



BEECHEN CLIFF

25th February 2021

Message from the Headmaster

Dear Parents and Carers

We now have the long-awaited confirmation that the school will begin the return to pupils from March 8th. You will shortly receive a letter giving the details that you will need for your son or daughter and I can speak for every member of staff at the school when I say that we are relieved and delighted to be having them all back. I suspect that many parents will be feeling the same.

The letter to you will include details of the assessment process for year 11 and Year 13 now that the final Ofqual consultation has been completed and its recommendations published. I appreciate that there will be a mixture of emotions involved as we get our community back in the school but we will work to make everyone feel at home as quickly as possible.

Mr A Davies
Headmaster

Calendar

Thursday 25th February

Year 7 Parents' Evening (virtual)

Thursday 4th March

World Book Day

Wednesday 10th March

Year 8 Parents' Evening (virtual)

Tuesday 23rd March 2021

Year 9 - HPV vaccinations

Thursday 1st April

End of Easter Term 4

Monday 19th April

Start of Spring Term 5

Thursday 22nd April 2021

Year 9 - Meningitis and DPT vaccinations

Monday 3rd May

Bank Holiday

Friday 28th May

End of Spring Term 5

Monday 7th June

Start of Summer Term 6

Tuesday 15th June

Year 8 - HPV vaccinations

School Nurse Routine Vaccination Programme

Please see below the confirmed dates on which the School Nurse team will be on site to provide vaccinations to pupils.

23rd March 2021 - Year 9 - HPV vaccinations

22nd April 2021 - Year 9 - Meningitis ACWY and DPT vaccinations

15th June 2021 - Year 8 - HPV vaccinations

All Covid mitigations will be followed as per the guidelines in place at the time.

Year 11/Upper 6th Assessments

Following the release to the press about GCSE and A level grading the year. We will now work on our approach to the final assessments. This will be communicated to students asap.

Please note there are no plans to run assessments during the first two weeks back (w/c 8th and 15th March).

Mr T D Markall

Deputy Head (Curriculum)

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

Character and Community

All pupils in Years 7 to 11 join a Google Classroom this week which brings together their work on Character and Community. The Character and Community sessions take place in tutor time on Thursdays. Pupils take part in activities in the tutor sessions which are based around holding a set of personal values which are upheld with integrity and respect. Once per half term, pupils reflect on these activities. Moving all activities and reflections to Google Classroom will mean that students can review activities and materials used in the tutor sessions outside of the Thursday tutor slot and personal reflections can take place over a greater period of time.

If you are a 'guardian' of a pupil on Google Classroom, you will automatically get a weekly update on what your son did in their Thursday tutor session. The work completed in these sessions contribute towards a 'graduation' which will take place in Years 7, 9 and 11.

Mr O Abbott
Head of Boarding

Mental Health and Wellbeing



We sincerely hope that you and your children have managed to enjoy a restful half-term break. At least we now have some degree of hope for a roadmap out of lockdown, including our pupils and students being able to return to school from 8th March. We are very much looking forward to welcoming them back. Whilst, many are extremely excited to return to school, some will be feeling anxious about it and the uncertainty surrounding testing and wearing masks in lessons, to name but a few of their potential worries. Our in-school Solution Focused trainer and Practitioner, Tara Gretton, has made a really powerful video for us this week, to continue on with her suggestions for how parents and carers can nurture hopeful, Solution-Focused conversations with our young people. This supports all of the PSHE input you will read about in this week's newsletter whereby tutors will have Solution-Focused conversations with all pupils and students across the school during the first of Term 3. We encourage you to watch this short video which we hope you will find helpful.

To watch Tara's video, click [here](#)

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1n4qs38mesMRsObzOtwmcB-L8P687wwV6/view?usp=sharing>

Wishing all parents, carers, staff, students and pupils a really hopeful term ahead.

The Mental Health Team

Theme of the Week

For the Theme of the Week session this week, tutors had a Solution Focused conversation with their groups to help pupils and students identify how they are coping (finding the strengths and positives) and setting out their best hopes (goals) for the term ahead. Students reflected on the following questions with their tutor groups:

1. What did you enjoy about half term?
2. What have you been pleased to notice about yourself recently? What are you doing well?
3. Scaling - if 10 is you on a good day, what number would you put yourself as right now? Why that number? Why not lower?

