



BEECHEN CLIFF

24th September 2020

Message from Headmaster

Dear Parents and Carers

We are looking at how to develop some of the activities which would normally be offered to our pupils with regard to the covid guidance, as you would expect.

In the newsletter you will find reference to the CCF and Duke of Edinburgh, although it is hoped that others will be made available, within year group 'bubbles' in the weeks ahead. I must thank the staff who have been working hard through risk assessments and finding way to keep providing enrichment experiences for the pupils and students. The next few months look as if they will be dominated by further restrictions on everyday life and it is appreciated that this brings further concerns for many of our community. Let us hope that the changes proposed do not last as long as feared

Mr A Davies
Headmaster

YEAR 7 PARENTS - Action required

Please be aware that on Monday 28th September your son will be bringing home a data collection sheet.

Can we request that you complete the collection sheet with all relevant information and return to the School Office in the envelope provided on Tuesday 29th September.

Thank you for your co-operation

Refectory Menu for w/c 28 September

Monday: Chicken with mushrooms and peppercorns, Potato spinach and feta pie

Tuesday: Moussaka, Toasted bean and Cheddar wrap

Wednesday: Beef and vegetable curry, Lentil curry

Thursday: Merguez Sausage and bean casserole, Spiced chickpeas with peppers and tomatoes

Friday: Pasta Bolognese, Veggie pasta Bolognese

Mr Dan Keal
Chef

Calendar

Monday 28th September

School Immunisation (Flu) –Year 7 only

Wednesday 30th September

Year 7 Virtual Welcome Evening 6.30-7.30 pm

Tuesday 13th October

Year 10 Parents GCSE Course Information Evening

Wednesday 21st October

End of Term

Monday 2nd November

Start of Term 2

Dear Parents and Carers

TUTOR TIME ARRANGEMENTS - WEEK COMMENCING 28th SEPTEMBER 2020

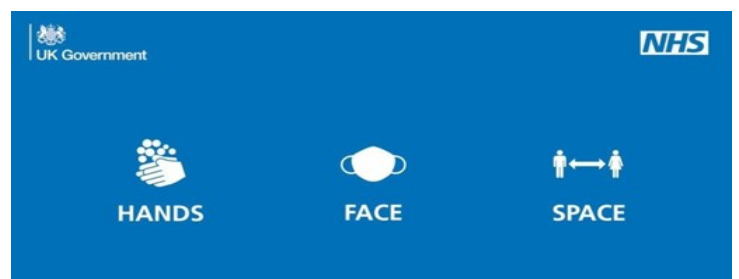
Following a review to the start of the day programme where pupils have been reporting to their period 1 teacher for tutor time, there will be a change to tutor time arrangements from the week commencing Monday 28th September 2020.

From this date, pupils will be placed in year group House groups for tutor time. This will ensure that your son has a consistent and regular tutor who will lead the tutor time programme and ensure that your son is ready and equipped for his lessons, as well as ensuring that there is continuity of care for welfare issues that may arise.

Pupils have been told to report to their year area on Monday morning at 8.25am where they will be taken to their tutor room by their House tutor.

We hope that pupils will profit from these tutor sessions with their tutor and embrace the tutor programme consisting of Character Development, Community, Theme of the Week and the weekly Assembly.

Pastoral Team



Teaching and Learning Update

Remote Learning Plan

Dear Parents and Carers,

I thought it would be helpful to write to you and update you on our plans for if we are required to close the school to certain, or perhaps all, year groups.

In the event that we are required to close to one (or more, but not all) year groups, we will continue teaching to our normal timetables, and teachers will deliver lessons virtually using Google Meet from school. We have IT resources set up here to allow for this situation. Where possible, it would be helpful if your son or daughter had access to a laptop/desktop computer/ mobile phone that they could use to join these lessons. A microphone and camera would allow them to fully access and participate in the lessons, but where this is not possible, they can use the chat function on Google Meet to communicate with their teacher.

If we are required to close the whole school again (apart from to key worker children and vulnerable students), we will provide more detailed guidance to parents and students at that stage. However, please be assured that this provision will include weekly live lessons via Google Meet for at least core subjects.

To ensure that your child is able to access this provision in either case, please ensure that they are able to log on to their school account from home. To do this, they should go to RM Unify: <https://beechencliffschool.rmunify.com> and log-in using their school email address and password. School email addresses are formatted as follows:

Second digit of the year that the pupil/student started at Beechen Cliff, surname, full stop, first name,[@beechencliff.org.uk](mailto:beechencliff.org.uk).

