



BEECHEN CLIFF WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

22nd January 2026

Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have seen much wet weather this week and many pupils have taken the opportunity to engage in indoor activities at lunchtimes including the library, main hall, Sixth Form open learning area and classrooms.

Some Year 11 students have taken the opportunity to finish off their Art coursework and have produced some amazing pieces of work, some of which you can see below.

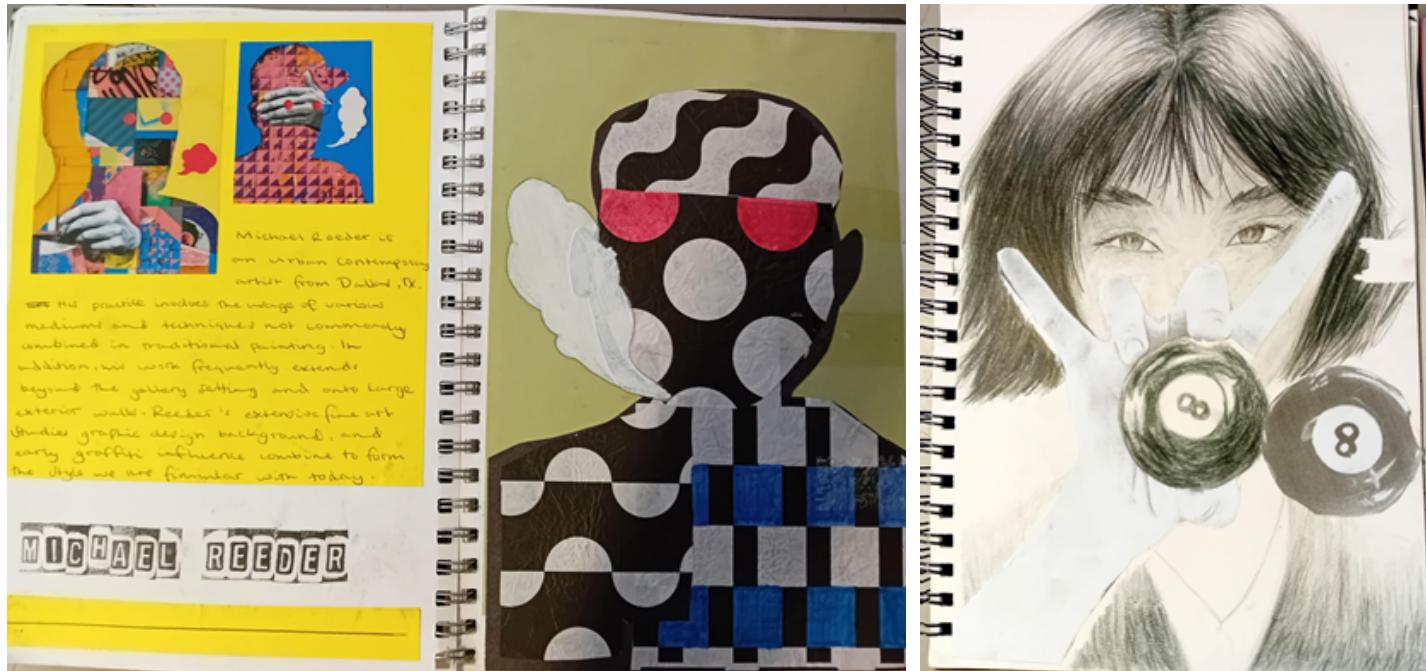


Aspiration

Compassion

Independence

Respect



Each year we ask parents to complete a survey to provide feedback to the school.

The information received is really valued and both feeds into school improvement planning and allows us to follow up with individuals where requested.

For parents who have completed such surveys in the past you will note that many of the questions are similar. This is to enable us to look for any changes in the feedback from parents over time.

If you are able to spend a few minutes completing the survey for your child that would be appreciated.

There are separate surveys for parents of Year 7-11 pupils and parents of Sixth Form students.

[Year 7-11 Parent Survey – January 2026](#)

[Sixth Form Parent Survey – January 2026](#)

Thank you in advance and wishing you a good weekend.

T. D. Markall .

Mr T. D. Markall
Headteacher

Key Notices

REPORTING ALL PUPIL ABSENCES

All absences 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](#).

Calendar

Thursday 22nd January

Year 9 Parents Evening 4.30 - 8pm (remote)

Wednesday 28th January

USA Ski Trip - Parents Information Meeting 5.30-6.30pm

Wednesday 4th February

Bands Night 5pm - 9pm

Tuesday 10th February

Year 10 Parents Evening 4.30-8pm (remote)

Friday 13th February

Term 3 ends

Monday 23rd February

Start of Term 4

Thursday 26th February

Year 7 Parents Evening 4.30-8pm (remote)

MENU - Week Commencing Monday 26th January

Monday: Ham with Parsley Sauce, Leek and Feta Pie (W,D)

Tuesday: Thai Marinated Chicken, Chilli mixed beans and mozzarella Toasted Wrap (W,D)

Wednesday: Roast Pork with Apple Sauce, Squash and Parmesan Risotto (D)

Thursday: Venison Sweet Potato and Lentil Curry, Potato and Spinach Curry

Friday: Pasta Puttanesca (W) (vegetarian alternative), Cajun Chicken Breast

Can I please ask that all accounts are topped up at all times to avoid disappointment.

