

BEECHEN CLIFF WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Newsletter 11th December 2025

Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been an incredible week of sporting success.

Following the victory over Loughborough last week the ACE Rugby Team were presented with the league trophy. We were delighted to have representatives from the RFU, representatives from Bath Rugby including Head Coach Johann van Graan and both former and current staff involved with the rugby programme join the entire rugby squad for the presentations. It was a memorable occasion for all involved and great to see the trophy lifted at home at Beechen Cliff.



Also this week we have seen the 1st Tennis Team progress to the knockout stages of the national winter tennis competition with victory over Monkton Combe.

We have also seen great achievements in football with the U15s through to the next round of the Somerset Cup with a 13-12 penalty shoot out victory over Chilton Trinity, the U13s through to the last 32 of the National Cup with a 9-0 victory over Kingdown and the 1st XI through to the last 8 of the National Cup with a 3-1 victory over Marling. Congratulations to all involved.









In other news it has been fantastic to see our Year 8 pupils train up Year 7s as new anti-bullying ambassadors this week as part of our anti-bullying programme. This very much fits alongside our school Core Values of compassion and respect and it will be great to have the pupils' input and ideas as we continue to take a collective stand against bullying of any kind. Mrs Wilmot has provided more information and some pictures of our ambassadors later in the newsletter.

Today Year 12 pupils who completed their GCSEs at Beechen Cliff were presented with their certificates. It was great to celebrate their successes from last summer and to reflect on their positive start to Year 12. Additional awards for GCSE progress and attainment were also made to Tom, Harry, Henry and Sam. Congratulations!

Students who have moved on from Beechen Cliff are able to collect their certificates from reception.

Today Year 11 prefects have also begun their annual project with peers from Hayesfield where they work together on a student agreed personal development theme and then create assemblies that will be presented to Year 8 and Year 9 in both schools.



Previous projects have focussed on stereotypes, sexual harassment and peer pressure and we look forward to hearing what the focus will be this year.

We have also had amazing success in the UKMT Maths Challenge invitation only Senior Kangaroo event. Four students took part achieving two Gold, one Silver and one Bronze awards. Mr Henly has given more details later in the newsletter.

This week we have also had our boarding house Christmas party, ice skating trips and rehearsals for our Carol Service at Bath Abbey which we hope you will be able to join us at on 17th December at 7pm.

Wishing you an enjoyable weekend ahead.

T. D. Marball .

T. D. Markall

Headteacher

Key Notices

REPORTING <u>ALL</u> PUPIL ABSENCES

PLEASE NOTE...

<u>All absences</u> from School including late arrivals and medical appointments are to be reported to School promptly. Please take note of the following correct direct contact details.

Lower School Pupils

To report a Lower School absence please call the School **direct** on **01225 485222** OR email the lower school attendance at

attendance @beechencliff.mnsp.org.uk.

Sixth Form Students

For a Sixth Form student absence please call the School **direct** on **01225 485221** OR you can email Sixth Form attendance at:

sixthattendance@beechencliff.mnsp.org.uk

PLANNED ABSENCES

For planned absences please contact the attendance office attendance@beechencliff.mnsp.org.uk for a copy of the 'absence request form' which can also be found on the school website:

MNSP Absence Request Form.

Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 17th December

Christmas Jumper Day Santa Run (Years 7-9) Christmas Lunch

Carol Service @ Bath Abbey 7-8.30pm

Friday 19th December

End of Term 2-school finishes at 3.15

Monday 5th January

INSET Day

Tuesday 6th January

Start of Term 3

Current Vacancies in the School and the Trust

Please follow the link below to view and access all current vacancies from across the MNSP Trust

https://

 $\underline{www.midsomernortonschoolspartnership.com/}\\ \underline{vacancies.htm}$



Next week! Christmas Charity Week at Beechen Cliff



A quick reminder of what is happening next week - there will be many end of term activities arranged, but our main focus in school will be centred on Wednesday 17th December. We will be having our traditional Christmas jumper day where we ask for a donation of £2 on Arbor in exchange for the opportunity to wear one of the increasingly large array of Christmas jumpers now available! We will also be hosting our ever popular Santa Run during periods 1-3 for Years 7-9 please use this link with details of how to pay in sponsorship:

https://www.goodhub.com/go/bcptasantadash25

Pupils will register in their normal lessons and will then go out and complete 3 laps of Alexandra Park. Santa hats are actively encouraged! This will also be our Christmas Lunch day, so please make sure there is enough credit on your Arbor account.

