



BEECHEN CLIFF

19th November 2020

Message from Headmaster

Pledge of Respect 2020

Across the UK this week schools are recognising an anti-bullying campaign promoted by the National Children's Bureau, the Anti-Bullying Alliance and SafeToNet. At Beechen Cliff, we are marking the week by launching this year's Pledge of Respect Campaign. This is a positive, solution-focussed, approach to tackling bullying, which emphasises what constitutes good, respectful relationships within a community. The Pledge was pioneered by the school's Equalities Team who wrote the attached document and, as part of this, also set out a clear commitment to contribute to our collective duties under the Equality Act 2010.

Those of you who were parents at the school last year may recall we held a signing ceremony and unveiling of the Pledge display, which is pictured here and contains over 1300 signatures.



As well as pupils, students, staff, the PTA and Governors, there were signatures from external partners and friends of the school, ranging from Bath Rugby to the Police, Bath Black Families to the School Nursing Service. We were thrilled that so many individuals and organisations were represented.

Under the current Covid restrictions, the Pledge of Respect 2020 is taking a different format. Although we are unable to hold a ceremony, we are marking the week virtually and asking everyone in the school community to 'sign up'. For pupils, students and staff we are taking photos holding up signs saying, #Ipledge, #Wepledge or #BCSP, and we have invited many external organisations to do the same. Once we have collected all the photos, we make a display in the school. This will be shared with you in due course.

We would also like to invite you to take a photo and send it to us to be included in the display. This could be of you as individuals, together or of members of your organisation if you would like to show your 'corporate' support to Beechen Cliff. Indeed, we believe that this year presents an even more powerful opportunity for parents and external organisations to set an example by showing the support of the wider school community to the Pledge.



If you would like to send us a photo, we attach three cards to this newsletter that you can print out and use. We would ask that you send us a **LANDSCAPE** photo by **Friday 20th November**, along with the names and titles of those featured. Please bear in mind current social distancing rules in the photo. Photos should be sent to headofsixth@beechencliff.org.uk.

Whether you send a photo or not, we would ask that you read the Pledge of Respect 2020 and discuss it with your son/daughter. We thank you for your support and partnership in this.

Mr J Oldham
Head of Sixth Form

Jogging bottoms

A reminder that these can be purchased directly from the school, due to lockdown. Any boy needing a pair can report the Headmaster's office and they will be provided. The £20 cost will be applied to the ParentPay account for ease of payment. If there is a need for any other item of uniform up to December 2nd, please contact the school and the garment will be sourced for you..

Mr A Davies
Headmaster

Calendar

Thursday 19th November

Year 11 Parents Evening (virtual)

Saturday 21st November

Solution Focussed Coffee Morning/Webinar 10.30-12:00

Friday 18th December

Last day of Term 2

Monday 4th January

INSET day

Tuesday 5th January 2021

Term 3 commences

Online Safety Group-Invitation to participate

Learning to keep safe online is an essential part of growing up in the modern world; accordingly, we teach pupils and students online safety in PSHE and through our tutor programme in line with statutory guidance. To ensure we deliver the most relevant and highest standard curriculum, we would welcome the views of parents. If you have an interest or expertise in this area, we would be very pleased to hear from you. Please email headofsixth@beechencliff.org.uk. Thank you,

Mr J Oldham

Deputy Headmaster

Upcoming Progress Reports and Parents Evenings:

This is to inform parents and carers that we will be publishing progress reports for Years 7, 11 and the Upper Sixth as well as a Full Subject report for Year 9 before the end of term in December. These will be available to view on INSIGHT and an email will be sent nearer the time. Progress reports for Years 8, 10 and the Lower Sixth will be published soon in January .

I would also like to remind you that Parents evenings are scheduled to take place on the following evenings (remotely).

Year 11: Thursday 19th November

Upper 6th: Thursday 10th December

More detail on these evenings and future parents evenings for other year groups will be provided in due course.

If you have any queries regarding these, please contact me via headmaster@beechencliff.org.uk

Mr A Seal

Assistant Headteacher

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

Covid 19: Online Safety for parents webinar: “It is never going to happen to my child...”

Avon and Somerset Constabulary in response to Covid19 Lockdown 2.0 is offering a free parents webinar about online safety.

The content includes:

- Overview of online risks.
- Exploitation of children online.
- Technical protective and safety measures available.
- Top tips on starting a conversation with your child about the internet and how to work together to use the internet safely.

Presenters:

- Androulla (Andri) Nicolaou, Prevention Officer and Coordinator
- Kristian Evans, Cyber Protect Officer
- Drew Jefferies, Cyber Protect Officer
- Verity Weston, Youth Project Coordinator

This webinar will be taking place next **Wednesday 25 November at 7pm-8.30pm**. To book a place, please follow Eventbrite link below.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/online-safety-for-parents-it-is-never-going-to-happen-to-my-child-tickets-128994797913?aff=ebdssbonlinesearch>

Mrs H Rogers

Pastoral and Safeguarding Administrator

Year 11 Mock Examinations

Year 11 Mock Examinations are scheduled to take place from 18th–22nd January. The timetable is available on the school website.