What number would you like to be tomorrow, or this time next week?

How could you move up to the next number on your scale?



4. What are your hopes for this new term? What goals would you like to set yourself?

What are you looking forward to? How will you know if you have achieved your goals?

Optional - what are your reactions/thoughts about the announcement from the government yesterday? How do you think you will cope with any upcoming changes? What strengths (that you already have - identified in question 2) could you use to help you?

If you would like to have some Solution Focused Conversations at home, here is a reminder of some of the basic principles of the SF approach:

It is important to remember that people are experts of themselves, so SF conversations are designed to help people find solutions for themselves, rather than giving advice or guidance (although sometimes a different approach is needed - please ensure you pass any concerns to HoHs or DSLs)

We invite people to notice what is working and what is going well, no matter how small these things may be - this can encourage a sense of hope and possibility, and build on what's already working. We don't focus on the problem, but what's happening in the absence of the problem and building on this.

We often use scaling to help identify what is working - if 10 is you on a good day, where on the scale would you be in this moment and why - the focus is always why are you that number and not lower? What's going well so that you are a 3 and not a 2 (for example)? We help people to recognise that no matter where they are on the scale, they **are** coping so some things are going well, and we work to identify those things. When we aim to move up the scale, we aim to move up in very small, realistic steps, and focus on **how** we can move forward by building on existing strengths and what's already working

We invite people to think about their **hopes** for the future (this can be in days, weeks, months). This approach is forward thinking, and encourages people to reflect on what they would like their future to be like, and then how they could achieve that.

We reinforce and emphasise evidence of strengths, healthy coping mechanisms and any small steps made - there is a focus on the details of what's working; you can explore what your preferred future is like in small detail to better visualise it (and therefore work towards achieving it).

Miss P Netto

PSHE

Sixth Form Hoodies 2021

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

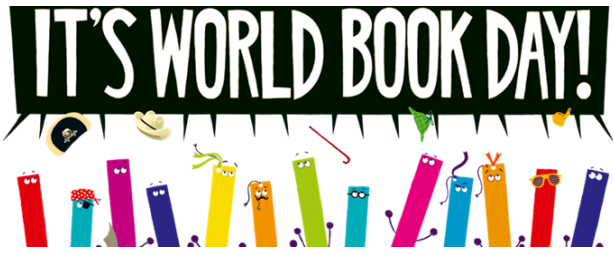
DEADLINE DATE FOR ORDERING IS 26TH MARCH

LEAVERS' HOODIES

PLACE YOUR ORDER NOW!

TWENTY 21 LEAVERS

How you can celebrate World Book Day on Thursday 4th March 2021!



World Book Day is one of the highlights of our year at Beechen Cliff School! We love the annual celebration of authors, illustrators, books and the joy of reading.

While this year may be slightly different due to lockdown, we have plenty of ideas of how to celebrate 2021 World Book Day on 4 March. Reading for pleasure is at the heart of World Book Day. We know that making every day a book day can have significant impacts on children and young people's wellbeing. Three in five children and young people told us during the first lockdown that reading makes them feel better. It shows just how important it is to encourage children to read for pleasure during these very turbulent times.

Beechen Cliff Dress up

On the day many teachers will be dressing up as characters from some of their childhood favourite books and will be reading an excerpt to you at the beginning of your lessons that day. The idea is to share the joy that books bring!

Of course, if you would like to join in and dress up as a character or would like to read an excerpt from your favourite book then please feel free to do so. Can I ask that pupils who would like to share a book recommendation please email me at mnewell@beechencliff.org.uk. I can then liaise with you regarding when and how to do this.

Finally, I will be sharing some resources, book recommendations and other activities with your tutors next week.

Mr M Newell
English

B&NES Music Education HUB FREE online event

Bath & North East Somerset Music Education HUB and Komedia, Bath, are pleased to announce the launch of six FREE hour-long online sessions with professional DJ, Peter Carroll on Thursday 4th March.

The sessions are suitable for children and young people from upper Key Stage 2 onwards (age 10 and upwards) and walk the viewer through basic DJ skills including selecting tracks, beat matching and mixing.

