

#### 19th May 2022

## Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

GCSEs are now underway and I hope pupils have felt confident about the exams they have taken so far. In my conversations with Year 11s so far the mood has been positive and I hope that continues. Our Upper Sixth have their final assembly tomorrow before embarking on study leave and their A level exams and I wish them all the best too.

In Years 7-10 assemblies and Theme of the Week sessions this week

have been based around International Day Against Homophobia, Biophobia and Transphobia. Assemblies have been led by Ms Sullivan and pupils who are part of our e-team and have focussed on supporting LGBT+ young people and a better understanding of equalities



legislation. I have been really impressed with our young people's determination to have a positive impact on their community.

Many congratulations to our musicians who performed at St Swithin's Church as part of the Party in the City. I hope they also enjoy the second performance at the Forum this evening and thanks to Mr Calvert and Mrs Nourse for all their support.

## Calendar

Friday 20th—Sunday 22nd May

DofE Silver practice expedition

Monday 23rd May

A Level Examinations begin

Wednesday 25th May

CCF Taster Day for current Year 8s Year 11 Graduation Event (after English Exam)

Thursday 26th May

Year 9 ESFA Football final

Friday 27th May

**End of Spring Term** 

Friday 27th-29th May

CCF Skill at Arms Training and Range Day

Monday 6th June

Start of Summer Term

Advance Notice

w/c Monday 18th July

Activities week

Year 10 and Lower Sixth Work Experience

In addition, congratulations to our U14 footballers who won the BANES Cup this week. Next week we look forward to them competing in the final of the National Cup at the Hawthorns in West Brom which will, no doubt, be a really special event for all involved.

Finally, at the start of next term Mr Seal will be taking on a new role as our Deputy Headteacher with responsibility for the curriculum and assessment. He is very much looking forward to taking on this new position and a letter of introduction is included alongside this week's newsletter.

Wishing you all a good weekend ahead.

T. D. Marball.

Tim Markall

Headteacher



### **Key Notices**

#### **Parent Travel Survey**

Please could you spare a few minutes to fill out this short questionnaire about how your children travel to school to help us with our School Travel Plan.

Thank you in advance.

https://forms.gle/mwaqsznA22rFGAGe8

Catherine Capsey
Operations Manager and Head's PA

# LIBRARY - Closed for public examinations

At Beechen Cliff we are committed to creating the very best possible environment for every student who is taking a public examination. It is always a challenge in a busy, large school to find sufficient, quiet rooms to support our most vulnerable students and those who have additional needs such as laptops, or scribes. Each year we repurpose our Library for the period of summer public exams as our Small Exam Centre.

A Reading Room will be provided before school, at break, lunch and after school instead in our Recital Room which can be found on the ground floor of the Music Block. All Reading lessons will move here for the duration and the Librarian will be on hand with a supply of books, regularly replenished and will take orders for boys who need a specific new book.

Thanks to all students, parents and staff for all your support as we strive to support every single candidate to fulfill their potential during public exams.

Kate Davison Examinations Officer

#### REPORTING PUPIL ABSENCES

It is important that <u>all absences</u> from School, including late arrivals and medical appointments 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 the lower school attendance at <a href="mailto:attendance@beechencliff.org.uk">attendance@beechencliff.org.uk</a>.

#### 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 6th Form attendance at <a href="mailto:sixthattendance@beechencliff.org.uk">sixthattendance@beechencliff.org.uk</a>

#### **School Contacts**

Contact details for senior members of staff are available on the contact page of the school website.

#### **Contacts Link**

If you wish to get in touch or have a concern please contact the relevant member of staff or your son's tutor. Alternatively please email <a href="mailto:headteacher@beechencliff.org.uk">headteacher@beechencliff.org.uk</a> and the message will be passed on to the appropriate person to respond.

#### **Year 7-10 Summer Exams**

Year 7 have had a successful exams week, sitting their summer exams in a range of subjects during their normal lesson time. From speaking to Year 7 pupils, tutors and teachers, it appears as though the Year 7s have taken this challenge in their stride and worked really hard on both their revision and their exams. Well done to all of our Year 7 pupils! Year 8 sit their exams next week (W/C 23rd May), and Year 9 and 10 follow after the May half term break.

