



BEECHEN CLIFF

11th February 2021

Year 11/U6th Student Half Term Expectations

With upcoming assessments of one form or another we understand that U6th and Year 11 students will be considering the revision requirements for February half term.

At this point we cannot be specific about assessment timetables but have indicated that there will be some form of assessment next term. We will, of course, update students as soon as possible with this information once we are able to and will give adequate time for them to prepare. With that in mind the expectations for half term are a little different to what we would normally recommend.

Over half term it is important that students consolidate their learning and this could take the form of catching up missed work, consolidating knowledge or starting some revision using past exam papers. However, it is also really important that students take a break from their screens, have a rest and take the opportunity to do something different that they have not had the opportunity to do in recent weeks (within the Covid restrictions of course). Wherever possible getting exercise and fresh air is really to be encouraged along with other activities away from screens.

In order to return to effective studying in Term 4 and to be ready for the build up to future assessments, it is crucial that batteries are recharged over the half term break. Maintaining a healthy balance of consolidation work and having a break at half term is particularly important this year.

On this note, we were extremely pleased to hear about all the activities in which students participated on the Wellbeing day on the 28th January. These ranged from exercise to cake-baking, painting to playing, and many talked about making social contact with friends. We hope that the items in the newsletter each week have provided ideas for free time and may equally be useful over the break. We would also encourage you, using our solution focussed approach, to reflect with your son/daughter about their successes this term and what they have noticed has helped them cope.

Finally, we know that contact with school and other support from Tara Gretton, Off the Record or Mentoring Plus, is particularly important for some pupils at the moment. You will see later in this newsletter details of organisations which can provide support with mental health issues over the school break.

Calendar

Friday 12th February

End of Winter Term 3

Monday 15th–Friday 19th February

School holiday

Monday 22nd February

Start of Easter Term 4

Thursday 25th February

Year 7 Parents' Evening (virtual)

Thursday 4th March

World Book Day

Wednesday 10th March

Year 8 Parents' Evening (virtual)

Thursday 1st April

End of Easter Term 4

Monday 19th April

Start of Spring Term 5

We will be pleased to hear from you when we return if there is anything of which we need to be aware of in relation to students' wellbeing or mental health.

After half term, once we have the details from Ofqual on examinations and assessment, we will update students and parents on the plans for the remainder of the academic year.

Mr T D Markall
Deputy Head
(Curriculum)

Mr J Oldham
Deputy Head
(Safeguarding and
Head of Sixth Form)

Covid testing on return to school.

On Monday 22nd February and Friday 26th February, the school Covid testing centre will be testing all critical workers and vulnerable pupils for whom parents have provided consent. This is in line with national guidance. Pupils are not required to attend on those days if they do not usually. Testing is not mandatory however should you wish for your child to be tested and you have not yet provided consent please use the link below to register.

[Consent Form](#)

Mrs C Thompson
Administration Manager

REPORTING PUPIL ABSENCES

Please note that all absence from online learning should be reported in the same manner to the attendance offices because we do record the pupils levels of engagement!

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

Attention everyone with an interest in making theatre

During this lockdown the egg theatre in Bath have set up an online community where young people can collaborate with artists and technology creators to discover new and exciting ways of mixing technology, performance and art.

Full details can be found here:

<https://www.theeggassembly.com/>

Mr E Gill
Mathematics



Beechen Cliff Design and Technology food Newsletter Issue 11

Please take the time to read February's edition of the popular Design and Technology Food Newsletter can be found at https://drive.google.com/file/d/1QXxBGajOTMPvjTJmd6_wNQpE82u9bb3t/view?usp=sharing

Enjoy trying out the simple but delicious recipes during the half term break!

Food Technology Team



The Oxford University Computing Challenge

The 2021 Oxford University Computing Challenge will be taking place in the week beginning 22nd February. This is available for anyone who achieved a score in the top 10% of the UK in the Bebras challenge in November.

The challenge takes an hour and for 2021 only, students can take part at home unsupervised, but under a code of honour. We will send out emails to all eligible students with their login details, but in the meantime please visit <https://oucc.uk/> to get in some practice.

