

Beechwood Bulletin

Beechwood Primary School

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Term 3, Issue 38



Wednesday 19th July 2023

Goodbyes and Thank Yous

Dear Parents and Guardians,

It's hard to believe I am writing my last Beechwood Bulletin of the academic year. Another year seems to have just whizzed by in school. Over the last week our Year 6 pupils have enjoyed a fantastic leavers event and an emotional leavers assembly. All children have also enjoyed a visit from our local ice cream van today.

A huge thank you to our wonderful PTA who work tirelessly to raise money for the school. In recent weeks the PTA have made a very generous donation towards the year 6 leavers party and contributed towards the ice creams the children received today. A special mention must go to Alison Husbands and Wendy Mead who are stepping down from their roles at the end of term, having held the reins of the PTA for the last four years. We cannot thank you enough for all you have done.

It really is such a pleasure and privilege to be the headteacher at Beechwood Primary School. I am so proud of how much the children have achieved this year. Yet again, it has been wonderful to work with such a dedicated and amazing staff team, local governing body and Academy trust. I would like to thank every one of them for everything they have done this year. Everyone has worked so hard to provide the very best learning experiences for the children.

At the end of the week we say goodbye to a few members of staff; Mr Compton and Miss Craig, who are leaving us to take up new positions at different schools. We also say goodbye to Miss Keegan who has been teaching in Foundation Stage and Miss B Soutter who has been working in our after school club. Finally we are also saying farewell to Mrs Cowen, our school business manager, who will be taking up a position in the Frays Academy Trust central team. I am sure you will join me in extending your sincere thanks for everything they have done for the children and school during their time with us, and wish them all the very best in the future. I know they will be fantastic. They have all made such an impact here at Beechwood and we will miss them a great deal.

Finally, I would like to extend my sincere thanks, both personally and on behalf of the school team, to you for your ongoing support. I place a huge importance on the partnership we have with you as parents/ guardians. To all our children and families moving on at the end of the year; we would like to wish you and your child(ren) every success for the future. I hope you leave us with some wonderful memories and a happy smile. It has been a real pleasure to be part of your child's learning journey.

For everyone returning to us after the summer holidays, I look forward to seeing you back on Wednesday 6th September, when the new term begins for the children.

Wishing you all a very relaxing and enjoyable summer break.

Kind regards,

Miss S E Hunter, Headteacher



NOTICEBOARD




ATTENDANCE AWARD

The class with the best attendance across the whole school last week was Woodpeckers with 98% attendance. Well done Woodpeckers!



Useful links:

- **Term Dates 2023.24**
<https://beechwoodprimaryschool.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/2023-2024-Term-Dates.pdf>
- **School Dinner Menu**
<https://caterlinkltd.co.uk/school/wokingham-borough-council/>
- **Parking Permit**
<https://beechwoodprimaryschool.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/2020-Parking-Permit.pdf>



Please allow
28 days for dispatch

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Please note the deadline is 24th July for ordering school uniform from School Trends to ensure delivery by September.



Attendance

Our minimum attendance target is 96.5%. Please help us to ensure your child receives the best education by attending school regularly and being on time.

Our whole school attendance for the week commencing 10th July was 92.9% which is below our target.

Over the last week at Beechwood.....

Foundation Stage have had a great end of term. The children had a fantastic 'Beach Day', where they enjoyed paddling in the 'sea', building sandcastles, surfing and playing beach volleyball. They also enjoyed listening to our Grandparents' experiences of their seaside holidays. Thank you to those of you who contributed. It was wonderful to see old photos and hear their tales. On behalf of all of the adults, we want to say what a brilliant class you have been Butterflies and we will miss you so much!. We can't wait to hear about your adventures in Year 1! Thank you also to the parents who have given up their time to volunteer on trips or in the classroom or have given special talks. Without your support, all the amazing experiences and trips wouldn't have happened this year. We wish you and your families a super summer and don't forget to wave to us when you're back in September!

Year 1 have been reflecting on all the learning they have done in Year 1. They have been talking about how to cope with changes and how exciting it is to be moving up to Year 2! They are all looking forward to their new classes. Mrs Nicol and Miss O'Malley are so proud of how hard they have worked this year and wish them every success in Year 2.

Year 2 have been finishing off their unit on Castles by remembering everything they have learnt so far and writing a fact file about them. In Science they have been looking at parts of a seed to complete our unit on plants. Hedgehogs loved doing their class assembly on Monday, what a great year we have all had in year 2!

Year 3 have been having fun creating our own maze projects on scratch, using their coding knowledge to create a moving maze game. In English they have been writing poetry about their time in year 3. In DT, they have evaluated their Greek pots. Finally they have been reflecting on our time in year 3, thinking about what they have enjoyed learning about and what they are looking forward to in year 4!

Year 4 have been completing their final maths unit on position and direction. In English they have been reading and writing poetry, and answering inferential questions in Guided Reading. They have been listening and joining in with jazz music in their music lessons and comparing the history of the development of Birmingham and Blackpool in geography. As the year draws to a close, they will be having a huge tidy up and bringing most of their exercise books home.

Year 5 have started their final maths unit in calculating volume and in English they have finished reading Macbeth - they loved learning about the twists throughout the plot and are now moving onto some drama and script writing. In history, they have learned about how Reading would have looked towards the end of the Tudor Era and reflected on what we would have experienced had we visited the town on a market day. Year 5 would like to send a massive "thank you" for all your support throughout what has been an exciting year.

