

Beechwood Bulletin

Beechwood Primary School

Ambleside Close

Woodley

Reading

Berkshire

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Term 1, Issue 1



Wednesday 11th September 2024

The Importance Of Being In School Every Day

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We have had a wonderful start to the new academic year, and in Assembly have been thinking about new starts, feeling anxiety and the power of having a 'Growth Mindset'.

It has also been a very positive start with regards to attendance and punctuality. Regular school attendance is an extremely important part of giving children the best possible start in life. Equally important is that all children arrive on time. Registers are completed at 8.50am and children arriving after this time are recorded as late and will need to be signed in by their parent at the office.

If your child arrives at school later than 9.20am we are required to mark them as absent for that half day session and it is classed as an unauthorised absence. If a child is regularly late for school, a parent will be expected to attend a meeting to look at how punctuality can be improved.

Learning begins promptly at the start of the day and children miss vital learning if they are late to school. 10 minutes late each day equates to 6 days learning lost a year. 30 minutes late each equates to 18 days lost a year. Please try to ensure your child arrives at school on time each day.

Starting on 19th August 2024, there are several changes to penalty notices for school absences. These are:

- *There will be a new national threshold of 10 unauthorised sessions for any reason (equivalent to 5 school days) within a rolling 10 school week period for when a penalty notice must be considered.*
- *The new rules mean parents will no longer be able to take their child out of school for one week's holiday without a penalty notice being issued.*
- *There will be an increase in the penalty fine from £60 to £80 if paid in 21 days. If the fine is not paid by the first 21 days, it will rise to £160 if paid within 28 days of being issued.*
- *If a second penalty fine is issued to the same parent for the same child within a 3-year rolling period, the fine will automatically rise to £160 with no option to pay the lower rate of £80.*
- *If a parent then commits a third offence in a 3-year rolling period, the local authority will need to consider other enforcement options available to them.*

Please find attached our Punctuality Pyramid and a copy of our Attendance Ladder.

Kind regards,

Miss S E Hunter
Headteacher



NOTICEBOARD

DROP OFF TIME:

The main gate opens at 8.35am and closes at 8.45am enabling you to drop off your child at any point within this time. The gate promptly closes at 8.45am. If your child arrives after 8.45am then they will not be able to come into school via the main gate but should instead come in through the main office.

LYTHAM ROAD & HEADLEY ROAD

CAR PARK PERMIT:

A reminder that a car park permit form is available from our website. Please park responsibly and respectfully in the local area if you are not using the local car parks. Ambleside Close is a **NO PARKING** road and children should not be dropped off here. Please note the school car park is for **STAFF ONLY**, Parents/Guardians are not permitted to park here without prior permission from the school.



HEAD BUMP TEXT:

Please be advised, should your child have a minor bump to their head (such as a light head bump with another child) we will text you to let you know. A head injury form will also be completed and given to your child to bring home, and your child will be monitored. Please be assured we will always call you for a more significant head bump or injury, and if we had any concerns.



EQUIPMENT:

Please ensure your child comes into school each day with a named water bottle and a packed lunch if they are not having a hot meal. Just to remind you we are a **NUT FREE** school. Therefore no nut products should be brought into school. This includes Nutella and similar choco-nut sandwich fillings.
Many thanks



Class Star Pupils will start next week



Attendance

Thank you for a very positive start to term with minimal absences each day so far.

We hope to maintain this throughout the Autumn term with your support and aim to be above our percentage target each week when we publish the figures.

JUST TO REMIND YOU THAT IF YOUR CHILD IS GOING TO BE ABSENT, PLEASE EITHER LEAVE A MESSAGE ON THE ABSENCE LINE OR EMAIL THE OFFICE BY 9.30am.

Over the last week at Beechwood

Foundation Stage: Butterflies have settled into school really well. The children have been learning all about their families this week and have done an excellent job at learning the song Humpty Dumpty. They have also been using a range of materials to make paper plate faces of themselves. Their favourite things to play with have been the outdoor area and the home corner. Well done on a fantastic first week of school Butterflies!

Year 1 : The children have settled really well into Year 1 and they are getting more familiar with routine in KS1. In english we have been learning about our class animal, the Robin. The children have labelled parts of robins and wrote some fact files about them. In maths we have been counting and representing objects within a group of 10. We had fun practising the ball skills in our first PE lesson.

Year 2 & 3 : The children have had a lovely start to their Stone Age learning by creating some Stone Age inspired art using natural pigments like turmeric, beetroot and berries. They have been researching and showing off their writing skills by writing fact files about woolly mammoths. They have also begun to learn some catchy Stone Age songs!

Year 4: We are extremely proud of how well Year 4 have settled into the new school year. The children have hit the ground running in all subjects and they have really embraced this challenge. The children had their first swimming session yesterday and they did themselves and the school proud. Look out for some information about a 'meet the teacher' session coming up very soon. This session will introduce us to you as well as give information about events throughout the academic year in Year 4.

Year 5 have had a great first week! They have been learning about roman numerals to 1000 in maths and have been developing their knowledge of grammar in english. In art, they have begun their topic on retro-futurism, building their skills of mixing paints to create shades. Finally, in reading they have started their novel for the term: 'Holes'.

Year 6 have enjoyed settling back into school life over the last week. There has been much excitement about prefect roles and responsibilities and they are definitely stepping up to be excellent role models to our younger year groups. In english, we are exploring Pandora and delving into the structure and devices used in a non-chronological report and we are developing our knowledge of place value in maths. In history we have started to think about life in Britain during The Blitz; this has linked well with the two books we are reading: When The Sky Falls (by Phil Earle) and The Midnight Guardians (by Ross Montgomery).

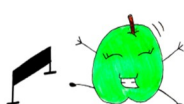
House Points

House Point totals will start next week

**Outstanding
Oranges**



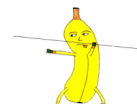
**Amazing
Apples**



**Super
Strawberries**



**Brilliant
Bananas**



Dates for your diary:

Tuesday 17th September	— Year 6 SATS information meeting 3.40pm
Friday 27th September	— PTA Macmillan Coffee Morning—more info to follow
Wednesday 2nd October	— Nasal Flu Vaccinations
	— Falcons Class Assembly @2.30pm
Tuesday 8th October	— FS, Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3 Harvest Church Service
Monday 14th & Wednesday 16th October	— Parents evening—in person—3.30-6.00pm
Wednesday 16th October	— Owls Class Assembly @2.30pm
Monday 21st—Friday 25th Oct	— Year 6 Residential/Activity Week
Wednesday 23rd October	— Open Morning for Prospective Parents (booking required)
Monday 28th Oct—Friday 1st Nov	— Half Term
Wednesday 6th November	— School Photos (Individual)
Thursday 14th November	— Open Morning for Prospective Parents (booking required)
Wednesday 20th November	— Family Learning Session
	— Hedgehogs Class Assembly @ 2.30pm
Tuesday 26th November	— Open Morning for prospective parents (booking required)
Tuesday 10th December	— Open Morning for prospective parents (booking required)
Monday 16th December	— FS, Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3 Christmas Church Service
Tuesday 17th December	— Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 Christmas Church Service
Friday 20th December	— End of Term