



BEECHEN CLIFF

Summer 2018

Inside this issue:

Message from the Headmaster	4
Dates for your diary	5
Start of Term arrangements	5
Start of term arrangements and Sixth Form arrangements	6
Staying safe over the holidays	7
Reporting Pupil absences	7
School Reports	7
Examination Results	8
PTA news	8
PTA 50:50 Club	9
Senior Prefect Team	9
Celebration of Achievement Winners	10
Future Leadership Awards	11
Departmental News	12
Art	12
Berlin	13
Cancer Research Cricket Fundraiser	15
Centurion Challenge	15
China	18
Computing Classroom News	19
Literacy	20
Maths	21
Music	24
Normandy Trip	25
Performing Arts	26

Science	27
Science—Salters Festival of Chemistry	28
Ten Tors	28
Three Peaks	29
Tennis	31
Cricket	35
Shooting	38
Solutions to Maths puzzles	39

Message from the Headmaster

I will start by saying that I really do hope this summer newsletter does manage to show a little of what makes us distinctive and a place where boys and Sixth Form students have been able to thrive; socially, emotionally and academically. Next year we will have challenges to face and you will be very aware of what these will be. In the meantime, however, let us focus on the achievements of the last few months .

The highlight of the Summer Term for me was the production of *Guys and Dolls* at Kingswood Theatre in April. One thousand audience members saw what was an excellent production which really captured the joy of performance and was precisely what was envisaged as the outcome of our collaboration with the Bath Theatre School.

We all hope this work will result in more pupils at Beechen Cliff taking up the opportunity to become interested in drama and theatre worlds – particularly as it has such a huge capacity to develop attitudes which are wonderful life skills.

Sporting highlights for me would probably focus initially on the sporting achievement of our Under 15 rugby team. Seeing them win the National Vase at Twickenham in March is one of the proudest moments I have had as Headmaster. The boys worked so well as a team, exemplifying the spirit and determination which we so very much want to see developed in our youngsters. The whole school community shared in the joy that day, recognising the countless hours of training and enduring wet, cold afternoons of matches on the road to Twickenham.

The year 8 cricket team succeeded in becoming the Somerset champions, two years before the predicted time' which this coach had indicated in his report last year. Again, a team with many skilled individuals but also one that requires the need to get the best from every member to achieve great outcomes. More importantly than any success on the field, wonderful as it has been, is the fact that so many of our youngsters have really been happy to participate on behalf of their school, regardless of the level. It is the spirit and loyalty which is displayed through participation which really helps to create the ethos we all admire.

There are many reports within the newsletter and, as always, they report only a fraction of the opportunities which the school provides. I know that the incredible level of support you have given the school recently has done so much to lift everyone at Beechen Cliff and to make sure in the months ahead, we work to improve those areas outlined as recommendations in the Ofsted report whilst holding on to all the features we admire. May I wish the whole school community a restful break, if indeed you are lucky enough to have one!

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'A. Davies', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mr A Davies
Headmaster

Essential Information

Dates for Your Diary

Monday 16 th July – Wednesday 18 th July	Summer School
Thursday 16 th August	Year 13 - A2 Results 8.00- 10.00 am in the Main Hall
Thursday 23 rd August	Year 11 - GCSE Results 9.30am in the Main Hall
Thursday 30 th and Friday 31 st August	INSET 1 and 2
Saturday 1 st September	Boarding House opens for NEW boarders
Sunday 2 nd September	Boarding House opens for Returning Boarders
Monday 3 rd September	Pupils/Students return to School (staggered start)

Start of Term Arrangements

MONDAY 3TH SEPTEMBER

- 8.25 – 8.45 **Year 7 pupils report to Miss Milland in Main Hall** for registration and welcome
- 8.45 – 9.15 **Year 7** meet HoH (HoH to select location)
Pupils then go with their tutors to tutor rooms (Timetables etc.)
- 9.15 – 10.30 **Year 7 with Tutors** (Tour of school/procedures for evacuating school/Work Room policy/ monitoring cards/mobile phones/ Behaviour policy/ school rules/uniform/ lining up/start of lessons etc.)
- 10.30 **Year 8-11 report to tutor rooms**
- 10.30 **Year 7** report to 1st XV pitch (or main hall if wet)
- 10.30-11.00 **Year 7 assembly with Headmaster**
- 11.15 **Pupils to go to lessons as timetabled**

(12.20 -2.05 Lessons/lunch)

12.20 – 1.05	Year 8/10/6 th Form LUNCH
12.20 -1.20	Year 7/9/11 LESSONS
1.05 – 2.05	Year 8/10/6 th Form LESSONS
1.20-2.05	Year 7/9/11 LUNCH

- 2.10- 3.20 Pupils and students report to Tutors – followed by **WHOLE SCHOOL ASSEMBLY on the 1st XV pitch**
- School will finish approximately 3.20**

TUESDAY 4TH SEPTEMBER

- Years 7 – 11** **The morning will consist of a normal timetable and individual photographs – schedule below**
- 8.45** **YEAR 7 report to East Yard**
Teaching staff to accompany pupils and help supervise at the start of the session. Staff will then be able to return to their classroom and await the return of their pupils.
- 9.15** **YEAR 8 report to East Yard**
Teaching staff to accompany pupils and help supervise at the start of the session. Staff will then be able to return to their classroom and await the return of their pupils.
- 10.00** **YEAR 9 report to East Yard**
Teaching staff to accompany pupils and help supervise at the start of the session. Staff will then be able to return to their classroom and await the return of their pupils.
- 11.15** **YEAR 10 report to East Yard**
Teaching staff to accompany pupils and help supervise at the start of the session. Staff will then be able to return to their classroom and await the return of their pupils.
- 12.15** **YEAR 11 report to East Yard**
Teaching staff to accompany pupils and help supervise at the start of the session. Staff will then be able to return to their classroom and await the return of their pupils.

Mr D Sayers
Assistant Headmaster

Start of Term - Arrangements for Sixth Form Students

Monday 3rd September 2018

New Lower Sixth students to arrive at **9.00am** in the **Refectory** to meet Tutors and move to Tutors Group bases.

Upper Sixth to arrive at **11.15am** in the **Sports Hall**.

Tuesday 4th September 2018

Normal timetable for 6th Form students

Mr James Oldham
Head of Sixth Form

Staying safe over the holidays

Online Safety

Although social media has greatly facilitated and increased contact between people, it has presented opportunities for cyber bullying and the propagation of hate speech and undesirable images amongst other things.

Please ensure that your son stays safe online by regularly monitoring his activity on such sites and by having sensible and appropriate settings on phones, computers and tablets on internet access. Please be extra vigilant if he has arranged to meet a 'new friend' from the internet. The following resources are useful in this respect:-

Vodafone's Digital Parenting magazine: - <http://parentzone.org.uk>

Internet Matters: www.internetmatters.org

<https://support.apple.com/en-gb/HT20134>

Water Safety

As temperatures continue to rise, young people are always tempted to cool off with a swim in the local river, canal or reservoir. Some facts: In 2017 in Greater Manchester – 193 incidents involving people or animals in distress in water, 63 were rescued from open or moving water. Rivers were the most common places for people to get into trouble. Locally we have several young people who visit Warleigh Weir. Please be aware that several who swam in the weir return with sickness and upset stomachs.

For water, barbecue and fire safety please visit www.safe4summer.com

Mr K Mann

Assistant Head, Pastoral Care

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. Please include the name, Tutor group, year and reason for any absence of the pupil in any message left.

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**.

School Reports

Summer reports will be available for parents to access on ePortal on Wednesday 11th July.

Year 7: Full Report Year 9: Progress Report

Year 8: Full Report Year 10: Full Report

If you have difficulty accessing these reports please email datarecords@beechencliff.org.uk.

Mr T D Markall

Assistant Headmaster

Examination Results – August 2018

Results from public examinations will be available for collection in the Main School Hall at the following times:

A level

Year 13 (A2 results) – **Thursday 16th August 2018** from 8am-10am in the main school Hall
Sixth Form team will be on hand to help with queries and advice about next steps until 12noon.

GCSE

GCSE results (Year 11) – **Thursday 23rd August 2018** from 9:30am in main School Hall
All other results will be available at start of autumn term.

Results via email/post

If you wish to receive results by mail these can be posted to you at the end of Results Day. Please send a **LARGE stamped**, self-addressed envelope by 12th August. Please mark clearly in top left hand corner with student's name and year group.

If a student wishes to receive their results by email this must be pre-arranged with the Exams Office, and can only be sent direct to the student due to Data Protection laws. Please email exams@beechencliff.org.uk before 12th August showing SURNAME GCSE (OR A level) in the subject line.

