

# Beechwood Bulletin

**Beechwood Primary School**

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Woodley

Reading

Berkshire

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Term 1, Issue 5



Wednesday 11th October 2023



## NOTICEBOARD

### ATTENDANCE AWARD:



The class with the best attendance across the whole school last week was Owls with 99.2% attendance.

Well done Owls!

### FLU—NASAL IMUNISATION REMINDER:

The school nurses will be visiting us on Thursday 19th October. Please complete the electronic consent form (one for each child) via Immunisation Consent <https://www.berkshireimmunisations.co.uk/Forms/Flu> and insert your schools unique code: BK147023. This form should be submitted by 9am, one full school day before your session to ensure your child receives their vaccinations.

**BOOK FAIR** The book fair will be visiting us from Thursday 12th to Monday 16 October, 3.30-3.45pm each day, entry via the school hall door. We would like to thank you for all the entries to the Wild Reading Competition we have enjoyed looking at all your pictures, the winners will be announced soon.

### NO PARKING OR STOPPING ON AMBLESIDE

**CLOSE REMINDER:** Please do not attempt to drive, stop or park along Ambleside Close during the school day. Parking enforcement officers continue to patrol the area. A reminder that a parking permit is available for local car parks, forms are available from the school office/website.



## Harvest....

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Yesterday our Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 children enjoyed celebrating Harvest at Christchurch. Each year group shared either poetry, singing or art work which was delightful. The children walked beautifully to and from church, thank you to all the parents that supported—it was lovely to see you all.

A huge thank you to everyone who sent in donations for Woodley Foodbank as part of our Harvest celebrations. I know they will be very grateful to receive our donations which will be heading over to the Food Bank in the next few days.



Next week we will be holding our first Open Morning of the academic year for prospective parents. If you know anyone local who has a child due to start school in September 2024, please encourage them to book onto one of our future open mornings. We would love to welcome them to Beechwood.

On Friday 20th October we will be supporting 'Wear it Pink Day'. Children (and staff) are invited to come to school wearing as little or as much pink as they would like. Any donations for this important cause would be gratefully received on the day.

Kind regards,

Miss S E Hunter, Headteacher

### Star Pupils—w/c 02/10/23

Butterflies— Saifullah

Robins — Millie

Rabbits— Logan

Hedgehogs— Presley

Badgers— Harvey

Foxes— Ivy

Woodpeckers — Georgia

Owls— Kunashe

Kites— Liam

Falcons— Alyssa

Hawks— Avy

Eagles— Maisie & Scarlett

Well done to all of our

Stars!

### 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 last week was 95% which is unfortunately below our target.

## Over the last week at Beechwood.....

Foundation Stage visited Christ Church in Woodley. They really enjoyed finding out about the harvest festival and how their donations of food can help others. In math's sessions they learnt about patterns they can see, hear, and create. In phonics they are learning to recognise and write the sounds l, h, r and j and in literacy are drawing and writing initial sounds and cvc words based on the story "We're going to find the monster".

Years 1 and 2 had a lovely time at their Harvest Festival celebration, they worked really hard creating art and poems for the occasion and performed the songs fantastically. In English this week the children have turned into news reporters and are working in groups to report the events of the Great Fire of London, next week we will be turning these reports into newspaper articles.

Year 3 have been beginning to write their own information texts about volcanoes in English. In French they have been learning French greetings and how to ask someone their name. In computing they have been learning about computer networks and how they connect different devices together. Finally, in Geography, they have been learning about the world's famous volcanoes.

Year 4 have started looking at settings in narrative texts. In maths, they have been looking at column subtraction, as well as considering the most efficient method of subtraction in each situation. They have completed their guided reading text, Ice Palace. In history they have looked at Roman towns. The children have continued with learning about the jazz style of music, and greetings in French.

