



BEECHEN CLIFF

Wednesday 13th September 2017

Message from the Headmaster

Dear Parent and Carers

For many years the school has encouraged pupils to participate in the expressive and performing arts. This year, in partnership with Bath Theatre School, we are embarking on an exciting new venture by launching a new musical theatre group. The group will be led by theatre professionals who have a wealth of performing expertise. The weekly sessions will not only provide a wide range of stage skills and promote confidence but will also be a chance for our boys and girls to be in professionally staged production at a theatre in Bath. This will be a highlight in the school calendar and is something very few other schools can offer. No previous experience is necessary and the group will welcome all participants. There is flyer attached to this newsletter and I would really encourage your son to come along and 'give it a go'. You never know - he might be the next Andrew Lincoln!

Mr A Davies
Headmaster

Early closure Tuesday, 19th September and Staff Training (INSET) Wednesday, 20th September

Please be advised that school will end for all pupils and students at **12.15pm on Tuesday 19th September 2017** due to the Prospective Parents Evening taking place later that day. There will be no hot lunches but alternative food will be available for pupils during the morning breaks.

Please note that **Wednesday 20th September** has been designated as a Staff Training Day (Inset) and pupils and students are not required to attend school that day. **School will re-open at 8.25am on Thursday 21st September 2017.**

Mr K Mann
Assistant Headmaster

CALENDAR

Wednesday 13th – Friday 15th September
7C to Tir-y-Cwn

Thursday 14th September
Lower Sixth Art Trip to Bath

Friday 15th – Sunday 17th September
Silver D of E

Saturday 16th September
University of Bath Open Day 9.30 – 4.30

Monday 18th – Wednesday 20th September
7N to Tir-y-Cwn

Tuesday 19th September
School Closes Early at 12.15pm
Prospective Parents Open Evening- 6.00 – 8.30pm

Wednesday 20th September
INSET DAY 3

Wednesday 20th –Friday 22 September
7O to Tir-y-Cwn

Thursday 21st September
Lower Sixth Parents Welcome Evening

Friday 22nd September
Sixth Form lunchtime talk – Wera Hobhouse MP
Coast to Coast training cycle ride after school to Odd Down

Reporting Pupil Absences

Please can parents take note of the contact details below when reporting any absences from School, including late arrivals and medical appointments:

Lower School Pupils

To report a Lower School absence please call the Attendance Office direct on **01225 485222**, or you can email attendance@beechencliff.org.uk

Sixth Form Students

For Sixth Form students please contact Mrs Jones on 01225 485221.

If the attendance lines are busy, do please leave a message on the answer machines.

Theme of the Week

Theme of the week this week is focusing on the **UN International Democracy Day**, which falls on 15th September.



2017 Theme: Democracy and Conflict prevention

This year's theme of democracy and conflict prevention focuses on the need to strengthen democratic institutions to promote peace and stability. A more integrated approach to foster resilient societies calls for effective democratic governance with respect for human rights and the rule of law.

Resilient societies are able to solve disputes through mediation and dialogue. Developing effective conflict prevention strategies provides a foundation to resolve grievances and sustain peace. Processes, such as peace agreements, elections and constitutional reforms, can help maintain equilibrium between competing interests and reduce fragility and the likelihood of organized violence.

Strong leadership to support democracy, strengthen civil society, empower women and uphold the rule of law are conditions that preserve stability and peace

In New York on 15 September 2017, the following event will take place.

United Nations Headquarters

Conference Room 12

1:15 pm. – 2:45 pm.

“In defence of democracy: The 20th anniversary of IPU’s Universal Declaration on Democracy”

Organized by the Inter-Parliamentary Union

Programme:

This panel discussion will highlight the Inter-Parliamentary Union’s Universal Declaration on Democracy as an international standard to guide governments, parliaments and citizens through today’s many challenges to democracy around the world. It will explore the tension within various notions of democracy while discussing ways to support democracy as a concept that all people everywhere can adopt.

There are also some good videos on the democracy day website to watch:

<http://www.un.org/en/events/democracyday/multimedia.shtml>

Miss P Netto

PHSE Co-ordinator

Word of the Week -Vacuum

Noun – a vacuum:

= an empty space from which most or all of the matter has been removed, or where there is little or no matter

= a lack of something

= a situation created where an important person or thing has gone and has not been replaced

= a state of isolation from outside influences

= a vacuum cleaner or sweeper

Verb – to vacuum:

= to use a vacuum cleaner on; to clean with a vacuum cleaner

Use it:

The collapse of the army left a **vacuum** in the area.

Nature and politics abhor a **vacuum**.

He seemed to live his life in a **vacuum**, refusing to be concerned by world events.

Emotions rarely occur in a **vacuum**.

Bizarrely, the bunch of bananas came **vacuum**-packed.

Spell it:

Think of the space created in a vacuum in order to remember the rare ‘uu’ spelling:

Vac uu m

Did you know? Very few words in the English language use the ‘uu’ spelling. The most common are: *vacuum* and *continuum*; others include: *residuum*, *duumvir*, *equus* and *triduum*.