If a student wishes a parent to collect results on their behalf they must send a letter/email by 12th August stating name of person collecting and this person must bring photo ID on the day.

Enquiries following Results Day

The Examinations Officer will be available to help with urgent enquiries about results between Friday 17th August and Friday 24th August 2018 then again on Wednesday 29th - Friday 31st August. Please email for guidance, in the first instance, to exams@beechencliff.org.uk.

Any further enquiries will be dealt with at start of September term. Please do send enquiries by email to exams@beechencliff.org.uk and we will reply as soon as possible. The deadline for Enquiries about results such as review of marking is **Friday September 19th 2018**. Re-sits can only be discussed in the autumn term once new fees are published.

Our website shows all the relevant forms and fees with deadlines for each service. All payments must be made in advance by Parentpay.

Mrs K Davison
Examination Officer

PTA Year ROUND-UP

Annie and I would like to start by thanking all the boys, parents, teachers and staff members who have supported the PTA this school year. Generating ideas, cookery demonstrations, keeping minutes, running events, making teas and coffees, sorting second hand uniform, donating raffle prizes, cooking curries, welcoming new parents and setting up Twitter accounts.



Between us we've raised approximately £6,500 in 8 months which will continue to make vital improvements across many areas of school life.

If you are curious about how the school runs, have some ideas on fundraising (big or small) and want to connect with other parents across all year groups, then please come to our next meeting: **Monday 10th September at 7pm** in the Staff Room.

Many thanks

Kate Abbey, Annie Meharg and the PTA team

PTA 50:50 Club

Many thanks to those members of the 50:50 club, whose regular support has raised over £2,000 for the school this year. We really do appreciate your contribution and hope that those of you who have been lucky have enjoyed spending your winnings! The 50:50 club operates like a small lottery, with people spending a set amount each month (usually between £1 and £10) and being allocated numbers which are entered into a draw. Half of the funds go to the school and half are split between 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes. We have had a steady increase in numbers this year and the first prize is now over £100 each month!

Anyone is welcome to join and it is very simple. You just need to contact us indicating how much per month you would like to spend, and we will reserve you some numbers and send you details of how to set up a standing order. As soon as your money comes into the account, you are eligible for the draw. Please send enquiries to Sarah Mitchard (parent and 50:50 club co-coordinator) via the school office or email sarah@mitchard.net. And finally.. will you be shopping on line over the Summer at ...



...and thousands of other stores? If so, you could raise funds for Beechen Cliff PTA for free while you shop. To find out more and to join the 'Give as You Live' scheme go to:

<https://www.giveasyoulive.com/join/beechen-cliff-school-parent-teacher-association>

Senior Prefect Team

On the afternoon of the 19th June the Beechen Cliff Senior Prefect Team were hosted at Combe Grove Manor to discuss their ideas for the year ahead. The session was chaired by our new Head Boy and Girl, Stuart and Maddison, and also attended by Mr Oldham, Head of Sixth Form, and Mrs Ingram, Sixth Form Pastoral Manager.

Throughout the interview process for the Senior Prefect Team, there had been a strong focus on a number of recurrent themes, which we all felt passionate about taking forward within the school. These were drawn together by Maddison and Stuart into four areas: improving mental health, developing the Sixth Form social media presence, promoting Sixth Form integration and social events and championing support in the lower school. We split into teams based on our individual skillsets and interests in order to ensure they all received necessary attention and after discussion within these groups we presented our ideas and main objectives to the rest of the Team, allowing for feedback and improvement.

Overall it was an extremely positive experience and has set the foundation for a fun and productive year to come. For example, we have already organised a Rounders and Pizza event on Thursday 12th July as an exciting end to the Lower Sixth and were involved throughout the Sixth Form Induction programme for next year's Lower Sixth.

Senior Prefect Team



Celebration of Achievement Award Winners 2018

House Awards

BYRON	Oscar	Commendation
Year 7	Maximilian	Alexander
Year 8	Taha	Charlie
Year 9	Zakaria	Archie
CHAUCER		
Year 7	Luke	Rylan
Year 8	Thomas	Jake
Year 9	George	Charlie
KIPLING		
Year 7	Oliver	Patrick
Year 8	Jack	Findley
Year 9	Henry	Samuel
MILTON		
Year 7	Theo	Archie
Year 8	Lewis	Daniel
Year 9	Edward	Ruben
SHAKESPEARE		
Year 7	Harry	Paul
Year 8	Hassaan	Kiaran
Year 9	Daniel	Bartholomew

Academic Awards

Year 7	Oscar	Commendation
	Mateo	Joseph
	Oliver	Hendrick
	Oliver	Luke
Year 8	Joshua	Oscar
	Wilfred	Evan
	Harry	Edward
Year 9	Andrew	Isaac
	William	Dylan
	Jack	Vivek

SMT – Award – Benjamin

Future Leadership Awards

On Friday 4th May, 29 pupils from Beechen Cliff School and Matravers School, Westbury, graduated from the Future Leader Award (FLA) programme, designed by Beechen Cliff to develop young people's leadership skills. Graduates received their Award from Stuart Hooper, Performance and Player Development Director at Bath Rugby, at a ceremony attended by 150 pupils, parents, staff and guests from both schools. The evening was a celebration of the pupils' learning after 8 months on the programme, which is built on the premise that leaders are made, not born.



The Headmaster Andrew Davies said, "the FLA is an exceptional programme for developing the leadership character and leadership behaviours of our boys, helping them become more aware of themselves and others and their ability to shape the world." The Beechen Cliff students were very pleased to be joined on the programme by fellow Year 10 students from Matravers in Westbury. Headteacher, Dr Simon Riding who attended the graduation said, "Matravers School is delighted to have been part of this project. Our collaboration has enabled students to work alongside their peers and gain huge insights into themselves as leaders. We look forward to further opportunities for our students to work together."

The FLA has been developed by Beechen Cliff to prepare pupils for future leadership roles in school and society and places emphasis on the behaviours and skills defining leadership, rather appearances and circumstance. It was delivered by staff and two Sixth Form students, Flynn Jones and Joel Rogers, who acted as superb role models and leaders themselves during the programme, including taking part in graduation interviews for participants. Participants learnt through taught sessions about leadership theory, completed a team-based project and reflected on their growth as an individual. They also received mentoring from a leadership expert and the opportunity to make a difference to their school community, which they did through promoting recycling, a year 7 careers event, interviewing teachers and event management.

The programme was designed in conjunction with leadership experts from military, business, sporting and educational backgrounds and promoted diversity in leadership.



Mr J Oldham
Head of Sixth Form

Departmental News

Art Department

Year 9 – Apple Store Art Trip

During this summer term Miss Moorhead took a group of year 9 boys who have all chosen to take up Art GCSE to the apple store to take part in a sketch walk. The boys were introduced to the apple



products they would be using and shown how to make the most of the apple iPad pro, apple pencils and apps which were used during their sketching time.



The group then made their way to the Abbey courtyard and used these newly learnt skills alongside guidance from both Miss Moorhead and the apple store staff to create some really fantastic drawings. It was a really interesting opportunity in which they were able to explore digital drawing, and begin to build up useful skills which will be further built upon during the first year 10 art project of 'Drawing'.

On the 17th May 2018 we were lucky enough to have Catherine Beale, a painter specialising in light-filled watercolours, come in and run a workshop for the 6th Form artist students and some of the GCSE pupils. This was a workshop focussing on how to experiment and exploit the behaviours of flowing watercolour pigments in a technique Catherine calls "gravity painting". This subtle, cascading technique enables pigments

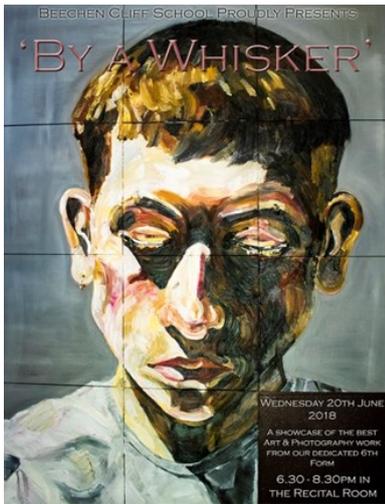


to mingle and react within running water to create delicate veils of colour. The students worked hard to create exciting landscapes exploring how colour mixes and reacts in unplanned ways. A big thank you to Catherine's input and opening up the possibilities of what the students originally thought could be done with this media.



