



BEECHEN CLIFF

8th September 22

## Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been lovely to welcome all pupils and Sixth Form students back to school this week after the summer holiday and it is good to see the school buzzing with activity once again.

I would also like to extend a warm welcome to new pupils and staff joining us this term and I hope all will feel really settled in very quickly indeed.

A significant amount of work has been undertaken by the site team to improve the school campus over the summer and I am really grateful for their efforts. This has included new outside seating areas under canopies which have proved really popular at breaktimes and lunchtimes during the unsettled weather of the last week.

### Congratulations

I would like to congratulate our students on the GCSE and A Level examinations results they achieved.

At GCSE over 40% of grades achieved were grades 9-7 and over 80% of grades were grades 9-4, well above the national average. 82% of pupils achieved grade 4 and above in both English and Maths with strong progress across all areas.

At A Level 66% of grades were A\*-B grades, above the national average, and the average grade achieved was a grade B. Over three quarters of those who applied to university achieved their first choice place and many other students have moved on to other university places, college, apprenticeships, employment or gap years.

It is testament to the resilience and hard work of the students, and the support of teachers and parents that these results have been achieved and I am really proud of our students' success.

I would also like to congratulate some other students on some notable successes over the summer holidays

Rylan represented England in the World Baton Twirling Championships. Billy and Raff represented England U18 Rugby team against South Africa.

Rhys, Ace, George and Monty complete the 10 day Combined Cadets Method of Instruction (MOI) course and have been awarded their Lance-Corporal stripes.

Many congratulations to all of them and many others on their achievements.

## Calendar

**Monday 12th – Wednesday 14th September**  
Year 7 Tir Y Cwm Group 7XT

**Tuesday 13th September**  
School Finishes at 12.30pm  
Prospective Parents Evening 6–8pm

**Wednesday 14th September**  
INSET DAY (School closed to pupils)

**Wednesday 14th – Friday 16th September**  
Year 7 Tir Y Cwm Group 7XR

**Monday 19th - Wednesday 21st September**  
Year 7 Tir Y Cwm Group 7XI

**Thursday 22nd September**  
Year 7 Parent Information Evening 6.30pm

**Wednesday 21st – Friday 23rd September**  
Year 7 Tir Y Cwm Group 7AU

**Monday 26th – Wednesday 28th September**  
Year 7 Tir Y Cwm Group 7AM

**Wednesday 28th - Friday 30th September**  
Year 7 Tir Y Cwm Group 7AP

**Monday 3rd – Wednesday 5th October**  
Year 7 Tir Y Cwm Group 7AH

**Tuesday 11th October**  
Year 10 Parent Information Evening 6.30–7.30pm

**Tuesday 18th October**  
Year 11 Parent Info Evenings 6.30–7.30pm



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## **Start of Term Assemblies**

This week I have had the opportunity to talk to all pupils in assemblies, both in person and as part of a whole school assembly via video link.

The theme has been the vision of the school and the School Core Values of aspiration, compassion, independence and respect that we focus on in order to work towards that vision.

As a school we have also set out the high expectations we have of all our pupils and students in order to enable them to achieve their full potential. This includes them striving to be their best in lessons, when around the school site, in extra-curricular activities and in the local community.

Our Year 7 pupils received their School Charters yesterday which states the vision and values of the school. We ask all Year 7 pupils to keep these safe as part of their commitment to uphold the values of the school.

All other year groups will be reviewing the Charter in their tutor times next week as part of their commitment to embrace the School Core Values.

## **Prospective Parents Evening**

On Tuesday evening next week (September 13th) we have our Open Evening for Prospective Year 7 pupils and their parents. On Tuesday school will finish at 12.30pm to give staff time to set up for the evening. The evening will run from 6-8pm. We expect Year 7 and Year 8 pupils and L6th students to act as tour guides on the evening and I am aware that other pupils from other year groups have also volunteered to help in subject areas or with marshaling.

We are grateful to pupils helping out and would ask them to return to school by 5.15pm to prepare for the evening.

## **Sports Kit/Uniform**

We have been advised by Scholars that the stock of white PE shorts and PE shirts has almost run out. There is no plan to replace this stock as in the future a new navy PE kit will be available instead.

If parents have been unable to purchase the white PE shorts please note it is perfectly acceptable to wear the blue Beechen Cliff rugby shorts for PE lessons as well as Games.

If parents are looking to replace the white PE shirts we do have a number available in school so please do contact the school and these can be provided.

In due course the new PE kit will become available to purchase, however the white kit will also be able to be worn until pupils grow out of it or it needs to be replaced.

We are conscious of the cost of living at the moment and made some changes to our uniform policy last year to reduce the number of compulsory items from one supplier. More information on uniform is available on our school website: [Uniform](#)

Please note the PTA has a stock of second hand uniform available and contact information is available on their website: [PTA](#)

Pupils eligible for the Pupil Premium can access financial support with uniform costs and we will do our best to support others experiencing financial difficulty wherever possible.

