" and on trend. In many instances, young people don't fully appreciate the concept of addiction: that is, they aren't adequately aware of the risk of becoming hooked on nicotine before trying a vape.

POTENTIAL TOXICITY

Many vape liquids have been found to contain "heavy" metals such as lead, tin, nickel and (in some cases) mercury – all of which are toxic. These metals often take the form of tiny shards inside a device's liquid tank, which are then inhaled into the body. Some media reports have suggested these metals are particularly prevalent in illegally imported vapes which don't comply with UK regulations.

UNCLEAR LONG-TERM CONSEQUENCES

The liquids in vapes also contain solvents, which can create carcinogens at the point of evaporation. Vapes were only introduced into the UK in 2005 – and, because of the relatively short timeframe involved, there is insufficient medical evidence to assess the long-term harms that regular inhalation of these chemical fluids might have on the human body.

ATTRACTIVE PACKAGING

The packaging of many disposable vapes is very appealing to young people, frequently echoing the colours and flavours of the sweets or fizzy drinks they're used to buying. There's a relative lack of regulation around vape marketing, and vaping is often depicted positively on social media – which can lead young people to develop favourable views of vaping and overlook the possible harms.

ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

In the UK alone, around 5 million disposable vapes go to landfill every week. Due to such significant numbers of these products not being recycled, their components – a lithium battery and a chemical liquid – pose a toxic risk to the environment, the ecosystem and wildlife. Vapes are also predominantly made of plastic and metal; materials that, of course, do not naturally decompose.

WIDER HEALTH CONCERNS

Studies are already showing a link between vaping and oral health problems such as tooth decay and gum disease. This is because vaping reduces the amount of saliva in the mouth, while increasing bacteria – resulting in bad breath and a build-up of plaque. There are also concerns that, in some users, vaping could lead to the development of asthma, a persistent cough and breathing difficulties.

UNREGULATED VAPING PRODUCTS

The number of retailers willing to sell vapes to under-18s is a worry, as the chance of these products being unregulated (and therefore containing illegal chemicals and higher levels of nicotine) is high. A related concern is that the mechanisms inside unregulated products are unlikely to have been tested and safety checked – presenting a possible fire risk if the liquid and battery come into contact.

SCARCE INFORMATION

The lack of information about the ingredients and potentially harmful chemicals in a vape is troubling. Some vape fluids (unregulated in the UK) contain traces of nuts, which can cause an allergic reaction or anaphylactic shock. To date, medical warnings aren't required on vape packaging – with only medical disclaimers being found on the websites of the various brands.

VAGUE INGREDIENTS LISTS

Early research has suggested that the chemicals used to produce some strawberry and banana flavour e-liquids can kill cells in the blood vessels and heart. These ingredients aren't identified on the packaging, instead falling under the umbrella term "natural and artificial flavourings". Such vague listings mean that consumers aren't aware of the liquid's content so can't identify potential risks.

Meet Our Expert

Run by the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Healthy Schools Service (commissioned by Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council), Catch Your Breath is a school-based project aimed at young people. Its goal is to embed a proactive, coordinated approach among both primary and secondary schools in discouraging smoking and vaping behaviours.



HEALTHY
SCHOOLS
CAMBRIDGESHIRE
& PETERBOROUGH

The
National
College

Source: <https://www.bbc.com/news/health-60804042>



nationalcollege.com



@thenatcollege



/thenationalcollege

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 28.05.2023



MULTI-ACTIVITY HOLIDAY CAMP

Unleash your child's creativity and sporting passion in our half-term camps, running every October. With a perfect blend of arts and crafts, sports, and games, we offer an exciting multi-activity experience.

October Dates

Monday 23rd - Friday 27th

Ages 5-13

Time: 09:00 - 15:00

Extended hours 08:00-17:00



Camp Prices

Price for the week - £137.50

Price per day - £32.50

For extended hours - £12.50



kidsactivities@deleisure.com

www.deleisure.com



**For more information or to book:
Scan the QR code below!**



**Thames Valley Athletics Centre
Pococks Lane, Eton
Windsor, SL4 6HN
01753 770037**

LEO'S CIRCUS

KIDS OCTOBER CIRCUS CAMP

UNLEASH THE
CIRCUS STAR IN YOUR CHILD!



£200
FULL 5 DAYS OF
CIRCUS FUN

WHO: Kids 6-12 y/o

WHEN: Mon-Fri
23rd-27th Oct
2-6pm

WHERE: Stoke Poges Lane,
Slough

ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:

- Aerial Silks, Hoop, Rope and Trapeze
- Juggling
- Acrobatics
- Hula hooping
- Dance and MORE!

**SECURE YOUR CHILD'S SPOT NOW
AND LET THE ADVENTURE BEGIN**

leoscircus.co.uk (+44) 7395 338 476

leos.circus.slough@gmail.com

DRIFTERS RUGBY CLUB



NEW AND EXPERIENCED PLAYERS WELCOME.



U5 - U16S
SUNDAYS

10-10:30AM START

FOR AGE SPECIFIC DETAILS
CONTACT THE COACHES VIA THE
LINKS BELOW



<https://driftersrfc.co.uk/teams#>



KEEP FIT
MAKE FRIENDS
LET OFF STEAM
HAVE FUN

CAFE
QUALIFIED COACHES
DBS CHECKED
FIRST AID
CLUB EVENTS
COMMUNITY FEEL
FUN FOCUSED
ADULT TOUCH RUGBY



Farnham Common Sports Club, One Pin Lane,
Farnham Common SL2 3QY



HALLOWEEN

Pick and Treat

BRITWELL

Join us for a spooktacular litter pick



Prize for best dressed child and adult

Everyone welcome! With or without fancy dress



Sunday, 29 October

12.30 - 14:30



Meet up: Monksfield Way play area

DO YOU DARE?



questions? britwellcommunityforum@gmail.com or 07 533 991 018