On Thursday 21st June 2018 Mrs Judd and Miss Moorhead took the two year 10 GCSE art groups into town as part of their recording and art history assessment objectives. The weather was well on our side creating many strong contrasting shadows and shapes allowing the boys to create some exciting pieces that will hopefully be used to develop their personal 'Who Am I?' projects. We visited the Victoria Gallery where we saw the work of internationally renowned colour expert and fabric designer Kaffe Fassett. The show was full of work inspired by flowers, showing his ability in needlepoints and large scale, brightly coloured, patterned quilts as well as structures made from china tea cups and teapots. The Castle Gallery provided inspiration on many levels for the boys with work created using metal, glass, crates and bronze. All boys felt the trip was extremely useful and we look forward to seeing how their projects progress.





This year's showcase event for the Sixth Form and 'up and coming' Year 11 pupils was a GREAT success! The show titled 'By a Whisker' was opened by The Chair of Bath and North East Somerset Council, Councillor Karen Walker who commented on the outstanding talent and varied styles of work created by our very gifted pupils and students. This year we had installations, films, videos and interactive pieces which showed off the skills of our very impressive artists. It was a great end to the two years of study from the Upper 6th who have proven that even work completed 'By a Whisker' can show impressive creativity, skill, passion, experimentation and independence. Mr Murphy and Mrs Judd both say a sad goodbye but feel very proud to have spent time helping these young artists develop their own skills and passion for the subject!

Berlin

ABSOLUTELY FABULOUS Year 12 History study trip to Berlin, 2nd to 6th July 2018

What a wonderful working week - the sun shone, the Berliners smiled and even the sausages grinned!

Knowing that our busy itinerary would be challenging in the heat, we eased into our Berlin explorations with an evening stroll through the Tiergarten park to an idyllic lakeside beer garden cafe. The Belgium vs. Japan entertainment set the internationalist ball rolling perfectly.



Our formal historical study tour started with city centre highlights including the Reichstag, the Brandenburg gate, the Holocaust memorial, the Potsdamer Platz and the Topography of Tears museum (built in the site of the SS-Gestapo headquarters and showing the Nazi use of terror in all its fascinating awfulness). We were all impressed by the honesty and openness of Germans today about Germany yesterday. Our behind-the-scenes tour of the Olympic Stadium, built as a Nazi propaganda showcase for the 1936 Games and now home to Herthe Berlin BSC, showed just how well difficult history is managed today. And to cap the day off we were able to enjoy England's penalty triumph against Colombia on the big screen at the Brandenburg Gate – and the local TV cameras took a shine to our students' celebrations!



Our visit to Sachsenhausen concentration camp was very challenging - physically because of the roiling heat and emotionally because the places we were looking at and were in (especially the execution trench, the medical experimentation block with its huge morgue and the

crematorium) took us to the dark side of human nature. The challenges continued with our visit to the Jewish Museum where the architecture and art (note the photograph of our students walking on human faces) are configured to jangle every emotion.

Turning our attention to the Berlin's Cold War history, we got right into the totalitarian mind-set of the DDR at the Stasi prison in Hohenschonhausen, the Everyday Life exhibition



at the Kulturbrauerei, the Wall along Bernauer Strasse and of course the soaring Fernsehturm at Alexanderplatz. We were all very relieved to return to the 21st century and the freedoms and luxuries we take for granted!

Truly an absolutely fabulous week with a wonderful group of students and colleagues – danke sehr!

Mr R Tobin
Head of History

Cancer Research Cricket Festival Fund Raiser

Beechen Cliff School held their Annual Cricket Festival on Tuesday 19th June. This event has been held for the past 10 years and Year 7 and Year 8 pupils are encouraged to participate in the event. Over 120 pupils were actively involved on the day earning house points for their respective house group. This strongly established event continues to grow and is supported by pupils, parents and staff members.



We hold a raffle for the event and have prizes donated by parents, local business and staff. The charity chosen this year was Cancer Research UK for whom we raised £533. Our thanks go to all raffle prize donors, raffle ticket buyers and the PE department. However due to the new GDPR restrictions we can no longer list prize winners. Please be reassured all prizes have been received.

Mrs Y de Glanville
Maths Teacher

The Centurion Challenge 2018

This year was an exceptional year for many reasons. This was our 50th anniversary year and it is amazing to think how a small challenge that was originally meant for a few 'hardy types' in the Sixth form only has grown beyond recognition. We have had Year Seven boys complete it more than once and coming back to challenge themselves in Year Eight, and Year Nine and hopefully continuing into the Sixth Form as well. We have past pupils too coming back not only to assist but some have returned after a gap of more than 30 years to complete the challenge they failed to do so when they were younger. . . . Again we had a record entry of 150 challengers with more girls entering than ever before and of course we are experiencing one of the most exceptional British summers since possibly 1976.

Preparation for the 2018 Centurion Challenge started over 10 months ago; booking the campsite, hiring tents, buses and vans, asking permission from St Lawrence Church, finding parking near the church, organising food and water, asking staff to commit to an event some months away and finally seeking the assistance of the parents of the Challengers to run the check points to ensure the safe passage of the Centurion challengers. It was all set to be the greatest Challenge since 1968 when the records began, long before this year's challengers were born and some of their parents as well as most of the staff except for us few who still remember the good old days however all was to change. The projected temperatures over the weekend of the challenge were not going to fall. In fact it was going to get hotter.

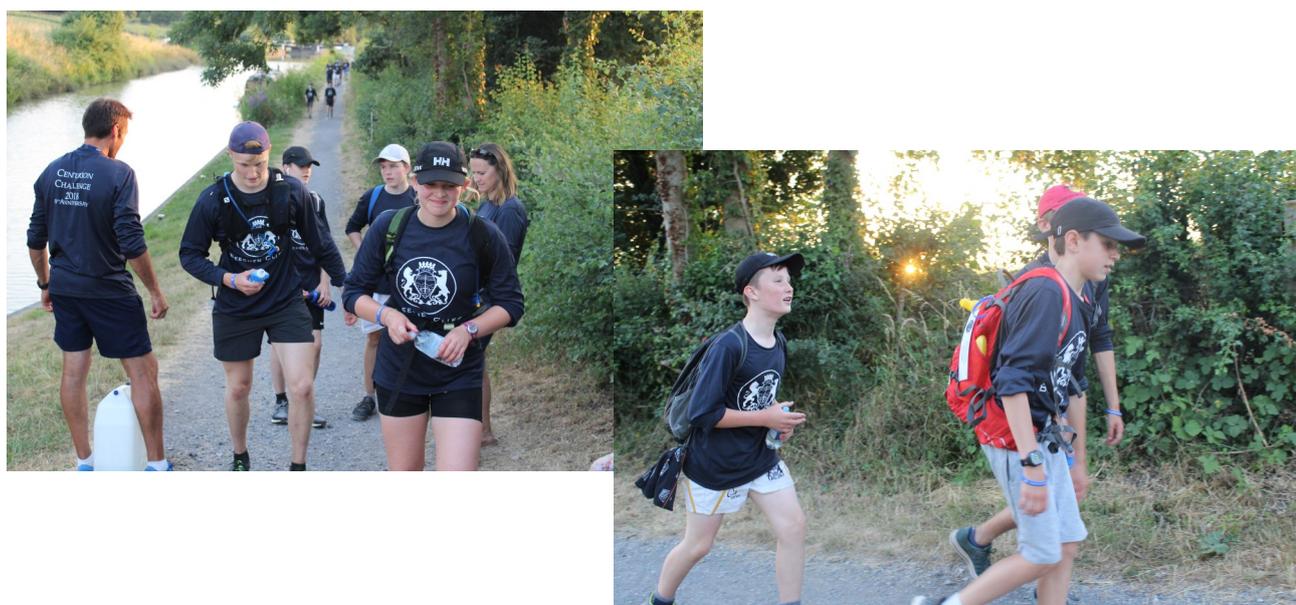
The Centurion Challenge has taken place in all kinds of weather from cool breezy conditions, ideal to this type of event, torrential rain fall, not so pleasant with some challenges developing a mild form of 'trench foot' and sleeping in puddles of water as our tents were lashed by the storm and moderately warm summer temperature of in the early 20's of last year. . . but this year the 'weather gods' were against us ! (if there are such things).



Whilst this sounds easy there was a price paid by our challengers. The temperatures did have an impact on some of them. However it was not the weather that made most impact it was again sore feet, blisters and sore muscles. A couple did stop as they had over exerted themselves but this happens every year and in all weather conditions as the records show.

The BBQ in the evening was replaced by our simple pasta meals with copious amounts of soothing ice cream and our challengers feasted well and cooled themselves in the evening sun before retiring to bed.

