

# Beechwood Primary Academy

## Newsletter



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Please follow us on the Beechwood Primary Academy Facebook page

## 10th January 2022

### PARENT UPDATE

Welcome back! I am so proud of the way the children have come back to school. They are focused, full of stories about their lovely Christmas holiday and I have already had some conversations with the children about how excited they are about their new topic. A paper copy of the Learning Journey for Term 3 and 4 was sent home before we broke up. If you would like to view these, they are on the school website.

#### Attendance Awards and Rewards

We have some lovely new attendance rewards. The children will get stickers for 100% attendance each week, a certificate for 100% attendance for the term and prizes based on the days the children are in school. Every day the children are in school, they will gain a virtual "token". When the children reach a certain number of "tokens" then they will gain a reward.

Children who have 98% attendance at the end of the school year will have a coloured metal badge for their excellent attendance. The children will be able to gain a different colour badge each year, potentially collecting all seven colours.

**It is our aim for children to be in school at least 96% of the time.** This means that they are present for their learning, to develop their social circles and participate in progressing as planned through their year group learning. Education is so important to children's life chances, to understanding and taking part in the adult world they will join and for forming the social and development skills they need. Research has found that children with **absence over 50%**, only 3% manage to achieve 5 or more GCSEs at grades A\*-C including maths and English. While children take their GCSEs at Secondary school, it is clear that low attendance leads to low attainment because of the amount of learning missed. Primary education is crucial to the building blocks that mean children succeed academically in the next stages of their education. 73% of pupils who have **over 95% attendance** achieve 5 or more GCSEs at grades A\*-C. Where possible, appointments should be taken outside of school time although we know these appointments are in high demand. Please let us know if there is anything we can do to help, we are always willing to find ways that can support families with attendance.

#### STEM Skills

Last week, the teachers introduced the STEM skills linked to Learning Behaviours in school. The STEM skills help us to think about the different ways of learning that are linked to curiosity in Science and help us to understand ways of learning. Learning Behaviours help this because we can learn about what we need to do to be successful which helps us in all areas of learning and when approaching challenges in other areas of life.

#### Parents Evenings

This week, we are looking forward to sharing learning with you at Parents Evenings. Thank you to everyone who has booked a time, please do use your parent eSchools log in to book a slot or call the main office and they will be able to book you in if you haven't done this already. These sessions will be virtual due to the need to keep our community and staff as safe as possible, which in turn allows us to keep school open and functioning as usual. They will be a great opportunity to find out a little more about your child and for the teachers to share specific progression ideas for the children.

Thank You  
Mrs Bailey

## DIARY DATES

(These dates may be subject to change)



### 2022

Weds 16th Feb	Buddies Red Disco
Mon 21st Feb to	Fri 25th Feb - HALF TERM
Mon 28th Feb	Non Pupil Day
Mon 7th Mar	Nethercott Farm (All week)
Friday 8th April	Non Pupil Day
Mon 11th April to	Fri 22nd April – EASTER BREAK
Mon 2nd May	May Day Bank Holiday
Mon 30th May	Bank Holiday
Tues 31st May to	Fri 3rd June – HALF TERM
Mon 27th June	NPD - In lieu of Jubilee
26th July	Last Day of Term

## PARENTS EVENING

Parents Evenings for Reception to Year 6 children will take place on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2022 from 3.25pm until 5.40pm. Parents Evenings for Nursery children will take place on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> January and Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> January.

This parents evening is by virtual appointment only. ESchools will send messages and reminders when the booking opens and will send you a reminder of your appointment on the day.

Teams links will be sent via eSchools if you have requested a virtual appointment – it will be in the messages section. Links can also be sent on Dojo.

## NETHERCOTT FARM - YEAR 4 / 5

Polite reminder that second payments for this residential are now due.

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

Thank You



## COVID UPDATE

The government has released new guidance over the mandatory wearing of masks. Please make sure that you wear a mask, unless exempt, in the main Reception area and please consider if your visit could be completed over the phone. You may like to wear masks when on site. The children will continue to hand wash and all high touch areas will be cleaned regularly as usual. At the moment, there is no additional advice for schools. We will always take decisions to keep everyone safe based on advice from the government and will update you if we make any changes.

