



BEECHEN CLIFF

22nd April 2021

Message from the Headmaster

Dear Parents and Carers

The iced lollies have appeared in the Refectory again after every long absence...this can only mean that Summer will soon be upon us.

Can I remind /request of parents that boys are equipped with a bottle of water to limit the likelihood of dehydration and the effects of the sun – boys often seem unaware of the impact of running around on the field on warm days!

Thank you all for ensuring that pupils are kitted out appropriately for school and that the opportunity for barber visits was taken up by the vast majority - I feel sure that the queues will now have reduced to an acceptable level.

Mr A Davies

Headmaster

Calendar

Monday 3rd May

Bank Holiday

Thursday 20th May

Year 10 Potterne Shooting (4pm-10pm)

Thursday 27th May

Year 11 Potterne Shooting (4pm-10pm)

Friday 28th May

End of Spring Term 5

Thursday 3rd June

Year 13 Potterne Shooting (4pm - 10pm)

Monday 7th June

Start of Summer Term 6

Tuesday 15th June

Year 8 - HPV vaccinations

Friday 23rd July

End of Term

COVID 19 - Latest information

Our local Public Health team has provided the following information:

What to do if a positive test result is entered for a LFD by mistake – a change of procedure

Since last term the guidance has changed if someone enters their LFD test result online as positive by mistake. From now on if a lateral flow test result is negative but the pupil/student or staff member has entered the result as positive by mistake, NHS Test and Trace advise that the person takes a second lateral flow test straight away and enters the results for the second test on the NHS T&T system. As a result of having entered the first test as positive, the person will receive notification from NHS Test and Trace to isolate and have a follow-on PCR test. This advice though will be over-ridden by the second negative test **if taken on the same day**. You do not need to phone 119 as they will not be able to override the first test result.

INFORMATION REGARDING TESTING FOR EVERYONE

Please click the link below for information regarding access to Lateral Flow tests for all.

Pupils/students and staff can continue to collect test kits from the School.

<https://beta.bathnes.gov.uk/coronavirus-covid-19-latest-information-and-advice/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-everyone>

Forgotten Kit/Equipment

Please note that if your son has forgotten any kit or equipment that it cannot be dropped off as parents/visitors are currently not allowed on site and we continue to operate within bubbles and locked offices.

Mr K Mann

Assistant Headmaster

Theme of the Week—Ramadan

This week's theme of the week is about Ramadan, which is a month of fasting for Muslims observed during the ninth month of the Islamic calendar. Many Muslims fast between daylight hours for a month, and celebrate the end of the month with a festival called Eid ul-Fitr. The date for Ramadan changes every year – this year it will be observed between 12th April-12th May.

When is Ramadan?

Muslims use a lunar calendar.

In a lunar calendar, a new month starts when there is a new moon. This happens every 29 or 30 days, so the lunar month is usually 1 or 2 days shorter than a month in our calendar. A lunar year is about 11 days shorter than our year.



Because of this, dates in the Islamic lunar year "move forward" about 11 days every year. For example, in 2019 Ramadan began on 5th May, and in 2020, it began on 23rd April.

Ramadan is the ninth of the twelve months in the Islamic lunar calendar



Would the time of year make observing Ramadan easier or harder? (think about how many hours of daylight there are in June/July, exam season etc.)

Fasting does not mean Muslims retreat from their daily routine, rather they are encouraged to continue as normal in their work and usual activities. In fact, this is where the challenge of patience and endurance comes in. Muslims believe fasting is not merely a physical ritual, but is primarily a time for reflection and spiritual recharging. During the fast, Muslims believe that their desires are curbed and that they can gain understanding of how those who are less privileged than them feel. It is considered to increase one's patience, closeness to God and generosity towards others. The month is also a time of community; it is the custom for Muslims to invite their neighbours and friends to share their evening meal when they break the fast – iftar – and recite special *Tarawih* prayers in congregation. It is also a time when Muslims try to reconnect with the

Qur'an, which they believe is the word of God - Ramadan It commemorates the first revelation of the Quran to the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) according to Islamic belief.