The Challengers were woken as is the norm at 05:00 in order to prepare for the journey home. Foot and muscle related injuries were treated. Breakfast was served and by 06:30 our challengers were ready to start. Briefed again on the conditions that lay ahead and stocked with provisions for the winding tow path that would lead them back to school and with the thoughts of the celebration BBQ that awaited them, they launched themselves again into the clear early morning. The day passed relatively quietly. The marshals who had signed up for the Saturday leg from Devizes to Hungerford were reallocated to the Devizes - Bath leg, doubling up in places to ensure there was always coverage. The intense communication between the check points ensured we tracked the progress and the check points constantly reported on the passage, were closed one by one as the procession made its way. The Water bus made its delivery of water and check point lists, ahead of the returning challenges. All was in place. Three more challengers withdrew on the homeward journey, to be collected by the fleet of minibuses shadowing them as they walked. Parents supported all are weary walkers as they went from check point to check point, resting when they could.



The first challenges return triumphantly at school after 10:00 and the final ones came home just after 14:30. The burgers and fries were consumed with squash and many other fluids appropriate for the New Centurions and their parents and all had departed before 15:00 the start of England v Sweden match. All that was left to do was tidy up at the school and the following morning return to the now empty campsite to disassemble our overnight home, carefully pack everything away for the many adventures planned for the following school year.

And now for the thank-yous. As ever and more so this year we are greatly indebted to all those who have helped organise and reorganise at very short notice to ensure that this year was a challenge to remember for all the right reasons. To marshals 'old' - only in the sense you have helped out before and in some case many times and new - not all centurion challenges require you to be flexible and respond at a moment's notice to alterations and adaptations in the planning. Reading through the staffing list we the organisers and marshals total over 100 strong. So as I cannot name you in the space provided but do thank absolute support.

Lastly as the school at this present time and this event also can be defined by numbers this could be an interesting statistic. We now have had in the last few years of entries well over 100 challengers. The entries for the challenge increase year on year the rate of growth is slowing and we control and limit the number of entries so we only allow expansion we can safely control. We learn new things every time we run this challenge there will be subtle changes for next year to make our logistical support smoother. This will all go on unseen when you look in from the outside. All the challengers will know is they are safe and care for (as if they didn't know that already). 143 took up the Centurion Challenge this year 126 returned triumphantly as Centurions



Now for the statistics; by 2022 due to the pressure of growing numbers of new challengers and repeat challengers (for some it may be their third attempt, a few will be on their fifth and at least for 2 they will have taken part seven times) there could be 200 Centurion Challengers on the start line. There will be over 180 marshals and other volunteer helpers apart from the Beechen Cliff Staff. By this time possibly six out of seven boys in the school will have attempted the challenge once. (We currently approach just over half of the boys of Beechen Cliff have taken part at some stage.) The number of girls in the sixth form taking part will have quadrupled to just over twenty and there will be no other school that will attempted to challenge its pupils in much away and on such a scale with the immense supportive backing of the Beechen Cliff community.



Richard Stewart
David Brewer
Just two of the many Centurion Challenge Organisers

China Trip - October 2017

The annual trip to China was a great success this year. Teaming up with pupils and staff from Writhlington, St Gregory's, the Royal High School and KES we spent 8 days visiting some amazing places and getting some insight into the culture of the country.



Visiting four wonderful cities (Beijing, Xi'an, Suzhou and Shanghai) as well as spending two days in schools, taking part in a World Heritage conference and spending one night with the family of one of the pupils it was a packed but exhilarating trip.

Hosting 9 boys (and their teacher) for the past 8 weeks

Over the past two summers we've increased our involvement in the Bath/China partnership by hosting boys from Changshu school (in Suzhou) for a couple of months over the summer. The boys and their teacher Henry enjoyed their time here immensely this year, immersing themselves in the experience and sharing their own skills with year 7 boys (calligraphy, paper folding and martial arts!).

Many thanks to the year 7 boys who acted as their buddies and to the local families who looked after them while they were here.



Mr E Gill
School coordinator Bath/China Partnership
edwardgill@beechencliff.org.uk

News from the computing classrooms

Year 7 students have worked hard this year and this term have been developing 3D games using Kodu. There have been some quite complex maze games made and some students have even tried to replicate the ever-popular Fortnite game using Kodu, giving their sprites the ability to shoot other objects and score points. (This software is free to download from the Microsoft site if pupils would like to carry on being creative over the summer <https://www.kodugamelab.com/>)



Year 8 students are currently working on editing their own videos using Serif MoviePlus software. They are recording their own videos to promote the school or bring awareness to the increasing litter problem. They have been working in teams to develop their teamwork & leadership qualities and so far have the makings of effective promotional clips. Look out on our Twitter feed where we may publish the best attempts.



Depending on their GCSE option choices, Year 9 have either been brushing up on their Python skills if they are taking Computer Science or looking at the importance of logo design and trying to rebrand the World Cup logo and make their own Match Attax cards. We have some talented would-be graphic designers in this year as you can see from this selection of classwork.

Year 10s taking computer science GCSE took part in two one-hour team-working activities. The first was called 'The Heist' in which pupils had to use their subject knowledge and programming skills to crack codes and passwords to steal as much virtual money as possible from the safety deposit boxes in a bank! The second task was called 'The Escape Room' in which they had to follow a series of clues, again using their subject knowledge to escape the rooms. Great team working and problem solving skills were seen in each of the ten groups. Well done all.

Year 12 A Level Computer Scientists are now in the process of deciding on their final year projects. Over this academic year they have visited Bath University's Computer Science department, attended a Computing conference held at Bristol Grammar School and helped out in KS3 lessons & our cybersecurity event in March.

There are some interesting project ideas coming to the fore: an app to calculate drug dosage for cancer patients, a new Staff Messaging system, a Football Manager-type game & an Arduino based synthesiser. We look forward to seeing how these interesting & diverse projects progress next year.

Mrs L James

Head of Computing and ICT



Literacy

Reader of the Week this week is awarded to all pupils in Years 7 and 8 who have taken an Accelerated Reader quiz this academic year! Your quizzing has helped to achieve a whopping **108,408,178** words read in total!

The breakdown of this total by house is as follows:

1st Milton	27,377,300
2nd Byron	23,170,200
3rd Chaucer	20,398,200
4th Kipling	19,669,500
5th Shakespeare	16,133,600

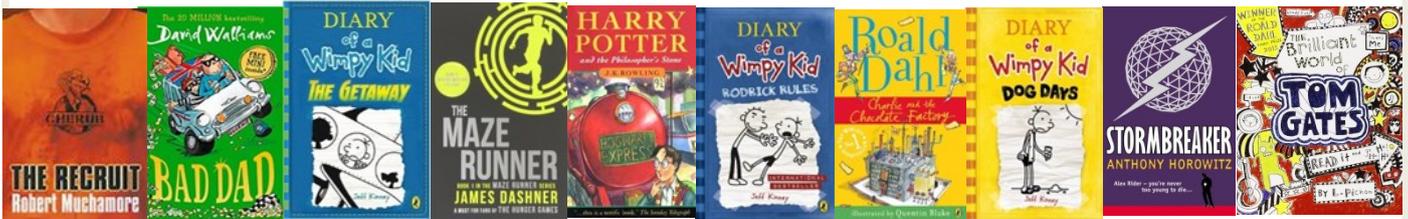


In addition to the above, the library team would like to celebrate the achievements of individuals - those pupils who have contributed the most words (and therefore points!) to their house. They are as follows:

Byron	Isaac (Yr 7)	3,232,000 words
Chaucer	Noah (Yr 7)	3,314,800 words
Milton	Ben (Yr7)	2,633,600 words
Kipling	Rufus (Yr8)	2,621,200 words
Shakespeare	James (Yr7)	1,866,700 words



Congratulations to you all. The library team would like to help you celebrate your reading achievement



by buying you a book of your choice. Please come into the library before the end of term to place your order!

TOP 10 QUIZZED BOOKS THIS YEAR

- 1 The Recruit by Robert Muchamore
- 2 Bad Dad by David Walliams
- 3 Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Getaway by Jeff Kinney
- 4 The Maze Runner by James Dashner
- 5 Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone by J.K.Rowling
- 6 Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Rodrick Rules by Jeff Kinney
- 7 Charlie and the Chocolate Factory by Roald Dahl
- 8 Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Dog Days by Jeff Kinney
- 9 Stormbreaker by Anthony Horowitz
- 10 The Brilliant World of Tom Gates by Liz Pichon

And finally.....don't forget to pop into the library before the end of term to grab yourself a book to read over the summer holidays – we have a great selection to choose from!