A reminder to Year 10 parents that all Year 10 pupils now have a revision timetable which they can use to help manage their revision schedule. You may also wish to buy a CGP Revision Skills Study Planner to support your son's revision, which is available on ParentPay for £2. The deadline for ordering one of these is Friday 20th May, so that we are able to order these in and hand them out to year 10 pupils before the May Half Term. For further information on each GCSE subject about recommended revision guides and websites, and which exam boards we use, please follow this link:

https://www.beechencliff.org.uk/wp-content/ uploads/2021/10/Year-10-11-GCSE-Course-and-Revision-Information-Handout-Oct-2021.pdf

There is also information about what is covered on each GCSE course and therefore what should be revised at this stage of the course on Faculty webpages: <a href="https://www.beechencliff.org.uk/curriculum-assessment/faculties/">https://www.beechencliff.org.uk/curriculum-assessment/faculties/</a>

If your son would like some extra support with his revision, **Homework Support** is always open to pupils. It runs **Monday-Friday after school** in the **Library from 3:30-4:30pm**. There is plenty of work space and desktop computers and Mr DaSilva is available to offer support. During this period of GCSE and Alevel examinations, the homework club will be located in the Recital Room in Music.

We wish all pupils yet to sit their exams the very best of luck.

Sophie Sullivan Assistant Headteacher, Teaching and Learning

## Year 7-9 Book in Bag

A reminder to all pupils in Years 7-9 to carry their current reading book in their school bag so that they can read it in their reading lessons, during some specified tutor time slots, and at various other points throughout the school day. This will also allow their tutor and English teacher to check that they are reading something appropriate for their reading age, and that the books they are reading change periodically, when they finish one book and move onto the next! Pupils in Years 7 and 8 should also be recording what they are reading in their study planner each week, and be keeping a log of all of the books they have read this year in their reading log at the back of their planner.

Sophie Sullivan Assistant Headteacher, Teaching and Learning

#### Menu for Week Commencing 23rd May

Monday: Soy and ginger Pork, Stir fried

Vegetables

Tuesday: Sausages with onion gravy, Quorn

Sausages with onion gravy

Wednesday: Roast Chicken wrapped in

bacon, Homity pie (W,D)

Thursday: Moussaka (W,D), Sweet Potato

curry

Friday: TBC (W) = Contains Wheat (D) = Contains Dairy

Dan Keal Chef

As of 18th May pupils in Years 11 and 13 are not allowed to go overdrawn. Please ensure their accounts are topped up at all times. You are able to get a refund if you have any credit left on your accounts.

## Year 7 E-Team Assembly

This week, our Year 7 E-Team have been delivering assemblies on IDAHOBIT- International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia and Transphobia. They have been working with two LGBTQ+ youth workers from the charity Off The Record to plan and deliver their assembly in time for this very important, internationally recognised day. Owen and Joe shared what LGBTQ+ stands for along with definitions of these terms, and they shared pictures of LGBTQ+ celebrities and role models. Pupils were reminded not to use the term 'that's so gay', referring to something negative, as this suggests that being gay is negative. We would like to congratulate Owen and Joe on their brilliant and important assembly, and thank them for all of their work on the Year 7 E-Team so far this year. If any other pupils are interested in joining the E-Team, where we work to ensure equality for all at Beechen Cliff School, please encourage them to come and speak to Ms Sullivan or Ms Netto for further details.





Sophie Sullivan
Assistant Headteacher, Teaching and Learning

#### Extra Curricular

## Activities Week Trips - W/C 18th July

A final call to sign up to the trips listed below for Years 7, 8 and 9. Please Note that there's an expectation that the whole year group will attend these trips as there will be a very limited timetable at school on these days. Most of the year groups are now signed up - if you haven't yet done so, please do it asap on Parentpay as the deadline will be Wednesday 25th May.

**Monday 18th July** - Year 8 Natural History Museum

**Tuesday 19th July** - Year 9 Thorpe Park **Wednesday 20th July** - Year 7 Big Pit

If your son is in receipt of Pupil Premium funding, please contact Mr Barros for assistance with these trips at <a href="mailto:rbarros@beechencliff.org.uk">rbarros@beechencliff.org.uk</a>

Kant Mann Assistant Headteacher







#### **Under 14's crowned Banes Champions**

In preparation for next week's ESFA National final, our U14's put on an impressive display to overcome a stubborn Chew Valley School side 8-0. A useful workout for the boys before we go to the Hawthorns next Thursday for the National final.

Let's hope the form continues!



Kant Mann Assistant Headteacher

## Sixth Form Achievement Awards

We have been enjoying the first of our leavers' celebrations with some of the Upper Sixth Students. As you can see from the photograph below, some of our most inspirational students received awards on Wednesday evening for achievements ranging from academic excellence, service to the school, progress and wider contributions to name just a few. It was a wonderful way to celebrate the varied achievements of so many of our students.