These two videos explain the importance of Ramadan from the perspective of young Muslims:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/23286976>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p02mwdxj>



Muslims celebrate the end of Ramadan with a festival called **Eid ul-Fitr**. This is celebrated in different ways all over the world. Have a look at some photos of different celebrations: <https://www.nationalgeographic.com/travel/lists/seasonal/eid-ul-fitr-ramadan-celebrations-around-the-world/>

We have pupils at Beechen Cliff observing the fast this year, so it is a good opportunity to find out more about this practice, and think about the challenges our pupils will face. You could have a think about what we as a community could do to support pupils who are fasting.

PSHE Update

This term pupils will be studying the following in their PSHE lessons:

Year 7- smoking and healthy lifestyles (continued from last term); finance, budgeting and careers

Year 8 - finance, gambling and social media

Year 9 - finance, gambling and social media

Year 10 - mindfulness; finance

Year 11 will have PSHE sessions once their assessments have been completed.

Year 12 will have PSHE sessions delivered via their tutors.

Miss P Netto

PSHE

Mental Health and Wellbeing

'Easter Holiday Reflections'

As we return from the Easter holidays, we are starting to see small signs of normality returning. We have had some chances to start to meet our friends and family after such a long time without and this has been a time for reflection as we think about the things that are so important to us.

Even though our children have had such a difficult time over the past year, there have been so many things that young people have learned that they may never have had the chance to experience without this unexpected 'pause' to everyday proceedings. It's the perfect time to ask them 'What have you been most pleased to notice about yourself, and how have you coped, during lockdown?' Indeed, some would say, a most unlikely question at this time is 'What's been better?' We are constantly amazed at what our young people tell us, which shows that they have coped remarkably and gained a lot more than we might ever have expected.

This is what we ask in every follow up Solution Focused conversation. We believe as SF practitioners that no problem happens all of the time, that people are not defined by their problems and that change is happening all of the time.

Even more change has already happened during the past 2 weeks of the Easter holidays, following 4 weeks back at school prior to this. Students who told us they were struggling and worried about social interaction were already telling us that small change has happened and that being back at school is getting easier. It will be really interesting to ask what new 'useful' change have they noticed during this 2 week break when they have had more opportunity to meet with the people they care about and resume some more normal activities?

In a Solution Focused conversation, if we do not invite ourselves and others to consider "What has been better?" we might not be giving ourselves the opportunity to notice this small useful change that will most likely lead to more change. By doing so, we are inviting people to have hope and to believe that they are not defined by their problems and their problems do not happen all of the time.

And we continue to feel hopeful that the students that are coming forward now for support will see useful change also.

We would like to invite you and your families to consider the following SF questions -

- * What difference does it make when you invite yourself to notice what difference it has made to you to have some small sense of return to normality during the Easter holidays, no matter how small?
- * What difference does it make to our interactions with our children and our families when we see them in their strengths and resources (how they have coped and managed, no matter how small)?

FINAL OPPORTUNITY TO BOOK YOUR FREE eTICKET FOR OUR SF PARENT COFFEE MORNING THIS SATURDAY

At Beechen Cliff School, we are delighted that we are able to offer our parents/carers the opportunity to receive training on how to have Solution-Focused conversations with their children. This compliments the training on SF techniques that staff have received and use with your children in school on a daily basis.

To learn more, we warmly invite you to join Tara Gretton and Susie Ingram who are accredited Solution Focused Practitioners (Tara is the Solution Focused Trainer who trains our staff) at our 3rd FREE Solution-Focused Coffee Morning for Parents/Carers happening **THIS Saturday 24th April**. 10am - 11.30am

It is our hope to support you as much as possible during this Pandemic and beyond, and we hope to do this by sharing more of the Solution Focused Approach with you. This session will be looking at 'what's worked so far'; so an opportunity for you to share your own stories, and to ask questions to a solution focused practitioner panel.

Please book your free ticket using the link below.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/beecheen-cliff-school-parent-coffee-morning-time-to-talk-tickets-145042609349>

We will email you all the Zoom Link a few days before the event.

We are really looking forward to seeing you all there.
Best Wishes

The Mental Health Team

REPORTING PUPIL ABSENCES

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

Year 11/U6th Assessments

I would like to congratulate our Year 11 and U6th students on their efforts towards their assessments so far and encourage them as the process continues this term. We will provide more information about the arrangements post assessment in due course. Please note the date for results days this year.