Year 5 In English, they have been looking at information texts about planet Mars. This week, the children are innovating the texts to plan a report on another planet within our solar-system. In maths, they have moved on from addition and subtraction to multiplication, and will be using different resources to support their learning. During PSHE, they have discussed the difficulties that refugees may have when moving to a new country, and considered their own responsibilities towards others, and how they can work together to help each other learn.

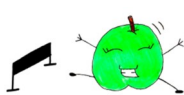
Year 6 have been having great fun this week conducting an investigation into how food decays over time. The children have been eager to look at their bags filled with foods and see what has happened to them - they seem particularly interested in how the strawberries have turned mouldy and liquid! They have also been practising long division this week in maths - the children have been trying their best! In English, they have been innovating a chapter from their book 'The Midnight Guardians'. They have had some really exciting plans so can't wait to read the writing at the end of the week!

### House Points

**Outstanding  
Oranges**  
371



**Amazing  
Apples**  
310



**Super  
Strawberries**  
363



**Brilliant  
Bananas**  
402



**Congratulations to Brilliant Bananas for collecting the most house points this week**

### Dates for your diary:

Thursday 12th—Monday 16 Oct	— Book Fair School Hall 3.30-3.45pm, entry via the school hall door <b>NEW</b>
Friday 13th October	— PTA Halloween Disco
Wednesday 18th October	— Open Morning for prospective parents (booking required) Owls Class Assembly @2.30pm
Thursday 19th October	— Flu Nasal Immunisations
Friday 20th October	— Wear it Pink (charity day)
<b>Monday 23rd—Friday 27th Oct</b>	— <b>Half Term</b>
Tuesday 7th November	— Open Morning for prospective parents (booking required)
Wednesday 8th November	— Individual School Photos Kites Class Assembly @ 2.30pm
Friday 10th November	— Remembrance Service at Woodford Park War Memorial—whole school <b>NEW</b>
Monday 13th November	— Parents Evening 3.30-6.00pm in school
Wednesday 15th November	— Parents Evening 5.30-7.00pm online
Friday 17th November	— Children in Need
Wednesday 22nd November	— Badgers Class Assembly @2.30pm
Thursday 23rd November	— Open Morning for prospective parents (booking required)
Wednesday 6th December	— Open Morning for prospective parents (booking required)
<b>Friday 15th December</b>	— <b>End of Term</b>





**How does change  
happen?**

Breeze Yoko



## Robotic Surgeon



**Pictured:** Da Vinci surgical robot and surgical team celebrating with cake.  
**Source:** Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust Facebook page.

A robotic surgeon celebrates its 10,000th procedure by cutting into a special cake. The robot surgical team at Guy's and St Thomas' hospital has celebrated completing 10,000 operations with the Intuitive da Vinci robot. The robot has been helping patients at the London hospital for over two decades. Surgeons control the machine's four thin arms to conduct operations with higher precision and greater flexibility than can be achieved by the human hand. Ben Challacombe, Head of Robotics at the NHS trust said, 'Da Vinci helps surgeons perform operations and it

improves outcomes for patients.' He also previously said, 'The benefits of robotic surgery include increased operative precision, leading to less pain, smaller scars and less time in hospital so patients can recover quicker.' Prokar Dasgupta, consultant urological surgeon at Guy's and St Thomas' said, 'When we started robotic surgery 20 years ago, we didn't really know how big the service was going to grow. From one early robotic system to the largest programme in the UK, we have come such a long way and helped so many of our patients.'



## Largest Asteroid Sample on Earth

NASA has announced that the OSIRIS-REx has completed its mission to collect and transport to Earth its largest asteroid sample ever, and that the specimen has landed in the Utah desert! OSIRIS-REx spacecraft, which stands for Origins, Spectral Interpretation, Resource Identification, Security-Regolith Explorer, has been on a 7-year mission to explore and sample an ancient asteroid named Bennu. Scientists believe that this near-Earth asteroid sample could help them understand how planets formed, life began, and improve our knowledge of asteroids that could come into contact with our planet. An asteroid is a small rocky body that orbits the Sun. After travelling for over two billion kilometres, OSIRIS-REx landed on Bennu for a few seconds and used a robotic arm to collect a sample of dust and rocks. The sample was then transported to Earth in a capsule that was released from the spacecraft. It glowed red hot as temperatures inside increased to 2,800°C, when it hit the upper atmosphere. The sample landed safely in the desert, using parachutes deployed at the very end of its journey. Scientists then retrieved the capsule and took it to a clean lab for analysis. The event was described on

