



BEECHEN CLIFF

Thursday 21st November 2019

Message from the Headmaster

Dear Parents and Carers

In the last week we received the data from the Department of Education related to the achievement of our boys in the 2019 examinations. Not only did it show that the attainment of boys was the strongest in the area but it also recognised that our boys progress is significantly better than is expected nationally. We have given an indication on our School Twitter account of the progress and attainment of boys, although the key aim remains to give each pupil the best possible range of exciting and rewarding experiences - underpinned by a desire to build their own values and experiences in preparation for later life.

Additionally, we are very proud to be able to tell you that on Tuesday Mr Seal, Head of Science, was in London to receive an award from the Institute of Physics recognising the A Level Physics provision and achievement at Beechen Cliff as amongst the best in the country. Mr Seal has led the Science team to significant success in recent years and the award is just recognition for his leadership and commitment to our pupils and students.

Mr A Davies
Headmaster

Vacancies at Beechen Cliff School

The school website is updated regularly to provide details of any vacancies. Please use the link below to visit the page.

<https://www.beechencliff.org.uk/vacancies/>

Clare Thompson
Head's PA and Administration Manager

Calendar

Friday 22nd November

PTA Curry and Quiz Night

SOLD OUT

Saturday 23rd November

Italian Exchange Students in Bath until 30th November

Monday 25th November

Lower Sixth Physics Enrichment @Birmingham University

Tuesday 26th November

Super Curricular Lecture 15.00 – 16.30 Main Hall

Tuesday 3rd December

AASE Finals

Super Curricular Lecture 15.30-16.30 Main Hall

Word of the Week

LATIN: opposite, against

GREEK: 'ladder'

anticlimax

(noun) a disappointing end to an exciting series of events

Synonyms: letdown, drop, disappointment

la **déception**

el **anticlímax**

Subjects:

History: In the end, the Armistice was an **anticlimax**. Soldiers were too exhausted to be able to truly celebrate the end of the war.

Film: The fight scene between Po and Lord Shen (Kung Fu Panda 2) was a total **anticlimax**: it lasted for fifteen seconds.

Music Department – Date for the diary (Junior Bands' Night)

The school will be holding its first Junior Bands' Night on Wednesday 11th December at 6.30pm in the Main School Hall. The evening will allow bands in years 7, 8 and 9 to showcase their talents and perform in front of their peers. Further details, including how to purchase tickets, will be available in next week's newsletter.

Mr D. Huntriss
Music Technician

Theme of the Week

Theme of the week this week is focusing on our new Pledge of Respect.

The Pledge of Respect is attached to this weeks Newsletter. Each Tutor has been asked to go through the Pledge with their group and ask each of them to sign

'We want everyone in our school community (including visitors) to understand what we mean by respect and equality, and what bullying and discrimination is. We want them to have a positive experience at Beechen Cliff.'

There will be assemblies this week which will go into more details about the Pledge of Respect and why we are putting it in place.

A huge thank you to our ETeam who have helped put this in place.

The ETeam meet each week, if anyone is interested in joining please speak to Mrs Wilmot or Miss Netto.

Mrs A Wilmot
Head of PSHE

Duke of Edinburgh Award



Enrolments for the Award at Bronze, Silver and Gold have finished now and new accounts are being created. Welcome Packs will be sent out after each account has been created. Each group will receive a letter to parents detailing when the training will start in January. Bronze will be on Tuesdays after school, Silver on Wednesday after school at Hayesfield and Gold to be decided. Meanwhile, Mr Carroll and Miss Lesslie will continue to attend the school on Fridays and Mr Carroll on Tuesday and Wednesday from 1215 in the Pavilion staff room.

Mr P J CARROLL
DofE Manager
Beechen Cliff School
Humanities Staff Room Pavilion Ext 259

Beechen Cliff PTA 50:50 Club

The PTA 50:50 club operates as a small lottery. Members purchase one or more numbers via a standing order. Numbers cost £1 each and most people have between one and ten numbers in the scheme. Each month, 50% of the money paid in is allocated to the school and 50% is put into the prize fund. Then, at the PTA meetings, a 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes for the previous month(s) are drawn using a random number generator. The first prize is currently over £110! It is very easy to set up your payment online and you can cancel anytime you wish.

If anyone would like to join, all they need to do is email me on beechen5050@gmail.com indicating how much they want to spend each month (£1-£10) and I will send standing order details and allocate an identifying reference that matches the numbers I reserve.