Mrs H Dunn
Accelerated Reader Coordinator



Maths 2017 – 2018

As another year comes to an end we have a chance to reflect on the hard work put in by all pupils and students, especially years 11, 12 and 13, and the variety of extra-curricular opportunities that have been on offer. We're in the middle of a period of much change – year 11 were the second year group to sit the new "9 to 1" GCSE, year 12 Further Mathematicians the first year group to sit the new A Level (and next year will be the first to sit the new Further Maths A Level) and the rest of year 12 will be the first year group to sit the two year A Level. The growing emphasis on mastery and problem solving is proving to be challenging but enjoyable and I really do believe that our pupils are in a very encouraging place, as the items below demonstrate.....

Maths Challenges Across the three different categories (Junior for years 7 and 8, Intermediate for years 10 and 11, Senior for sixth formers) 247 individuals took part (up from 200 last year!).

Junior Maths Challenge (Years 7 and 8)

In the Junior event we had 126 entries of whom 20 achieved Gold certificates, 27 Silver and 23 Bronze. 12 boys qualified for the Kangaroo, the next round of the competition.

Intermediate Maths Challenge (Years 9, 10 and 11)

Of the 66 pupils who participated we achieved **24 Gold, 20 Silver** and **15 Bronze** awards, another amazing haul for us in this competition.

The top 21 students qualified for the **European Kangaroo Paper**.

Senior Maths Challenge (Years 12 and 13)

19 of our sixth formers took part in the Senior National Maths challenge with some exceptional results. Two students qualified for the National Maths Olympiad (see below) and a further four for the Senior Kangaroo.



Amazing Success in the British Maths Olympiad for James in year 12

For being placed highly in the top 1000 A level students in the UK at the Senior level, **James** received a medal and took part in the first round of the prestigious *British Maths Olympiad*. Of these most able A level students, James came in the top 200 in the UK and was invited to take the part in the second round of the *British Maths Olympiad*, (a rare achievement in itself). James was finally placed **14th in the UK**, achieving success on an unprecedented scale at Beechen Cliff School.

During the Easter holidays, James attended a selection weekend for the UK International team at Trinity College Cambridge. Many congratulations to everyone who took part.

Some sample questions...NO CALCULATORS ALLOWED!!!

(answers at end of newsletter)

Junior Olympiad

An amount of money is to be divided equally between a group of children. If there was 20p more than this amount then there would be enough for each child to receive 70p. However, if each child was to receive 60p there would be £2.10 left over.

How many children in the group?

Intermediate Cayley Olympiad

Four times the mean of two different positive numbers is equal to three times the greater one. The difference between the numbers is three less than the mean.

What are the two numbers?

Senior Kangaroo

How many four-digit numbers formed only of odd digits are divisible by 5?

Team Challenges

We entered teams in all three age categories this year.

In November the Senior Maths Challenge Team travelled up to Hardenhuish School in Chippenham to take part in the regional heats of the National competition. This is a really challenging event and the calibre of students attending is exceptional. Our team put in a determined performance, finishing 6th out of 18 teams. They clearly enjoyed the challenge and, given that they are all currently in year 12, did really well.

In addition our Year 10 team took part in the regional Maths Feast back in February and our Year 8/9 team took part in the Regional Finals of the UKMT Team Competition in April.

Extra-Curricular Enrichment

Pupils and students across the entire age range have been involved in extra-curricular Mathematical activities this year...

NATIONAL CIPHER CHALLENGE 2017

National Cipher Challenge and evening at NetCraft

As ever we had a strong turnout in this year's event, with several boys invited to attend a local talk by NetCraft (sponsors of the Cipher Challenge) about current aspects of web security. We had our best ever results in the competition this year – congratulations to Patrick, Seth, Sam and Tom whose team finished third in the country. This really is a phenomenal achievement. I'd like to thank all boys who got involved this year – let's see if we can win it out right next year!

Huge thanks for Mrs Biggs for looking after the club on Thursday afternoons.

Maths "Inspiration" for Lower 6th students

Maths Inspiration

Once again the Forum in Bath hosted this year's Maths Inspiration lectures which aim to offer insight into the weird and wonderful ways that Mathematics shapes our lives. This year the talks were entitled "The Hidden Connections", "The Hidden Maths of Rollercoasters" and "Pepsi, Penalties and Peace Deals" and the lower sixth students who attended had a great time.

Year 10 Trip to Bath University for “Maths meets Medicine”

On Wednesday 27th September Mr Smith’s year 10 Maths group ventured to the University of Bath to take part in an event focused on “Maths meets Medicine”. The day was run by PSI, a non-profit organisation promoting statistical insight and we spent the day taking part in mock drug trials using some advanced statistical analysis to find out how mathematicians can help when deciding whether a drug is doing the job it is supposed to. We also looked at how a decision is arrived at as to whether a new drug is brought to market or not, weighing up the potential health benefits against the financial costs of investment.

The boys learnt a lot about the industry and how data is playing an increasingly important part in many businesses, hopefully opening their eyes and minds to some possible career paths and how the maths they will learn at school is used in the real world.

L6th Visit to Bath Uni – problem solving and preparing for University

On Tuesday 3rd July Mr Smith took a team of talented mathematicians to the University of Bath to look at university entrance exams. We spent time looking at the different qualifications on offer and the support that we can offer. We are currently offering a weekly help class with students looking to take either a degree in mathematics or a highly mathematical related course to help them to reach the University of their choice.

Primary Team Challenge

On Friday 29th June we hosted teams from year 5 and 6 from local primary schools and ran a Maths Challenge competition. 5 rounds of difficult mathematical challenges followed and we were mightily impressed with the diligence and prowess they showed. A great time was had by all and the future is looking bright!

(Huge thanks to Mr Smith and Mrs Down for the work going into running this event – every year it runs smoothly and I know the Primary pupils and teachers have a super time!)

Finally – a plea! If any of you have any scientific calculators for which you feel you have no further use we would love to take them off your hands. It would really help us to resource certain classes. Please feel free to drop them off in school or to contact me in the Maths office.

Overall it has been an incredibly busy year (again!). We are all looking forward to a refreshing break. On behalf of the whole department I’d like to wish all of you a relaxing summer.

Mr E R Gill
Head of Maths
edwardgill@beechencliff.org.uk



Music Department

The summer term began with the usual frenzied practice routine as the GCSE and A-Level musicians set about doing their final recordings for their performing coursework. We are particularly grateful to St Luke's Church for allowing us to use their fine acoustics and grand piano to record some of the final recitals.

Several pupils have also been practising hard for practical examinations on their instruments. At the time of print, the results are not yet published. We wish all students taking exams every success and we will publish the results next term.

On Saturday 21st April our senior saxophone ensemble (Alex, Ollie, Tom, Leo, Joel and Emma) all from the sixth form, performed at a charity concert for the Bathavon Rotary Club. Their performance was extremely well received and they helped raise over £1000 for various charities.

Throughout June, Mrs Nourse and I had the hard task of auditioning all pupils who had entered the annual Young Musician House Competition. Over 50 pupils from year 7-10 auditioned for a place in the final which was held on Tuesday 3rd July. The 21 pupils who made it through to the final are listed below:

Year 7	Year 8	Year 10
Ollie Drums	Ruben Piano	Ben Trombone
Josh Guitar	George Trumpet	John Piano
George Piano	Harry Trumpet	Michael Piano
Dillan Guitar	Fergal Piano	Rory Cello
James Clarinet	Finley Clarinet	David Saxophone
	Year 9	Toby Piano
	Hamish Guitar	Rufus Voice
	Sam Saxophone	Josh Violin
	Harry Trumpet	Tom Piano
	Fergal Piano	



Ed (piano) and Benji (drums) both in year 10, performed whilst the adjudicator was making his final decision. In addition, Ed in year 9 played guitar and sang as a showcase item.

At the end of the afternoon the following presentations were made:

Lower School (Yr 7) - Winner: Ollie (Drums) Runner Up - Josh (Guitar)

Middle school (Yr 8/9) - Winner: Sam (Saxophone) Runner Up - Fergal (Piano)

Upper School (yr 10) Winner: Rory (Cello) Runner Up Toby (Piano) Josh (Violin) was also highly commended

Congratulations to all performers who gave the audience a superb afternoon of music making.

Special thanks must go to Mr Adam Biggs, Head of Jazz at Bath Spa for his informative adjudication. The standard was extremely high with all performers playing competently and musically, presenting a difficult challenge for the adjudicator!