## BARTON HALL RESIDENTIAL - YEAR 5

Polite reminder that the second payment for this residential will be due on 31st January 2022. Please speak to the office if you would like to discuss the payment or if you require a Parent Pay Bar Code letter.

Thank you.

## AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

Clubs in the Spring Term will be as follows.

Clubs are on a Friday evening from 3.15pm to 4.00pm and will start in the week beginning the 10<sup>th</sup> January. There are 30 spaces for each club.

DAY	CLUB	ADULT	KEY STAGE
FRIDAY	ART	MRS RUST MISSGILES	KS2
FRIDAY	DANCE CLUB	MISS DURBER	KS1 KS2
FRIDAY	CIRCUITS / RUNNING	MRS MCCARTHY	KS2

## SCHOOL CROSSING PATROL

We now have a new School Crossing Patroller starting on the 4th of January 2022. This is really good news as Plymouth City Council have had a few delays in organising this for us. Thank you for your patience while this was being organised. The School Crossing Patroller will be in place on Clifford Road from 8.30am – 9.00am and 3.00-3.30pm

## BRINGING FOOD INTO SCHOOL

We know that sometimes children like to bring food from home to celebrate birthdays, and in normal times, we are always happy to share this. However, at the moment, we request that no food is brought into school to minimise the amount of items brought in and that families are reassured that children are not sharing items from home. Thank you for understanding.



## RECEPTION SCHOOL ADMISSIONS

Please be reminded that applications for Primary School Admission places are now open. Applications need to be made by **Saturday 15th January 2022**.

Please see the link below:-

[School admissions | PLYMOUTH.GOV.UK](https://www.plymouth.gov.uk/school-admissions)

Thank you



## CAR PARK SAFETY

I am aware of the children riding scooters and bikes in the car park on the way to and from school. We really like the fact that the children are using these environmentally friendly ways to travel to school, but please can you remind your children to stay on the paths and crossings. This is a public carpark, which is very busy at all times of the day and we would like to keep everyone as safe as possible.



## DIANA AWARD

The Diana Award Anti-Bullying Ambassador training was cancelled with short notice last week, due to circumstances outside of our control. We will rearrange this for the Spring Term, as we know this will be a valuable project to be a part of.

## SCHOOL UNIFORM

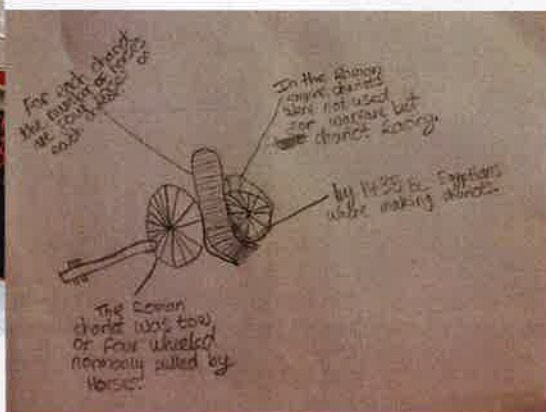
We have lots of pride in our school uniform and your children have come back to school looking extremely smart.

Please can I remind you that small studs only should be worn if ears are pierced.

Children should be all wearing black shoes and nail varnish should be taken off during the school week.

