

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

21st March 2022

Monday

- World Poetry Day

Tuesday

- Adult Learning Courses

Wednesday

- Wellbeing Walkers Grp

Thursday

- Chill, Chat and Coffee
- Starling Class Assembly - 2.45

Friday

PARENT UPDATE

Thank you for everyone who supported Comic Relief Children in Need on Friday. We are still counting the money and we will let you know the total as soon as we have it. The money will go directly to support projects in the UK and abroad. We had a busy week and children also had STEM week. They had a great time exploring science, technology, engineering and maths while learning about Mars and celebrating Mars Day [Mars Day | Explore Mars with the UK Space Agency, UK STEM Ambassadors and international guests](#). The children really enjoyed a variety of activities, including programming Beebots in Reception, to coding Mars rovers and exploring the solar system and making posters about their learning. The children also designed a space game and designed robots. There are photographs and updates on Facebook.



The Year 5 and 6 children in Running Club took part in a Cross-Country race in Landrake on Friday. They had a fantastic time racing and competing with other children. There is a race commentary in the newsletter. Thank you to Mrs Rama-Dominguez and Mr Hocking who supported the children. Mr Hocking also worked with our Young Carers group to celebrate the National Young Carers day of action. They had a great time working on different activities and also meeting the other Young Carers groups at other MAT schools.



This week we are celebrating World Poetry Day on Monday and the children will be exploring poems during the day. Some children will also be attending a Dance Festival and some multi skills activities at Sir John Hunt. This is a great opportunity for us to attend some sporting events and another milestone on the return to more normal school life.



As you know, our MAT is a Mentally Healthy organisation, we work to support our staff, children and community in a variety of ways to ensure that we are aware of and supportive of good mental health. Our primary goal is to educate our children, to ensure that they have excellent opportunities to learn and that they are able to meet their potential. Part of this is ensuring that children have opportunities to talk about mental health and being aware when children may need some extra support so that they have space for learning. We use both in class support and the HUT for this, with trained staff who can help all children to succeed.



We have recently introduced a Gold Card, a certificate that rewards children for a particular piece of work or showing learning behaviours that deserve celebration. I know that these have started coming home for some children and it is an opportunity for you to celebrate some of the things your child is achieving at school and has been recognised for.



Mrs Bailey

DIARY DATES

(These dates may be subject to change)



2021/2022

Thur 24th March	Starling Class Assembly - 2.45pm
Mon 28th March	Easter Competition Entries due
Tues 29th March	Fri 1st April - Yr6 Trip Eden Project
Wed 30th March	Class Photos
Thur 31st March	Wren Class Assembly - 2.45pm
Tues 5th April	Ukraine Fundraiser Mufti
Tues 5th April	Rec/Yr6 - Weights & Measures
Thurs 7th April	Yr 1 Easter Assembly - 2.45pm
Friday 8th April	Non Pupil Day
Mon 11th April -	Fri 22nd April – EASTER BREAK
Mon 2nd May	May Day Bank Holiday
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**

ATTENDANCE

The expected average percentage attendance for a child is 96%. Please see below the attendance for week beginning **14/03/2022**



Robin	90.5%
Swift	88.8%
Starling	88.7%
Chaffinch	91.9%
Dove	92.6%
Chough	80.5%
Swallow	86.9%
Goldfinch	86.0%
Sparrow	92.0%
Wren	94.4%
Woodpecker	97.4%
Raven	94.8%
Nightingale	88.9%
Skylark	85.9%

Well done!

The winners this week are :-

KS1— Dove Class

KS2—Woodpecker Class

They will receive the Attendance Cup

YEAR 1 EASTER ASSEMBLY

The Chaffinch class assembly will be moved to next term (date to follow). This will be replaced by a Year 1 Easter Assembly. This will be held on **Thursday 7th April at 2.45pm**. Parents are welcome to attend. We look forward to seeing you.



UKRAINE DISASTERS EMERGENCY COMMITTEE - FUNDRAISING MUFTI



Children are invited to come to school in mufti clothes on **Tuesday 5th April** to help raise funds and support the citizens of Ukraine. All monies raised will be given to the Disasters Emergency Committee.. If you would prefer not to donate, your child is welcome to wear their school uniform. Thank you.

RESIDENTIAL TRIPS

BARTON HALL RESIDENTIAL - YEAR 5

Polite reminder that the third payment for this residential was due on 28th February 2022.

BRISTOL / BATH TRIP - YEAR 6

We have a few remaining places still available on this trip. Deposits can be made on Parent Pay.