<https://www.beechencliff.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Year-11-Mock-Exams-Timetable-for-Website-Jan-2021.pdf>

A letter detailing arrangements will be emailed to all Year 11 parents/carers shortly.

Mr T Markall

Deputy Headmaster (curriculum)

Punctuality

Please ensure that your son leaves home in time to good time to arrive in school for tutor time that begins at 8.25am.

Mr K Mann

Assistant Headteacher

Head of Pastoral Care

Coronavirus Social Distancing 5th November guidance - Reminder!

We are receiving several calls informing us that pupils are meeting in each other's houses in groups. Please go through the Government advice below with your son that was issued on 5th November that relates to the latest lockdown. It is imperative that we all follow the rules to ensure the safety of everyone in our community:

Meeting other people from 5th November:

- * You must not meet people indoors unless they live with you or are in your support bubble.
- * You can meet someone who has a child with them, under 5 years old.
- * You can meet with a disabled person who has up to 2 carers with them.
- * Couples that do not live together and are not in a support bubble with each other can carry on seeing each other outdoors.

You can exercise outdoors, or visit outdoor public places, with:

- the people you live with
- your support bubble
- 1 person from another household.

Outdoor public places include:

- parks, beaches and countryside
- public gardens
- allotments
- playgrounds.

You cannot meet people in a private garden.

Against the law!

Meeting in larger groups is against the law, except for certain reasons. The police can fine you if you meet up in groups. You could get a fine of between £200 and £6,400. If you meet up with more than 30 people you could get a fine of £10,000.

Mr K Mann

Assistant Headmaster
Head of Pastoral Care



Dear Parents, Carers, Beechen staff and all!



Please support The Beechen Cliff PTA by using 'Give As You Live' when shopping online.

There is NO COST to you. You can simply shop online as normal, but do so via the 'Give as you Live' site (or download the app), accessing 1000s of outlets and almost every major store. In turn, the retailers then pay the charity- in this case the Beechen PTA.

There are already 77 'Give as you Live' supporters at Beechen, who have raised hundreds of pounds. Thank you. These funds will be invaluable at the moment.

You can see your 'Give as you Live for Beechen' contributions increasing, which is very rewarding in itself. You will also see the total raised collectively by the school community. (Individual supporters will not be able to see each other's details or totals).

New members - Please sign up today- or at least before you start Christmas shopping!

It will take you two minutes -follow the link below.

<http://www.giveasyoulive.com/join/beechencliffpta>

You will then need to select the "support us, it's free" button. Set up your account.

And then remember to go through the Give as you Live site each time you shop- you can also set up the 'pop up' reminder if you wish. Or 'pin' the website to stay along your tool bar.

Thank you very much... Let us support our school at this time.

Beechen Cliff PTA

Any questions please contact the PTA teamvia the Co-Chair Marina on marinaptabeechen@yahoo.com



Year 11 Revision

Dear Year 11 Parents and Carers,
Please note that from Monday 30th November, some departments will be offering after school revision support for year 11 students in the lead up to their mock exams in January. This will allow for four weeks of revision support prior to their mock exam week. Please encourage your son to attend relevant sessions.

The schedule can be found on the school website, or please follow this link:

<https://www.beechencliff.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Year-11-After-School-Revision-Sessions-Nov-2020-to-Jan-2021.pdf>

Best wishes,

Ms S Sullivan
Assistant Headteacher, Teaching and Learning

Theme of the Week

Anti Bullying Alliance are the official organisers of Anti-Bullying Week. Anti-Bullying Week 2020 will take place from Monday 16th November - Friday 20th November 2020. The theme is **United Against Bullying**.



“This year, more than ever, we’ve witnessed the positive power that society can have when we come together to tackle a common challenge. Anti-Bullying Week is no different. Bullying has a long lasting effect on those who experience and witness it. But by channeling our collective power, through shared efforts and shared ambitions, we can reduce bullying together. From parents and carers, to teachers and politicians, to children and young people, we all have a part to play in coming together to make a difference. We’re all a piece in the puzzle, and together, we’re united against bullying.”

Anti-Bullying Week 2020 manifesto.

This is the official video of Anti-Bullying Week 2020 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DOeRmP3XRHg>

This week we are focusing on cyberbullying as part of Anti-Bullying Week.

What is cyberbullying?

- ♦ sending threatening or abusive text messages
- ♦ creating and sharing embarrassing images or videos
- ♦ trolling – the sending of menacing or upsetting messages on social networks, chat rooms or online games
- ♦ excluding children from online games, activities or friendship groups
- ♦ shaming someone online

- ♦ setting up hate sites or groups about a particular child
- ♦ encouraging young people to self-harm
- ♦ voting for or against someone in an abusive poll
- ♦ creating fake accounts, hijacking or stealing online identities to embarrass a young person or cause trouble using their name
- ♦ sending explicit messages, also known as sexting
- ♦ pressuring children into sending sexual images or engaging in sexual conversations.

