



BEECHEN CLIFF

9th September 2021

Message from the Headteacher

Dear parents and carers,

Over the summer our Year 11 and Upper Sixth students achieved some excellent examination results, which should act as a strong basis for their next steps and I wish them all the best in this next phase.

This week it has been wonderful to welcome all our pupils and students back to school and there has been a real sense of energy and excitement over the first few days of term.

The testing process has gone well so far and our new Year 7 pupils and L6th students have completed their induction days.

On Tuesday afternoon the Year 7 pupils attended our welcome service and received their charters. These are presented to all new Year 7 pupils as part of their induction symbolising that they are now a Beechen Cliff pupil and to introduce them to our Core Values of aspiration, compassion, independence and respect.

Pupils in all year groups have spent time with their tutors to help prepare them and set the expectations for the year ahead, and all pupils are now attending normal timetabled lessons and will be getting back into routines.

Other activities are also underway including rugby practices and pre-season fixtures, clubs such as computer programming and scrabble and we are preparing for the Year 7 Tir-y-Cwm visits, Duke of Edinburgh training, Cambridge University visit and Coast to Coast Cycle ride.

I encourage all pupils and students to make the most of all the opportunities available to them and strive to do their best in their academic studies, upholding the school Core Values in the process.

Finally we look forward to our Prospective Parents Evening on Tuesday next week. Mr Mann has provided more details in the newsletter.

I wish everyone a very positive term ahead.

T. D. Markall

Mr T. D. Markall
Headteacher

Calendar

Monday 13th to Wednesday 15th September
Teaching Grp 7XT to Tir-y-Cwm

Tuesday 14th September
School closes early @12.25pm
Open Evening for Prospective Parents 6-8pm

Wednesday 15th to Friday 17th September
Teaching Grp 7XR to Tir-y-Cwm

Monday 20th to Wednesday 22nd September
Teaching Grp 7XL to Tir-y-Cwm

Wednesday 22nd to Friday 24th September
Teaching Grp 7AU to Tir-y-Cwm

Monday 27th to Wednesday 29th September
Teaching Grp 7AM to Tir-y-Cwm

Wednesday 29th to Friday 1st October
Teaching Grp 7AP to Tir-y-Cwm

Monday 4th to Wednesday 6th October
Teaching Grp 7AH to Tir-y-Cwm

Thursday 23rd September
Open Morning for Prospective Parents 9am - 12pm

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 School direct on 01225 480466, and select Option 1 or you can email attendance@beechencliff.org.uk.

Sixth Form Students

For a Sixth Form student absence please call the School direct on 01225 480466 and select Option 2 or you can email

sixthattendance@beechencliff.org.uk

Key Notices

Early Close—Tuesday 14th September

School will close at 12.25pm on Tuesday 14th September so that we can prepare for the Prospective Parents Evening between 5.30 and 8.15pm. There will be no hot lunches served on this day but there will be hot food available as normal during both break times.

Pupil will return to School as normal on Wednesday 15th September at the normal time

Mr K Mann

Assistant Head Community and Parental Engagement

Year 7 Residential Visits to Tir Y Cwm

Finally, after a 2-year wait, we are able to resume our Year 7 Residential Trips to Tir Y Cwm, Wales. The boys will attend in their teaching groups and the first of the seven visits will commence on Monday 13th September. Each visit will last three days, either Monday to Wednesday or Wednesday to Friday.

Tir Y Cwm is a former wood cutter's cottage in the Brecon Beacons, which was purchased by the Tir Y Cwm Trust in the 1970's, and is managed by a small team of Beechen Cliff staff and a few additional volunteers. It provides the school with a fantastic base for some of its outdoor activities.

During their time at the cottage, the boys will participate in an array of team building and problem solving activities, they will experience the terrain around them and with good weather experience gorge walking and bouldering. The activities have been planned to enable the boys to get to know each other and start to develop friendships that will hopefully remain with them throughout their time at Beechen Cliff School.

