



## BEECHEN CLIFF

Thursday 5th November 2019

### Message from the Headmaster

The Christmas Term is proving to be a very busy one. The Carol Service arrangements have now been finalised and you will have been informed of the need to 'book' tickets for the Abbey, in the light of the restrictions in space caused by the restorations. It will be a wonderful event and I do hope that you will want to 'book early' to avoid disappointment.

On the 18<sup>th</sup> December the new Beechen Cliff 'Anthology' is launched. Tickets are available for the event and I would encourage you to come and be part of what promises to be a wonderful evening. It will also give you a chance to see the newly refurbished Library.

As if this is not enough to start the yuletide the PTA Christmas Market takes place on the afternoon of December 18<sup>th</sup>. The event has been launched with the Year 7 and Year 8 boys, all of whom have had a talk from the local food bank, the incredible service provided being supported by the School. If you can support the event I know the PTA will be delighted.

Mr A Davies  
Headmaster

### Uniform and Equipment checks

Over the next week your son's tutor will be checking that your son has the correct uniform and basic equipment ready for the day ahead – pen, pencil, ruler (and calculator).

Please remember that hoodies are not allowed as part of our uniform and they will be confiscated and returned at the end of the day.

### Calendar

#### Friday 6th December

Year 11 Mock Results Day

#### Sunday 8th December – 10th December

6th Form Art Trip to Lisbon

#### Monday 9th December

**Reminder School Closes Early for pupils**

**\*\*\*PUPILS WILL BE DISMISSED AT 2.15pm \*\*\***

Year 11 Parents Evening

#### Tuesday 10th December

Super Curricular Lecture 15.30-16.30 Main Hall

#### Wednesday 11th December

Junior Bands Night from 18.30

#### Tuesday 17th December

Upper Sixth Parents Evening

#### Wednesday 18th December

Christmas Lunch and Charity Day

PTA Christmas Market for Year 7 and Year 8

Super Curricular Lecture 15.30 – 16.30 Main Hall

Anthology Launch 2019 in the Library 17.00 – 19.30

#### Thursday 19th December

Carol Service at Bath Abbey

#### Friday 20th December

End of Christmas Term – Term finished at 1pm

#### Uniform

Blazer  
School Shirt  
House tie  
School Jumper  
School trousers  
Grey socks  
Black shoes

#### Equipment

Pens  
Pencil  
Ruler  
Rubber  
Calculator

Mr K Mann  
Assistant Headmaster

## Theme of the Week

Theme of the week this week is focusing on gaining a better understanding of Transgender.

Tutors will be going through the information below with their tutor group. It is important that they understand the terms used when talking about gender and transgender.

### Videos

An interview with a teenager, born a girl and living as a boy. He explains his feelings and gender in a very honest and open way.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7m67gRr2pIs>

As Caitlyn Jenner is on I'm A Celebrity this year, people are becoming more aware of what it means to be transgender. Caitlyn talks opening about her transition from Bruce to Caitlyn.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MtGNmZ1gr3A>

**GENDER**. Often expressed in terms of masculinity and femininity, gender is largely culturally determined and is assumed from the sex assigned at birth.

**TRANS**. An umbrella term to describe people whose gender is not the same as, or does not sit comfortably with, the sex they were assigned at birth.

Trans people may describe themselves using one or more of a wide variety of terms, including (but not limited to) transgender, transsexual, gender-queer (GQ), gender-fluid, non-binary, gender-variant, crossdresser, genderless, agender, nongender, third gender, bi-gender, trans man, trans woman, trans masculine, trans feminine and neutrois.

**TRANSGENDER MAN**. A term used to describe someone who is assigned female at birth but identifies and lives as a man. This may be shortened to trans man, or FTM, an abbreviation for female-to-male

**TRANSGENDER WOMAN**. A term used to describe someone who is assigned male at birth but identifies and lives as a woman. This may be shortened to trans woman, or MTF, an abbreviation for male-to-female.