Sarah Mitchard
50:50 Co-ordinator

Menu for week November

Monday: Chilli Beef, Paprika spiced Chicken, Veggie Chilli (G)

Tuesday: Steak and Kidney Pie (G), Pork with Hoisin and Soy Sauce, Goats Cheese and red onion Filo Parcel (G,D)

Wednesday: Roast Pork, Rosemary and Garlic Chicken, Sundried Tomato Risotto (D)

Thursday: Pork Sausages with Gravy (G), Chicken with an Olive and Tomato Sauce, Cheddar and Onion Quiche (G,D)

Friday: Breaded Fish (G), Chicken Curry, Lentil and Spinach Curry

(G) = Contains Gluten
(D) = Contains Dairy

Mr D Keal
Chef

Mental Health

Every week there will be a section in the Wednesday letter which will look at a current issue in online safety, mental health or safeguarding. The first mental health one today looks at the issues around boys' mental health. If, after reading this, you have any concerns please feel free to contact us at school.

The Mental Health Foundation choose November to focus on boys and men's mental health - this is a campaign for anyone who identifies as male or a man and whose mental health may be impacted by pressures associated with this. We do a lot of work in school to try to break down gender stereotypes and move away from the assumptions that can lead to negative mental health in our boys and men; this includes challenging language such as 'man up' and reflecting on the reasons boys sometimes find it difficult to talk when they are struggling (this is often linked to societal expectations and traditional gender roles). We are working with the multi-agency strategy Boys In Mind (Girls Mind Too) to aim to reduce the stigma and isolation which often exists for boys and young men, enabling them to:

- Talk about problems when they arise and ask for support when they need it
- Know that other boys and young men share similar challenges and feelings
- Care about themselves and each other and be able to demonstrate this
- Show emotion and cry when they need to
- Explore and challenge unhelpful, inaccurate and misleading stereotypes about what it is to be a man

We encourage our students to be aware of their mental health and wellbeing, and understand the importance of seeking support. In school they can seek support from any of our Solution Focused trained staff, their tutor or Head of House, Mr Mann, our school nurse, or make an appointment to speak to Off The Record. We also recommend a number of online services which can be accessed during out of school hours, including Kooth.com and youngminds.org.uk.

You can support your child's wellbeing and positive mental health in many ways, but crucially by encouraging them to talk to someone (family or friends included) when they need to, and not allow stigma to prevent this – seeking support is a sign of strength and self-awareness, not weakness. Many celebrities,

influencers and sports players are using their positions to shine a light on the importance of talking about mental health, and it is important that young men have positive male (and female) role models as they navigate adolescence; discussing these and the work we do in school with your child will open the conversation about boys' mental health. For further information and to watch some of the videos young people have developed for Boys In Mind - <https://boysinmind.co.uk/ourfilms/#personalstories> (the one called 'boys don't cry' stars our own Beechen students!)

Miss P Netto
Mental Health

Cycling Safety

Whilst we encourage our pupils to cycle to school, safety while cycling is paramount. There have been recent incidents reported where pupils are either not wearing helmets or speeding down the Avenues at peak times. Before you decide to let your son/daughter cycle to school, we recommend that you take heed of the following advice from Sustrans Cycling Safety:



- Ensure that sure your son's bike fits and is roadworthy.
- Wearing a helmet can save a life, we recommend that all children should wear a helmet.
- Follow the Highway Code and don't cycle too fast.
- Do not jump red lights or cycle on the pavement unless it is a designated cycle path.
- Signal clearly at all times.
- Ride in a position where you can see and be seen.
- Make eye contact with other road users, especially at junctions, then you know they've seen you.
- When riding in the dark always wear a high viz garment and use a working white front light and red backlight, plus a red rear reflector - it's the law.
- Use your bell to let others know you are approaching, but don't assume they can hear or see you.
- Give way to others and always be prepared to slow down and stop if necessary.

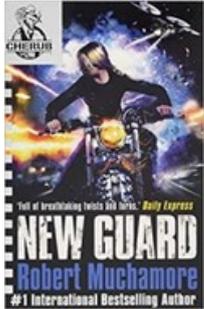
Reader of the Week

Congratulations to Eden (7SH8) who has just taken his first book quiz on 'New Guard' by Robert Muchamore, passing with a fantastic 90%. It is always a pleasure to have you in the library Eden!

New Guard

by Robert Muchamore

AR Book Level 6.1 ●



Ryan Sharma is a CHERUB agent. Working undercover, he can slip under adult radar and get information that sends criminals and terrorists to jail.

