



## BEECHEN CLIFF

1st July 2021

### Message from the Headmaster

Dear Parents and Carers

I must take the opportunity to thank the PTA for their work in raising money from the sale of uniform and text books on Saturday.

The chance to see the new Year 7 boys during their CATs assessment on Saturday was used provide items for sale, kindly donated by members of the School community.

If you have any items of school uniform which have been outgrown then please do think about donating it to the PTA. You can guarantee it will be very well received.

Mr A Davies  
Headmaster

### Calendar

**30th June—1st July**

Sixth Form Induction (virtual)

**Thursday 1st July**

CATS catch-up slot 3.45pm

**Friday 9th-10th July**

CCF Exercise First Chance, Monkton

**Friday 16th—19th July**

CCF Exercise Summer Breeze, Brecon Beacons

**Monday 19th July -Friday 23rd July**

Activities Week - All pupils

**Friday 23rd July**

End of Term for all pupils and staff. **School will finish at 12.15pm**

**Tuesday 10th August**

A Level Results

**Thursday 12th August**

GCSE Results

**Thursday 2nd—Friday 3rd September**

INSET DAYS

**Monday 6th September**

Start of the Autumn Term for all pupils

### 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](mailto: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](mailto:sixthattendance@beechencliff.org.uk)

### Menu for week commencing 5th July

**Monday:** Beef Stroganoff, Veggie Shepherd's pie

**Tuesday:** Pork and Bean Casserole, Stuffed Pepper with coriander and sundried tomato couscous

**Wednesday:** Chicken with a tomato and olive sauce, Leek and Goats cheese tart

**Thursday:** Pork Sausages with Onion Gravy, Tomato and Basil Pasta Bake

**Friday:** Chicken and Chorizo Kebab with Pitta bread and minted yogurt, Vegetable and Halloumi Kebab with Pitta Bread

Mr D Keal  
Chef



## Update re testing from Public Health BANES

As you will be aware we have seen a rise in the number of cases of Covid-19 across the country, specifically cases of the Delta variant. Whilst currently numbers in B&NES are relatively low compared to some areas it remains a cause for concern. We therefore ask that staff, pupils and families remember the key points below and be advised that there has been no change in the national guidance issued around testing, tracing and containment in schools

- \* All staff and secondary / college students - please continue to undertake Lateral Flow Device (LFT) testing at least twice a week
- \* All adults in families / households with children aged under 11 - please continue to undertake LFT testing at least twice a week
- \* In the event of a positive LFT or the onset of COVID symptoms, a PCR test must be taken to confirm the case, and the individual and their contacts **MUST** self-isolate straightaway
- \* Contacts of a positive case are now also encouraged to take a PCR test, even without symptoms, to quickly detect secondary cases. Please remind contacts that if their PCR test is negative they must still continue to isolate for the remainder of their isolation period as they could still be incubating the virus

Please also note; **PHE recommend that children with non-COVID specific symptoms of acute respiratory infection don't go into school if they are unwell as a general rule, and get tested if they (or their families) progress to COVID 19 symptoms whilst unwell.**

Mrs C Thompson  
Administration Manager

## Activities Week

Preparations for activities week continue to go ahead involving all staff and students. This action packed week will feature the following activities for each year group:

### Year 7

First aid training, PSHE, Sports Day, Science Day, F1 Challenge, Drama, Community tasks and Oracy

### Year 8

Debating, First aid training, Oracy, Sports day, PSHE, Science challenge, Outdoor pursuits and Community tasks

### Year 9

Adventure Trail, Science, First aid training, Community tasks, PSHE, Speaking and listening, Oracy and Sports day.

### Year 10

Science, Oracy, First aid training, PSHE, Values and role modelling, Community tasks, Dodgeball tournament, Creative writing and Sports day.

Mr O Abbott  
Head of Boarding

## Intermediate Maths Olympiad success!

Massive congratulations to Prince K in year 10 who has just received the news that he achieved a MERIT in this year's Hamilton Mathematical Olympiad.



Prince scored an extremely impressive 128 (out of a maximum of 135) on the Intermediate Maths challenge back in March and duly qualified for the demanding Olympiad.

This is the culmination of a great year that also saw him sit the Senior Maths challenge and Olympiad papers.

Well done Prince!

Mr E Gill  
Maths

## Theme of the Week

This week students discussed the importance of Pride Month. June is **Pride Month**, when the world's **LGBT+ communities** come together and celebrate the **freedom to be themselves**.

Pride gatherings are rooted in the arduous history of minority groups who have struggled for decades to **overcome prejudice** and be **accepted for who they are**.

The original organisers chose this month to pay homage to the **Stonewall uprising** in June 1969 in New York City, which helped spark the **modern gay rights movement**. Most Pride events take place each year in June, although some cities hold their celebrations at other times of the year.



### The Bank of England has revealed the design for the new £50 note featuring computer scientist and code breaker Alan Turing.

Commenting on the new note, Governor Andrew Bailey said: "There's something of the character of a nation in its money, and we are right to consider and celebrate the people on our banknotes. So I am delighted that our new £50 features one of Britain's most important scientists, Alan Turing. Turing is best known for his codebreaking work at Bletchley Park, which helped end the Second World War. However in addition he was a leading mathematician, developmental biologist, and a pioneer in the field of computer science. He was also gay, and was treated appallingly as a result. By placing him on our new polymer £50 banknote, we are celebrating his achievements, and the values he symbolises".