Mr C Hall

Assistant Headteacher, Attendance and Designated Safeguarding Lead

Beechen Cliff Christmas Auction and Raffle 2025



We have some fantastic prizes/Christmas presents to be won in our two Christmas fundraising events, Beechen Cliff's Christmas Auction and Christmas Raffle.

Please use the two links below to view letters sent home via Arbor with more details.

<u>Christmas Raffle letter</u> <u>Christmas Auction Letter</u>

Money raised will go towards additional resources in the School Library and extra curricular provision.



Auction

Christmas Auction - 8 tickets to Bath Gloucester Sat 28 February 2026

- Lot 1: 4 Adult tickets in D block in the Dyson Stand
- Lot 2: 4 Adult tickets in C block in the Thatchers Stand

Please email Mr Greenhough on cgreenhough@beechencliff.mnsp.org.uk with your highest bid stating Lot 1 or 2 by 0900 on Monday 15th December.



Christmas Raffle

The Raffle is being drawn on Thursday 18th December.

Tickets are £2 each in the Arbor shop. There are 8 wonderful prizes. Money raised will go towards our extra curricular provision

Thank you for your continued support of our school.

Mr C Greenhough Fundraising Lead

FOOD AND HOSPITALITY

Recently our Year 11 Hospitality and Catering students have been refining their side dishes. Last week they made Naan bread and Rainbow Samosas. The classroom smelt delicious after each double lesson with both groups.

Mrs K Gallagher Food Lead









Carol Service - Wednesday 17th December 2025

Our annual Carol Service will take place in Bath Abbey on Wednesday 17th December at 7pm. This is an important event in the school calendar and is always well attended by parents and pupils.

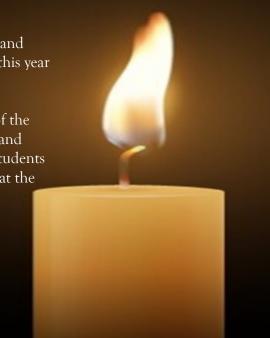
In previous years, it has been tradition for Year 7 pupils and parents to attend this service and we invite all to attend this year as well.

In addition, there is an open invitation to all members of the school community to join us for what is always a joyous and uplifting occasion that provides the opportunity for all students to join in a school community celebration of Christmas at the start of their festive break.

Please note, no tickets are required for the event.

We hope to see you there!

Mr P E Calvert Head of Music



THE LIBRARY NE



A calm, quiet space to read and work

Book Club Reviews





The best people to recommend books are your friends! Here are some of the book recommendations from the pupils who have been coming to book club. I think you'll agree, there is an impressive range of challenging titles from our Year 7 and Year 8 readers!

https://www.goallin.org.uk/













Fantasy Recommendations from our Students:

Scythe, by Neal Shusterman Lord of the Rings, by JRR Tolkien Fireborn Trilogy, by Aisling Fowler Sophie's World, by Jostein Gaarder The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe, by CS Lewis

Podkin One-Ear, by Kieran Larwood The Notorious Scarlett and Brown, by Jonathan Stroud

Percy Jackson Series, by Rick Riordan Wings of Fire, by Tui T Sutherland

Come and check out one of our fantasy books from the school library!

Horror Recommendations from our Students:





Come and check out one of our horror books from the school library!

Messages:

Please check at home for overdue books and return to the library before Christmas!

Keep Reading! Mrs Bridge



BEECHEN CLIFF ANTI-BULLYING PROGRAMME



The Anti-Bullying Programme raises awareness of bullying behaviour and supports you people to tackle it and feel confident. Our first session of the Anti –Bullying Ambassador training has taken place this week. Welcome to our new Year 7 Anti-Bullying Ambassadors. They worked really hard during their training with our current

STAND
UP
TO
BULLYING

Year8 Ambassadors and already have so many ideas for the school moving forward. They should all feel incredibly proud.