Mrs L Leonardi

Literacy Co-ordinator

A-Level Geography Expedition to Iceland October 2018



This 5 day expedition compliments the Tectonic Hazards and Carbon Cycle and Energy Security units studied at A-level. It will not only be a great experience but will also help prepare you for your A-Level.

Whilst in Iceland you will visit Geysers, boiling mud, hot springs, the Blue Lagoon, the Icelandic version of the Giant's Causeway, a geothermal power station, go glacier hiking, visit resplendent waterfalls, climb Eldfell on the Westmann Islands and walk the Mid-Atlantic Ridge!

The total cost for this all inclusive 5 day expedition is estimated to be between £975 and £1075. If you would like to take part please pick up a letter from the Humanities office and make a £100 deposit via parent pay before **30th November 2017**

There will be an information evening at 7pm on Tuesday, 17th October in the Main Hall for all those interested in going.



Mr R Anstey
Head of Geography

Music

Music Lessons

All Instrumental lessons have now begun and timetables are displayed in the music centre and on the school website under the 'Parents' tab and on the music page. Timetables are updated each Friday for the following week. I would be grateful if parents could remind their son/daughter to check the timetables carefully. Those Year 7 pupils who are away at Tir-y-Cwn and miss an instrumental lesson will have that lesson rescheduled.

Inset Day - Wednesday 20th September

Please note that instrumental lessons will continue as normal on that day and pupils should make their way into school for the lessons. Pupils are not expected to wear uniform on this occasion.

Headphones

We would be grateful if pupils in years 7-9 could bring a set of headphones with a mini jack to all class music lessons throughout the year.



Piano Concert on Wednesday, 18th October 2017 - 7pm at St Lukes Church.



Details regarding the concert will appear in the next few weeks. If you son/daughter would like to perform in the concert (on a very nice grand piano!) please email music@beechencliff.org.uk

Mr P E Calvert
Head of Music

Beechen Cliff Tennis Programme 2017 September - November



BEECHEN CLIFF

'TENNIS 'SQUAD'

Wednesdays 3.30-4.30pm Years 7-10

27th September - 15th November £30 (6 sessions)

The Squad is split into a beginner class and intermediate class. Groups are sorted by ability and age. The course covers:

- Basic technique - correct grips and swings, footwork patterns and ball characteristics
- Basic singles and doubles tactics
- Rules and matchplay

TO REGISTER PLEASE VISIT

www.tt-tennis.co.uk/beechencliff

For more information please email info@tt-tennis.co.uk

Sports

Sports Fixtures

The details below are correct at the time of publication. Please check the BCS Sports website for updated information.

Day	Fixture	Meeting Time	Kick Off/Start Time	Transport	Finish/Return time
Thurs 14 th Sept	Rugby Union (H) U14B, U13B v Norton Hill School and MSN 6 th Form	15.25	16.00	n/a	17.15
Fri 15 th Sept	Rugby Union (A) 1 st XV v Pate's Grammar School	17.00	19.00	MB	21.00
Sat 16 th Sept	Rugby Union U14B (A) v Pate's Grammar School	08.00	9.45	Coach 8.15	12.45
	Rugby Union (H) U16A, U15A, U13A, U13B v Pate's Grammar School	9.30	10.15, 10.30, 9.45, 9.45	n/a	11.00
	Rugby Union U14A (A) v Pate's Grammar School	08.00	10.45	Coach 8.15	12.45
Mon 19 th Sept	Football U16A (A) v Oldfield School	14.30	15.30	MB	16.45
Weds 21 st Sept	AASE Rugby Union U18 AASE XV v St Pauls Catholic College, Sunbury	9.45	14.00	Coach	19.30

Mr P Macdonald
Director of Sport

The Theatre Royal Bath Theatre School

As the new academic year starts, many young people are thinking about their futures, how they can form new social circles and about fun extracurricular activities to take part in.



The Theatre Royal Bath Theatre School offers specialist skills-based sessions in acting and backstage disciplines, professional standard performance opportunities and a chance to create life-long memories and friendships

We have limited spaces to start in September! Spaces available in secondary school age groups are in our Development groups (school years 8 and 9) and Backstage group (school years 8 - 13).

For those young people who may need additional financial support or any young people you think would truly benefit from the Theatre School environment, we can offer financial supported bursary places

Although we only have spaces to start in September in our Juniors, Development a Backstage groups, we also have very small waiting lists for all other age groups. We therefore welcome applications from young people of any age.

Alex Duarte-Davies
Executive Director Theatre Royal Bath Theatre School.
01225 823487
<https://www.facebook.com/TRBTheatreSchool/>

Prayer Meeting

A number of Christian parents from various churches across Bath meet termly to pray for the Hayesfield and Beechen Cliff School communities.

If you would like to join us our next meeting is on Monday 18th September from 1.30pm to 2.45pm at 40 Maple Gardens, Bath, BA2 3AG

The next meeting for this year will be on Monday, 13th November.

Please contact Alison Buckeridge, email alisonbuckeridge@hotmail.com for further details or just come along!