



BEECHEN CLIFF

10th September 2020

Message from Headmaster

Dear Parents and Carers

I believe we are beginning to settle into the new routines of the school required to allow us to follow guidelines but also making sure we can house the whole school system. It has been a sincere pleasure to see everyone back and whilst they might not always wish to admit it, I suspect that all our pupils and sixth form students are very pleased to be back in school.

I am very aware of the difficulties placed in the way of families trying to negotiate the congested roads and much-restricted public transport and we are working with the bus companies and council to try and get some solutions for pupils/groups when problems are arising. You will note the short piece on buses and 'bear flat drop off' in this newsletter. Do keep us informed if there is anything we can do to support your child in getting to and from school.

Strange as the new processes and restrictions maybe, I am sure they will feel very normal in a week or two. Thank you for your support in making it work

PE/Games Kit days

Boys who have PE or Games on their timetable are coming into school wearing the kit as required. Please remind you that a blazer/coat is expected as a 'top layer' but not a hooded top/ sweatshirt.

Thank you for your support with this

Mr A Davies
Headmaster

Buses

We are fully aware that there are issues with the buses at the moment where pupils have had difficulty getting on at the end of the day due to Covid capacity. We have contacted First Bus and we await their response to ensure that they can ensure increased capacity. We will keep you informed.

First Bus D2S Service

First Bus Customer Care team have confirmed that they are operating a D2S service, details can be seen at the following link:

<https://www.firstgroup.com/bristol-bath-and-west/news-and-service-updates/coronavirus-covid19-service-information>

If you need further information First Bus request that you contact them on 0345 646 0707 (Lines open 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday, including Bank holidays).

Also many of bus service schedules have been changed, so please take the time to check the updated timetables.



Bear Flat morning drop off

We have an arrangement with Majestic Wine on Bear Flat where you are able to use their parking for drop offs in the morning. Please use this facility as it encourages fresh air, exercise and good mental health for your son to walk up to school. It also ensures that we limit congestion outside the school gate.

Mr K Mann
Assistant Head

New Arrivals

Huge congratulations to Mr Morgan who welcomed his new son Henry on Sunday 23rd August 2020.



DofE Award 2020-21



The Duke of Edinburgh's Award was launched at school this week. Year 9 students have been offered the opportunity to sign up to the Bronze Award, Year 10 the Silver Award and Year 12 the Gold Award. Emails have been sent out to the relevant parent groups, with information and enrolment forms. The deadline to sign up to this very worthwhile award is the 25th September. Unlike previous years this year we are offering a 'pay as you go' system in light of any covid restrictions that may occur in the future. You only pay for the elements of the award that your son or daughter can access.

During these potentially stressful times the DofE Award is something that young people can access, it gives them a positive focus and routine on a weekly basis completing volunteering, skill and physical skill activities. For the expedition element of the Award there will be weekly Bronze training sessions after the October half term. Learning how to put up a tent, cook on a stove, navigate, first aid skills and how to pack an expedition rucksack. In addition to this there will be a Silver level local walk with team challenges on the 22nd November and expeditions at all 3 levels in 2021.

If you would like any further information about the DofE Award or would like to get involved as a member of staff or parent helper please contact Jane Fox. No experience necessary, just a sense of humour and fun!

Ms J Fox DofE Manager jfox@beechencliff.org.uk
Miss Garland DofE Administrator

School Library

It has been wonderful to open the library doors to some of our students now that the Autumn term is underway. Library lessons have already begun for year 7 and 8 and Accelerated Reader will re-launch as soon as the system is up and running, later this term. Due to current restrictions, the library is unfortunately closed to most students during their break and lunchtimes. Please send your child to school with a reading book from home wherever possible.

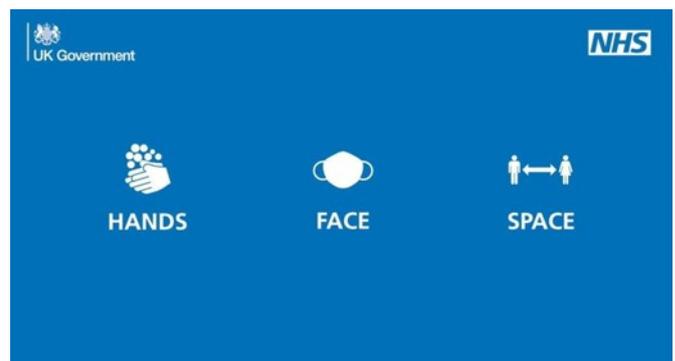
The library team is working to create a safe way in which students from all year groups can visit the library and borrow books again and we will keep everyone informed of progress towards this. Our vision is to keep the library as a place that all members of the school community can access, enjoy safely and to keep reading at the top of our agenda.