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



Thank you.

RED NOSE DAY COMIC RELIEF

Thank you for your kind donations for Comic Relief.

Here are some of our KS1 children wearing their red noses.

Thank you.



EASTER BONNET AND EASTER EGG COMPETITION

The Buddies we will be holding an Easter Bonnet and Easter Egg decorating competition in school this Easter.



KS1 - Children are invited to make an Easter Bonnet.



KS2 - Children are invited to decorate a hardboiled egg.

Please bring your bonnets and eggs into school on **Monday 28th March** in preparation for judging.

All entries will receive a small prize. But a larger prize for 1st, 2nd and 3rd in both KS1 and KS2.

STARLING CLASS ASSEMBLY

Parents of children in Starling Class are invited to their class assembly this **Thursday 24th March at 2.45pm**. Please wait by the black gates outside the dinner hall. Thank you.

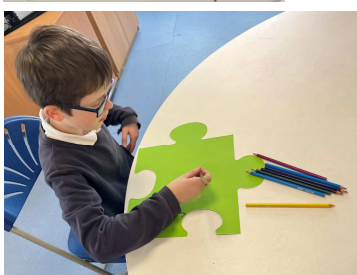




NATIONAL YOUNG CARERS DAY



Our Caring Caterpillars took part in the National Young Carers Day of action. They had some party food, took part in activities together and had a joint part meeting with other Caring Caterpillars from across the MAT. During the day they designed and made their butterfly to represent a their Young Carers poster for Plymouth. Well done to everyone who took part, they showed great team work.



STEM WEEK

Robin Class really enjoyed STEM week and especially liked learning about robots. We were surprised to find out that some robots are as small as a hair! We drew our own robots, built some out of junk modelling and explained their functions. We also programmed the Bee-Bots (robots) which was tricky at first, but we soon got the hang of it!



This week Dove class have been designing robots that could land on Mars. They researched the planet first and thought of useful tasks which the robot could carry out. We looked at different types of robots that we could make. After we had designed them we used Lego to make them.



In Starling Class this week we have been learning all about Mars! We really enjoyed making Mars space rocks out of cocoa powder and vinegar. We have also learnt about the order of planets and about the Mars Rover, which is a robot that takes photos and sends them back to Earth.



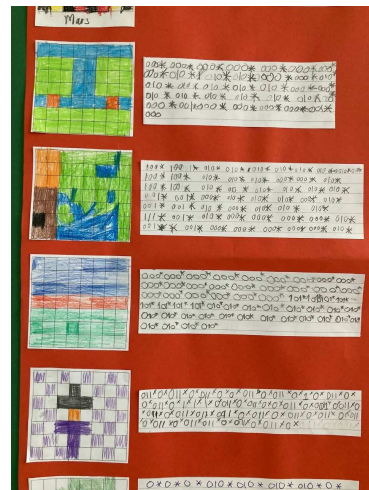
Chaffinch class have been to Space and back this week! We have explored the wonders of Mars and learnt about the marvellous machines from NASA. We made our own wind testers and investigated the wind speed outside the classroom. It wasn't as windy as Mars! The children have enjoyed designing aliens, spaceships and robots in a variety of ways. It's been out of this world!



The year 4's took part in an important investigation, analysing data to decide which landing site would be the most successful for the Mars Rover to complete its mission. After a debate, the same landing site chosen in class was the same as the one chosen in real life! Great astrologists in the making.

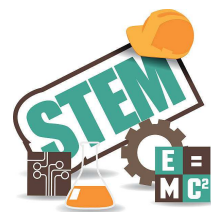
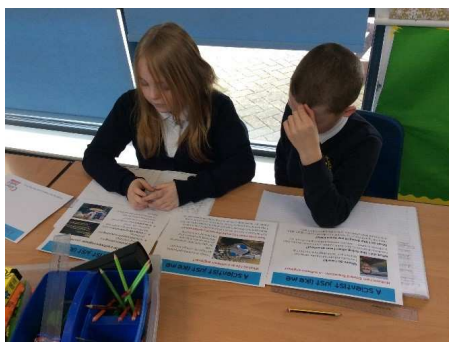


This week, year 5 have been looking at the Mars rover, Perseverance. In a workshop, they used problem solving and observation skills to build and program a Lego rover to complete challenges. The children had fun drawing their own pictures and writing the binary code to communicate them in the same way that photos are sent back from Mars. Then, the children thought about how instructions are communicated to the rover and completed their very own challenges with a big focus on the STEM skill, Collaboration. They can't wait to learn more about the rover!