During the final full week of term, Hayesfield invited us to join them over two days as part of their 'Arts week'. Monday 9th July, involved pupils singing different styles of music as part of a 'vocal day' and the following day was designated an 'Instrumental day'. Over 25 Beechen Cliff pupils took part in what was two fantastic days of music making which resulted in a short informal concert on both days. Thanks must go to Hayesfield for inviting us and we hope to be able to do more joint ventures in the future.

Finally I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the music staff for their hard work throughout the year. Special mention must go to Mrs Nourse for her tireless efforts and dedication to the department. I would also like to thank Will and Alex in the upper sixth (outgoing senior and deputy senior musician respectively) for their help and support with the Extra Curricular groups. We look forward to a productive and successful year both in and out of the classroom next year.

Mr P Calvert
Head of Music

Normandy Trip – Year 7

Day 1-

To get the seven o'clock ferry from Portsmouth to Caen we had to leave at early o'clock to get to Portsmouth on time. The ferry took a long time but it was fun. Once we got to Normandy we drove to a gun battery which was instrumental in the D-Day landings where we learn about the defences put up and the airborne landings on D-Day. Then we went to the centre



where we went in the pool, had dinner and ended our first day in Normandy.

Day 2-

On our second day we went to see the Normandy landing beaches at Arromanches and museum where we learn about the Mulberry Harbours which can still be seen from the beach. We then went to the 360 degree cinema which showed a very moving film about WWII and the D Day landings. After lunch at another Gun Battery we went to the America Cemetery at Omaha beach where we were shown around the enormous area and told about some of the incredible stories of some of the soldiers who have been laid to rest there.

Day 3-

On the third day we went to a biscuit shop and were shown in groups how the 20,000 biscuits they make each day were made. This really tested our French as the baker explained all the instructions to us in French. We then got the opportunity to make and eat (!) our biscuits. After that we went to the town of Bayeux where we saw the Bayeux Tapestry and following that we were set a challenge around the town of Bayeux where we were given five euros per team and we had to find or bring back a list of things which involved us talking more French. When we got back we went in the pool and played on the beach after dinner.

Day 4-

On our final day L we went to the market and used our French speaking skills to make purchases at the French market stalls and in the shops, we also got a list of words to find in French. After that we went to a restaurant where the staff catered for us amazingly – pizzas, pasta or crêpes followed by dessert. On the way home from Portsmouth to Bath, a lot of us fell asleep after saying goodbye to our amazing driver who came everywhere with us.

This was an amazing experience for learning about D-Day, French culture and also an amazing opportunity to use the French we've learnt this year. Thanks to all the staff involved for organising this for us.

George, Yr 7

Performing Arts

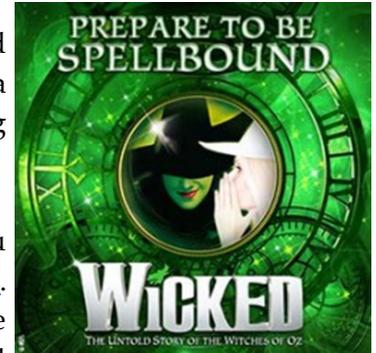
This academic year has been fantastic for Performing Arts at Beechen Cliff. For the first time we have been lucky enough to work alongside Bath Theatre School. Every Friday after school, the boys have been able to learn theatre skills such as dancing, singing and acting, and were able to put these skills on the stage for the production of Guys & Dolls Jr.

Guys & Dolls was a fantastic opportunity for our Beechen boys to find confidence, face fears and co-operate with others to put on a professional production, at Kingswood Theatre. The boys had the experience of working with professional set, lighting, sound and costume and were thus able to put on a performance described by the Bath Chronicle as 'dazzling spectacle'. The boys also worked alongside some of the girls from Bath Theatre School and this allowed for friendships to be made and communication to be had with people they may not usually be able to work with. This meant for a very emotional final show night as hugs and tears were shared saying goodbye to their co-cast.



Since Guys & Dolls, Theatre Club has seen an increase in membership with many inspired after watching the show. The boys have been working on extracts from West Side Story for drama, singing and dance material. They have also been working on improvisation skills through a range of drama games, exercises and mini scenarios often created by the students themselves. We can't wait to see these members again and hopefully many more in September.

30 pupils have also been lucky enough get places on a trip to the West End to see Wicked, the musical, in the last week of term. We can't wait to watch a professional musical and enjoy the lights and sounds of London's bustling West End.



If your son is interested in being involved with Theatre Club next year, you can find more information and/or enrol at www.baththeatreschool.com/bcs. This will ensure you are kept up to date with start dates for September, the announcement of our next show and when we will start rehearsals and auditions for the new show. If your child is more interested in being back stage during these shows, please also keep up to date with notices next year, as there is plenty of opportunity for back stage help as well.



Science

Science Club

Science Club was a great success this year, with regular attendees from Years 7, 8 and 9. Some favourite activities included the now traditional Egg-Breaking competition, fun with liquid nitrogen, and dry ice, whole rat dissections and anything involving fire and explosions. Science Club will start again in September through to December, so look out for posters around the Science Department.

Big Bang Fair at University of West of England

Dr Wilkinson & Mr Forrest took 32 Year 10 students to the Big Bang Fair at UWE. Students were able to chat to many local and national STEM employers about their careers and the job opportunities available. They saw the Scientific Magician perform many of his tricks (and explain how they work), and were able to take part in many interactive exhibits. With Luca P and Ollie B winning the RAF home-made aeroplane competition!

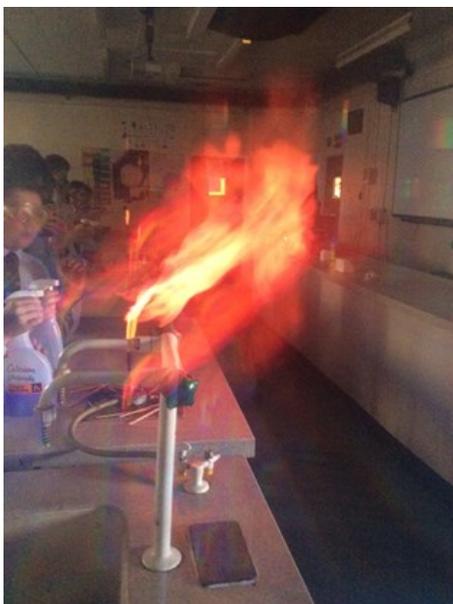


Science Journal Club

Science Journal Club has gone from strength-to-strength with around ten regular sixth-form attendees this year reading scientific journal articles and taking part in lively debates on issues such as drug-reform, banning alcohol, space exploration, materials science and nuclear fusion technology. Science Journal Club will continue on Wednesday lunchtimes throughout next year, so look out for posters in Science and in the Sixth Form block.

Unconference at Royal Institution.

Ten sixth form students with an interest in science, computing and privacy attended Unconference at the Royal Institution in London, accompanied by Miss Wong & Dr Wilkinson. Students heard talks from experts in the fields of data and privacy, then debated the issues with other young people from around the country before having the opportunity to present their ideas in the RI's famous lecture theatre – location of the famous Christmas Lectures.



Dr W Wilkersonson
KS3 Science Coordinator

Salters' Festival of Chemistry Tuesday 15th May 2018

On Tuesday 15th May four Year 7 pupils from 7s (Sam, Luke, Ed and Ben) took part in the Salters' Festival of Chemistry at the University of Bath. They started the day with the Salters' challenge, this involved chromatography and precipitation of various salts. They needed to find out who the murderer was at Salt Marsh Farm.

After lunch they took part in the University challenge, this involved making certain chemical substances and testing if they were an endothermic or exothermic reaction. All throughout these practical activities the pupils did extremely well and were assessed on practical skills, safety and presentation. Towards the end of the day they had a chemical magic show which involved screaming jelly babies and a chemical volcano.

The boys were third overall in the competition and went home with certificates and a goody bag. I was very impressed with how they coped against much older pupils and they represented the school brilliantly!

Mrs S Sole
Science teacher



TEN TORS 2018

As ever Ten Tors is a significant event in the Beechen Cliff Calendar and this year we fielded 5 teams across all the distances, two teams each and 35 and 45 and a 55 team. Training took place on various hill ranges in the south west from January with several weekends on Dartmoor. This year 'beast from the east' certainly made for some cold nights out camping.



By the weekend of 12th and 13th of May however we had fully prepared teams and a sunny forecast! Team members came down on the Friday before to plan routes and prepare kit for the 5.00am reveille on Saturday morning in order to reach the massed start at 7.00am. This is always an incredible spectacle and Beechen Cliff's flags were marched proudly up to the start. 2400 participants then set off on their unaided expedition to field guns, helicopter fly by and additionally this year, a stick of parachuting paratroopers drifting to earth in plumes of coloured smoke.

