



Wednesday 6th September 2017

Message from the Headmaster

Dear Parent/Carer

We welcome back all members of our school community for another academic year. Hopefully it has been a good summer for all our pupils and we are now ready for the various challenges that a new year will bring. We obviously extend a special welcome to our new Year 7 boys and Lower Sixth students, all of whom are embarking on the journey through Beechen Cliff, one which will hopefully see them achieving their ambitions.

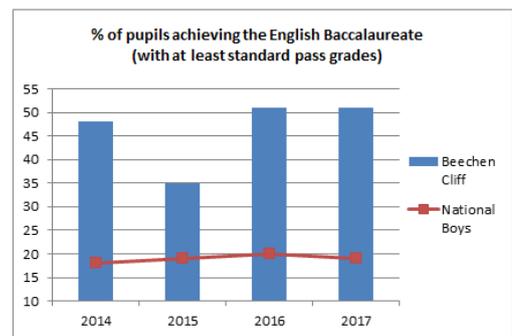
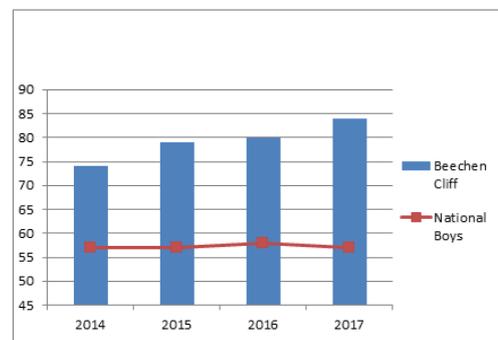
The outcomes from GCES and A Level examinations are very strong, indicating again that the quality of teaching, combined with the determination of pupils and supportive parents, brings about academic results. At GCSE 84% of the Year 11 boys achieved the "benchmark" five high grade passes including English and Mathematics. To put this into some context I have included a chart below which shows our achievements over the last four years of GCSE, indicating the results of boys nationally. It makes for an interesting comparison.

The second measure of GCSE success is the "E Bacc achievement" indicating the percentage of boys achieving five good passes including English, Mathematics, Science, a Humanities subject and a Modern Foreign Language. For the second year running 51% of Beechen Cliff boys achieved this benchmark. Again, the charts below will put this into some context. Although the national data for this year has not yet been validated, we believe that the progress made by boys across the school has put them in the the top 20% of all schools for their progress from their starting point in Year 7. Clearly the greatest value for each boy is making or exceeding his targets so that he has positive options for the future. For many, this includes moving into the Beechen Cliff Sixth Form and continuing with A Level courses. For others, apprenticeships and study at other settings will await. We hope that they will take with them good memories and long-lasting friendships.

At A'level we saw our students achieve some wonderful successes. Twenty students achieved 3 or more A grades (eighteen with * grades) and 136 students have won places at university. Six students have been able to take up their places at Oxbridge or onto Medicine courses and these achievements once again reflect the efforts of staff, students and often anxious parents in bringing their school lives to successful conclusion.

CALENDAR

- Friday 8th September**
Year 7 Welcome Service at St Lukes Church 2.30 – 3.15pm
- Monday 11th – Wednesday 13th September**
7A to Tir-y-Cym
- Wednesday 13th – Friday 15th**
7C to Tir-y-Cym
- Thursday 14th September**
Lower Sixth Art Trip to Southstoke



Welcome Service

Our new Year 7 boys will all participate in the traditional service at St Luke's on Friday afternoon. Parents are welcome to attend although there is an expectation that you will be working! Boys will be leaving the service at approximately 3.15pm.

Mr A Davies
Headmaster

New Behaviour and Sanctions System

The 'Consequences' and 'Work Room' system will be used when a student's behaviour is such that it interferes with the learning of others and the student has not responded to any behaviour correction prompts from the teacher. Initial poor behaviour in the classroom will be responded to by warning a student of the consequences if their poor behaviour continues. If this fails to bring about an improvement in behaviour, use of the "Consequence" will be used to deal with disruptions in the classroom. The system is consistent across the school and gives students the opportunity to reflect on their actions and change their behaviour.