**TRANSITIONING**. The steps a trans person may take to live in the gender with which they identify. Each person's transition will involve different things. For some this involves medical intervention, such as hormone therapy and surgeries, but not all trans people want or are able to have this

Transitioning also might involve things such as telling friends and family, dressing differently and changing official documents.

**TRANSPHOBIA**. The fear or dislike of someone based on the fact they are trans, including the denial/refusal to accept their gender identity.

**TRANSSEXUAL**. This was used in the past as a more medical term (similarly to homosexual) to refer to someone whose gender is not the same as, or does not sit comfortably with, the sex they were assigned at birth.

This term is still used by some although many people prefer the term trans or transgender.

Mrs A Wilmot  
Head of PSHE

## End of Term arrangements – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2019

Please note that pupils will be dismissed after the end of term assembly at 1pm. There will be hot food served at break time only.

Mr K Mann  
Assistant Headmaster

## Menu for wc 9th December

**Monday:** Chicken with a Pepper and Tomato Sauce, Pork Steak with Soy and Ginger Sauce, Bruschetta (G)

**Tuesday:** Tikka Chicken, Lasagne (G,D), Potato Spinach and Feta Pie (G,D)

**Wednesday:** Roast Pork, Creamy Tarragon Chicken (D), Goats Cheese and Vegetable Tart (G,D)

**Thursday:** Creamy Chicken and Vegetable Pie (D,G), Honey and Mustard Ham, Gnocchi with a Tomato and Basil Sauce (G)

**Friday:** Fish Pasta (G), Braised Beef with a Spicy Tomato Sauce, Chickpea and Sweet Potato Tagine.

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

## Christmas Lunch

A reminder that it is Christmas Lunch on Wednesday 18th December, priced at £2.75.

Please could I ask everyone to make sure their ParentPay lunch accounts are topped up and in credit so we are able to keep up with the demand for lunch on that day.

Thank you a and Merry Christmas.

Mr D Keal  
Chef

## Online Safety – Balancing Screen Time

Here are some simple tips to help children develop healthy online habits and a good digital diet to help them thrive on and offline.

### 1. Lead by example

Just like anything, children copy their parents' actions and behaviour. If you set boundaries for your own screen, it will be easier for your kids to do the same.

### 2. Set boundaries with your children

Get them involved in the process of setting age appropriate limits on how long they can spend online, at what times and on which platforms. Set up screen-free times or rooms where screens are out of sight and therefore more likely to be out of mind. Review these as they get older and give them the space to take greater responsibility for their screen use.

### 3. Ensure a healthy mix of screen activity

Make sure they have a good balance of screen activities that encourage creativity, learning and education, connecting with family and friends, as well as using devices for passively engaging with content.

### 4. Avoid using screen time as a reward

This will elevate the status of screen time above other activities and like using food as a reward may encourage children to simply want more.

### 5. Physical activity and sleep are important

Make sure screens are not displacing these things by keeping screens out of bedrooms at bed time and that you are creating opportunities for your children to be active each day.

Mr C Hall  
Safeguarding

## Word the Week

LATIN: many



**multiply**

(verb) to make 'many' things

**Synonyms:** increase, proliferate, accumulate

**Subjects:**

**Science:** The human body can provide conditions for bacteria to multiply.

**Maths:** Multiply 12.3 by 4.5.

**RE:** God commanded his people to 'Be fruitful and multiply' and contraception can be seen as flouting this instruction.

multiplier

multiplicar

## PTA - Second Hand Uniform

The PTA would like to thank everyone for all their donations of the 'New-style' school uniform. It has been wonderful to receive so much new stock for the on-going sales! Please do keep donations coming.

Here are the latest forthcoming sale dates. Please come and have a look and buy even if it is not your child's parents evening:

Monday 9th December 4.30 -7.30pm  
 Thursday 16th January 4.30 -7.30pm  
 Wednesday 22nd January 4.30 -7.30pm  
 Wednesday 26th February 4.30 -7.30pm  
 Tuesday 10th March 4.30 -7.30pm

If you do need buy something in between sale dates, it would be a good idea to write a list (with size details) and hand into the School Reception. A current price list for uniform items is below.