At this point all staff can do is monitor the teams progress online via their trackers whilst parents were doing the same at home.



Route planning the day before the event

The view from High Willhays gives an indication of the remote and demanding terrain covered.



On the Sunday our teams came marching back in. They had done incredibly well on the Saturday to set up their success. The 55 team walked the best part of 40 miles on the Saturday alone!

A huge number of parents came down to the finish which is always appreciated by staff and students alike. A huge congratulations to all the Beechen Cliff pupils. 32 started and 32 finished to collect bronze, silver or gold medals respectively. The 55 mile distance is no mean feat!!

The dedication and determination shown for the event and training was remarkable and testament to their resolve and aspiration. Well done.

A final thank you goes to the 16 Beechen Cliff Staff who freely gave up weekends to allow this to happen. Let's hope Ten Tors 2019 is as successful.

Mr D Brewer
Ten Tors



Three Peaks Challenge

Three Peaks took place during the blazing heat wave over the weekend 29th June to 1st July. The challenge of course, takes in the highest points of Scotland, England and Wales. Ben Nevis, Scafell Pike and Snowdon respectively. The caveat being that once started they are completed in one continuous journey moving from on to the next with only comfort breaks in between.



28 pupils from Beechen fully completed the challenge raising money for various charities as they went. In hot conditions they scaled each peak and were rewarded with incredible panoramas of the surrounding mountains as they went. This alone is a quirk of nature. The chances of seeing nothing from each summit are higher!

Pupils and staff coped admirably in the conditions, taking on plenty of water and food and 'sleeping' in the comfort of a minibus! Ben Nevis was climbed up and back in 6 hours, Scafell in 3hrs 50 minutes and Snowdon in 4 hours 10 minutes. This totalled 9950ft of ascent and 1242 miles travelled over the weekend.

Sore legs and backs were rested after Snowdon with an overnight stay in the Ogwen Youth Hostel. Here a curry and shower were enjoyed before a well earned nights rest.

Incredibly some of the boys and staff then had to rest up during the week to either take on or prepare for the Centurion Challenge the next weekend!

Well done to all pupils who completed the Three Peaks Challenge. Their attitude and cooperation made it go extremely smoothly. This and the tireless enthusiasm of the ten members of staff supporting them.



Mr R Stewart
Three Peaks



Summer Tennis Report 2018

It has once been a very enjoyable summer of tennis with many boys involved with practices, coaching, teams and internal competitions. The weather has been brilliant – though there have been some rather hot and bothered boys after some of the fixtures in June in particular.

Senior Tennis

The first and second teams competed in the Senior Students Competition over the winter and then in the National Cup and a few friendly fixtures this summer. Lots of good quality tennis took place and a highlight was the 1st team reaching the Regional Final of the National Cup with notable victories over Wycliffe and Colstons on the route. Unfortunately the team came across a rather strong St Peters team in the final, who now go on to the National Finals.

Well done to Henry, James, Will, Ben, John and Yuji who represented the first team this year.



Junior Teams

Once again we ran three U13 Teams and two U15 teams with lots of pupils in Years 7-10 representing the school. Teams competed well finishing second in every league they participated in. There were also enjoyable friendly fixtures against local schools Kingswood, Prior Park, KES and Clifton College.



U13 A and B teams against Colstons

U14 County Tennis

It would be wrong not to mention James in Year 9 who has had an exceptional summer until he broke wrist at the end of June. As well as being undefeated for the school at both U15 and first team level he has been undefeated when representing his county in both the Regional and National Finals, which is an exceptional achievement. He is now ranked in the top 50 in Great Britain. Let us hope he recovers quickly.

tt-tennis coaching at Beechen Cliff School

Many boys have taken part in tennis coaching at school this this year through our connection with tt-tennis. This has been through after school coaching and holiday camps. If pupils are looking for summer holiday tennis camp then perhaps the tt-tennis camps at Lansdown Tennis Club may be of interest.

Tennis Leaders Courses at Beechen Cliff School

Ten pupils from Years 8-10 completed their Tennis Leaders courses at Beechen Cliff this year with tt-tennis. They have then had the opportunity to help coach some local primary school pupils as part of a regular coaching programme over this summer term. This has given the opportunity to develop their leadership and coaching skills as well as gaining practical experience. I am grateful to tt-tennis for running this programme and we hope to develop this further next year.



House Tennis

The House tennis competitions have recently taken place with the results below:

Year 10: Winners – Milton

Year 8 – Milton

Year 9: Winners - Kipling

Year 7 – Byron

The Year 7 competition was particularly entertaining with lots of enthusiasm shown by all.



Road to Wimbledon

In our annual Road to Wimbledon competition 18 boys in Years 8 and 9 took part. The main event took place on a warm afternoon and was thoroughly enjoyed by all. Well done in particular to our two finalists Joe and Louis who are due to represent the school in the County Finals in July.



Year 7 Tournament

At the end of May we ran a Year 7 internal singles tournament during our Monday after-school practice. 15 boys took part ranging from regular team players to those who had never played a tennis match before. It was a great event and the enthusiasm of the boys was brilliant, particularly as it was on an incredibly hot afternoon. Well done to all who took part and to our overall tournament winner, Freddy.



Wimbledon Trip

The tennis season concluded with a trip to Wimbledon on 6th July. Ten boys from Years 9, 10 and 11 (joined by Mr Markall and Mr Walker) had a fantastic day out and got to see matches on Centre Court, Court 1 and the outside courts.

We got to watch world number 3 Sasha Zverev, the legend that is Serena Williams, the hugely talented Gael Monfils, powerful hitting Karolina Pliskova and many other tennis stars.

Many said the highlight had to be watching Venus Williams get knocked out by Kiki Bertens in a two-and-a-half hour battle, 7-5 in the final set on Court 1 in a match that was impossible to call until the last point was over.

However, for those lucky enough to see arguably the greatest of all time play on Centre Court in the early evening the highlight of the day was clear. Roger Federer was in imperious form as he won in straight sets on Centre Court. It was totally inspiring to watch the Swiss master at work and to quote one of the boys "that's the highlight of my year!"

I hope all pupils and students who have been involved with school tennis have enjoyed themselves this summer and on their behalf I would also like to thank all staff who have supported school tennis year, and for all their hard work. It has been a really positive summer season and I am really proud of the enthusiasm and commitment shown by so many of our pupils.

We look forward to lots more tennis next year!



Mr T D Markall
i/c tennis

Cricket

1st XI cricket 2018

Hopes were high going into the season in mid-April after 6 months of early morning sessions working with coaches from Bath CC. However, the first win didn't come for a few weeks after performances with the bat were well below par. Opposition teams had a couple of players making big scores and to date only one batsman made a 50 for the Beechen this season.

The bowling and fielding has been superb all year with a very young attack this was a real positive. In particular, Max (year 10), Ethan (year 10) and Will (year 12) have bowled with consistency all year picking up regular wickets and going for minimal runs. The fielding was led by co-captain Louis (year 13) setting superb standards for others to follow.

With a couple of games to go, I'm sure the team will finish on a high and we have a bright future ahead of us with the younger pupils getting a lot of experience of senior cricket.

A special mention to the year 13 students (Louis M, Dan H, Tom DG and Sol T) leaving us this year, thanks for your commitment to school cricket (and all school sport) over the last 2/7 years.

Mr P Macdonald

U13 Cricket

Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Runs Scored	Runs Conceded	Wickets Taken	Win Percentage
11	9	0	2	1456	1096	82	81%

The Year 8 cricket squad have enjoyed one of the most successful seasons we have experienced at Beechen Cliff. Captained by Fergal, the squad has gone from strength to strength this season, culminating in them making a small bit of history of their own!

After defeat to Kingswood on the opening day of the season, the squad has never looked back. The team demonstrated their true potential against St Katherine's in the 1st round of the County Cup. Racking up 203 in 20 overs (Fin 51*, Sam 50*) and restricting the opposition to 83 (Dillon 4-12, Eric 2-17), Beechen Cliff cruised into the next round.

The 2nd round of the cup saw Beechen face a formidable opponent. A team who has not lost in this competition since 1998, the boys were under no illusion of the uphill battle we faced. Batting first, Beechen set 136 from 20 overs (Fin 63, Sam 29*). Fin's innings was outstanding; he took on the Millfield attack and put us in a strong position.