C1	Verbal warning recorded on board
C2	Final verbal warning recorded on board - detention for 20 minutes
C3	Student will be removed from the lesson and sent to the workroom
C3+	Failure to attend either C2 or C3 detention. Gross defiance
C4	Severe or persistent unacceptable behaviour

<p>C1 Verbal Warning</p>	<p>A student who is rude, shouts out, disobeys instructions or behaves inappropriately will be issued with a first warning - Consequence One (C1) by the class teacher or support staff. These verbal warnings are not to be centrally recorded but should be noted by the class teacher e.g. on the board, in notebook etc.</p> <p>Examples of where a C1 can be communicated to a student are;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rudeness e.g. talking back to a teacher or other adult, talking whilst teacher is talking, making comments to other pupils which cause them to react • Shouting out • Disobeying instructions of a teacher or other adult • Behaving inappropriately e.g. moving around without permission • Failure to complete classwork or participate in the lesson
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<p>C2 Final Warning</p>	<p>If a student persists in being rude, shouts out, disobeys instructions or behaves inappropriately then a final warning is issued, and a tick is made against their name on the board (if in class) and they will receive a detention. C2 detentions can also be issued for misbehaviour around school.</p> <p>Examples of where a C2 can be enforced are;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anti-social behaviour • Inappropriate comments to a member of staff • Unjustified lateness • Poor use of language • Defiance • Discriminatory behaviour or language
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wearing trainers or sports kit around school <p><i>A detention will be issued on the same day for 20 minutes after school.</i></p>
<p>C3 Workroom</p>	<p>If a student does not meet the expectations for a third time they will be removed from the lesson and sent to the workroom for the remainder of that lesson.</p> <p><i>Students will receive a C2 detention and a 30 minute faculty (days will vary depending on the faculty)</i></p>
<p>C3+</p>	<p>If a student fails to attend a C2 or C3 detention or exhibits unacceptable behaviour to and from school or extreme misbehaviour around school.</p> <p><i>Students will receive a Headmaster's Friday Detention (1 hour) and a letter will be sent home to notify parents/carers. Behaviour will be investigated and monitored by HoH/SMT.</i></p>
<p>C4 Saturday Detention Isolation</p>	<p>A C4 could be given due to an escalation of warnings, (C2, C3 etc.) or may jump straight to this category due to the severity of the incident.</p> <p><i>Automatic C4 around the school or in class</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Persistent inappropriate uniform e.g. no blazer, consistently not wearing uniform correctly • Rudeness to staff • Deliberately offensive language directed at an individual e.g. swearing etc • Absolute refusal • Swearing at staff • Intimidating/threatening behaviour • Fighting • Carrying a weapon • Carrying/use of drugs <p><i>Students may be placed on a C4 (isolation) if HoH/SMT believe there hasn't been a significant improvement in behaviour or an accumulation of C2 and C3(+).</i></p>

This information is also published on our School Website.

Mr K Mann
Pastoral Head

Second-hand Uniform

It is clear that our pupils have grown over the summer. If you have any spare uniform items which can be donated to our second-hand uniform stocks, could you please send in to the main school office.

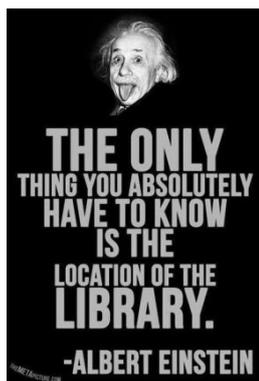


Thank you

Literacy and Word of the Week

The new Library!

A tremendous amount of refurbishment work has taken place in the Library over the summer - please do pop in and see the changes. We look forward to opening up to pupils and students again over the coming weeks, and sharing what promises to be a superb space for reading, study and small group work. A fantastic new era for the heart of the School!