Year 7: 0 -0SURNAME.FIRSTNAME@beechencliff.org.uk

Year 8: 9 -9SURNAME.FIRSTNAME@beechencliff.org.uk

Year 9: 8 -8SURNAME.FIRSTNAME@beechencliff.org.uk

Year 10: 7 7SURNAME.FIRSTNAME@beechencliff.org.uk

Year 11: 6 6SURNAME.FIRSTNAME@beechencliff.org.uk

Lower Sixth: 5 5SURNAME.FIRSTNAME@beechencliff.org.uk

Upper Sixth: 4 4SURNAME.FIRSTNAME@beechencliff.org.uk

From the RM Unify homepage, students can access their school Gmail account, Google Classroom and Show My Homework.

I hope that this helps with your preparations at home in case of a year group or full school closure.

Kind regards,

Ms S Sullivan
Assistant Head, Teaching and Learning

Year 7 Parents Information Evening

On the school calendar a Year 7 Parents Information Evening was scheduled for Wednesday 30th September. Since we are unable to run this event this year due to covid restrictions we will be recording a video to provide the information that would have been shared during the evening.

This will be emailed to parents and uploaded to our website during next week.

Mr T D Markall
Deputy Head (Curriculum)

Beechen Cliff Whole School Approach



The Beechen Cliff Whole School Approach Film which was shown to Beechen Cliff Staff during our recent Inset has been featured in the following article in the Times Education Supplement.

Boys in Mind also won the award for Best Community Charity in BANES during lockdown.

Times Ed article
<https://twitter.com/tes/status/1299301962761076736?s=12>

Mrs S Ingram (Susie) and Miss P Netto (Polly)
Mental Health Champions

REPORTING PUPIL ABSENCES

It is important that **all absences** from School, including late arrivals and medical appointments should be reported to School promptly.

Please can parents and carers take note of the following correct contact details.

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 a Sixth Form student absence please contact Mrs Jones on **01225 485221** or you can email sixthattendance@beechencliff.org.uk

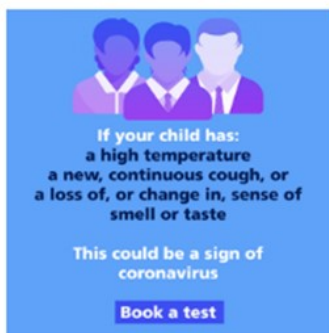


Letter for Parents about COVID-19 symptoms

Public Health England have produced a letter for schools to distribute to parents which explains when a person requires a coronavirus test and what the symptoms of coronavirus are.

The intention of the letter is to help prevent children being taken out of school unnecessarily and answer some of the questions parents may have around testing.

A copy of the letter is attached to this newsletter and will be emailed out to parents via ParentPay



Theme of the Week

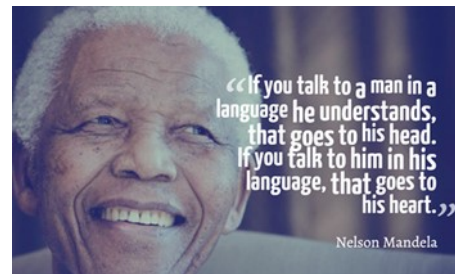
The European Day of Languages is a celebration of the amazing number and variety of



languages spoken across Europe. Schools and organisations mark the event every year, on the 26th of September, to promote language learning and celebrate the linguistic and cultural diversity of Europe. The Council of Europe and the European Union jointly organised the first European Year of Languages in 2001; millions of people from 45 countries participated in activities to promote language learning and increase awareness on the importance of preserving cultural diversity.

European Languages Facts

1. There are more than 225 languages in Europe, representing around 3% of the world's total.
2. If you only count native speakers, **Russian** is the most spoken language in Europe. **English** comes out on top if you include second-language speakers.
3. Languages are sometimes related to each other if they come from similar roots. These are known as language families. The three main language families in Europe are **Germanic**, **Romance** and **Slavic**.
4. Most European languages use the **Latin** alphabet and some Slavic languages use the **Cyrillic** alphabet. **Armenian**, **Georgian**, **Greek** and **Yiddish** have their own alphabet.



Learning a language is very important for many reasons.

Here's our top 7:

1. boosts brain activity
2. improves memory
3. enhances the ability to multi-task and make decisions
4. keeps your mind sharp for longer
5. improves performance in other academic areas
6. provides more (and better) career choices
7. helps you become more tolerant and open-minded

Knowing one (or more!) foreign language improves your employability and increases your chances to get the job of your dreams!

70% of British employers say that they value language skills in their employees.

Over 60% of British trade is with non-English speaking countries.