We now have Anti-Bullying Ambassadors in years 7 –10



'I will be there for you to talk to'

'I will help others by making them more comfortable'



YOU ARE
CAPABLE OF
CHANGING
THE WORLD

'I will be a kind and balanced person'

'I will be there for as many students as possible'

Bath on Ice

This week pupils in Years 8-11 have enjoyed the annual ice skating trips to Bath on Ice along with peers from Hayesfield and St Marks.

Some days have been better weather than others but they have had a lot of fun and made the most of the opportunity.

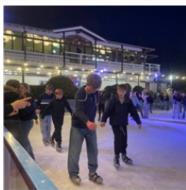
Mr K Morris

Assistant Headteacher (Conduct and Character Development)









→ Beechen Boarders Christmas Dinner



The boarders recently enjoyed their annual Christmas Dinner and Secret Santa celebration at Beechen House. It was a wonderful evening where students and boarding staff came together to share great food, festive fun, and the excitement of exchanging thoughtful gifts. The warm atmosphere and sense of community made the occasion especially memorable.





From everyone at Beechen House, we would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Mrs C Moorhead Teacher of Art/Head of Boarding/Head of Shakespeare House

UKMT Senior Maths Challenge



Following on from their success in the UKMT Senior Maths Challenge in October, four students were invited to participate in the UKMT Senior Kangaroo, follow on round. Tom from the Upper Sixth and Sangyoon from Year 11 both achieved Gold awards, whilst Philip and Dan achieved Silver and Bronze.

Congratulations to all those who participated.

Mr Henly Maths Challenge Coordinator





Recent Fixture Results

Fixture				
Thursday 4 th December	RUGBY	BCS U15A v The Kings of Wessex Academy	56-0	
Saturday 6 th December	RUGBY	BCS U12A v Collegiate (H)	15-40	
		BCS U12B v Collegiate (H)	35-15	
Monday 8 th December	FOOTBALL	BCS U15 v Chilton Trinity (OD)	15-14	
		BCS 1st XI v Marling (OD)	3-1	
	TENNIS	BCS 1st Tennis v Monkton (a)	8-4	
Tuesday 9 th December	FOOTBALL	BCS U13 v Kingsdown (OD)	9-0	

The PTA will be organising a ski and outdoor clothing sale at the same time as its next pre-loved uniform sale on Saturday 10 January.

If you have any good condition ski and outdoor clothing that is no longer in use in your home, please consider donating it for us to sell in advance of the February school trips to USA and Iceland.

Donations can be left at same place as the uniform donations (bin behind the main door). Thank you in advance!

Jane Gibbons



SKI TRIP USA 27

If you are currently in Years 7 or 8 and interested in our USA Ski Trip taking place in **February 2027**, there is still some availability .

If you require more information, please contact the trip lead, Mr Macdonald, pmacdonald@beechencliff.mnsp.org.uk



SPORTS FIXTURES w/c Monday 15th December (correct at time of publication)

Details of upcoming sports fixtures, team sheets and meet times are available on the school SOCS website - https://www.schoolssports.com/school/default.asp?id=374

		Fixture	Start time/ kick off	Meet time	Transport	Finish/ Return time
Monday 15 th December	RUGBY	BCS U14 a & b v Sir Thomas Rich's School (H)	15:00			
Wednesday 17 th December	RUGBY	U16a & b v STR (H)				

Wellbeing



CHRISTMAS POEM FOR PARENTS AND CARERS

Dear Parents and Carers.

This week's wellbeing entry is for you! We know how hard it is to juggle all the demands leading up to the festive season and this poem reminds us that we can cope in a whole variety of ways. And that's absolutely fine.

Award Winning Poet, Donna Ashworth, writes ...

I think now is the perfect time to discuss the absolute medicine of allowing everyone to seek light however they will...

The festive season approaches at speed and we each have our own ways of coping. Some embrace the joys head-on at full speed and some fear the light it will cast over their pain.

Some show face by doing what they feel they should and some see it for what is is under the wrapping paper - a season to spread love and channel goodwill.

