



BEECHEN CLIFF

Wednesday 28th February 2018

Message from the Headmaster

Dear Parents/Carers

Each year the school has to arrange a number of appeals for parents hoping to get their son into the school. As the number of appeals has increased it has proved harder for the current panel to meet demand. If you know of anyone who might be able to give up time during the summer terms; is not directly related to a pupil and who would be happy to serve on a panel, we would very much like to hear from them. Training is given and there is no doubt they would be very valuable to the process.

If you do find that someone known to you 'might' be interested in such a role I would be grateful if you could ask them to call Mrs Sue Davies, Admissions Officer, at the School. She will be happy to give you more details.

Weather Warning

You will be aware that there is a significant chance of snow towards the end of the week. In the event that the School needs to make any decisions as a result of this we will use the email contacts and website to communicate with parents.

Mr A Davies
Headmaster

School Contacts

Following the recent Year 7 Parents Evening feedback survey, some parents indicated that they were a little unsure of who to contact should they have a query. Please see below for clarification:

Pastoral matters – Tutor, Head of House or Mr Mann

Academic matters – Subject teacher, Head of Faculty or Mr Watts.

Lost Property – Karen Lothgren

Please use the headmaster@beechencliff.org.uk email address and your request will be forwarded to the particular person that you indicate on your email

Mr Mann
Assistant Head Pastoral

PTA Meeting

There is PTA meeting on Monday evening (5th March) at 7pm in the School staff room.

Please feel welcome to join us.

CALENDAR

Thursday 1st March

World Book Day

Friday 2nd March

House Football – Year 8 and Year 9
Quiz and Curry Night in the Refectory

Saturday 3rd March – Sunday 11th March

USA Ski Trip

Monday 5th March

PTA meeting at 7pm in the School staff room

Tuesday 6th March – Sunday 11th March

Malaga Parents' Information Evening 5.30 in L3

Wednesday 7th March and Thursday 8th March

Annual Music Concert at St Luke's Church 7pm

Monday 12th – Wednesday 14th March

Lower Sixth Geography trip to Devon

Lunchtime Arrangements – Winter Trial

After trialling two different winter lunchtime models, we have decided to maintain last term's successful arrangements (i.e. two staggered 45 minute lunchtimes for different year groups) until the end of this academic year. The only difference this term is a 5 minute extension of the registration period at the end of the day resulting in the school day now finishing at 15:20.

We will confirm the arrangements for academic year 2018/19 after Easter.

Mr P Watts
Deputy Headmaster

Reminder for Parents of Year 9, 10 and 11-To Return your Data Collection Sheet (DCS)

Thank you for those DCS returned. However, there are a large number still to be returned from a second reminder issue.

Please may I ask you to remind your son to return the DCS in the addressed envelope provided as soon as possible.

It is imperative we have up-to-date contact details to meet with government legislation.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any queries.

Mrs S Davies
Admissions Administrator
Sue.Davies@beechencliff.org.uk

Mr Bell Duke of Edinburgh Manager



I am Mr Bell, the Duke of Edinburgh Manager and would like to introduce myself to you. I have been involved in the Award as a participant at Bronze and Silver Levels. I have been delivering the Award to young people at all levels for over fifteen years.

During that time I have led and managed a huge number of teams and groups, leading expeditions to most parts of the UK as well as facilitating the completion of the other three sections and the Gold Residential.

In my spare time I am a volunteer for the Air Cadets and look after the Adventurous Training for Dorset and Wiltshire Wing. I also deliver the Award through Marlborough Open Award Centre.

I am a very keen outdoors person and am a qualified Mountain Leader, Indoor and Outdoor Climbing Instructor, Mountain Biking Instructor, Archery Leader, First Aid Instructor, but I do not do water!

Over the next few weeks, I will be visiting tutors and discussing future dates and events for Duke of Edinburgh up until the Summer Holidays and the opportunities open to you as part of this. There will be a Bronze information evening for Year 9 and a meeting for the upcoming Silver Expedition with Beechen Cliff School.

Important dates for Silver.

15th March Navigation practice – Victoria Park, time TBC

23rd - 25th March - Qualifying Expedition, Exmoor. More details to follow.

The Duke of Edinburgh Office is located upstairs in the Sixth Form House on the Brougham Hayes site.

My email address for any Duke of Edinburgh enquiries is d.bell@hayesfield.com



Beechen Cliff Annual Music Concert 2018

The School will be presenting its Annual Music Concert on Wednesday 7th and Thursday 8th March 2018 at St Luke's Church, Hatfield Road, (BA2 2BD).

The Concert will commence at 7.00pm and finish at approximately 9.30pm including a 20 minute interval during which refreshments will be available.

Tickets are priced at just £1 and can be acquired via ParentPay. Please note this is a ticketless event. An electronic record of tickets purchased will be kept to allow admission on the night.