The Library Team
(Please contact Ms S. Sullivan on the Headmaster's email address if you have any queries.)

T&L Update

- ♦ Year 7 students are receiving their school logins in their first IT and Computing lessons, so they will be able to access Google Classroom and their school email accounts after that. Teaching staff have been made aware that they will not be able to access homework set on Google Classroom until they have received their login. Please see this video for help with getting logged on to RM Unify, Google Classroom and Show My Homework: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Fq89i8BqHxf2JYYmw6V5J7YcENLoVoM/view?usp=sharing>. There are also useful tutorial videos on how to join a Google Classroom and submit work on it on the school website, here: <https://www.beechencliff.org.uk/google-classroom-tutorials/>
- ♦ Year 7 will be completing a homework project for IT and Computing during weeks 1-3. This will teach them how to use Google Classroom and other programmes that are part of the G Suite (e.g. Google Docs, Gmail, Google Slides etc.). Please refer to the Year 7 Homework Information for parents on the website for further information: <https://www.beechencliff.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Year-7-Homework-Information-for-Pupils-and-their-Parents.pdf>
- ♦ All pupils and students need to make sure that they are coming to lessons well equipped, as there are restrictions on lending equipment at the moment. Please ensure your child has a pen, pencil, ruler, reading book, Maths equipment and a refillable water bottle as a minimum
- ♦ Teachers may choose to set homework on Google Classroom to be completed electronically this year. If there are issues with computer or internet access at home, all pupils and students are welcome to attend Prep in the Library after school 3:25-4:30pm, where they will be organised into year group bubbles. Two members of staff from Learning Support are on hand throughout these sessions to help with homework and computers are available for use.

Ms S Sullivan
Assistant Head—Teaching and Learning



Class Music lessons for pupils in Years 7- 11

To enable us to undertake practical work, we would be grateful if you could equip your son with a set of headphones to bring in on the day he has class music. This would assist us greatly with the current Covid -19 restrictions.

Ideally we would wish all pupils to have headphones by the week commencing 21st September. The headphones will need to be wired and have a 3.5mm 'small jack' connector. They **cannot** be Wireless /Bluetooth or Apple 'Lightning' connections as these are not supported in our classrooms.

If you need to purchase this for your son, a cheap pair of basic, lightweight headphones would be sufficient and can cost less than £10.

Please see below for example photographs.



If your child is Pupil Premium and you would like the school to provide a set of headphones, please email me (at the address below) and we will supply a pair.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at music@beechencliff.org.uk

Instrumental Lessons

We will be commencing Instrumental lessons on the week commencing 21st September. Timetables will be uploaded to the website on Friday 18th September.

Mr P Calvert
Head of Music

Heritage Open Day

The custodians of the Bath Jewish Burial Ground, in Combe Down are holding a Heritage Open Day on the 20th September, Please see the flyer below. Many thanks.

Mr T Fieldhouse
English Teacher



THE FRIENDS OF BATH JEWISH BURIAL GROUND

INVITE YOU TO VISIT

BATH JEWISH BURIAL GROUND

GREENDOWN PLACE, BRADFORD ROAD,
COMBE DOWN, BATH BA2 5DD

WE ARE OPEN

SUNDAY 20 SEPTEMBER 2020

11.00AM – 4.00PM

VISIT THIS BEAUTIFUL, TRANQUIL BURIAL GROUND, THE RESTING PLACE OF BATH'S JEWISH COMMUNITY DURING THE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURIES. EXPERIENCE THE QUIET PEACEFUL ATMOSPHERE OF THE CEMETERY, AND LEARN ABOUT THE ROLE OF THE COMMUNITY IN BATH.

NO BOOKING REQUIRED BUT MAX. 15 ON SITE AT ONE TIME
CHILDREN MUST BE SUPERVISED AT ALL TIMES.
PLEASE, NO DOGS. ASSISTANCE DOGS ONLY PERMITTED.
WHEELCHAIR AND BUGGY ACCESS IS DIFFICULT – STEPS DOWN AT ENTRANCE AND VERY UNEVEN GROUND.

