

Beechwood Primary Academy

Newsletter



Rockfield Avenue, Southway, Plymouth, PL6 6DX
Tel : 01752 706360
Email : beechwood.office@discoverymat.co.uk
Website : www.beechwood-primary.co.uk



Please follow us on the Beechwood Primary Academy Facebook page

25th April 2022

Monday

- Welcome Back •

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

- Celebration Assembly

PARENT UPDATE

Welcome back! I am delighted to see everyone after their well deserved and restful break. The weather was kind and I hope you were all able to spend some time outside exploring and playing.

We have another busy term ahead, this term we will celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, we are going to plant some wildflower seeds to support pollinators and explore growing and of course all of the classes will be embarking on their new topics for this term. Learning journeys describing the learning for the next two terms have been sent home and are available on the website and eSchools.

Year 5 will be taking part in their residential to PGL and Year 6 and Year 2 will be busy with their SATs tasks.

Children running the Half Marathon will be completing their miles each week in Running Club before completing the final mile on the Hoe later in June.

Club lists went out at the end of last term in letter form. Parents will be informed by text later this week if their child has secured their chosen club.

This morning in assembly we talked about a project in Plymouth to give seed packets to each school child to celebrate World Earth Day to support pollinating insects and provide more native flowers in urban areas. The children will be given the choice to take their seeds home to plant in your garden and community areas or to plant them at school in the boxes on the path that leads to the bottom gate. This week, the children will be planting their seeds and over the next few weeks we will be able to see them growing and have some beautiful native flowers and grasses growing on site. In Reception and Nursey, the children will be planting theirs in their garden area.

Please see the following website for more information. [Pollenize CIC | Rewilding Citizen Science Seeds | Community Beekeeping | Pollinator Conservation](#)

I look forward to seeing and sharing all of the learning the children will do over the next few weeks and to invite parents to our Jubilee Celebrations on the 26th May, more details will follow.

Have a great week.

Mrs Bailey

SUMMER TERM PRIORITIES

This term we will be focusing on improving our Library area and quantity of books. We have many books that are well loved by the children and we are focusing this term on improving this. Money raised from the books fairs will support this, as well as concentrating on new books and authors for a wide range of children and readers in our school.

We are also going to look at writing across the school, developing the knowledge of progress in writing across the ages and stages and continuing to improve our assessment of writing to ensure that children have the best possible information and skills to improve further.

Our final priority is to develop our commitment to Oracy and talk in the curriculum. Knowledge of language, a rich vocabulary linked to many different subject areas and the ability to understand and apply this language across the curriculum and in all areas of life allows so much access to anything that interests us and develops our power to understand many areas of life. We are beginning to share elements of homework tasks that focus on talking, whether those are curriculum areas or areas of interest for the children that support parents and carers to share ideas together linked to knowledge the children are developing at school.

SPRING TERM PRIORITIES

Our priorities last term were Reading Comprehension, STEM skills and Attendance.

We have made great strides in supporting general Reading Comprehension with expert support from Miss Gooding.

We will continue to make this a focus in all areas as reading is the primary skill that allows access to all areas of learning and enjoyment of books and new ideas. The children have shown that they enjoy learning how to use their comprehension skills and this is supporting general achievement in reading.

The launch of the STEM skills linked to learning behaviours has been really positive, the children are enjoying learning about how the skills link closely to how to learn and this is improving the way they respond to different areas of learning. I am particularly pleased to see the STEM skills popping up all over the school and in class assemblies and Star Learner awards, showing how intrinsic these skills are becoming. Well done to those children who have improved their attendance, despite the challenges surrounding general Covid infections and other illnesses that have been kept at bay by social distancing.

I look forward to awarding more children with their attendance certificates in the Summer term and those children who I know are focused on ensuring they achieve their badge for at least 98% attendance this year. Learning at school develops life long skills that allow children to have choices, from the secondary schools they attend, the interests and skills they choose to pursue and the groups or jobs they might choose to undertake. The better attendance is, then the children are in a position to be part of every opportunity and this leads to endless choices they might want to make as they grow up.

SUMMER SCHOOL UNIFORM

Children may continue to wear white shirts or polo shirts, grey or black trousers with their navy school jumper or cardigan with white, black or grey socks or tights and children may now also wear blue checked summer dresses or grey or black school shorts as the weather gets warmer.

Please remember that PE kit is blue or black sports shorts or jogging bottoms, a white t-shirt and black or plain plimsolls or trainers.

In colder weather, children may wear their school jumper or cardigan over the top. PE kit should come into school at the beginning of term and left at school until a holiday. If it has come home after a club, please remember to return it back to school!