Whatever sea you are sailing right now you will undoubtedly travel far more peacefully if you find compassion for your own feelings as well as those of everyone else.

Some people find the season so hard that they wrap themselves up tightly in lights, lest the dark overwhelm.

These souls can often come under fire for flaunting timelines, tradition and rules - but the truth is - they are warriors.

They are harnessing light where no light exists and creating hope out of tinsel and trinketry.

How wonderful. Let them.

Others find the season so hard that they are strongly swathed in survival.

The instinct to hide from it all is louder than any peer pressure and they fear the overwhelm of other people's frivolity and joy rubbing up against their loss.

They are doing what they need to do to get through to see another year

It is the simple and bittersweet flipping of the human coin of love and loss, joy and sadness, dark and light. It will flip again in time.

The thing is. December is a lot.

And life is already a lot.

So many of us can be pushed to the edge of their limits, like the coins trickling down in an arcade coin machine.

Simple kindnesses are never wrong.

Respecting a boundary, lands like love.

Digging for what lies under outward behaviour and changing your tack to ride with that, is to know true compassion And whilst Christmas can be hard, it is also an opportunity hard to remember we are not separate, any of us.

Life connects us all.

We can see this season as a chance to remember what this life is all about - love.

It's about getting one another through. Let's do whatever we need, to get one another through.

Warmest wishes from the Wellbeing Team

Careers

Beechen Cliff Careers Newsletter

The most recent edition (14) of our Beechen Cliff Future Horizon Careers publication is published alongside this school newsletter.

If you would like any further support or information please let me know epascoe@beechencliff.mnsp.org.uk

Mrs E Pascoe Head of Careers

Work Experience Mott MacDonald is now open for application!

Are you interested in learning more about the world around you? Do you have an interest in or enjoy studying Science, Technology, Engineering or Maths (STEM)?

If the answer is yes, and you'd love to see how STEM subjects are applied to the real world, then our Finding Your Future work experience programme could be just the thing for you. There is a vast array of STEM careers to consider and there will be more coming in the future and probably not yet identified, and we will need a diverse range of people to be ready to do them.

Not only will a work experience placement at Mott MacDonald give you an inside look at what it's like working for a global engineering and management consultancy, but you'll also gain first-hand knowledge of the diverse range of career possibilities our industry has to offer.

Find the application link here - https://www.mottmac.com/en/careers/early-careers/uk-europe/work-experience/

Note the weeks we are running are,

29th June - 3rd of July

6th July - 10th July

13th July - 17th July

20th July - 24th July



Applications for the RUH Spring/Summer Experience of the Workplace 2026 are now open.

Our programme is open to students in Years 12-13 and consists of a 2-day placement at the hospital. We will have a variety of roles available within medical, clinical and non-clinical areas. For example orthopaedics & radiology as well as library services and research but we are unable to guarantee individual preferences.

To apply for the programme, students will need to complete the application form through MS Forms https://forms.office.com/e/zGhZcsCqPe

Applications close midnight 18th January 2026 and we aim to notify all students of the outcome by the 20th of March 2026 following shortlisting.



The RUH, where you matter

HPE Bristol: NextGen Innovators

- Are you a Year 10–13 student (as of September 2025) with a passion for STEM?
- Get ready to innovate, create, and compete at the HPE **Bristol NextGen Innovators Challenge!**
- Error a team, build an exciting project in advance, and then bring your ideas to life at our in-person showcase event, running from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM at the HPE Bristol office.
- Present your work to a panel of industry experts, gain realworld feedback, and connect with professionals in tech.
- Empowering tomorrow's thinkers to create, code, and lead



Wednesday 8th April



10:00 AM to 4:00 PM



Hewlett Packard Enterprise, Lake View, Stoke Gifford, Bristol **BS34 8SW**





HPE Bristol: NextGen Innovators

Hewlett Packard Enterprise (HPE) Bristol are offering teams of students from Years 10-13 studying a STEM subject (as of September 2025) the opportunity to take part in our NextGen Innovators project. You will work together with your team of up to 5 people to develop a project that fits our brief. You will then attend our office from 10:00 AM to $4:00\,\mathrm{PM}$ event, where you can showcase your work to our panel of expert judges and learn more about HPE!