We look forward to seeing you at what promises to be an enjoyable evening!

Mr P E Calvert
Head of Music

Theme of the Week

This week's theme of the week is about mental health, specifically the stigma attached to mental health problems which is still prevalent in our society. **1 in 4** people will experience a mental health problem in any given year. Often the fact that it's difficult to talk about mental health can be one of the hardest parts of having a mental illness. People with mental health problems say that the social stigma attached to mental health and the discrimination they experience can make their difficulties worse and make it harder to recover. Nearly **nine out of ten** people with mental health problems say that stigma and discrimination have a negative effect on their lives. Social isolation, poor housing, poverty and unemployment are all linked to mental health. The situation can also be exacerbated by the media.



There are a number of campaigns working to end the stigma surrounding mental health problems,

such as **Time to Change** and **Heads Together**. The attached powerpoint includes links to videos which explore how mental health and the attached stigma can affect people, and considers how we can make a change to the attitudes around mental health. Importantly, there is also information on the best places to go to for help and support, for yourselves or others. In November 2017 Beechen Cliff was recognised as a **Time to Change Partner School**, and we remain committed to helping to end discrimination and stigma. The Equalities Team are planning new campaigns to help us achieve this.

Miss P Netto
PHSE Co-ordinator

Word of the Week: Apoplectic

An adjective to describe
= furious, enraged
= (medical): Relating to or affected by apoplexy (stroke).

Use it:

Mark was **apoplectic** at the decision.

Susan was **apoplectic** to discover the parking ticket on her windscreen.

The goalkeeper was **apoplectic** with rage and frustration and threw his gloves on the ground in protest.



Spell it:

A - pop - lec - tic

Origins:

From the Greek word *apoplessein*, meaning 'to strike down or incapacitate'



Mrs L Leonardi
Literacy Co-ordinator

Year 12 Debating

Beechen Cliff Year 12 debaters: Flynn Jones, Jeremy Becker, Hansen Han and Denise Vicente, joined other schools in the area for a 'friendly' at Ralph Allen on Thursday evening. They debated with other



sixth formers from Stonar, Oldfield and Ralph Allen Schools on the motions: This House believes that in this digital age, it is not possible to expect information to remain private' and 'This House believes teachers should be armed.' In most cases, 'This House' means the UK but in the last debate

students opted to interpret it as the USA. Our very own Denise Vicente was voted best speaker in her debate and takes this accolade for the second time: she was also awarded this by Rt Hon Wera Hobhouse MP when she judged the first 'friendly' debating event, hosted by Beechen Cliff School before Christmas. Parents are also very welcome to attend these debates.



On Tuesday 27th February, our Year 13 debaters, Joseph Dunford and Calvin Oliver, will be competing in the South West Final of the English Speaking Union, having already been successful in the two previous rounds. This will be held at South West Wilts Grammar School in Salisbury and the winner of this round will go through to the national final.

Our Year 10 debaters, Jules Vermeeren and Stephen Davey, are taking part in the International Competition for Young Debaters (ICYD) which will be held at The Oxford Union on Saturday 24th February. This involves a whole day of debating; two debates in the morning and again in the afternoon. All the motions are 'short prep', meaning they are announced only 15 minutes before the debate takes place. It's a great experience for our pupils to be in one of the most famous debating chambers in the world and as this competition is run by University debaters, the pupils always get some excellent feedback and useful tips from the judges.

It has been a busy month for debating and more to come...!

Mrs C Davis
A Level English Co-ordinator and BCS Debating Coach

Literacy

Reader of the Week

Our reader of the week is **Hugo Boston in Year 7 (KP6)** who has been fantastically focused on his reading within the library and who is reading a variety of challenging books. Well done Hugo!

Congratulations also goes to our three new millionaires of the week: Ollie Hollingsworth, Oskar Denes and Daniel Abbey. Great reading boys!

Mrs H Dunn
Accelerated Reader Coordinator

World Book Day

As part of our celebration of World Book Day, the English Department will be running a scavenger hunt quiz of quotes from a range of famous children's texts. See Mrs Salmon for entries.

Expect to hear a little of your teacher's favourite books at the start of your lessons and remember to ask your teacher what their favourite book is- it might become one of yours too!

Please see Mr Hackett in the Library for your World Book Day token.



How to use your £1 book token:

When you get your book token, all you need to do is to take it to your local bookseller (there are lots of them out and swap it for one of the **TEN** (exclusive, new and **completely FREE**) World Book Day books. Alternatively you can put it towards one of the **FIVE fantastic full-length books** for teens priced at only £2.50 each at participating stores (that's **ONLY £1.50** with your £1 book token).

Or, if you would prefer, you can use your book token to get **£1 off** any full price book instead. And if you'd rather get an audiobook, that's fine too! It's your choice, just as long as the book or audiobook costs at least £2.99.