**What does the choice of Alan Turing on the new £50 note mean for the LGBT+ community? What does it show about equality in the UK today?**



Why is Pride Month needed? Why is it important?

Half of LGBT pupils hear homophobic slurs 'frequently' or 'often' at school.

45% LGBT+ young people are bullied for their identity

64% trans young people are bullied

In approximately 72 countries it is illegal to be gay. In 11 of these countries, gay people face the death penalty for same-sex activity

**I AM  
GAY  
STRAIGHT  
BI  
TRANSGENDER  
...A PERSON**

What does it mean to be an ally?

Being an ally means supporting equality and fair treatment in society of people who identify as **LGBTQ+**.



This can mean speaking out against discrimination and doing what you can to improve the lives of **LGBTQ+** people everywhere - showing solidarity and support. How can **YOU** be an ally?



It is sometimes helpful to educate yourself further - there are some great YA books which help you to understand the experience of others, when you are back in school pop into the library to find our equalities section, and let us know if you have any recommendations

**Listen - to the experiences of LGBTQ+ people, and be an ally to them.**

Miss P Netto  
PSHE

**The Beechen Cliff PTA would like to say a BIG thank you!**

**Thank you to all the fantastic volunteers who helped at the uniform sale on Saturday and to all parents who donated uniforms and text books for the sale.**

We raised a fantastic **£2150** on Saturday alone!! It was a phenomenal amount that will go straight back into the school. If any parents would like to volunteer to help with future sales or the PTA in general, you are always welcome! Please get in touch with me on the email below. We plan to hold another sale in the autumn term.

Mercy in Action will **NO** longer be selling our uniform.

Thank you again for keeping uniform supplies coming in, we are very grateful. To date we have raised approximately **£5880** to go towards school.

Any enquiries about Second Hand Uniform please contact: Lesley Leming [jesterlb@btinternet.com](mailto:jesterlb@btinternet.com)

## Mental Health



### 'Solution Focused Parenting'

This year, we have been thrilled to host a series of Coffee Mornings for parents and carers where we have introduced so many of you to the Solution Focused approach we use at school with your children. Due to the success of these coffee mornings and parental demand for these to continue, we are planning to carry these on in the next academic year. We will offer training sessions for beginners (to include new parents) and for those parents who are already trained and want to learn about scenarios where this approach can be used at home. This week, we will start a new series of tips explaining how 'Solution Focused' Parenting can help your teenagers and we will give you some questions to ask your child to make sure that you are on the same page.

### What is Solution Focused Parenting?

Solution Focused Parenting moves the parents from what is wrong onto what is right. It creates a conversation around the capabilities and resources the family already has and places the parents and children as the experts in their own family lives. This gives the family the responsibility together to create their 'Hopes' for the future.

Solution Focused Parenting focuses on solutions driven by what is present and leads to more meaningful interactions versus what is missing or causing problems. Solution Focused Parenting changes the language from the way you think about the 'problem' into how you focus on what's working well already and what's wanted in the future.

An assumption of the solution focused approach is that 'change' is happening all of the time and that when we work towards what is 'hoped for' (rather than analysing the problem), it is more likely that it will happen

This week we would like to invite you to explore 'Hope':

- \* Think of a moment in the past where you felt really hopeful about your family and write that down.
- \* What did you feel, smell, hear, see, taste, think?
- \* What are you noticing about your family that tells you there is hope?
- \* What are your hopes for your family / family members?

How can you explore this theme of 'Hope' with your children/family?

Depending on your childrens' ages and likelihood of engaging with you, you could give each member of the family a piece of paper to write their hopes for themselves or the family on. They can share this or just keep it to themselves?

This can be an exercise to invite exploring the notion of 'Hope'.

For older children or those less likely to engage in an activity, try having a simple conversation around the dinner table about 'Hope' and times when they feel hopeful.

As always, if you are worried about your child and think that they need some support, please do let our pastoral team know in school.

The Wellbeing Team

## Duke of Edinburgh Update

### Bronze DofE



Last week the Bronze group received a training session on how to fully complete their Award and information about the Silver Award. There is a drop in session afterschool on Tuesday 13th July to help with any DofE/edofe questions. Meet outside of the humanities office.

### Silver DofE



The Silver group have their Qualifying expedition to the Marlborough Downs from the 19th-21st July.

### Gold DofE



The Year 12 Gold group have planned for their overnight training camp to Dartmoor on the 14th-15th July.

### DofE sign up for next academic year 2021-22

Year 8 students and parents received information about the Bronze Award last week, further information about enrolment will be provided in September.

Current Year 9 students will be offered the Silver Award next academic year and Year 12 students will be offered the Gold Award. Details to follow in September

Please contact Ms Fox (DofE Manager) or Miss Garland (DofE Administrator) if you have any questions regarding the DofE Award.

Ms J Fox

DofE Manager

## Sports Fixtures w/c Monday 5th July

Please find here the details of next week's fixtures, correct at the time of publication.

However please refer to the School Sports Fixtures website at <http://www.schoolsports.com/school/default.asp?id=374> for the most up to date information.

Day	Fixture	Start time/ kick off	Meet time	Transport	Finish/Return time
Monday 5th July					
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 8 tennis tournament	15:30	15:20	n/a	17:00
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 7 & 8 cricket festival	9:00	8:45	n/a	12:15
	Year 7 tennis tournament	15:30	15:20	n/a	17:00
	Pirates v Marauders	15:30	15:20	n/a	17:15
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> July	1st XI v Maggsy XI (Hinton)	12:30	11:15	MB	18:30
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> July					