Lyn Price Upper Sixth Pastoral Administrator

## CENTURION CHALLENGE 2022



#### 100 MILES IN 48 HOURS

16:00 Friday  $8^{TH}$  July to 16:00 Sunday  $10^{TH}$ July Open to YEARS 9, 10, 11 and the Sixth Form

### The challenge

To leave Beechen Cliff at 16:00 on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> July, and following the specified route to the Kennet & Avon Canal, walk to Devizes along the tow path. Then after camping camp overnight, on Saturday continue to the Parish Church at Hungerford, before returning to Devizes. On Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> July make your way finally back to Beechen Cliff School, arriving by 16:00 to become a Beechen Cliff Centurion.

### Why?

The Centurion Challenge is an honourable tradition of Beechen Cliff School. Each year the challenge raises money for those charities chosen by the challengers. Please state your preferred charity when completing the Google form. We also donate monies to the Canals and River Trust and St Lawrence Church at Hungerford as a thank you for the support given to the challengers as they reach the halfway point. Any remaining funds will be used to assist the Extra Curricular Activities provision at Beechen Cliff.

## What you must do to take part . .

Complete the online MEDICAL FORM at <a href="https://forms.gle/htV1tLozhW1ifKURA">https://forms.gle/htV1tLozhW1ifKURA</a>. Only after completion of this form will you be able to pay the £85 entrance fee via ParentPay and secure your place.

Numbers will capped this year at 175 and entry will <u>close 3 weeks before</u> the event on **Friday 17**<sup>th</sup> **June**, so enter as soon as possible to ensure your place!

Please also be reminded that challengers are encouraged to obtain sponsorship for taking part in this event, and more details about sponsorship will follow.

All the Centurion Challengers will receive a Centurion Challengers 'T' Shirt, but only the finishers (**legionnaires**) who manage to complete the challenge by 16:00 hours on the Sunday will receive a Centurion Challengers Tie. The names of the first three challengers to return will be immortalised on the Centurion Challengers roll of honour!

Now over to you . . . . Do you have what it takes to take the challenge and become a Centurion in 2022?

In the event the Challenge is greatly oversubscribed then places will be allocated fairly across the year groups

Richard Stewart

Centurion Challenge Organiser 22

#### Sports Extra Curricular Clubs

For information on after school clubs, please see the Extra Curricular page on our website. This is up to date but please be aware that sometimes there are changes due to unforeseen circumstances. We will notify pupils via google classroom or via the Duty Boys in the event of any cancellation/ changes.

## Sports Class on Google Classrooms/ Sports Fixtures website

Each year group now has a Sports Class on Google Classrooms where details of fixtures and notices will be given. Please encourage your son to check this regularly for information.

You can also find fixtures information and team sheets on our **Sports Fixtures website** 

#### **Team selection**

With so many of our boys engaged and interested in the sports offering at Beechen Cliff, we endeavour to give them all a chance to be a part of the teams. This does mean that not all boys will be selected each week in the interests of being fair and giving a chance to all that wish to compete for the school.

#### Extra Curricular Sports kit

If your son is involved with our extra-curricular activities and therefore additional kit would be helpful, we do have an online shop with Kukri. This kit is not compulsory and does <u>not</u> replace your son's curriculum kit but is available for after school clubs and fixtures. Kit options include tracksuit bottoms, shorts, training t-shirts and additional mid layers. Kukri-Beechen Cliff

Pat Macdonald

Head of Shakespeare/PE

If your son is absent on the day of his fixture, please can we politely ask that when you contact Attendance to report the absence, you also advise the sports team sport@beechencliff.org.uk as soon as possible to enable an alternative player to be found.

#### **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 **the Sports Fixture website** for the most up to date information.

Day	Fixture	Start time/ kick off	Meet time	Transport	Finish/ Return time
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May	U12a&b cricket v QEH (a)	14:00	12:45	2 x MB	
	U15a cricket v Kingswood (a)	14:45	13:45	MB	
	BANES Athletic Championships	12:30	11:45	Coach - 11:45	16:30
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> May	U12 football v Chew Valley (Odd Down)	16:15	15:20	MB	
	U15 cricket v Millfield (a)	14:00	12:30	MB	
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> May	U14a&b cricket v Millfield (a)	13:30	12:20	MB	
	U12 & U14 tennis v Ralph Allen (h)	14:30	14:00	n/a	
	U15 football v Chew Valley (Bishop Sutton)	16:00	14:30	MB	
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> May	U14 football v Calday Grange Grammar (Hawthorns)	11:30	6:45/7:45	Coach	
Friday 27th May					

#### Theme of the Week

This week Theme of the week is IDAHOBIT.