Remember we live in a multicultural and multilingual world - work hard and enjoy your languages lessons!

Miss P Netto

PSHE

Duke of Edinburgh Award 2020-21



The deadline to sign up to the DofE Award is **Friday September 25th**.

Year 9 students are offered the Bronze Award, Year 10 Silver and Year 12 Gold.

If you require any information about the Award or wish to enrol your son/daughter please email me ASAP at ifox@beechencliff.org.uk

Ms J Fox
DofE Manager

Mental Health and Wellbeing

Over the past few weeks, we have been working alongside students to all find our feet, adapt to the new measures and keep and staff and pupils safe. These are such unusual times for schools and for you as parents and families and we hope you too are starting to find your feet and are managing the best you all can in these uncertain times.

As we hope you know, mental wellbeing is a huge priority at Beechen Cliff and, as we settle into the new year, we are working tirelessly to get to know the students again, to identify need and then offer support to those that need it. One of the conceptual models that we have adopted at Beechen Cliff, alongside the Solution Focused Approach, is Trauma Informed Practice. TIP is a strengths-based framework grounded in understanding of and responsiveness to the impact of trauma, that emphasises physical, psychological and emotional safety for everyone, and that creates opportunities for people to rebuild a sense of control and empowerment.

So how does TIP work in practice at Beechen Cliff and make a difference to your children and young people? Adopting a TIP approach across the school alongside the Solution Focused Approach creates a culture where staff are trained to work with pupils and students compassionately, where they focus on their strengths and capabilities, rather than defining them by problems. Staff alongside this are trained to understand and identify behaviours that may relate to hidden trauma, and there are systems and processes in place to ensure that pupils and students have someone to talk to and where they can be referred to the right support without stigma.

As we move further in the term, we (the mental health team) will work alongside our student mental health team to provide focused mental wellbeing sessions that will reflect on their experiences through these uncertain times and will work with pupils and students to share their worries and work towards a hoped-for future where they feel settled and supported.

This term, we will also be asking all pupils and students to complete a baseline wellbeing questionnaire so that we can understand need and tailor our support to this. We will repeat the questionnaire later in the year to measure impact of our mental health and wellbeing work.

Wellbeing support is also being provided to all staff and will be given in the form of a 'Listening Ear' Service where peer to peer support will be provided by trained staff.

For you as parents we will be providing Webinars where you can meet our Mental Health Team and have the opportunity to talk to each other and learn more about our embedded practice The Solution Focused Approach.

For new parents to the school, we encourage you to watch the attached film made by staff, students and leads from the local mental health charity 'Boys in Mind' (Girls Mind Too),

kindly funded and produced this short film during Lockdown. The film is the very best way for you to gain an understanding of our whole school, student-led approach to mental wellbeing at Beechen Cliff using Solution Focused techniques, and explains our close relationship as a Lead school with 'Boys in Mind' (Girls Mind Too). The film and our mental health work was featured on the BBC Points West during Lockdown and was also covered in a recent article in the Times Educational Supplement about 'Boys in Mind'.

Link to watch the film: <https://boysinmind.co.uk/whole-school-approach/>

Link to TES article: <https://twitter.com/tes/status/1299301962761076736?s=12>

Boys in Mind also won the award for Best Community Charity in BANES during lockdown. We are proud to be working with them as one of their Lead schools.

The Mental Health Team

CCF Army 2020-21

We are delighted to announce the return of CCF for Years 10-13. As a school, we place great emphasis on the value of extra-curricular activities; CCF in particular. I am sure many of the pupils are looking forward to returning to this renowned aspect of Beechen Cliff life, but have had to temper their expectations, as we all have, in light of the Covid-19 situation.

We are also now in a position to launch to the Year 9s and a detailed letter and presentation will be sent out next week explaining what is involved and how to join.

If you would like any further information about the CCF please contact.

Lt. Cdr. Greenhough
Head of CCF Army
cgreenhough@beechencliff.org.uk

Temporary Closure of Greenway Lane

Wessex Water will be carrying out work in Greenway Lane **from Thursday 1st October**. The Council has made a traffic order enabling the road to be closed to through traffic as and when necessary during the works. A copy of the order is reproduced below.

BATH AND NORTH EAST SOMERSET COUNCIL

(THTTC2271, GREENWAY LANE BATH)/(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF USE BY VEHICLES) ORDER 2020

Notice is given that Bath and North East Somerset Council in exercise of its powers under section 14 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 intends to make an order to the effect of which will be to temporarily introduce a road closure in that length of Greenway Lane, Bath from a point outside of property no.98 to a point outside of property no.102.