Wishing you all a very good weekend ahead.

*T. D. Marshall*

T. D. Markall  
Headteacher

## Attendance matters and you can make a difference!

Following the disruption of recent years, consistent attendance has never been more important. This means your child must attend every day that the school is open, except in a small number of allowable circumstances such as being too ill to attend or being given permission for an absence in advance from the school. It is the legal responsibility of every parent to make sure their child receives an efficient, full-time education suitable to their age, aptitude, and any special educational need they may have.

This is essential for pupils to get the most out of their school experience, including their attainment, wellbeing, and wider life chances. At all ages, good school attendance strongly correlates with high academic attainment, meaning your child is very likely to achieve better grades if they maximise their attendance.

For the most vulnerable pupils, regular attendance also provides us with the best opportunity to identify needs and provide support.

The table attached helps to illustrate what that percentage represents and how it compares to the average of their peers.

Attendance Matters!					
There are 365 days in a year. 190 of those are school days.					
No absence	4 days absence	8 days absence	12 days absence	19 days absence	20+ days absence
190 days of education.					
	186 days education				
		182 days education			
			178 days education		
				171 days education	
					Less than 171 days
100%	98%	96%	94%	90%	Below 90%
Very good. Gives your child the best possible chance of success.		Meeting the school target	Below average. Cause for concern.	Significant concern.	Persistent Absentee.

This academic year offers an excellent opportunity for all of us to restore consistency and overcome any deficits which may have arisen due to disruption of the covid-19 pandemic.

Government guidance dictates that we can only authorise any leave of absence in exceptional circumstances, meaning requests for family holidays are therefore unlikely to be granted. We are aware that there are sometimes unavoidable reasons for student absence. However, if circumstances arise which affect your child's ability to attend school which we are not already aware of, please do contact the school. If you have any concerns or wish to discuss your child's attendance, please contact their tutor in the first instance.

Mr M Ambrose  
Deputy Headteacher (Pastoral)

## Homework Information for pupils in Years 7-11

Dear Parents and Carers of pupils in Years 7-11,

I trust that your son has had a positive start to the term.

I wanted to write to clarify our expectations around homework and to outline the support that is in place in school.

All of the information about how much homework pupils in Years 7-11 should be completing, for which subjects and for how long, is outlined in the homework information document on the school website:

<https://www.beechencliff.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/2022-23-Homework-Information-for-Parents.pdf>

Please check this carefully and ensure that your son is spending adequate time on his homework. Please could I also ask you to have a conversation with your son about what he might need to support him with his homework. For example, desk space, somewhere to store exercise books and other resources, stationary and a device on which to access Google Classroom and other platforms or websites required for homework.

At school, we run Homework Support after school every day Monday- Friday. Homework Support takes place in the Library from 3:30-4:30pm. It is always staffed with staff who can help with homework, there is desk space, desktop computers, and, of course, lots of books! Please encourage your son to stay behind and make use of this support if you think he would benefit from it.

New Google Classrooms are all up and running for this academic year, so all pupils should now be able to access their homework online. Pupils can access Google Classroom from home by going to the RM Unify link at the bottom of the school website and entering their school login details. Google Classroom can be accessed from any desktop, laptop or tablet, and there is also an app which pupils can download on their phones:

<https://apps.apple.com/gb/app/google-classroom/id924620788>

[https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.google.android.apps.classroom&hl=en\\_GB&gl=US](https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.google.android.apps.classroom&hl=en_GB&gl=US)

School usernames/email addresses are formatted in the following way:

Year 7 - [2lastname.firstname@beechencliff.org.uk](mailto:2lastname.firstname@beechencliff.org.uk)

Year 8 - [1lastname.firstname@beechencliff.org.uk](mailto:1lastname.firstname@beechencliff.org.uk)

Year 9 - [0lastname.firstname@beechencliff.org.uk](mailto:0lastname.firstname@beechencliff.org.uk)

Year 10 - [9lastname.firstname@beechencliff.org.uk](mailto:9lastname.firstname@beechencliff.org.uk)

Year 11 - [8lastname.firstname@beechencliff.org.uk](mailto:8lastname.firstname@beechencliff.org.uk)

Pupils set their own passwords for their accounts, so if your son has forgotten his password, please contact IT Support to get it reset.

Parents cannot log into Google Classroom directly, however all 'priority one' parent email addresses for pupils in Years 8-11 have been linked to their child's accounts so that parents can receive weekly summaries of the homework their child has been set. We are still in the process of linking Year 7 parent email addresses to their son's Google Classroom account, and we hope to have this sorted by the end of the week. If you would like further information about Google Classroom parent summaries, please visit the following support page: <https://support.google.com/edu/classroom/answer/6388136?hl=en>

If your son is in Years 8-11 and your are not currently receiving parent summaries, please email me at [ssullivan@beechencliff.org.uk](mailto:ssullivan@beechencliff.org.uk).

