

Beechwood Bulletin

Beechwood Primary School

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Wednesday 17th January 2024

Moments Matter, Attendance Counts

Dear Parents and Guardians,

It is with much sadness I have to inform you, that after working at the school for 24 years, Mr Blackaby, our site manager will be retiring from Beechwood at the end of February 2024. I cannot put into words how much Mr Blackaby has done for the school during his time here. I know staff, pupils, parents and the whole school community will miss him a great deal, but will also want to join me in wishing him all the best in the next chapter after Beechwood. Thank you so very much Mr B! I'm not quite sure what we are going to do without you.

At Beechwood we place great importance on good attendance and punctuality. This term, the government have launched a new campaign to improve attendance in schools 'Moments Matter, Attendance Counts.'

Being in school is important to your child's academic achievement, wellbeing, and wider development. There is evidence to suggest that regular school attendance is a key mechanism to support children and young people's educational, economic and social outcomes. Schools can facilitate positive peer relationships, which contributes to better mental health and wellbeing.

Attendance at school is crucial to prepare young people for successful transition to adulthood, and to support their longer term economic and social participation in society.

There is also evidence that the students with the highest attendance throughout their time in school gain the best GCSE and A level results. For example, data from 2019 shows that 84% of Key Stage 2 pupils who had 100% attendance achieved the expected standard, compared to 40% of pupils who were persistently absent across the key stage.

There is also some useful guidance on the NHS website; Is my Child too ill for school? www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school

Please do let us know if you need any support with your child's attendance and/or punctuality as we are very happy to help and support where we can.

Kind regards,

Miss S E Hunter, Headteacher

**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**



NOTICEBOARD

ATTENDANCE AWARD:

The class with the best attendance across the whole school last week was Eagles once again, with 100% attendance!

A very well done to Eagles!



NEW GATE TIMINGS:

Just to remind you that the drop off window in the morning is from 8.35-8.45am. Please be aware that we are shutting the gate promptly at 8.45am. If children arrive after this time, they will need to come into school via the school office.

CENSUS DAY—THURSDAY 17TH JANUARY:

Tomorrow is Census day, the data collected impacts the amount of funding the school receives. This is particularly important for EYFS-Year2 & FSM children where the school receives funding for Universal Free school meals based on the number of children who take a hot dinner on this day. The cost to children in Years 3 - 6 is £2.53.

The Meal options on the day will be: Fish fingers & Chips, Cheesy bean pasty & chips or Jacket Potato with beans. The meal options are available to pre-order now.

CHILD AND PARENT SURVEY:

'The Big Ambition' survey will be **closing this Friday 19th January** it is important that every child in England has an opportunity to tell policy makers what they want and need ahead of the General Election. Children and parents or carers can complete the survey

here: www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigambition

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 94% which is unfortunately is below our target!

Star Pupils—w/c 08/01/24

Butterflies— Ahmad

Robins — Gabor

Rabbits— Evren

Hedgehogs— Eesa

Badgers—Bilal

Foxes— Miia

Woodpeckers— Lyla

Owls— Richie

Kites— Amelia

Falcons— Reuben

Hawks — Maya & Alex B

Eagles— The whole class

Spencer w/c 3/1/24

Well done to all of our Stars!

Over the last week at Beechwood.....

Foundation Stage have been learning about Pakistan. They have made kites to represent those flown during the Basant Panchami festival. They have also made and tasted (drank) **Mango lassi**, a creamy yogurt-based drink. In maths sessions they have been tackling problems involving prediction, discussion and comparisons of length, weight and capacity. During computing lessons, the children explored a paint app called Doodle on the iPads to create a flag of their choice.

Years 1 & 2 have started their new English unit based on the fable 'The Hare and the Tortoise'. The children were very lucky to have a tortoise come and visit them so they could see just how slowly they move! In maths year 2 have started their multiplication and division unit and Year 1 are working on number lines. In science the children are continuing their animal unit looking at animal offspring.

Year 3 have been researching rainforest animals in order to write their information texts in English; learning lots of strange and interesting facts! In science they have looked at a plant, dissecting it to find and label the different parts of the plant anatomy. In maths the children have been continuing to develop their skills in division and multiplication. Finally, in art they looked at how to use paintbrushes to create different paint effects using acrylic paint.