All Year 7 parents should have received a letter via ParentPay with the dates of the visit, depending on their son's teaching group, and information for the payment required. If however, you do have any queries regarding this visit or you incurred initial problems in setting up your ParentPay account, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Hawkins (ghawkins@beechencliff.org.uk)

Mr G Hawkins
Head of Physical Education

Prospective Parents Evening – Tuesday 14th September Year 7 and 8 Guides

All Year 7 and 8 pupils are expected to act as guides on this evening. School will close at 12.25pm and the guides should return to school for 5pm. They will be required until 7.30pm. If you are collecting your son at 7.30pm please ensure that you arrange a suitable pickup point, preferably on the Bear Flat as it may be congested on the avenues

Thank you

Mr K Mann

Assistant Head Community and Parental Engagement

Keep up to Date

As well as our weekly newsletter and regular updates of forthcoming events on our website, please follow us on [twitter@beechencliff](https://twitter.com/beechencliff) for the latest information, photos and 'what's' on in school.

Free School Meals (FSM)

Below is the link to apply for benefit related free school meals, along with a list of qualifying benefits. Please note **that there is no need to reapply if your child is already in receipt of benefit related free school meals at a B&NES school. The online link is the quickest way to apply for benefit related free school meals.**

<https://beta.bathnes.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>

Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods)

- Income Support
- Income-Based Jobseekers Allowance
- Income Related Employment Support Allowance
- Child Tax Credit (**WITHOUT Working Tax Credit**) **and** have an annual household income (as assessed by HMRC) below £16,190
- **Run-on Working Tax Credit** which is **only paid for 4 weeks** after you STOP qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- The Guaranteed Element of State Pension Credit
- Support under Part V1 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

Message from the Deputy Head

Tutor Time focus next week: Expectations and Reflections

Next week our focus is on ensuring pupils know what is expected of them in all aspects of school life, especially important after a disrupted 18 months of schooling. This includes uniform, equipment, attendance, punctuality and conduct in school.

All aspects of school life draw on our Core Values (Aspiration, Compassion, Independence and Respect) and we have translated these into our expectations for pupils in our 'Culture of Conduct'. You can see these in the table below:

Independence	Aspiration	Compassion	Respect
<i>Be ready</i>	<i>Be your best</i>	<i>Be kind</i>	<i>Show respect</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Be on time to school and lessons• Have the correct equipment and uniform• Complete work that has been set for class and homework• Ask for help and how you can improve• Do the right thing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Do the work to the best of your ability• Take opportunities to develop yourself• Take responsibility for your learning and be honest with yourself• Be self reflective and focus on self improvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Show kindness and consideration towards others• Speak politely and appropriately• Listen to others with empathy and understanding• Participate in all activities and encourage others to create a positive learning environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sit where you are asked to in class• Do as you are asked without argument• Stick to the classroom and equipment rules• Value other people's ideas, beliefs, work and contributions• Value equality and diversity both in school and in the community

In Theme of the Week and the Character Programme, pupils will also have the chance to reflect on their hopes for the year ahead; who they want to be, what they aspire to achieve in all aspects of school life and what their targets are for the weeks ahead. We continue to use our Solution Focused approach to place pupils in control of their own journeys, using their strengths and capabilities to effect change in their own lives.

Attendance & Punctuality

Attached to the bulletin is a poster about attendance, demonstrating the effect that absence has on lessons and therefore learning. Our target for attendance is naturally 100% for every pupil, but we do appreciate there are times when pupils are not well enough to attend school. Our minimum expectation is therefore 98% and pupils will be rewarded for meeting this target.

In the event that your son is unwell, please contact the attendance officer from 7:30am on 01225 485222. Absences for non-medical reasons will only be authorised in exceptional circumstances and requests should be sent to your son's Head of House.

Pupils are expected to be sat in their Tutor rooms at 8.25am so please ensure they arrive at school in good time to be ready for Tutor time. Again, pupils will be rewarded for good punctuality.