The 2nd innings was a tense affair that ebbed and flowed. The Millfield openers were cruising, reaching 50 runs after only 7 overs. When the game seemed to be slipping away, on came Ollie, whose bowling display was sensational! With figures of 4-2-9-3, the game swung back in Beechen's favour. The hosts, needing 16 to win off the final over, and with one batter who looked odds on to get it, we saw the catch of the season! Archie, at long-off, took a sublime 1 handed catch on the boundary to seal the game. Jubilant scenes at the end of the game, the boys had done it! The semi-final saw the team travel to Gordano in a one sided affair. Beechen posted 169-1 off 20 overs (Ollie 63*, Fin 33, Sam 26*) in a brilliant batting display. The hosts were reduced to 88 runs in response. The final, for the first time in Beechen's history, awaits!

Played at Kings College Taunton, against Taunton Prep School, this 25 over game delivered everything the pre-match build up had hoped for. Two evenly matched sides that played out an enthralling afternoon's cricket.

Beechen batted first, posting 160-3. Fin once again the star man scoring 61 runs in another fine display. Captain Fergal produced his best batting performance of the season, scoring 26 from 26 deliveries. It was now down to the bowlers!

Again, this one ebbed and flowed, and at one stage the game seemed over. Taunton were cruising at 106-1, until a brilliant 2 over spell from Josh, who bowled their main batsman out. This seemed to unnerve the opposition, who gave away wicket after wicket. Arthur and Fergal bowled out the game with such maturity; it really was a pleasure to watch. Beechen won by 7 wickets in a stunning all round display.

Such a proud moment for all involved. The squad has worked so hard this season and this just topped it off!

In the other games this season, the team has seen victories against KES, Kingswood, Millfield (x3) and Sexey's School. The team also won the Millfield T20 competition for the 2nd year in a row. To go through a whole season only losing 2 games is a testament to the team's commitment and effort.

There were so many contenders for the player of the season award, it was a tremendously difficult decision. In the end, I award the player of the season to **Fin**, who has a batting average of 55. His runs in the big games have been so important and he really has lead from the front in this regard.

I very much look forward to taking the team next year where we will look to develop all the players into even better young cricketers and hope for more success on the field. Well done to all involved, you should be immensely proud of your achievements!



U14 Cricket

The season started off as most seasons do, with the British weather playing a major factor in proceedings; however things soon changed and we got back into our winning ways in a quite convincing style. Unfortunately one Game that didn't go our way was a loss to Bristol Grammar School in the Semi-final of the County cup.

On a whole the squad has made progress well with all of the team joining in to make its mark instead of relying on one or two individuals. Over the course of the season the squad have performed brilliantly and most players have been a key factor in our winning games.

I would however like to put forward a few names that should be recognised for their outstanding contributions this season. Ben, Archie and Rhys who have performed consistently well with both bat and ball. Harvey who has captained the team for the last couple of years extremely well and the boys have benefited from his calm head and definitive leadership style.

Thanks to all the boys for making the team what it is, I'm sure they will continue this success in the future.

U-15 Cricket Summary

Well done to the Year 10 cricket team who have had a decent season. The season was, as always, affected, by rain which seemed to follow us everywhere! The highlight of the season was definitely beating Millfield – a great all-round team performance. The biggest frustration was losing to arch –rivals Kingswood in the County Cup, in a game that we should really have won.

Captain Ethan has led the team with great credit. He is a thinking captain who has made mistakes but always learned from them and listened to advice. The strength of the team is its depth of bowling, so that once the batsmen have seen off the terrifying pace of Max and swing of Ben there are further challenges from the nagging accuracy of medium pace from Luca and Samuel – then the spin option from Ethan– all hard to score against. Apart from a very bad day at QEH, the fielding is normally dependable with Piers always worth 20+ runs to the team with his energetic out-fielding and boundary sweeping. Josh behind the stumps is technically very good, and especially slick at stumping. In the batting department, the team relies heavily on big-hitter Dan, and Josh, Ethan and Max have all chipped in with big scores. For his all-round contribution, reliability and miserly bowling (exemplified by a fantastic, match-winning spell against Millfield), the Player of the Season Award goes to Luca.

It has been a good season with a committed core of players, ably supported by others always keen to step up into the A team when needed. Many of the leading players in year 10 have already experienced 1st XI cricket this season, playing alongside the sixth formers and performing with great credit – so the future is bright!.

Mr S Turner

Year 7 CRICKET

Our youngest cricketers had mixed progress over the course of the term, although there is no doubt we are anything but happy about the sunny weather and good wickets, which have been features of all games, the 'A' team has clearly become stronger as the team has progressed, showing some great fighting spirit and working hard together in the field. A surprise defeat to Downend School was followed by defeat at King Edwards School and then a morale-boosting win against Wellsway. Defeat to Dauntsey's was unfortunate but a win against Monkton and a tighter game at Kingswood showed that there was some depth in our junior squad. The South Devon Tour gives the boys a chance to show how they have progressed together and it was good to see this they really did establish themselves as a coherent, and positive force by the end of the three days. The loss to Exeter School was to be inevitable, the hosts, becoming Devon champions in the week we visited.

Some great competition at Torquay Boys Grammar was followed by a win at Queen Elizabeth's School in Crediton and in defeat to Churston Grammar. A great win at Sheldon C.C was topped off with a win on a very hot Saturday morning against Ipplepen C.C. Charlie P has been our most prolific run maker and he has been joined by Chris L as our 'Star shot makers' this season. There were some clearly strong potential skippers for future sessions; Jonty G and James B making themselves invaluable at the wicket and engaging the other boys throughout the game. All the boys have played their part and whilst defeats outweighed victories, they have learned more from the former. Very much like us all. The 'B' team, buoyed by enthusiasm at all times, have really established themselves as a strong force.



Victory against King Edwards at Monkton have been the highlights of this season, although for me it has been the fact that I have always had too many boys rushing to the door to sign up when the game is announced. We have always fielded a strong team and the boys have never let us down.



Harry M and James C have proved themselves the " Coaches vote" as the most enthusiastic players on the pitch, both of whom have also contributed well in the technical areas of the game.

Our 'C' team played two matches this season, Prior Park College and King Edward's School being the opponents. In both matches the results went against us but, as they always say, cricket comes out the winner.



The boys of all the teams have been a credit to us at all times and I have always been proud to take to the field with them. Special thanks must go to Mr Morgan and Mr Seal, both of whom have given up many hours of time to support the training sessions and the matches themselves. Without that support cricket would not be the force it is at our school.

Let us hope that the Year 8 success in becoming Somerset Champions and also winning the Millfield Trophy can be an inspiration for our boys as they look to the 2019 season.

SHOOTING

There has been a programme of shooting activities this summer, although these sometimes seem 'lost' against the wall of cricket in May and June!

Potterne Shooting Experiences have been taking place and we have already taken eighty lower school boys to the range over Devizes to take on some quite difficult activities this year. Rifles with a 'Martini' action (single shot, under-lever) rifles have been used for the first time and the boys have had to get to grips with loading all guns themselves and then getting back into position to get the best shot they can down the 25 metre range. The top year 7 shots so far this summer have been Oliver M and Hugo B, both of whom worked very well as a team to score 430 points, beating their rivals by 40 points. I think if it is fair to say that this positive experience has become something of a Beechen Cliff 'classic' and we have more now been going to the range for more than a decade.

We have also taken two groups to Ladyswood Shooting School for a clay pigeon session this summer and there is little doubt that both were enjoyed by all the participants. Next season I hope we will be able to arrange a number of 'winter visits' to make some that the boys get to experience the usual conditions that accompany the sport.



Solutions to Puzzles (Page 25)

Junior Olympiad: 23 children in the group (and a total amount of £15.90)

If C is the number of children and A is the amount in pence then we have two equations:

$$= 70 \text{ and } A = 60C + 210. \text{ Rearrange the first to give } A = 70C - 20$$

Now combine the two giving $60C + 210 = 70C - 20$. Solve to give $10C = 230$, $C = 23$.

Intermediate Cayley Olympiad: 6 and 12

Let the numbers be a and b , where $a < b$.

$$\frac{a+b}{2}$$

The first fact gives us $4 \times \frac{a+b}{2} = 3b$

The second fact gives $b - a = -3$

Rearrange the first equation to give $2(a + b) = 3b$, and then $2a = b$

Rearrange the second to give $2b - 2a = a + b - 3$, and then $b = 3a - 6$.

Combine the two to give $2a = 3a - 6$ giving $a = 6$ and $b = 12$.

Senior Kangaroo: 125

The number will be of the form "abcd" where a, b and c are odd digits and $d = 5$. Hence there are 5, 5, 5 and 1 possibilities for a, b, c, d respectively. Therefore there are $5 \times 5 \times 5 \times 1 = 125$ such numbers.