Thank you from the Second Hand Uniform Team

Lesley, Jo and Amy

# BEECHEN CLIFF

## 2ND HAND UNIFORM

### SHOP PRICES

House colours:

BYRON - red
CHAUCER - purple
KIPLING - yellow

MILTON - green
SHAKESPEARE - blue

<p><b>General Uniform:</b></p> <p>Blazers: £12</p> <p>Shirts: £3</p> <p>Trousers: £3</p> <p>Pullovers: £6</p> <p>Ties: £2</p> <p><b>P.E. Kit:</b></p> <p>P.E. Shirt: £4</p> <p>P.E. Shorts: £4</p> <p><b>Cricket Whites:</b></p> <p>Cricket Shirts: £3</p> <p>Cricket Trousers: £3</p> <p>Cricket Jumpers: £5</p>	<p><b>Games Kit:</b></p> <p>Rugby Shirt: £7</p> <p>Rugby Shorts: £5</p> <p>Rugby Socks: £2</p> <p>Shin Pads: £2</p> <p>Rugby/Football/Trainers/Boots: £4</p> <p><b>Coats:</b></p> <p>Lightweight/summer: £5</p> <p>Padded/winter: £8-10</p>
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## Library News



### Reader of the week

Well done to Michael (8KP6) who is our first pupil to take up the December reading challenge! Michael achieved an 80% pass and walked away with a great sense of achievement (and a candy cane - a very happy customer!)

### Reading Millionaire

Daniel (7CH3) who was our reader of the week last week, has just become a reading millionaire having now read **1,147,394** words. Fantastic work Dan!

### Year 7 and 8 Christmas Reading Challenge

LOVE CHRISTMAS?

LOVE READING?

LOVE A CHALLENGE?

LOVE CHOCOLATE AND CANDY CANES?!

THROUGHOUT DECEMBER, THE LIBRARY TEAM CHALLENGES ALL BOYS IN YEAR 7 AND 8 TO:

- \* TAKE A BOOK QUIZ (IT MUST BE WITHIN YOUR ZPD RANGE AND NO MORE THAN ONE QUIZ A DAY)
- \* PASS BY AT LEAST 70%
- \* COLLECT A CHOCOLATE OR CANDY CANE!
- \* CHOOSE ANOTHER BOOK.....

### Book Recommendation

#### *Frost Hollow Hall*

by Emma Carroll

AR Book Level 4.0 ●



Tilly's heart sinks. Will's at the door of their cottage, daring her to come ice-skating up at Frost Hollow Hall. No one goes near the place these days. Rumour has it that the house is haunted . . . Ten years ago the young heir, Kit Barrington, drowned there in the lake. But Tilly never turns down a dare.

Then it goes horribly wrong. The ice breaks, Tilly falls through and almost drowns. At the point of death, a beautiful angel appears in the water and saves her. Kit Barrington's ghost.

Kit needs Tilly to solve the mystery of his death, so that his spirit can rest in peace. In order to discover all she can, Tilly gets work as a maid at Frost Hollow Hall. But the place makes her flesh crawl. It's all about the dead here, she's told, and in the heart of the house she soon discovers all manner of dark secrets . . .

Mrs H Dunn

Accelerated Reader Coordinator

**BEECHEN CLIFF**  
**Christmas Jumper Day**  
Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2019  
£1 minimum  
Proceeds to be split between the Sixth Form Romania project with Belief in Action and the local charity Genesis

### 'Give as you Live' supporting 'Literacy for Life' Campaign



The Beechen Cliff PTA are needing 100 people to sign up to 'Give as you Live' before shopping online this Christmas!