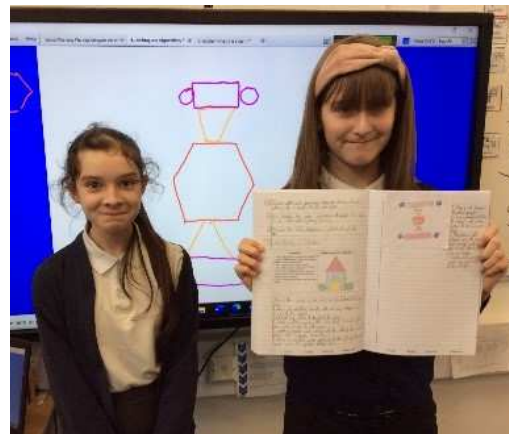
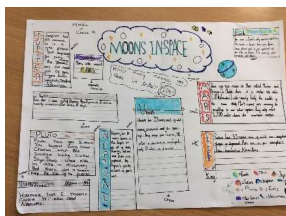
Skylark – Outdoor Maths and researching careers in science

In Skylark class, as part of STEM Week, we took our learning outside and took part in an outdoor Maths lesson. We used our problem solving and flexibility skills to solve problems together and even set each other challenges. We also listened to scientists talk about their careers in physics and space and spent some time using our inquiry skills to research different careers that we might like to have.



Nightingale – Algorithms and space

In Nightingale class, as part of STEM Week, we have been researching different planets in our solar system and presenting this information to the rest of Year 6. We have used our Collaboration skills to work together and our Creativity skills to present the Information in an interesting way. We also explored coding through debugging algorithms. We used our problem solving skills to identify and correct any errors in the algorithms.



STAR LEARNERS

This week's Star Learners. Well done!





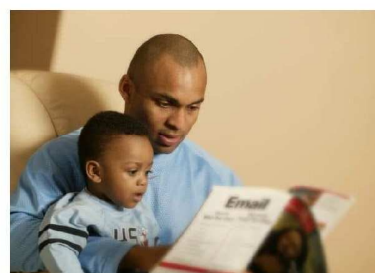
Where does it come from?

The Solihull Approach was first developed in Solihull in 1996 by Health Visitors and Psychotherapists working with families whose children were having feeding, sleeping, toileting and/or had behaviour difficulties. It has since been developed further and is now used by a wide range of professionals from different agencies who work with families. The Solihull Approach Model provides a framework for thinking about children's behaviour



The Solihull Approach - Parenting Programme

The programme is based on the Solihull Approach to parenting and focuses on the parent/child relationship. It aims to support parents in building positive and responsive relationships with their children.



Key Facts

- Open to parents of children aged 0-16.
- 10 week course, 2 hours a week, term time only.
- Focus on building a positive relationship between parents and children.
- Open to all parents regardless of their situation who want to look at building or maintaining good relationships within the family.

FSA INFORMATION - The Solihull Course will be coming soon every Tuesday from the 3rd May -13th July at Beechwood. Please contact Jenny Oliver for a referral form or more information. Thank you.

LANDRAKE CROSS COUNTRY RACE



On Friday 18th March, 10 children from Year 5 and 6 travelled to Cornwall to participate in The Landrake Run – a challenging 3 mile cross-country race. Over 400 children, from schools across Devon and Cornwall, took part. Despite the water, mud and hills, the children successfully completed the course and proudly crossed the finish line with their trainers still on their feet! Well done to all the children who took part and a particular congratulations to Finley in Nightingale Class who placed in the top 50 finishers!



Information for Parents

Year 1 Phonics Screening Check

What is Phonics?

Children begin to learn phonics (sounds) in EYFS. Once children begin learning sounds, these sounds are used orally to identify and make words. They will then begin to learn the letters which make each of the sounds and these are used to read and spell words. For this reason, the first initial sounds that are taught are 'm', 'a', 's', 'd', 't', 'l', 'n'. These can immediately be blended for reading to make simple CVC words e.g. sat, tin. Children then develop segmenting for writing skills; breaking the word into sounds to spell it out.

What is the Phonics Screening Check?

Children in Year 1 across England will all be taking part in a phonics screening check during the same week in June. Children in Year 2 will also take the check if they did not achieve the required result when in Year 1. The phonics screening check is designed to confirm whether individual children have learnt phonic decoding and blending skills to an appropriate standard.

What Happens During the Screening?