Good luck with the challenge!

Ms L Jarvis
Head of IT and Computing



Support beyond school for my mental health or other concerns



BEECHEN CLIFF



School Nursing Service
or 07507 334357



Charity for improving mental health
0808 802 5544
www.youngminds.org.uk



Free, safe and anonymous online
support for young people
www.kooth.com



Young people's drug and alcohol service
Tel: 01225 463344
Instagram [dhiproject28](https://www.instagram.com/dhiproject28)



Free, confidential and independent services
for young people 01225 312481 or text
07753 891 745 (for Listening service)
www.offtherecord-banes.co.uk



Essential support for under 25s
0808 808 4994
<http://www.themix.org.uk/>



Oxford Health
NHS Foundation Trust

CAMHS Service
<http://www.oxfordhealth.nhs.uk/camhs>

SAMARITANS

Whatever you're going through,
a Samaritan will face it with you.
Phone: 116 123
www.samaritans.org

Theme of the Week

Captain Sir Tom Moore (30th April 1920–2nd February 2021)

The Army veteran won the nation's hearts by walking 100 laps of his garden in Marston Moretaine in Bedfordshire last year during the first lockdown, raising money for NHS Charities Together. Captain Sir Tom had initially set out to raise £1,000 for NHS charities by walking 82ft (25m)-loops of his garden, but he eventually raised £32,794,701 from more than 1.5 million supporters, in the run up to his 100th birthday in April 2020

He was credited with lifting the nation's spirits and his saying "Tomorrow will be a good day" trended on social media. He was knighted by the Queen in July 2020 in a special ceremony at Windsor Castle. Captain Sir Tom became the oldest person to have a UK number one single when he recorded You'll Never Walk Alone with Michael Ball last year.

Captain Sir Tom served in India and the Burma campaign during the Second World War. He later became an instructor in armoured warfare. After the war, he worked his way up to managing director of a concrete company, and also was an avid motorcycle racer.



Tributes - why do you think Captain in Sir Tom had such an impact?

Prime Minister Boris Johnson said: "Captain Sir Tom Moore was a hero in the truest sense of the word. In the dark days of the Second World War he **fought for freedom** and in the face of this country's deepest post-war crisis he **united us all**, he **cheered us all up**, and he embodied the triumph of the human spirit. He became not just a national inspiration but a beacon of **hope** for the world."

A tweet from the White House said: "We join the United Kingdom and the world in [honouring] the memory of Captain Sir Tom Moore, who **inspired** millions through his life and his actions."

Gareth Southgate hailed Sir Tom for uniting the country "in a way that few ever could. I was especially struck by his **dedication to going above and beyond** with his personal challenge, his **relentless positivity** and his **good humour**."

Ellie Orton, chief executive of NHS Charities Together - "a one-off and he **leaves the world a better place**".

The Queen - '...recognising the **inspiration** he provided for the whole nation and others across the world.'

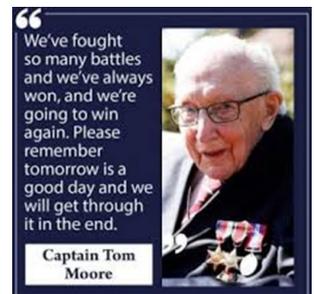
What can we learn from Captain Sir Tom?

'The hardest part is the first step; once you've done that, if you do another one, it becomes a natural thing.'



'I've always believed things will get better. The sun will shine again, the birds will sing and we'll all have a lovely day tomorrow.'

The Captain Tom Foundation - money donated is used to support charities such as Mind, hospices, the Royal British Legion and community initiatives. The mission is to inspire hope - to help people who are struggling to see and believe that there is always **hope**, no matter how dark things seem.



What have these people learned from Captain Sir Tom?



<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-wiltshire-52368131> - Former Scotland

rugby Captain Mike Biggar, who has limited mobility after a near fatal car crash in 1992, is raising money for the NHS by walking 100 steps in a month - he said he was inspired by the efforts of Captain Tom Moore.