This order is required because works are being or are proposed to be executed on or near the road to facilitate a meter installation by Wessex Water on the 01st October 2020 for a maximum period of 5 days. The road will only be restricted as and when traffic signs are in position and may not be effected for the whole of the period but only for so long as is necessary to execute the works. This is anticipated to be for 3 days.

BANES Residents' views sought on liveable neighbourhoods

Residents are being asked for their views on Bath & North East Somerset Council's ambitious proposals for liveable neighbourhoods which will improve air quality and health, encourage more walking and cycling and reduce vehicles in residential areas.

Liveable neighbourhoods are an important part of the council's plan to tackle the climate and ecological emergency and to improve health and wellbeing across the area.

It has developed three strategies which it now wants people's view on. The three strategies would form the basis for liveable neighbourhoods. They are:

- * Low traffic neighbourhood strategy
- * Residents' parking schemes strategy
- * On-street electric vehicle charging strategy

Residents are now being asked what they think about the plans in an on-line consultation that will run until Wednesday 14 October.

Liveable neighbourhoods aim to reduce the dominance of vehicles in residential areas - particularly through-traffic - while maintaining vehicle access to homes and businesses and prioritising residential parking. This can be done through a range of measures including vehicle restrictions, traffic calming and one-way streets.

Councillor Joanna Wright, joint Cabinet Member for Transport Services said: "We saw during lockdown what a difference less traffic made to our communities. We saw air quality improve, we saw more people walking and cycling, and we saw more people supporting local shops.

"This proposal for liveable neighbourhoods supports our vision to create better conditions for walking and cycling so that people rely less on their cars, especially for short car journeys. This is particularly important if we're to meet our climate emergency targets by 2030.

"By re-considering how road space is used, improving access to public transport and enhancing community spaces, we can create lively residential areas that foster community pride and help local businesses to prosper.

"We recognise that private cars are still necessary for some trips and some users. For this reason, alongside our liveable neighbourhoods strategy we've outlined plans for improving on-street electric vehicle charging that will encourage the uptake of electric vehicles where there is limited off-street parking, and where public charge points are required for residents wishing to swap to cleaner, ultra-low emission vehicles

"These are transformational proposals that will be developed in collaboration with local communities, so it's really important that residents and local businesses have their say on the approaches we've set out."

Liveable neighbourhoods usually group residential streets together across a 1km² area around key amenities, such as schools, shops and surgeries, and bordered by a main road.

To reduce through traffic and rat-running, a range of vehicle restrictions can be used. This ranges from modal filters such as bollards and attractive planters to one-way streets, traffic calming, speed restrictions and also residents parking schemes to reduce commuter parking.

Residents will have already seen changes to some city and town centre roads. Access restrictions and barriers were installed to encourage social distancing to deal with the immediate impact of Covid-19.

They were funded from the Government's £250 million Emergency Active Travel Fund which was announced in May. Councils were then encouraged to bid for a second 'tranche' of government funding to promote more walking and cycling and ease pressure on public transport.

In Bath & North East Somerset ten schemes have been identified for this potential funding. Given the timescales for preparing bids, they have not yet been subject to consultation and could be introduced as Experimental Traffic Regulation Orders.

Councillor Dine Romero, council leader, said: "We need to be clear about the difference in our long-term policy for liveable neighbourhoods and the schemes proposed under the Emergency Active Travel Fund which is a direct response to Covid-19. Our liveable neighbourhood strategy is asking for people's views on the principles and policy and is not about promoting individual schemes, these will come later once the strategy is in place."

There will be opportunities for communities to request individual liveable neighbourhoods once all three strategies are finalised and the project is launched.

Residents can read a summary of the council's plans for liveable neighbourhoods and take part in an online survey before Wednesday 14th October at www.bathnes.gov.uk/liveableneighbourhoods <http://tracking.vuelio.co.uk/tracking/click?d=g9iBS_RiMn8hR5t-pV_V4d-XlzT5RREbPwHv5XHv4hd9mBsuFp8-uuqi_pzdabCSwv0kMw84oDn373Q-1ZJ9Ice5uxxncpHk6HgmV7tXsrSWmDqqeKq5dx9Xz3_c9-BcSl6-q-muKImYzxSpN_58fZdGGuozayZwicO7Bc-vLJ80>.

Those with no internet access can request paper copies of the summary and survey by calling council connect on 01225 39 40 41. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, there will be no public events in this instance.

Joanna Wright
Councillor for Lambridge Ward
Joint Cabinet Member for Transport Issues
Bath and North East Somerset Council

Joanna_Wright@bathnes.gov.uk