U6th: 10th August

Year 11: 12th August

Mr T.D. Markall

Deputy Head - Curriculum

DofE Update

The Gold Year 12 DofE group enjoyed a team building and expedition training day during the last week of term. The groups revised their navigation skills, camp craft skills, putting up tents and cooking pancakes on stoves. And finally we finished with first aid and expedition kit.

It was a pleasure to work with the group and we are all looking forward to the next element of training in July, an overnight camp in the Brecon Beacons.



Bronze DofE

The Bronze group have covered First Aid and expedition kit training this term and are now looking forward to their Outdoor learning day on the 30th April - 1st May. The next training session is the 27th April, 3.30pm-4.30pm.

Silver DofE

The Silver DofE group have also covered first aid and expedition kit this term, they look forward to their expedition from the 14th-16th May. The next training session is the 27th April during lunchtime.

Ms J Fox

DofE Manager

Non-Covid-19 related Support for Parents and Carers

Bath & North East
Somerset Council

Improving People's Lives

We have been asked by B&NES to share this information with you

Help to find and attain work is available through the [Employment and Skills pod of the Wellbeing Hub is here](#) Bath and North East Somerset residents who want to get back to work or change career can now get tailored advice on training and upskilling from a new employment and skills pod. The service is part of the Community Wellbeing Hub and aims to support people who have been made redundant due to Covid-19, or those who are short or long term unemployed, to seek and attain work

Energy at Home funding. A [Green Affordable Warmth Grant](#) is available to help households with an annual income of less than £30,000 and living in a low energy efficiency home EPC rating D, E, F or G for home insulation and low carbon heating improvements.



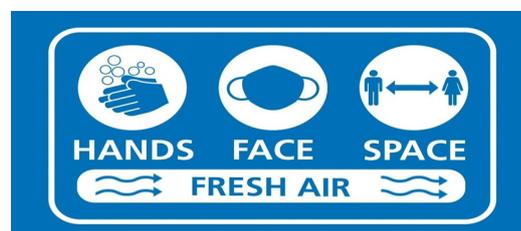
Clubs and Activities

The most up to date clubs and activities list is available on the school Website:

<https://www.beechencliff.org.uk/extra-curricular/clubs-and-activities/>

Mr T Markall

Deputy Head—Curriculum



Bath Theatre School

Following completion of the Year 7 music video we are commencing work on our show case this coming Friday. This is open to ALL years groups so we very much hope that you can join us to be part of this opportunity. Likewise please bring along any friends that might be interested. As a reminder here are some of the fantastic opportunities as we start to return to theatres!



Check out our previous shows here:

[Guys & Dolls Show Reel](#)

[Grease Show Reel](#)

This Friday will be a meet and greet for anyone interested to find out more with a chance to get involved with drama, singing and movement – we will meet in P4 (Pavilion) at 3.30pm with the session running until 5.30pm. The show case will be rehearsed in individual year groups so will very much be based around the level of interest from each year group and also the specific interests of those taking part. So we will have a full range of content from monologues, duologues, sketches to full singing and dancing numbers for larger groups. So there should be something for everyone.

The show case is planned to take place mid-October and as we can only work with 3 year groups each week, if interest is high then you may not be called every week.

If you can not make this Friday but are interested in taking part then please let me know.

Miss C Moorhead
Art

Second Hand Uniform

is now on sale at

Mercy in Action Charity shop

21 Wellsway Bath BA2 4RR

All Covid restrictions will apply.

Please wear your masks.

There will be a selection of
uniform sizes and stocks will be replenished
regularly

**Payments to be made by card
preferably!**

MENU for Week Commencing 26th April

Monday: Chicken Goulash, Veggie Sweet and Sour

Tuesday: Beef and Pork Meatball in Tomato Sauce,
Veggie Bolognese

Wednesday: Chicken and Vegetable Pie, Potato
Leek and Cheddar Pie

Thursday: BBQ Pork with Peppers, Tomato and
Basil Gnocchi

Friday: Cajun Chicken Burger with Sweet
chilli Mayonnaise, Falafel Burger

Mr D Keal

Chef