Mr J Oldham
Deputy Head Pastoral and Designated Safeguarding Lead

Equipment

All pupils have been issued a list of equipment they should have with them every day. Parents are reminded below of the expectations:

- Ink pen and cartridges or roller ball pen (blue or black)
- Biro pen (spare)
- Green Biro pen
- Purple Biro pen
- Pencils and coloured pencils
- Pencil sharpener and eraser
- Ruler (15cm/6in)
- Highlighters
- Glue stick
- Scientific Calculator (our recommendation is CASIO FX-83GTX & FX-85GTX)
- Compass and protractor
- A4 Sketch book
- Watercolour Starter Set plus brush
- Oil pastel Set
- Drawing Pencil Set (pack of 5 pencils, 2B-6B)

The Library also has a stationery shop for pupils to buy an extensive range of stationery using cash rather than ParentPay.

Pupils do not require scissors – these will be provided by teachers when required.

Support for your son

We wish to support your son in every aspect of his school life to ensure his personal and academic development. We know sometimes that additional support is needed from a tutor, Head of House or one of our partners in school: Solution Revolution (for Solution Focused counselling), Off the Record (counselling), Mentoring Plus and/or the School Nursing Service. If you are concerned about your son at any time, or want to talk about support available, please contact his tutor or Head of House in the first instance.

Mr J Oldham
Deputy Head Pastoral and Designated Safeguarding Lead

Resilient Teen Workshop

Please see details of a six week course to help teens with stress, anxiety, anger and low self-esteem with a special last-minute discount.

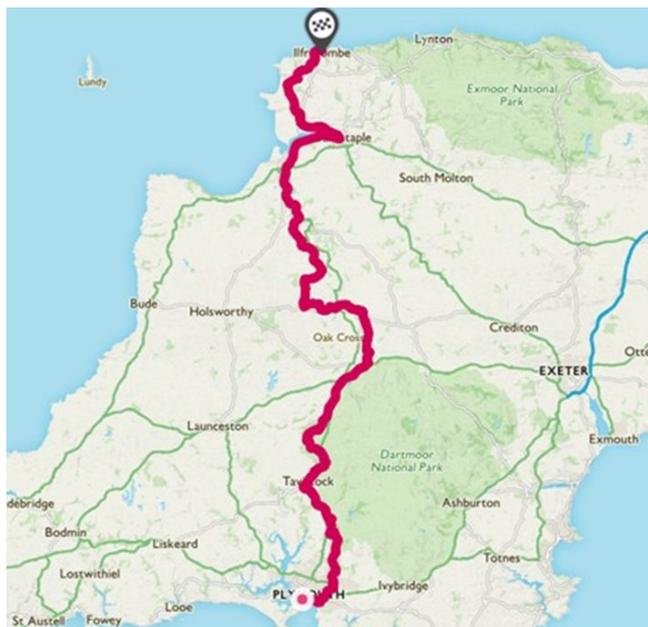
<https://www.bathmindfulness.co.uk/resilient-teen-in-the-woods>

Devon Coast to Coast Cycle Challenge 2021

This event will hopefully go ahead on the 9th of October and involves cycling the 100 odd miles between Ilfracombe and Plymouth.

Initially this is being launched to years 12 and 13, then 11 and 10. I would expect it to be popular after last year's cancellation.

If your son/daughter brings home a letter about this please return the appropriate form as soon as possible. It greatly aids planning.



The cycle route links the Tarka, Granite and Drake cycle paths and usually involves 9-10 hours in the saddle!

Mr D Brewer,
Head of Humanities

Mencap DofE volunteering opportunity

Please see below for a DofE volunteering opportunity. Thursday Evenings from 18:00 to 19:20hrs at Bath Sports and Leisure Centre

Options are to play badminton or ball games with Mencap attendees (both in the sports hall)

Many have previously completed this for their DoE experience and found it to be very rewarding

Duration dependent upon whether Bronze, Silver or Gold

Contact name is Brian Downes

Landline 01225 742265

Bath Theatre School

With the new academic year upon us the BTS Team in partnership with Beechen Cliff School are really excited to be starting back on Friday 10th September 2021 from 15:30-17:30 in the Music centre at school. We want to hit the ground running with our planned Easter production of Little Shop of Horrors which is sure to be a hugely fun and memorable show to be part of.