Miss O'Higgins

Head of English

Riverford Cookery Evenings: NEW DATES

Following a fantastic initial Riverford Cookery Evening for the Year 8 parents in January, we are delighted to say that Vicki from Riverford will be hosting more evenings over the coming months. Running in the Refectory from 7-9pm, it's just £10 for a 2 hour class, full supper and a glass of wine/soft drink - and all proceeds will go to the PTA. It's a fun and relaxed evening giving you the opportunity to meet other parents making the most of seasonal organic vegetables and learning a few veg cookery tips. You'll also have the chance to take a look at Riverford's vegboxes and it's an ideal event if you're thinking about getting a box and would like to find out more.

Feedback from the January event included: "sociable, informative and fun" and "you have revolutionised my cooking with those knife skills!"

Your year rep will soon be sending through booking details via ParentPay, places are strictly limited to 10 parents per event so please do book early to avoid disappointment.

Dates are

15th March - Year 9

22nd March - Year 14

12th April - Year 7

19th April - Year 10

3rd May - Year 11

24th May - Year 12

Kate Abbey and Annie Meharg
PTA Co-Chairs

Guys and Dolls Production

Not to be confused with your typical school production, the hugely talented pupil and students of Beechen Cliff School are working with Bath Theatre School to bring a professionally staged version of Guys & Dolls to Bath audiences.

The show is being performed from Wednesday 11th to Friday 13th April, 7pm - 9.30pm, at Kingswood Theatre.

Tickets are on sale now available from <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/event/FGDJHI> or the Box Office: 01225 640046



SPORTS

Sporting Fixtures

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

Day	Kick Off/ Start Time	Fixture	Meeting Time	Transport	Finish/ Return
Thurs 1 March	14.30	Hockey 1 st XI, 2 nd XI v Colston's School (A)	13.15	MB	17.00
	15.15	Football U15B v Oldfield School (H)	15.00	n/a	16.45
	15.45	Football 1 st XI, U14A, U13A v Wellsway School (A)	15.00	Coach 15.15	17.15
Sun 4 th March	12.15	Rugby U15A v London Oratory (A)	07.00	Coach 07.15	17.00
Mon 5 th March	14.30	Hockey U15A v KES (A)	13.30	MB	16.00
	12.00	Sports Leaders Tag Rugby @ Odd Down (H)	11.30	MB	16.30
Tues 6 th March	14.30	Hockey U15A v Monkton (A)	13.30	MB	16.30
	15.45	Football U15A, U12A v Monkton (A)	14.45	MB	17.30
	15.45	Football U14B, U13B, U12 Atletico V Wellsway (H)	15.20	n/a	17.00
	9.30	Cricket U15 Indoor @ County Ground Taunton (A)	7.30	MB	14.30
Weds 7 th March	11.40	Hockey 7s v Surrey 7s	7.30	MB	17.00
	15.15	Hockey U13A v Colston's (A)	14.00	Coach 14.15	17.15
	15.15	Hockey U11A v Colston's (H)	14.45	n/a	16.15
	16.15	Hockey U12B v Colston's (A)	tbc	tbc	tbc
	16.15	Hockey U13B v Colston's (H)	15.20	n/a	17.15
	15.45	Football U13A v Norton Hill & MSN 6th (A)	14.45	MB	17.30
	15.45	Football U14A v Norton Hill & MSN 6 th (H)	15.20	n/a	17.00
	15.45	Football U15B v Wellsway (A)	14.45	MB	17.30

Sports Results for Week Commencing 19th February 2018

Date	Fixture	Type	Result	Score
Mon 19 th February	U14 Prior Park 7's tournament	Tournament	Runners up	
Tues 20 th February	U15 Indoor cricket tournament	Tournament	Winners	
	U12a Football v Oldfield	League	Won	3-2
	U13b Football v Somervale	League	Won	10-0
Weds 21 st February	U12a Football v QEH	Friendly	Lost	1-2
	U12b Football v QEH	Friendly	Won	3-1
	U13b Football v QEH	Friendly	Won	2-0
	U14a Football v St Marks	League	Won	10-1
Thurs 22 nd February	U16a Hockey v Warminster	Friendly	Drew	3-3
	1st XI Football v Marlborough	Friendly	Won	3-2
	2nd XI Football v Marlborough	Friendly	Won	5-1
	1st VII Netball v Sexeys	Friendly	Won	22-8
	2nd VII Netball v Sexeys	Friendly	Won	15-5
	2nd XI Hockey v Warminster	Friendly	Won	2-0
	U13 Indoor cricket tournament	Tournament	3rd place	
	U15a Football v Oldfield	League	Won	6-1
	U12b Football v Somervale	League	Won	7-0
U14b Football v Somervale	League	Won	3-1	
Fri 23 rd February	U13a Football v Verulam	ESFA quarter final	Lost	1-2

Mr P MacDonald
Director of Sport