#### What is IDAHOBIT? The International Day Against

Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia was created in 2004 to draw the attention to the violence and discrimination experienced by lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex people and all other people with diverse sexual orientations, gender identities or expressions, and sex characteristics.

The date of May 17th was specifically chosen to commemorate the World Health Organization's decision in 1990 to declassify homosexuality as a mental disorder.

The Day represents a major global annual landmark to draw the attention of decision makers, the media, the public, corporations, opinion leaders, local authorities, etc. to the alarming situation faced by people with diverse sexual orientations, gender identities or expressions, and sex characteristics.

E-Team Statement "We as the E-Team strive to ensure that homophobia, transphobia and biphobia is no more, due to the fact that it is not only illegal but in some cases can endanger the life of the other person suffering from this behavior."

#### Can I control my homosexuality or gender dysphoria?

NO! Not at all, it is a completely normal feeling and reaction, you feel the same feelings towards people if you were hetrosexual or homosexual

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C63Xn--i13o

Annabel Wilmot Head PSHE







## Mental Health and Wellbeing

We would like to take this opportunity to wish all of our Year 11s and Year 13s the very best of luck with the forthcoming GCSE and A Level exams. These words apply to every pupil and student facing the stress and pressure surrounding the exam season. Please take a moment to read these beautiful words by Donna Ashworth, and remember that you are not defined by your grades. There is a whole world of opportunities ahead of each one of you. Be excited to go on a wonderful and exciting journey of discovery beyond formal exams.

Dear Students,

Exams do not measure your intelligence, your worth or even your learning.

They measure your ability to digest and re-share information (often asked in trick-speak to test the way your brain processes), in tense conditions and under pressure.

We can't all do that.

Doesn't mean you didn't pay attention, study hard or try your best. And it certainly doesn't mean you are not amazing, wonderful humans with so much to offer this parched world.

Chances are you would be able to answer correctly on the same subjects in a relaxed environment with straight-shooting questions.

The system is flawed, but that's okay, you'll do just fine when you find your thing.

Your time to shine will come. And oh will you shine.

Donna Ashworth

<a href="https://amzn.to/3.JVMJlZ">https://amzn.to/3.JVMJlZ</a>

Art by the WONDERFUL Lisa Aisato

#exams #teachers #parents

The Mental Health Team

## Beechen Cliff PTA has joined Amazon Smile



Shop at smile.amazon.co.uk and they will donate to Beechen Cliff PTA, at no cost to you.

If you are not already an AmazonSmile member, simply sign up at smile.amazon.com and select your favourite charity to start generating donations.

How to turn on AmazonSmile on your mobile phone or tablet

Open the Amazon app and find 'Settings' in the main menu  $(\equiv)$ .

Scroll down and tap on 'AmazonSmile' and follow the on-screen instructions to turn on AmazonSmile on your device. Search for "Beechen Cliff School Parent Teacher Association" and then press select and confirm.

Every time you check out Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible purchases.

## **ANNOUNCEMENT**

Marina and Lesley, Co-Chairs of the PTA atBeechen Cliff, are standing down at the next AGM in November 2022. We encourage you as parents/carers to consider taking over this role and joining a team of other volunteer parents who are helping to run the school charity. It has been a fun 3 years for us and has been great to be involved with the many varied projects at the school.

Please express your interest in the post/posts to:

secondhanduniformbc@gmail.com.

It would be lovely to carry on these good works that go on at the school. Hopefully the PTA can be kept going and be carried forward.

## **Supportive Training Workshops**

I am delighted to advise you that we now have virtual dates for the highly regarded Adult Family and Friends Supportive Training Workshops offering, insights, a supportive space and safe and straightforward approaches for helping the young people in their world that are struggling with their relationship with food and eating, or are at risk of, or engaging in other forms of self harm.

'Food for Thought' - Monday 4th July - 9.45 - 2.45 - £30 pp 'From Self Harm to Self Help' - Tuesday 5th July - 9.45 - 2.45 - £30pp

You can see examples of feedback from these workshops on the flyers and also on our website www.summerhouse.org.

While help can be given with cost on request, these workshops are already discounted as an introductory offer; therefore if schools can help the parent or other family member with cost if needed, that would be very helpful for us as a non profit organisation. Thank you.