Please see the letter from our Beechen Cliff PTA attached to this Newsletter which details how 'Give to Live' is supporting the 'Literacy for Life' Campaign

### Junior Bands Night

Junior Bands Night is

on Wednesday 11th December.

The event in the Main School Hall

starts at 6.30 for 1-2 hours de-

pending on the number of participants. Tickets are now available to buy on ParentPay for £2. This inaugural Junior Bands Night is dedicated to showcasing groups from the lower school. It also presents a unique opportunity for family and friends to watch these bands perform in a large venue on a professional stage setup! The event is open to students, friends, and relatives so everyone is welcome.



Mr D Huntriss

Music Technician

### School Public Health Nurse

#### DROP IN SESSIONS

Every Tuesday 11am – 2pm Pastoral Meeting Room

For appointments outside this time please see Mrs Rogers or Mrs Lothgren or you can text Debbie Chalke on 07899994593

Please be advised that both Parents and Pupils may contact Debbie direct.

## Bath Christmas Market Stall in aid of Mentoring Plus PTA Christmas Market

For one day only - **Friday, 13th December** Mentoring Plus have affordable cookie jar mixes, sweetie jars and a kids lucky dip at their Bath Christmas market stall. There are a few stalls selling affordable items for children and young people.

Come along and buy some great affordable gifts for friends and family this Christmas with the added benefit of helping out young people in our community having a difficult time. We will be located on York Street opposite the Real Italian Pizza Company.

Thank you



Joanne Radway  
Mentoring Plus

**CHRISTMAS MARKET**  
for Years 7 & 8  
Wednesday 18th December, after lunch.

**Grown ups....** Ask your boys to bring in as many unwanted gifts/wrapping paper to school from 11th-13th Dec to 6th Form Silent Study Area (underneath the Refectory).

**Pupils....** Remember to bring £2 per gift on the day! Each gift will be wrapped too! (gifts are for close family only, up to 5 gifts per pupil). Includes a cake and drink too.

**Elf helpers....** Arrive at 10am to help set market up.

All proceeds split 50/50 between Bath Food Bank and Beechen Cliff School PTA.  
For more information see PTA website: [www.beechencliff.org.uk/parents/pta/](http://www.beechencliff.org.uk/parents/pta/)  
Contacts: PTA Co Chairs: Marina Beare: [marinaptabeechen@yahoo.com](mailto:marinaptabeechen@yahoo.com) or Lesley Leming: [jesterib@btinternet.com](mailto:jesterib@btinternet.com)

A full size poster is attached to this newsletter

### Attendance



#### Reporting Pupil Absences

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

**Lower School Pupils** to report a Lower School absence please call the Attendance Office direct on **01225 485222**, or you can email [attendance@beechencliff.org.uk](mailto:attendance@beechencliff.org.uk)

#### Sixth Form Students

For Sixth Form students please contact Mrs Jones on **01225 485221** or you can email [sixthattendance@beechencliff.org.uk](mailto:sixthattendance@beechencliff.org.uk).

### Tir Y Cwm - Outdoor Adventure Cottage



Tir y Cwm (TYC) - <https://www.tirycwm.co.uk/> - is our 'very own outdoor adventure cottage in the heart of the Brecon Beacons' and plays a key role in the induction and development of every pupil in their first few weeks at Beechen Cliff.

Please see the letter attached to this week newsletter which details our plans for Tir Y Cwm in 2020 and how you can be involved.

## Sporting Fixtures for Week Commencing Monday 9th December 2019

(Correct at the time of publication)

Day	Fixture	Meet	Transport	Start	Finish/Return
Monday 9th					
Tuesday 10th					
Wednesday 11th	Sports Hall Athletics @ Wellsway school	15:00	MB	15:45	18:00
Thursday 12th	2nd/3rd XV Rugby vs Colstons School (h)	tbc	n/a	tbc	tbc
Friday 13th					
Saturday					
Sunday					

### Sports Results

Please see online at Beechen Cliff Sport Website for details

Mr M Walker-Jones  
Fixtures Co-ordinator