School productions are open to students of any year group and we encourage as many as possible to get involved! There are opportunities for both on stage and backstage roles. Anyone who wishes to get involved or get more information should speak to Miss Moorhead (can be found in the art block or email via cmoorhead@beechecliff.org.uk)



Miss C Moorhead

S₁ C₃ R₁ A₁ B₃ B₃ L₁ E₁ Club

Could you please add that Scrabble club will begin next Wednesday (15th), in E5, English block. It will run from 3.30-4.30pm.

Anybody in Year 7 and * can attend and I would welcome any Year 12 or 13 Students who would like to help out.

Mr T Fieldhouse

Gold DofE Training on Dartmoor

The Gold DofE group travelled to Dartmoor the last week of the summer term to complete some expedition training prior to their Practice Expedition in October.

It proved to be a useful exercise for everyone, providing the opportunity to practise walking with full packs, navigation, wild camping, how to use the school radios, team work, first aid, nutrition and health. And most importantly have some fun!

Everyone successfully completed the training, staff were very impressed with how the group supported each other and embraced the opportunity to take on responsibility and work independently within their groups.

A huge thank you to Mrs Jarvis, Mr Brewer and Mr Firth for giving up their time to support this training expedition.



Silver DofE Update 2020-21 group

The Silver DofE group will complete their postponed Qualifying expedition from the summer term on the 17th-19th September in the Marlborough Downs.

Bronze DofE Update 2020-21 group

Well done to everyone that has completed their DofE award, certificates and badges will be given out at the start of term.

Expedition assessor reports were posted by the end of the summer term onto edofe accounts and this section has been signed off. To complete the full award the volunteering, skill and physical skill also needs to be completed.

If you require support with this please contact Miss Garland mgarland@beechencliff.org.uk or Ms J Fox jfox@beechencliff.org.uk.

DofE sign up 2021

Year 9 students will be offered the Bronze Award, Year 10 students the Silver Award and Year 12 students the Gold Award.

Parents will be emailed in the next couple of weeks with information about the award and the paperwork to sign up to the Award.

Ms J Fox

Theme of the Week

Theme of the week this week is focusing on the students' hopes for the year ahead. We are taking our Solution Focused approach to reflect on last year and the summer holidays. Using our scaling tool to enable students to discuss the students' feelings on the new school year.

- How are you feeling right now?
- What have you noticed that is different in school, and how do you feel about this?
- What have you noticed that has been positive?
- Compare how you feel now to how you felt before you came back to school - what is different?
- What are you looking forward to this year?
- Where would you go if you felt you needed some support?
- What is scaling and why?

Scaling is a powerful tool in enabling people to map and visualise their changes.



Tutors will be drawing a simple scale from 0 to 10 on the board - or you could do this on paper. 10 is your best, and 0 is the opposite of that. This can also be done at home, and you can be as creative as you like with scales.

This week we are going to talk about where students are on the scale and we will complete this exercise again at the end of term.

These have been identified as the key steps to being mentally and physically 'well'. Can you think of examples of how you could put these into practice this year?

The 5 Ways to Wellbeing



Mrs A Wilmot

PSHE

SPORTS FIXTURES

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

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

Day	Fixture	Start time/KO	Meet Time	Transport	Finish/Return
Weds 15 th September	U13a Rugby (Home) vs Wells Cathedral	15.45	15.20	N/A	N/A
Thurs 16 th September	OPRO 1:30pm				
Sat 18 th September	U12 b/c Rugby (Away) Vs. Westonbirt	10.30	8.40 (Bear Flat)	Coach	13.00
	U13 b Rugby (Away) Vs. Westonbirt	10.30	8.40 (Bear Flat)	Coach	13.00
	U14 a Rugby (Home) Vs. Westonbirt	10.30	10.00	Coach	13.00

Community Links



 **LUCRA**
MORTGAGES

Expert. Fee Free. Mortgage Advice.

We've teamed up with Beechen Cliff School to offer all those connected to the school, an expert, fee free mortgage service, taking away the hassle when getting a new mortgage. We will also pay £50 Cashback to Beechen Cliff for every person that takes a new mortgage out with Lucra Mortgages. You just need to quote 'Beechen Cliff.'

01225 970 830
hello@lucramortgages.co.uk
www.lucramortgages.co.uk

YOUR HOME MAY BE REPOSSESSED IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON YOUR MORTGAGE