Hackathon details:

- Problem statement: How to make your day-to-day life better with technology?
- Themes: Sustainability, Productivity and Social Value Judging Criteria: Presentation, Innovation and Feasibility

- Get together with your team of up to 5 people of students in Year 10-13 studying a STEM subject (as of September 2025) and start brainstorming ideas.
- Register your interest using the OR code below (places are limited and offered on a first come first served basis and will be confirmed by 30th January 2026 but don't
- wait until then to start your projects!)". Start Hacking! You should develop a project that addresses the problem statement and fits into one of the themes. Do you want to create a planning app to help with managing schoolwork? Maybe you have a great idea to gamify the efforts towards sustainability? Or perhaps you could use AI tools to provide social value?
- Prepare a short presentation (~10 minutes) and printed poster (any size) to show
- Attend our HPE Bristol office from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM in April, where you will learn about HPE and the work we do and share your work through a short presentation and poster fair session. A panel of expert judges will assess your efforts and award prizes for the best performing group in each of the judging categories.

Why should I sign up?

• An experiencelooks great on UCAS applications, gain a fresh insight into working in techand a host of valuable soft skills such as teamwork, time management and

 * if you have been successful in gaining a place, a member of our team will be in touch with additional details and to offer support if required.

For any questions, please contact hpe-education-bristol@hpe.com

Scan the QR code to apply!



HPE **Work Experience**



13th - 16th April 2026 13th - 16th July 2026





Hewlett Packard Enterprise, Lake View, Stoke Gifford, Bristol **BS34 8SW**

- Calling students in Years 10-12
- Join us for a 4 day on site work experience at Hewlett Packard Enterprise (HPE).
- You'll develop new skills and experience what its like to be a software developer

Scan QR Code to Apply!





4-Day Onsite Work Experience

Hewlett Packard Enterprise (HPE) are offering students from years 10-12 to attend our Bristol office for work experience.

HPE is a technology company providing solutions to businesses worldwide using cutting-edge technologies like Al, cloud computing and cybersecurity. We work with like Mercedes AMG Petronas F1 and Red Bull Racing (processing race data in real-time), and the NASA Space Station (managing critical systems in space).

So, whether you love technology or just a bit curious, join our Bristol engineering office for a 4-day work experience to explore what a career in tech looks like.

We are offering 2 work experience events in 2026:

Monday 13th – Thursday 16th April

Monday 13th – Thursday 16th July

Each day in the office will be from 10:00-16:00.

What will I do?

- Hear from HPE colleagues from a range of areas across the business about how they got where they are and what a typical day looks like
- See first-hand what it's like to work at HPE
- Work on a programming group project and present your work to a wider group
- Take part in tech and CV workshops, improving your innovation and presentation skills

Hewlett Packard Enterprise Lake View Stoke Gifford, Bristol BS34 8SW

hpe-education-bristol@hpe.com

To apply scan the QR code







Sustainable You(th) Challenge



Dear Parent/Guardian,

Does your child have a passion for tackling global challenges, driving climate-positive change, and finding innovative solutions for a more sustainable future?

Are they excited by topics like sustainability, environmental science, technology, or the agri-food sector?

If so, they should apply to take part in LEAF's (Linking Environment And Farming) Sustainable You(th) Challenge: Growing a Better Future.

This Challenge is a unique opportunity for your child to explore their interests, gain valuable skills, and discover pathways that could shape their future career and contribution to a sustainable world.

Open to students in the UK aged 15-17, this challenge offers them the chance to turn their interests into action What the Challenge involves:

- A Challenge Day at Harper Adams University*, one of the UK's top universities for agriculture and food studies. Here, they will get a first-hand look at sustainable food production and innovation through a day of hands on activities and challenges.
- Engage with Open Farm Sunday, visit a farm or talk with your community discovering how food production connects with people.
- 30 finalists will be invited to a residential weekend at Harper Adams University*, where they will explore the agri-food sector and discover future career pathways in sustainability, food production, and environmental science.

Applications open on 18th October 2025. To apply students will submit an online form including a response to a question about their views on sustainability. Applications close on 4 January 2026.