If you have any queries about these workshops, would just like to have an informal chat about them, or would like to make a booking, please just get in touch on the details below.

Kind Regards

Penny Logsdail Director **SUMMERHOUSE** 'Supporting Bright-154 Crossway.



T. 07869173154

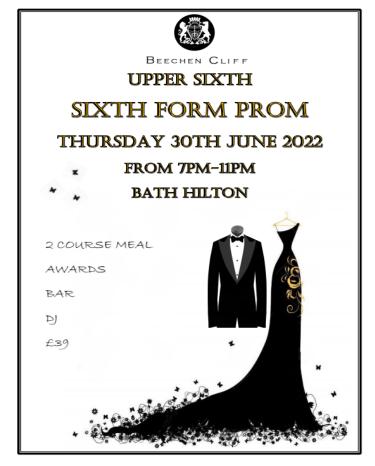
E. summerhouose.services@gmail.com

U. www.xummer-house.org

E.https://www.facebook.com/supportingbrighterfutures



#### Sixth Form Prom



## **Homestay Families Required**



(including Half Term).

The male and female students are looking for individual accommodation in Bath, within walking distance or a short bus ride to our school, whilst they study here to experience British culture and improve their English.

We ask host to provide a home from home environment, daily home cooked meals, a bedroom with a study area and en-suite, if possible.

Generous living expenses allowance of £220 per week to provide for all their needs. Hosting to subject to a home visit and DBS checks.

> If you would like to register your interest, please email international@hayesfield.com

#### Community Links











This video gives a good taster of our festival last year... <a href="https://vimeo.com/608885143">https://vimeo.com/608885143</a>.

This year we are running a battle of the bands competition for schools to give young musicians a chance to perform live at an outdoor event. We are welcoming entrants from across all the local schools and colleges. More details are located on our website, which has been partially opened to support the competition. <a href="https://www.marshfest.co.uk">www.marshfest.co.uk</a>.

We are offering a £300 music equipment voucher to the winner, as well as a 30 min set on the main festival stage on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> September.

## **Spotters Hockey**

For the summer we are running two coaching activities - one in term time and camps in the holidays. Here are the details:

New Summer term Spotters Hockey Academy sessions - these start on 16 May and will be at the Royal High Senior School astro from 6-7.30pm for 6 weeks.

These sessions are designed to give young hockey players' more insight into their performance on the hockey pitch and how they can enhance their contribution to the team's performance through recognising the phases of the game and enacting strategies that will achieve better outcomes. We will work on individual skills and how to utilise these in the game and combine with the team to optimise their performance. We have also ensured that we are offering good value for money and a discount is provided for multiple session bookings, and our high quality coaching is offered at a price much lower than other providers!

Aimed at Years 6-8, (high performing Year 5's also welcome - and any Year 9's interested and we will put on an extra coaching group) these sessions will help to ensure that players benefit from this time in the off season and continue their progression, ready to impress when the season resumes in September. We will also run these pre-season in September, as we did last year and include the option to select additional athlete development and mentoring if this is of interest.

To book these please follow this link: <a href="https://form.jotform.com/202084948864365">https://form.jotform.com/202084948864365</a>

We also have our **Spotters Hockey Summer Hockey Camps running on 25**th and 26th July 2022, and 18th and 19th **August 2022**, suitable for ages 7-15 and providing lots of fun hockey skills and game play, with specialised effective coaching provided by our qualified and experienced coaches, and booking can be made via this link for those: <a href="https://form.jotform.com/210805551045346">https://form.jotform.com/210805551045346</a>

Many thanks indeed, do get back to me if any questions!

Kind Regards

Sally Potter

Spotters Hockey Academy Director England Hockey Level 2 Coach BSc(Hons)Sports Performance





Welcome (back) to Combe Down Rugby Club

Open to all Girls and Boys from school reception upwards

#### Tuesday's 7-8pm

Mixed girls and boys U10-U11

Boys U12's- U14s Girls U13, U15s

Club House Open from 6.30

#### Sunday's 10 - 11am

Mixed Girls and boys minis (Aged 4 to 11

Junior boys U12's- U 14's

Matches held Sunday mornings

Girls Matches—also on Sundays (normally pm)

Club House Open on Sundays for food and refreshments



Never played before—just come along to see if you like it before you join the club

Any Questions? Call Mark 07799338405

Combe Down Rugby Club, Bramble Way, North Road, Combe Down, Bath BA2 5DE



**Enquiries:** 

Email: cdrfcjuniors@gmail.com

Tel: 077 99 33 8405