If you need any support with uniform or PE kit, please speak to Jenny Oliver or any of the staff who will be able to help. We have donated school uniform and regular opportunities after school to collect any uniform you may need. Details of this is in the Newsletter or please ask Jenny Oliver.

DIARY DATES

(These dates may be subject to change)



2021/2022

Mon 2nd May	May Day Bank Holiday—NO School
Wed 11th May -	Fri 13th May - Barton Hall - Yr 5
Mon 30th May	Bank Holiday
Tues 31st May -	Fri 3rd June —HALF TERM
Thurs 9th June	To Fri 10th June - Bristol/Bath Trip
Mon 27th June	NPD - In lieu of Jubilee
Tues 26th July	Last Day of Term

2022/2023

Wed 7th Sept	Return After Summer Term
---------------------	---------------------------------

RESIDENTIAL TRIPS

BARTON HALL RESIDENTIAL - YEAR 5

Polite reminder that the last payment for this residential is due on 31st March 2022. Thank you.

BRISTOL / BATH TRIP - YEAR 6

We have a few remaining places still available on this trip. Deposits can be made on Parent Pay. Next payment is due on 4th April 2022. Thank you.

Please speak to the office if you would like to discuss your payment or require a Parent Pay Bar Code letter.



Thank you.

ATTENDANCE

The expected average percentage attendance for a child is 96%. Please see below the attendance for week beginning **28/03/2022**

Robin	90.5%
Swift	83.1%
Starling	80.4%
Chaffinch	88.9%
Dove	92.6%
Chough	85.3%
Swallow	76.9%
Goldfinch	77.6%
Sparrow	88.8%
Wren	94.4%
Woodpecker	85.6%
Raven	92.3%
Nightingale	90.7%
Skylark	94.8%

Well done!

The winners this week are :-



KS1— Dove Class

KS2— Skylark-Class

They will receive the Attendance Cup

EXCAVATIONS— ROCKFIELD AVENUE

We have been made aware that over the coming weeks Kier Utilities will be laying new electricity cables in Rockfield Avenue.

The new cables will be laid in a trench in the road, therefore roadside parking will not be available. This should not affect entrance and departure to the car park on the school site.,

Any questions or concerns should be directed to Paul.horrell@kier.co.uk or telephone 07896 279134

NEW GUIDANCE FOR CHILDREN

[People with symptoms of a respiratory infection including COVID-19 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

If you have symptoms of a respiratory infection, such as COVID-19, but have not taken a test, and you have a high temperature or do not feel well enough to go to work or carry out normal activities, try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people, until you no longer have a high temperature (if you had one) or until you no longer feel unwell.

For children:

Children and young people with mild symptoms such as a runny nose, sore throat, or slight cough, who are otherwise well, can continue to attend their education setting. Children and young people who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with other people, where they can. They can go back to school, college or childcare, and resume normal activities when they no longer have a high temperature and they are well enough to attend.



STEM update—Spring 2022

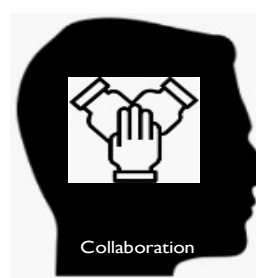
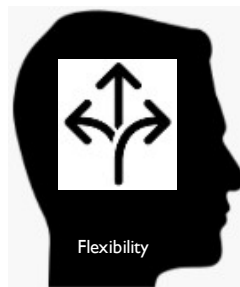
The STEM skills

These skills are embedded in the teaching and learning at our schools.

The children are able to apply these to their learning across the curriculum. They are displayed in all classrooms so that the children are able to refer to them.

We have been working to develop this aspect of teaching and learning in our schools so that the children understand how these skills are relevant to their learning. The STEM skills also provide the children with a very valuable skills base that they can apply to their learning outside of school and will help them to become successful learners.

The STEM skills are problem solving, creativity, inquiry, flexibility, collaboration and observation.



Retrieval Practice

We have introduced retrieval practice activities this academic year to compliment our science lessons. We have found in the past that children find it challenging to retrieve their knowledge from prior learning as they move through different science topics throughout the year.

To address this, we spend 5—10 minutes at the beginning of each science lesson recapping on the key knowledge that will aid the children to develop their scientific knowledge and understanding.

Our aim is that they will be able to apply this to their topic and investigation work as they continue their journey through the school, building on what they already know

YEAR 4 BAKE OFF

Year 4 have had a successful technical challenge on Great Beechwood Bake Off ! Each group have successfully made Australian lamingtons from scratch and have impressed the Year 6 judges... who will be crowned winner?



YEAR 6 - TERRARIUMS

Nightingale Class enjoyed building their terrariums and have promised to take photographs as they grow