New skills can be developed, or existing ones honed, alongside the videos by downloading one of the many DJ apps, which will allow you to try out all the techniques highlighted in the sessions.

Access to these exciting online sessions can be gained by emailing Komedia at info@komediabath.co.uk – with the subject “DJ Masterclass”

If you need any further information please contact Komedia or B&NES Music HUB music@bathnes.gov.uk

Thanks for your help in providing our children and young people with access to music activities during this difficult period

Tim and Estelle

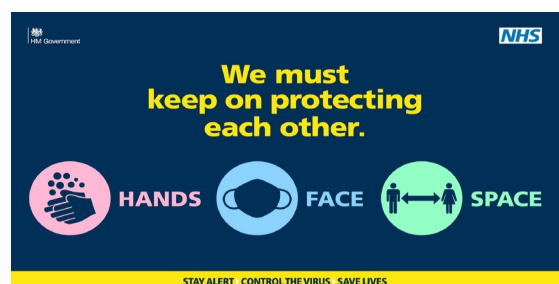
People & Communities
B&NES Music Service &
Music Education Hub
B&NES Council
Lewis House
Manvers Street
Bath

07887 213463 (Estelle)
07887 213464 (Tim)

www.bathnes.gov.uk
www.banesmusiconline.co.uk



A full size poster is published alongside this newsletter



PTA Fundraising Campaign

1. Beechen Cliff Crowd funding campaign

£15,000 raised within 2 weeks following its launch in Feb 2021. Big thank you to parents who have supported this.

Please donate what you can afford. Our target is £20,000

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

Focusing on:

- Mental health services within school
- School laptops and IT equipment

Completion of the Clubhouse amenities

Regular monthly donations from as little as £2 a month can all really help the school charity.

2. 50:50 Monthly school raffle

Gives everyone a chance to win 3 monthly cash prizes.

50% cash prize and 50% to the PTA Charity.

Last year 50:50 raised £2000 for funding school projects and £2000 for 50:50 members.

- Set up your standing order between £1-£10
- A number is allocated for every £1 paid which goes into the monthly draw. You can cancel at any time. Wish to sign up?

Contact Jane Millington: beechen5050@gmail.com

3. Second hand uniform donations

Uniform donations - To be dropped off by pupils at school during opening hours when lockdown ends.

- Your son can leave uniform donations in main entrance foyer in the labelled container
- All items need to be in good condition, laundered, with size labels and clearly listed in labelled bags please. All rugby/football boots to be also cleaned please. (We don't have paid staff to clean, sorry!)

Good quality second hand 'New Style' uniform including blazers, shirts, trousers, sports kit, foot wear, shin pads, hockey sticks all gratefully accepted.

Second hand uniform purchases ONLY from 'Mercy in Action' shop, Bear Flat (when current restrictions are lifted)

21A Wellsway, Bear Flat. BA2 4RR ([01225\) 920599](tel:01225920599))

Mercy in Action has kindly offered to stock second hand Beechen uniform and sell on our behalf. They are unable to accept any uniform donations due to storage restrictions. Stock to be replenished by PTA team.

Recent uniform sales raised over £1000. Thank you!

We also hope to continue with our second hand uniform sale days within school in the near future. Dates TBC

Second hand uniform enquiries:

Lesley Leming

Email: SecondhanduniformBC@gmail.com

4. Give As You Live (GAYL)

<https://www.giveasyoulive.com/join/beechen-cliff-school-parent-teacher-association>

Raise quick easy free funds for our school charity when you shop on-line

'Give as you Live' is an award winning, online fundraising website which gives Beechen Cliff parents and teachers the opportunity to raise free PTA funds every time they shop online. Over 4000 online stores including all major supermarkets etc.

It's free to join and costs you no extra when shopping.

In exchange for sending customers to a store's site, the store pays a commission to 'Give as You Live' which is shared with our PTA charity. Simple!

90 parents are currently signed up - thank you. Please remember to go through the GAYL page every time you shop at participating websites/ shops as we know it is easy to forget!

5. Bath Stone Property in Bear Flat

Agreed to donate 1% of their selling fee to a local school when being instructed to market your property. Please choose to support Beechen Cliff School!

bathstoneproperty.com

PTA team