* Travel bursaries available to support participation. In addition, free shuttle buses will run from local stations to Harper Adams University on event days.

Why should your child get involved:

Gain insights into careers in sustainability, food production, and environmental science Develop teamwork, communication, research, and problem-solving skills Connect with industry leaders and like-minded young people Exclusive prizes: opportunities to engage further with industry, bursaries to attend further



education, grade reductions for university places, and more still to be announced! Build confidence, discover strengths, and have hands-on fun

Interested? Share with your child and get them to <u>sign-up</u> to be the first to receive the application form via email.

For any questions, please contact: <u>education@leaf.eco</u>.

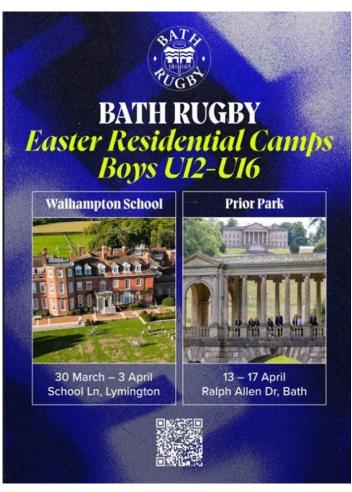
Community Links

We are happy to promote local businesses and community events. Please note these are not the responsibility of / or endorsed by Beechen Cliff School.

Bath City Youth



Bath Rugby Residential Camps Under 12-16



Facility Hire at Beechen Cliff



For clubs, for community groups, for individuals

Floodlight 3G and Astro Pitches





Indoor Cricket Nets Gym

Classrooms



All available for hire evenings and weekends

All availability and prices, contact Jo Davis - jdavis@beechencliff.mnsp.org.uk

Rainbows

JOIN RAINBOWS AND BROWNIES!

6 Girlguiding



Scan here to register to join our unit. We are the 25th Bath Rainbows and Brownies!

Come and join your local Rainbows and Brownies Unit!

We meet every Saturday morning (10-11am) at Twerton Village Hall for an hour of fun, games, crafts, baking and earning badges!

Rainbows is for girls aged 4-7 and Brownies is for girls aged 7-10. Both groups meet at the same time so no need to make two trips if your daughters are different ages!

£17.50 per half term

(Financing and grants available to ensure that any girl who wants to can join!)

No waitlist, register and your child can start straight away!

Message Ellie at 07585898059, email 25thbrownies@girlguidingbath.org.uk or use the QR code above to join!

Brownies



A musical treat for the festive season!

Holiday Singing Days

Two fun and engaging singing days during the Christmas Holidays. One for children in years 3-6, and one for those in years 7 upwards. With WEMA musician, composer and conductor Joe Galuszka.

Monday 22 December: KS2 Singing Day Tuesday 23 December: Secondary Singing Day







More Information:

wema.org.uk/music-activities-and-workshops

NEED HELP AT HOME?

I'm a self employed gardener with many years experience of general garden maintenance with long term clients as well as one off, seasonal clients. This follows a career, in Travel and Administration.

Through my close connection with clients, I have also helped some on an ad hoc basis, particularly admin support - paperwork/ bills, Decluttering and general sorting. Also home support, light housework, bed changing, food shopping, as well as companionship.

If you feel I can help you or a close relative or friend, either as a one-off, more permanent help, or at some point in the future, please contact me and we can chat. I am based in the Moorland Road area but have a car and can travel. I am insured for public liability and DBS checked. Please note that I do not cover personal care.



Please contact Trudy at thealey50@gmail.com or 07732 626986

THE UNIFORM CUPBOARD

Giving away good quality second hand school uniform & coats









Sunday 26th October 2025 Sunday 22nd February 2026 Sunday 28th June 2026 2PM - 4PM

Freedom House, Lower Bristol Road, Bath, BA2 1EP

Email us for enquiries thecupboard@soundchurch.co.uk Find us on Facebook: /soundchurchcupboard soundchurch.co.uk/thecupboard





BACK TO SCHOOL? BOOST YOUR GRADES!

We are a team of knowledgeable and passionate Russell Group University tutors here to help!



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