Sir Captain Tom Moore's campaign to support those who feel "lonely and frightened" during lockdown has inspired a five-year-old with cerebral palsy to take regular walks without his sticks. Lewis Whele, five, from Colchester, is undergoing physiotherapy after surgery, and met Captain Sir Tom during the Pride of Britain Awards.



Another person inspired by Sir Tom's fundraising was six-year-old Frank Mills, who has spina bifida, which is when a baby's spine and spinal cord do not develop properly in the womb, causing a gap in the spine. Keen to raise money for NHS Charities Together, Frank set out to walk 10 metres every day with his frame, despite the fact that he only started walking 18 months ago. "I am hugely grateful to the NHS for all that they have done, and do for me, my family and our nation. I have spina bifida so walking is not that easy for me."



What qualities/resources/aspirations that would be helpful during lock down can be inspired by Captain Sir Tom?

Is there anything we can do to put these ideas into practice? How can we 'be more Captain Tom'?



Miss P Netto

PSHE

PTA Fundraising Campaign

Dear Parent/Carer

We launched our PTA fundraising campaign last week to support amongst other things, the ongoing work around mental health within our school

Mental health services

The school is reaching the end of its allocated budget and requires further funding to continue to provide ongoing support and training for these vital services, offered to the wider Beechen Cliff school Community.

Laptop funding

Support is crucially needed in helping those pupils who have no laptop access allowing them to fully participate in remote learning.

Satellite canteen operating from the School Clubhouse

During September -December 2020, the previously PTA funded the Schools' Clubhouse which has no electricity, running water or drainage, provided a vital daily catering facility to feed the masses. We urgently seek to complete this work ASAP which will bring immediate benefits in covid times and longer term resourcing for the wider community, in social and sporting terms.

Please have a look at our campaign. The link is below:

<https://app.investmycommunity.com/ptabeechen2465>

Thank you for your support

Beechen Cliff PTA

Thank you message on behalf of the PTA

'A big thank you to everyone who has supported our PTA led 'Beechen Cliff Family' online fundraising campaign

We are so grateful to all our wonderful parents and supporters for their generous giving, over £4000 of kindness in less than a week!

Local Residents Associations

The PTA also contacted the local residents associations about this particular campaign and a very kind individual wishing to remain anonymous, (with no connection to the school) got in contact and decided to generously donate £250! They live near the school and said that they very much missed seeing all the boys marching up and down every day and wished us well with our campaign. How wonderful to know there is so much kindness within our local community.

Marina Beare and Lesley Leming
Co Chairs PTA

Mental Health and Wellbeing

HOPE



As we come to the end of Term 3, we thought it would be a perfect time to focus on 'Hope' this week. We would like to invite all Beechen Cliff parents and carers to think about what you hope for over half term; remembering that having Hope is possible even when this half term's possibilities may be different to what we can usually expect. And thinking how we gently support our children to be hopeful at this time. What small things they might be able to hope for over the half term, that may make it more fun and useful. And to think about what difference does it make when we share our own hopes for ourselves and for our children with them? What might we hope for together after lockdown and the pandemic that may make this time more bearable?

WE BELIEVE THAT in difficult situations even a tiny bit of hope can make a real difference.

What does hope mean to you and your family? What difference has hope made to you and your family in difficult situations in the past?

We invite you to share a moment of hope with your family members. We wish you all the very best possible break this half term holiday.

The Mental Health Team

BEECHEN CLIFF SIXTH FORM



HOODIES 2021



**ARE NOW AVAILABLE TO ORDER ON
PARENTPAY**

**COST IS £22.00 + £4.00 IF YOU WOULD LIKE
A NICKNAME ADDED**

IN SIZES XS-XXL

BCS SCHOOL LOGO ON FRONT OF HOODIE

IN A CHOICE OF 4 COLOURS:

CORNFLOWER BLUE

RED HOT CHILLI

OXFORD NAVY

ARCTIC WHITE

DEADLINE DATE FOR ORDERING IS

26TH MARCH

**LEAVERS'
HOODIES**

**PLACE
YOUR ORDER
NOW!**