Year 6 have spent the week rehearsing their leaver's assembly (and making their teachers and teaching assistants feel very emotional about them leaving!). They are looking forward to a water fight on Thursday and their final day of primary school on Friday. Please bring a white shirt to be signed on Friday!

House Points

**Outstanding
Oranges**
226



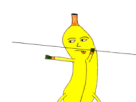
**Amazing
Apples**
172



**Super
Strawberries**
209



**Brilliant
Bananas**
245



Congratulations to Brilliant Bananas who collected the most tokens over the past two weeks

Dates for your diary:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Friday 21st July | - End of term <u>1.10-1.30pm</u> |
| Friday 1st to Tuesday 5th September | - In service days (school closed) |
| Wednesday 6th September | - Start of Pupil Term |
| Monday 23rd—Friday 27th October | - Half Term |



What makes art valuable?

Guy Bell/Shutterstock

Buck Supermoon



Pictured: The full moon rising - just after sunset - as seen from Grandview Point at the Grand Canyon, USA **Source:** Grand Canyon National Park Facebook page

An amazing supermoon has appeared in our skies for three days. A supermoon is when the Moon appears to be much larger than usual because it is closer to our planet. This happens as the Moon's orbit is not a perfect circle due to the Earth's gravitational pull, it is an oval shape. The Moon is less than 365,000 kilometres from Earth, which is around 22,000km closer than normal. The first full moon after Summer Solstice (the longest day, 21st

June) is often called the Buck Moon due to the fact that at the beginning of summer, buck deer begin to grow their new antlers; they begin to emerge from the top of their heads covered in a soft, velvety fur. Many people from all over the world have been posting beautiful, dazzling photos of the Moon as they see it where they live.

Is this something you would like to take photographs of?

Top Team Player

Belgium's record holding shot put and hammer throw champion, Jolien Boumkwo, displayed great team spirit at the European Athletics Team Championships in Poland when she stepped up to run the 100-metre hurdles and save her team from getting disqualified. Jolien stepped out of her comfort zone and ran the 100-metre hurdles after her teammate was injured. Even though she finished last, she cleared every single hurdle, earning a very important point for her team! 'I thought I would take one for the team. I didn't think

about it, I just went for it,' said Boumkwo, 'It was really heartwarming all the support, the crowd was screaming and I cannot believe how many people are so kind. When I was younger I used to do some heptathlons, it was 10 years ago when I last did hurdles. But now in my training I do hurdles, for mobility and to be flexible. It is not a new movement, but to do it here [at a major championships] is a whole new world, but I really enjoyed every second of it.'

Do you think it is important to be a team player?



Pictured: Jolien Boumkwo taking part in one of her specialised sports **Source:** Jolien Boumkwo facebook page

Share your thoughts and read the opinions of others

www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss



Swift Bricks

10,000 bricks with built-in bird houses have been installed into UK homes to create nest holes for swifts. Swift bricks are normal building bricks with a hollow inside. The small migratory birds have suffered due to renovations of old buildings, which have sealed up the small holes that they would use to nest in. The nesting bricks can also be used by other small birds and it is hoped that they will help to increase declining bird populations. 'The great advantage of swift bricks and boxes is that they can work just as well in inner city areas with very little green space as anywhere else,' notes Dr. Guy Anderson,



Pictured: Swift Source: Canva



Pictured: A Manthorpe Swift Brick
Source: Manthorpe BP Twitter page

the RSPB's migratory birds program manager. He adds that, 'Swifts can travel pretty long distances to find their insect food – all they need is a nest site.' Swifts are amazing flyers that spend 10 months of the year in the air. They have an impressive top speed of 69mph. They can do most things whilst still flying. They drink by skimming water as they fly over rivers and lakes with their mouths open. They eat by catching flying insects and airborne spiders. Astoundingly, they can also fly whilst closing one eye and turning off one half of their brain. They fly all the way to Africa before returning to the UK to nest.

Do you think all homes should have swift bricks?

Last week's topic:

Should everyone learn the Countryside Code?

I think that we should learn all about the countryside, like we learn about road safety. It's just as important.

Evie



I think that everyone should be respectful of all outdoor spaces - I love exploring the countryside and visiting parks, but I like it when they're clean. My family and I take our litter home and smile at people we see and I think everyone should do the same.

Cassie

I think you should be aware of how to behave in the countryside but I don't think the Countryside Code is something you would need to memorise.

Freddy

I want to enjoy my park but there are no bins, so there's lots of rubbish!

Sam

Let us know what you think about this week's news?



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TAKEHOME

17 - 23
July



What makes
art valuable?

In the news this week

Austrian artist Gustav Klimt's final portrait has become the most expensive artwork ever auctioned in Europe. The painting, called Lady with a Fan, sold for the final price of £85.3m at Sotheby's in London. It was sold to an art collector from Hong Kong, with three other bidders hoping to buy the piece. When Klimt died in 1918, the portrait of the unnamed woman was still on an easel in his studio. The estimated sale price was a much lower £65m, which bidders quickly went over, and the painting sold in just 10 minutes.

Things to talk about at home ...

- > Do you enjoy looking at or making art?
- > Is there any artwork displayed around your home or in your room?
- > Talk with people at home about why they feel some people choose to spend so much on pieces of art.

Please note any interesting thoughts or comments

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