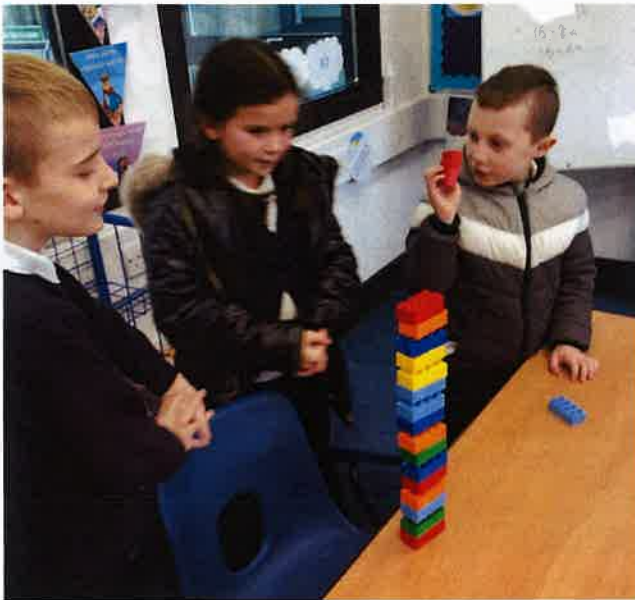
## ROMAN CHARIOTS

Year 4 have been researching Roman chariots, presenting back their findings to the rest of the class in a variety of ways and then investigating existing moving vehicles in preparation for the planning of the construction of their own Roman chariot!



## BRICK CHALLENGE

Year 3 have been problem solving and working collaboratively to complete the 6 bricks challenge this afternoon. We loved trying to make the tallest tower, creating the longest, wiggly snake and blindly recreating models!





## FAVOURITE TOYS

In Starling Class this term we are learning all about toys and asking the question 'how have toys changed?'

We have been talking this week about toys we play with and toys that Miss Humphries and Mrs Phillips played with when they were younger!

Mrs Phillips told us all about her Teddy Bear from her childhood called 'Rupert'. We were very excited to meet Rupert the Bear and gave him lots of, very gentle, cuddles.



## PARENTS / CARERS - Courses Information

As one of our school priorities is to share and support our learning with our community, we are delighted to have the opportunity to offer you some free Level 2 courses with the AIM group to help better understand some key issues around neurodiversity, young people's mental health and wellbeing. Please see below:-

The Aim Group are able to support **Discovery Multi Academy Trust Schools** with several **Free** online Level 2 Accredited Courses available to Parents and Families to help better understand some key issues around neurodiversity, young people's mental health and wellbeing.

Here's some of our most popular subjects available:

- **Adverse Childhood Experiences** (tailored to understand how separation, divorce and death in a family can influence a child's mental health) **three week course**
- **Understanding Specific Learning Difficulties** (understand characteristics of ADHD, ADD, Dyslexia and Dyscalculia, importance of early diagnosis, assessment methods available to diagnose learning difficulties).
- **Understanding Autism** (learn how individuals process sensory information, understand characteristics, understand conditions, learn how speech, language and communication differ in people with Autism).
- **Understanding Behaviour That Challenges in Children** (supporting positive behavior, effective communication and how to manage challenging behaviour).
- **Understanding Children and Young Peoples Mental Health** (Understand factors which may affect Young Peoples mental health, the impact that they have and how to support them with these issues).

We also have some other fantastic courses around areas such as **Safeguarding and Prevent, Equality and Diversity, Business Admin, plus many more.** All courses are accessed online within a **6-week window** and are completed on a laptop or computer at the learner's home. No Exams or end point assessments are involved, and the courses are purely detailed Q&A based with all the information needed provided, which is available to you 24/7. Once finished **You can do as many as you like**, however you can just do one course at a time.

The only criteria the learner must meet to be eligible, is the following:

- Aged 19 or over on or before 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021
- Have lived in the UK/EU for 3+ years
- Not already on a Government-funded course (Apprenticeship for example)



The course is completely free, but the learning provider reserves the right to charge a drop out fee in the event a learner enrolls but then drops out without providing a reason. **That said, the college will grant extensions if the learner has a reason as to why they won't be able to complete it with in the allocated time.**

Please note: under the college request you will need to attend a short zoom induction to ensure we get you successfully enrolled onto the correct course.

If you are interested in undertaking one of these Free Online courses, then please complete the following link asap. This will then allow me to contact you and send over the relevant Enrolment details and of course, answer any questions you have.

<https://theaimgroup.co.uk/booking-form/0014J00000dfT1K>

There are also some courses from the NSPCC to support language and communication from your children. The opportunities to develop early language skills support your children for the rest of their lives and it is never too late to begin these conversations that build and extend language skills.

[Responsive relationships builds strong brains](#) | [Serve & Return](#) | [NSPCC - YouTube](#)