Now he's investigating a double kidnapping, working with mission controller and old

guard, James Adams.

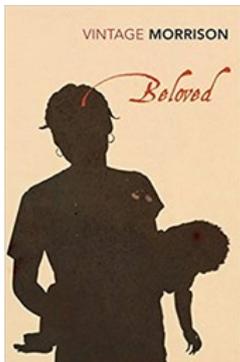
In the mission to end all missions, Ryan and James must assemble a team of legendary CHERUB agents to find the hostages and bring them home ...

For official purposes, these children do not exist.

November Sixth Form Book Recommendation

Beloved

by Toni Morrison



It is the mid-1800s and as slavery looks to be coming to an end, Sethe is haunted by the violent trauma it wrought on her former enslaved life at Sweet Home, Kentucky. Her dead baby daughter, whose tombstone bears the single word, Be-

loved, returns as a spectre to punish her mother, but also to elicit her love.

Mrs H Dunn

Accelerated Reader Coordinator

The "Authentic" Athens Marathon



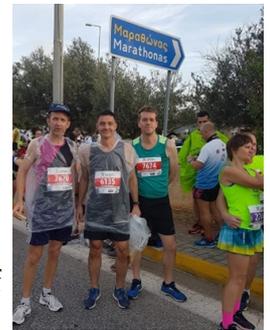
I'd set myself the challenge of two marathons this year - having done Edinburgh in May (too windy!) it was off to Athens last weekend for the "authentic" marathon experience. Following in the steps of Pheidippides the route follows the main road from Marathon to Athens, most of which is uphill (!). Fortunately the nasty bit (i.e. everything after 20 miles) is downhill so it wasn't all bad. The weather gods smiled on us - the previous day had seen temperatures of 29°C with barely a cloud in the sky - lovely to be sunning yourself next to the Mediterranean, not so nice when you're pounding the roads (uphill!). Fortunately Sunday morning saw clouds and a bit of rain, and in the end I managed not only to run the entire way, but also to knock 19 seconds off my best for the distance.

Across both runs I'd been raising money to support the work of CLIC Sargent, as they help young people battle cancer. In particular I wanted to highlight the wonderful support they'd given one of my sixth form tutees who has been fighting the disease for the past six months. I'd like to thank all of you (staff, parents and pupils) who have sponsored me - here's the link if anyone else would like to donate.

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Edward-Gill5>

I'm already thinking about my next marathon, but right now I think I'll put my feet up for a few weeks.

Mr E Gill
Head of Maths



(that's me on the left, at the start)



(and in the middle, after the race)



School Choir – Bath Abbey Thursday 19th December 2019

The school choir will be rehearsing on Mondays and Tuesdays after school (3.20-4.15) for the Annual Carol service in Bath Abbey on Thursday 19th December. This provides a wonderful opportunity to sing in a stunning setting. If any pupil or sixth form student still wishes to participate in this wonderful event. I would be grateful if parents could e-mail me to let me know their son/daughter would like to be involved music@beechencliff.org.uk

Mr P Calvert
Head of Music

SPORT

Sporting Fixtures for Week Commencing Monday 25th November 2019

Day	Kick-off/ Start time	Fixture	Meeting Time	Transport	Finish/ Return
Monday 25 th	14.30	U15a Football vs Wyedean School (h)	13.30	MB	16.30
	10.00	U18 Indoor Hockey @ UWE	8.30	MB	15.00
Tuesday 26 th	13.00	U18 Girls hockey vs Royal High (a)	12.00	MB	15.00
Wednesday 27 th	14.30	U13a/U13b/U12a/U12b rugby vs Clifton College Prep (a)	12.15	Coach 12.30 + MB	17.30
	15.45	KS4 Badminton Competition @ Norton Hill (a)	15.00	MB	18.30
	16.00	U18 Tennis vs Millfield (a)	14.30	9 seater	20.00
Thursday 28 th	14.30	U16a/U15a/U15b/U14a/U14b rugby vs Bryanston (a)	11.45	Coach	18.30
Friday 29 th					
Saturday 30 th	9.45	U16a/U15a/U14a vs Bishop Wordsworth (a)	7.45	MB x 3 + 9	13.00
	9.45	U13a/U12a/U12b vs Bishop Wordsworth (h)	9.00	n/a	0.00

Sports Results

Please see online at Beechen Cliff Sport Website for details

Mr M Walker-Jones
Fixtures Co-ordinator