NASA Astromaterials X page as, 'A scientific treasure box'. They also stated that 'Scientists gasped as the lid was lifted from the OSIRIS-REx asteroid sample return canister, showing dark powder and sand-sized particles on the inside of the lid and base.'



**Pictured:** The OSIRIS-REx asteroid sample return canister.  
**Source:** NASA Astromaterials @Astromaterials X page.



# Missing Poster Prompts Return of Lost Lego Man

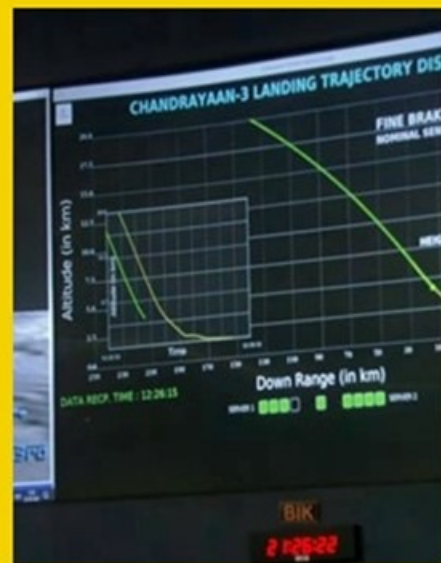
When 10-year-old Jack Steel from Ulverston in Cumbria realised that he had lost his beloved Lego figure, he wasted no time in starting the search. He produced a 'missing person' poster and asked his mum to spread the word. She posted it on her Facebook page along with an appeal for the Lego man to be returned. The poster (shown above) described the missing toy and how much he meant to Jack, stating, 'Lost: has anyone seen this Lego man? He is very special to me.' The poster also contained an accurate drawing of the minifigure, also named Jack, as Jack created him to look like himself. The poster included a detailed description of what Lego Jack looked like, 'Light brown



**Pictured:** The 'missing person' poster made by Jack that helped him to find his missing Lego man.  
**Source:** Lorna Walker's Facebook page.

quiff with matching eyebrows. Hawaiian Shirt (blue with palm trees and an orange stripe on the bottom). Dark green pants.' Jack knew that the Lego figure had gone missing whilst he was on his way to school so the search could be narrowed down to a certain route. Joy ensued when the poster Jack had created prompted another mum to contact Jack's when her daughter had found Lego Jack on her way to school, and he could be returned to his owner! The girl received a lovely box of chocolates as a thank-you gift!

## Last week's topic: How important is space exploration?



Yes, I think it is important because it is good to know what is going on outside of our planet. Without this we would not know about the weather.

**William**

I think it is very important to explore space and other planets. There is so much that we can learn from the universe that can help us today.


**AI**


It is important to learn about our universe, but it is very expensive, and it takes a long time. I think we should think about what else we could spend the time and money on if we didn't explore space as much.

**Bashira**

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

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# TAKEHOME

9 - 15  
October



How does  
change happen?

## In the news this week

October is Black History Month in the UK. This year's theme is 'Saluting our Sisters' - highlighting the role Black women have played in shaping history, inspiring change, and building communities in the UK. Commemorations will feature Black women, who have made outstanding contributions to many areas including music, literature, fashion, sport, business, politics, and health care.

### Things to talk about at home ...

- Share what you already know and understand about Black History Month in the UK.
- This year's theme is 'Saluting our Sisters'. What are some of the ways that you think we could do this?

Please note any interesting thoughts or comments

Share your thoughts and read the opinions of others

[www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss](http://www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss)