Accelerated Reader launch - STAR Tests to start in lessons next week

All Year 7s and 8s will take part in the Accelerated Reader reading scheme, now in its third year of running here. More information will follow in due course, with pupils having an introductory assembly, and with a more detailed explanation to be presented to parents at the Year 7 Information Evening in November. For now, pupils may wish to be aware that they will take the first of three 'STAR Tests' in one of their English lessons next week, although this is not a test in the true sense of the word and is certainly not anything they need prepare for.

Reading Books

Furthermore, Year 7s and 8s are kindly reminded that they are expected to have a reading book in their bag at all times, and that many lessons - not just English! - may well involve periods of silent, independent reading. An incentive may be skipping the lunch queue if they are the first to produce their reading book at that day's spot check...

Once Accelerated Reader has been launched in your son's lesson he will be given more guidance as to what he might like to read next. In the meantime, please help him to ensure he has a book of his choice from home (no magazines, please).

Staff Book Group

Parents may be interested to know that members of staff are signing up to read *Storm in a Teacup: The Physics of Everyday Life*, by Helen Czerski. A taster by reviewer, Hannah Fry:

"Modern life is full of complex decisions: is it safe to sleep with my phone next to my bed? Is it worth paying more for a compact fluorescent lightbulb? Should I trust the weather forecast? What difference does it make if my sunglasses have polarizing lenses?...In *Storm in a Teacup*, each chapter begins with something small - popcorn, coffee stains and refrigerator magnets - and uses it to explain some of the most important science and technology of our time. Fun, fascinating and brilliantly written."

Feel free to read along with us and let us know what you thought of it, too!

Word of the Week - Approximately

An adverb = used to show that something is almost, but not completely, accurate or exact; roughly.

- ✓ Do you **know** it?
- ✓ Can you **spell** it?
- ✓ Can you **use** it correctly in your work this week?

Use it:

The journey will take **approximately** 2 hours by car.

The job will take **approximately** 3 weeks and will cost **approximately** £1,500.

Due to a slight technical hitch, the start of the concert will be delayed by **approximately** half an hour.

Spell it:

So you don't forget the final e, ask a **mate** to help you remember how to spell **approximately**

Mrs L Leonardi

Literacy Co-ordinator

Theme of the Week

Theme of the week this week is focusing on online safety as a reminder to students after the summer holiday. How much time did you spend using technology over the summer?



- How often did you check social media over the summer?
- Which social media sites do you use regularly?
- What are the pros and cons of using the internet, and in particular social media?

Visit <https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day-quizzes>, where you will find quizzes from previous Safer Internet Days (which will be coming up later in the year).

Also over the next page you will find a copy of the 'Be Smart on the Internet' poster. Can you come up with more tips for staying safe online?

Miss Polly Netto

PHSE Co-ordinator



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.

SPORTS

Sports Fixtures

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

Tuesday 12th September

Football (A) – senior trial match @ Odd Down. Meet at 3.15pm. Match at 4pm. Returning to School by MB at 6pm.

Wednesday 13th September

Rugby Union (H) U18 AASE XV v Exeter College – Meet at 12.45pm. Start at 2.45pm. finish at 4.30pm

Mr P MacDonald
Director of Sport

Joseph McDonough – Summer Achievement - Charity Bike Ride

As a keen cyclist, during the spring Joseph decided to incorporate some Tour de France mountain climbs with his annual family holiday. He decided on his chosen charity - The East African Crisis Appeal and his mountain routes.



With incredible determination and courage he cycled up both Mont Ventoux in Provence and then up Alps d'Huex in the French Alps. He raised £300 for the charity!



Well Done Joseph!

Mr D Jaggon
Head of Milton House

Christmas Festivities at No. 15 Great Pulteney

Beechen Cliff's main rugby sponsor, No.15 Great Pulteney are offering Beechen Cliff parents a big discount on Christmas festivities.

To get 15% discount, please mention Beechen Cliff when making your booking.

Mr S Turner
Rugby