Year 4 are enjoying adapting an adventure story in English. The children are working on changing key elements of the story to create their own version of the story. This is a big build up to the children planning, writing and evaluating their own adventure stories. In maths they have been learning how to divide 2-digits by one digit and are building up to dividing a 3-digit number by a one-digit number. In Science this week they have looked at how different substances melt and at which temperature they began to melt. The children are loving their swimming sessions. Thank you all for being so prepared each week.

Year 5 have continued to learn all about rivers, and have been looking at the ways we use rivers for transportation, recreation and as a food source. In maths, the children have just started on their division unit and how to use the bus stop method. In science, the children have been doing some exciting experiments to explore changes in materials, and are going to be looking at how to separate substances using heat and filtration methods.

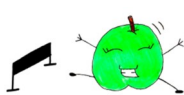
Year 6 are finishing their English unit by writing an instructional text explaining "How to Look After a Lost Thing". In maths they have grappled with word problems on ratio and proportion and have used double number lines to support them in their calculations. In science they have learned about Charles Darwin and are exploring inheritance. They have enjoyed learning about Mary Cassatt in art and have tried to copy the style of the impressionist.

House Points

**Outstanding
Oranges**
254



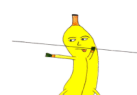
**Amazing
Apples**
181



**Super
Strawberries**
193



**Brilliant
Bananas**
240



Congratulations to Outstanding Oranges for collecting the most house points this week

Dates for your diary:

Thursday 18th January - Census Day—Menu change to Fish & Chips

Wednesday 24th January - SEND Coffee morning 9.45-10.30am
- Foxes class assembly—2.30pm

Wednesday 31st January - Falcons class assembly—2.30pm

Wednesday 7th February - Year 5 Bake off at Bulmershe

Monday 12th to Friday 18th February — HALF TERM

Monday 19th February - Inset day—School closed for pupils

Mon 26th Feb—Fri 1st March - D.T. week-

Wednesday 28th February - Woodpeckers class assembly—2.30pm

Thursday 29th February - Family Learning Session—9.00-10.00am

Wednesday 13th March - Hedgehogs class assembly—2.30pm

Mon 18th & Wed 20th March - Parents Evenings - Both in person and both 3.30-6.00pm

Tuesday 26th March - Hawks Class assembly—2.30pm

Thursday 28th March - End of Term

MUSIC

GAMES

LUCKY DIP

**CRISPS
&
SWEETS**

**GLOW
STICKS**

**TATTOOS
&
NAILS**

Valentine's **PARTY** ***Friday 2nd February***

RECEPTION - YEAR 3 6:30-7:30

YEAR 4 - YEAR 7:45-8:45

*tickets available now on
parentpay*

RECEPTION PARENTS ONLY ARE WELCOME TO STAY

Attendance: the top facts to know & share

**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**

The link between attendance and attainment is clear:

- In 2018/19, **just 40% of persistently absent (PA) children in KS2 achieved expected KS2 standards**, compared with 84% of pupils who were regular attenders.
- And **36% of PA children in KS4 got 9 to 4 in their English and maths GCSEs**, also compared with 84% of regular attenders.¹

And it's never too late to benefit from good attendance:

- **More than half (54%) of pupils who were PA in Year 10 and then rarely absent in Year 11, passed at least 5 GCSEs**, compared to 36% of pupils who were persistently absent in both years.²

But attendance is important for more than just attainment:

- Regular school attendance can facilitate **positive peer relationships**, which is a **protective factor for mental health and wellbeing**.³



**"THIS MORNING,
HE WAS WORRIED
ABOUT SCHOOL...
BUT LOOK AT HIM
NOW!"**

**MOMENTS
MATTER,
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COUNTS.**



HM Government

Search the Education Hub to find out more



**"THIS MORNING,
HE HAD A
RUNNY NOSE...
BUT LOOK AT
HIM NOW!"**

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HM Government

Search NHS school illness guidance to find out more.