You will be asked to re-sign the Beechen Cliff Pledge of Respect this week. Don’t forget the pledge includes promising to not:

“Creating and sharing embarrassing images or videos.”

“Sending upsetting messages on social media and online games.”

For each of the actions in blue, consider the following:

1. Have you witnessed them?
2. What might the impact have been on those people?
3. Do these actions uphold our **Pledge of Respect?**
What could the impact of this on others be?

At Beechen Cliff, we expect you to uphold the Pledge of Respect beyond your years at school. Please reflect on:

Why this is so important

How would your life experiences be different if more people upheld these values?

Ms P Netto

PSHE and Mental Health Team

Menu for w/c 23rd November

Monday: Creamy Tarragon Chicken, Mushroom Stroganoff (V)

Tuesday: Spicy Pork and Bean Casserole, Toasted Bean and Mozzarella Wrap (V)

Wednesday: Chicken Ham and Vegetable Stew, Spinach pea and Parmesan Risotto (V)

Thursday: Beef and Vegetable Curry, Chickpea and Potato Curry (V)

Friday: Chicken with Mushrooms and Peppercorns, Potato spinach and Feta Bake (V)

Mr D Keal
Chef

Mental Health and Wellbeing

This Saturday (21st November) we will be running our exciting Solution Focused webinar with our Solution Focused Trainer, Tara Gretton. We have been delighted with the numbers of [parents/carers who have already signed up for this event. It's not too late to sign up and we particularly invite fathers and male carers to join us. As we are in our second lockdown, this event is the perfect time to learn about having hopeful conversations with our children, our friends and families. A reminder on how to book is at the bottom of this segment.

Parent/Carers - Resources for young people who are struggling

As you know, Beechen Cliff is proud to be a lead school for the local strategic alliance **Boys in Mind (Girls Mind Too)** in Bath. Their website has some powerful films including the film they made with us during lockdown, showing our whole school approach to mental health at Beechen Cliff.

Link: [A Whole School Approach](#)

Last month, **Boys in Mind** added a new page to their website dedicated to providing advice and support to family, friends and carers of young people. Being a parent/carer or friend of a young person who is struggling can be challenging so they have created a collection of useful resources, including helpful films, practical ideas such as the Anger Volcano, and lots of advice from *young people* on what helps them when they are experiencing a difficult time.

Link: [Family friends and carers](#)

As we try to support our young people during the second lockdown, we actively encourage you to check out this really useful section and read the tips from young people themselves. There is a section for Secondary and Primary school children. This website page will be regularly updated with new resources, so bookmark it now.

An exciting opportunity for all Parents and Carers on Saturday 21st November 2020.

During the last term of lockdown, you will remember that we ran a pilot where we invited parents, staff, students and pupils in Year 10 to try out some Solution Focused (SF) questions with their families. Tara Gretton is our in-school SF Practitioner providing support to students across the school and she has trained our staff and now some of our students in the SF approach. Following the SF pilot, staff, students and parents/carers kindly completed a feedback questionnaire. From our parent/carer responses, 80% said that they would welcome some training on SF to learn more about how to have SF conversations with their children.

At Beechen Cliff, it is our hope to work collaboratively across our school community to continue to build on creating a supportive environment for all. And that very much includes you,

We are delighted that Tara Gretton has agreed to host a webinar next term for parents and carers. This is a pilot 'coffee morning', where we hope to share with you our vision for the mental wellbeing support at Beechen Cliff.

We have chosen to host this **FREE** webinar on **Saturday 21st November 2020 10.30am-12:00pm** in the hope that at least one parent will be able to attend.

'Time to Talk'. Grab a coffee and join us in this online Open Space especially for Beechen Cliff Parents and Carers.

During the 'Time to Talk' webinar, we would like to share more information about the Solution Focused Approach. As well, we would like to give you all time in break out rooms to talk about your recent experiences of parenting and what your hopes are for the future.

If you would like to have an e-Ticket for this event, please can you sign up using the attached Eventbrite link.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/beechen-cliff-school-parents-coffee-morning-time-to-talk-tickets-124148719161>

We will email you all the Zoom link a few days before the event. We are really looking forward to seeing you all there.

The Mental Health Team

Second Hand Uniform

School is now able to receive your uniform donations once again!

Please put donated uniform in a labelled plastic bag and ask your son to drop it off in the blue flip topped bin by the main entrance.

The bin is located inside the first foyer at the Main Entrance of the School – removing any need to go into the reception area and is clearly labelled '**PTA Second Hand Uniform Donations.**'

The arrangements for selling second hand uniform during the covid restrictions is still being finalised, however if there is something you urgently need please email me and I can try to sort it out.

Thank you to all parents for keeping uniform supplies for us, we are very grateful.

Any queries about Second Hand Uniform please contact: Lesley Leming jesterlb@btinternet.com