With very best wishes for the new school year,

Sophie Sullivan

Assistant Headteacher, Teaching and Learning

## Key Notices

### Dropping Off/ Collecting Pupils - The Avenues and Greenway Lane

Please can we ask that you respect the local residents on both The Avenues and Greenway Lane.

Many parents are bringing their children to school by car and dropping them off and collecting them near the school gates. To ensure the safety of pupils and out of respect to local residents I would be grateful if cars would not stop to drop off in the middle of the road or stop on the zig zag yellow lines outside the school gates. If you do have to drive up to school, please park in the marked bays on the side of the avenues or, if you are able to, please drop off lower down the hill or at Bear Flat (Majestic Wine are happy for their car park to be used as a drop off/ pick up point).

You may also be aware that there is an unofficial one way system in place on the avenues with cars driving up Shakespeare Avenue and down Kipling Avenue. We would appreciate if this is followed.

Tim Markall  
Headteacher

### Year 7 Parent Information Evening Thursday 22nd September

Year 7 parents - please ensure that you have completed the google reply form sent via parentmail to confirm your attendance for this event.

### Prospective Parents Evening Tuesday 13th September - Year 7 and 8 guides

Please complete and return the google form sent via parentmail to confirm that your son will be able to attend the evening and assist as a guide for the prospective year 6 pupils.

Thank you.  
Kant Mann  
Assistant Headteacher

### REPORTING PUPIL ABSENCES

It is important that **all absences** 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 [attendance@beechencliff.org.uk](mailto: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 6th Form attendance at [sixthattendance@beechencliff.org.uk](mailto:sixthattendance@beechencliff.org.uk)

### Menu for w/c 12th September

**Monday:** Butchers Sausages with onion gravy, Quorn sausages with onion gravy

**Tuesday:** No Lunch

**Wednesday:** Inset Day

**Thursday:** Cajun Chicken wrap with sweet chilli mayo (W), Roasted Vegetable and cheddar quesadilla (W,D)

**Friday:** Creamy Pesto Pasta with spinach and peas (D,W), Red onion and goats cheese tart (D,W)

Dan Keal  
Chef

(W) = contains Wheat products  
(D) = Contains Dairy Products

### Polite Reminder

*Please can all pupils and students keep their accounts topped up when regularly purchasing food or drinks from the refectory. This will avoid any issues at the till.*

# SPORTS

## Sports Extra Curricular Clubs

For information on after school clubs, please see the [Extra Curricular page on our website](#). This list is currently being reviewed and will be updated for Terms 1 and 2 (22/23) within the next week.

### Planned Sport Clubs Timetable for Terms 1 and 2

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
YEAR 7		Rugby			
YEAR 8		Rugby			
YEAR 9				Rugby	
YEAR 10			S&C	Rugby	S&C
YEAR 11		S&C		Rugby S&C	
6 <sup>TH</sup> FORM	Rugby		Girls Hockey		Rugby

S & C – Strength and Conditioning (Sign up on ParentPay)

*Activities will take place from 3.30pm – 4.30pm unless otherwise stated*

### 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.

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](mailto:sport@beechencliff.org.uk) as soon as possible to enable an alternative player to be found.

### Extra Curricular Sports kit

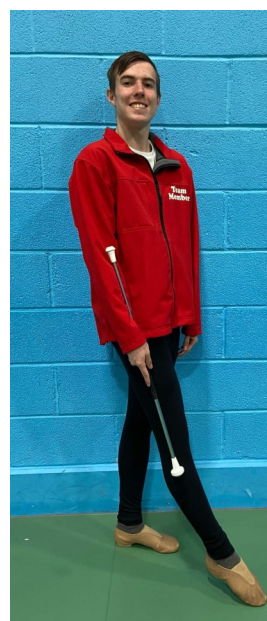
If your son is involved with our extra-curricular activities and therefore additional kit would be helpful, we do have an online shop with Kukri. This kit is not compulsory and does not replace your son's curriculum kit but is available for after school clubs and fixtures. Kit options include tracksuit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

Pat Macdonald

Head of Shakespeare/PE

## BATON TWIRLING WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Many Congratulations to Rylan who competed in the Baton Twirling World Championships as part of the England Team this summer. A fantastic achievement



## Community Links

TALK. PLAY CRICKET. MEET NEW PEOPLE.

# MEN'S LBW

LITTLE BREAKS FOR WELLBEING

SUPPORT YOUR MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING BY CONNECTING WITH OTHERS THROUGH CRICKET



**FRIDAY'S 1-2.30PM**

**BATH CRICKET CLUB  
NORTH PARADE, BATH**

**FREE TO ATTEND**

**16-25 YEAR OLDS**

**TURN UP AND PLAY!**

**ALL ABILITIES WELCOME**

**ALL EQUIPMENT PROVIDED**

**DELIVERY PARTNERSHIP**



FOR MORE INFORMATION  
CALL 01225 425935



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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](http://www.lucramortgages.co.uk)

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