The test contains 40 words. Each child will sit one to one and read each word aloud to a teacher. The test will take approximately 5-10 minutes per child, although all children are different and will complete the check at their own pace.

The list of words the children read is a combination of 20 real words and 20 alien words (nonsense words).



Read Write Inc.
Phonics

Alien Words (Nonsense Words)

The alien words will be shown to your child with a picture of an alien. This provides the children with a context for the alien word which is independent from any existing vocabulary they may have. 'Alien' words are included because they will be new to all pupils; they do not favour children with a good vocabulary knowledge or visual memory of words.

Reporting to Parents

By the end of the summer term all schools will report each child's results to their parents. They will also confirm if the child has met the standard threshold. Children who do not achieve the expected level will retake the test when they are in Year 2.

How Can I Help My Child at Home?

- Read as much as possible to and with your child.
- Encourage and praise – get them to have a 'good guess'.
- If your child is struggling to decode a word, help them by encouraging them to say each sound in the word from left to right.
- Blend the sounds by pointing to each one, e.g. /ng/ in sing, /ee/ in been.
- Year 1 Teachers will be sending home a Read Write Inc pack for you to use at home.



5-star Holiday Camps

To put a spring in their step this Easter.

With action-packed sessions available throughout the school holidays, our camps are a fantastic place for children to meet new friends, have lots of fun, and create wonderful memories!

BOOK NOW AT:
premier-education.com/holiday-camps

Follow us on social:

@PremEducationUK

Get 20% off when you Refer a Friend*



Holiday camps near you

Venue:	Widewell Primary School
Dates:	Mon-Thurs 11th-14th & Tues-Fri 19th-22nd April (8 Days)
Times:	9am - 4pm
Price:	£60.00
Ages:	5 - 12 years old
Additional info:	Dodgeball, Football and many more sports!

With great value sports, performing arts, and games to enjoy each half term, we have plenty for your children to get stuck into in the school break.

So, whether they are a holiday camp regular, or it is their first time, we guarantee there is something for every child with our comprehensive range of activities.

BOOK NOW AT:
premier-education.com/holiday-camps

*The holidays are better with friends. Give a friend 20% off their first Premier Education Holiday booking and get 20% off your next. Enrol in the scheme and refer friends at premier-education.com/parents/refer-a-friend. Terms and Conditions apply.



Please bring

- A packed lunch
- Plenty of water
- Suitable clothing for weather
- Lots of energy!

FSA Termly News



Day	Time	Event & place	Staff	Additional information
Monday 7th, 14th, 28th March	2.45-3.30pm	School uniform & old books sale School Dining hall	Jenny Oliver	We have had lots of used school uniform donated & we have lots of old used school reading books for sale. All proceeds will go back into buying new school reading books.
Tuesday 5 weeks 8th March-5th April	9-12am	Adult learning Courses STEM room	Andy Robinson	We are going to be holding Adult learning courses based on STEM - "How does your child learn?". Half an hour will be joint learning with your child. Booking information is below. Or contact Jenny for more information. A crèche can be provided for siblings 12m & over but needs prior booking. Also if you can make Jenny aware when you have booked & which child you would like joint learning with so we can arrange with the class teachers - thank you.
Wednesday (Every week)	9-10.15am	Well-being walkers Group Southway & surrounding areas.	Jenny Oliver	This is a walking group for all abilities and is aimed at improving mental and physical health & wellbeing we finish at the Sway Café at the Hendwell centre.
Thursday (Starting from 10th March)	9-10am	Chill, chat & coffee time STEM room	Jenny Oliver	This is a time to meet up with other parents for a brew and support each other with any issues. We will also have guest speakers, for example the school nurse, police and other agencies.

Adult Learning information

STEM "How does your child learn?" This is a 5 week course where you can take part in different activities that are to do with STEM - Science, technology, engineering & mathematics. If you are interested you can enroll with the link below & use the course number:- **W14BF22E**

If you feel you may like to do more than one course with On course you can go to :-

[On Course South West](#)

Register as a learner, then each time you want to join a new course just login & just enter the code.

Coming soon to Beechwood :-The Solihull Approach -Parenting Programme
From 3rd March-12th July 9.15-11.15am

Key Facts

- Open to parents of children aged 0-16
- 10 week course, 2 hours a week, term time only.
- Focus on building a positive relationship between parents and children.
- Open to all parents regardless of their situation who want to look at building or maintaining good relationships within the family.

Please contact Jenny Oliver for more information.