Mr D Keal
Head Chef

(W) = Contains Wheat Products
(D) = Contains Dairy Products
(GF) = Gluten Free Option

Teaching and Learning at Beechen Cliff - The Learning Cycle



Dear Beechen Parents and Carers,

I hope that your son/daughter has had a positive start back with us in 2026. I wanted to take this opportunity to share with you one of the things we are doing in lessons at the moment in order to improve student agency in their learning: the Learning Cycle.

This is the idea that all teachers follow a learning cycle in their lessons, and that we share each stage of the lesson with pupils so that they are aware of where they are in the lesson, which skill they are currently working on, and where they are going next.

Whilst the Learning Cycle is a very helpful planning tool for us as teachers, by sharing the stages of the cycle with our pupils, we hope to provide consistency and predictability for them across the school, as well as involving them in the conversation about their learning and about how they are learning.

The stages of the Learning Cycle are:

Do Now: A quick recall quiz on prior learning from last lesson, last week, last term, last year, as appropriate. This is a proven method in cognitive science which helps to anchor knowledge in the brain.

Engage: What are we learning and why? What's the point?! Why is this interesting/relevant? What are our learning objectives?

Learn: New knowledge is shared with pupils

Build: Pupils extend or deepen their knowledge through follow on tasks

Apply: Students apply their knowledge. This could be through a variety of tasks: extended writing, annotated drawings, group work, presentations, practicals, debates etc.

Review: Pupils review their learning at the end of the lesson- what have they learned? Have the learning objectives been met?

This is what our Do Now slide looks like:

1. Do Now	C/W	TITLE	DATE
<p>Welcome</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">→ Correct uniform→ Pencil case, planner and book/folder out on desk→ Bag(s) under the desk→ Write title, C/W and date. Underline using a ruler→ Do now task whilst register is being taken	<p>Do Now Task - In Silence 😊</p> <p>3 short, simple knowledge recall questions from previous learning</p> <p>1.</p> <p>2.</p> <p>3.</p> <p>Challenge question:</p>		

We hope that by making our pupils aware of the parts of the learning cycle they are currently working on, they will start to recognise which skills they are using and that this will aid them in their learning, independent study, revision, and in their next steps after Beechen Cliff. By involving our students in conversations around their learning, we aim to bring them along with us and foster both independence and aspirations, two of our core values at Beechen Cliff.

Please speak to your son/daughter about the Learning Cycle and how it is helping them to better understand how they are learning in and out of school. It may also be useful to use some of the language of the learning cycle in homework and revision tasks at home.

If you have any thoughts or feedback about the Learning Cycle, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Mrs S Sullivan
Assistant Headteacher, Teaching and Learning
ssullivan@beechencliff.mnsp.org.uk



LOST PROPERTY

Our Lost Property is groaning with lost items of clothing, in particular expensive winter coats. Most items are un-named which means that they cannot easily be returned to their rightful owners.

If your child has mislaid any items, please can you encourage your child to visit Lost Property (situated in the nurses room) as a matter of priority

And a gentle reminder please to name all items of clothing and equipment brought into School.

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://www.midsomernortonschoolspartnership.com/vacancies.htm>



Holocaust Memorial Day 2026

Each year people from across the UK take part in our Light the Darkness national moment for Holocaust Memorial Day.

At 8pm on 27 January people across the nation will light candles and put them safely in their windows to:

- remember those who were murdered for who they were
- stand against prejudice and hatred today

Iconic buildings and landmarks will light up in purple during this powerful national moment of commemoration and solidarity.

How to take part as an individual

Place a candle safely in your window at 8pm on 27 January.

Become part of the conversation about Light the darkness online by sharing a photo of your candle and tagging Holocaust Memorial Day on [Facebook](#) or [Instagram](#). Use the hashtags [#HolocaustMemorialDay](#) and [#LightTheDarkness](#).



Ms Sinclair and Ms Netto
Head of History and Head of RPE

[BOYS IN MIND](#)

Mrs Wilmot and Mr King are running the Bath Half Marathon for Boys in Mind!

[Help raise money for BOYS IN MIND](#)

Registered Charity No. 1198732

Share this fundraising page with your followers to show support.



<https://www.goodhub.com/go/runforbim>

THE LIBRARY NEWS

A calm, quiet space to read and work

Proud to support
The National Year
of Reading 2026.

GO
ALL
IN.

[National Year of Reading 2026](#)

WANTED

We are looking for the following good quality donations for our school library:

- Audiobooks on CD
- Magazines (all topics - especially sports/cars/science/comics)
- Non-fiction books
- Books in foreign languages
- Quality contemporary fiction for 'older readers (including sixth form)

If you have any donations, please bring them to reception, in a bag marked 'Library'.



The non-fiction area of our library has had a re-vamp, with a new classification system and a strong link to the National Year of Reading's slogan: "If you're into it, read into it!"



LIBRARY BOOK AMNESTY!

If you return an overdue library book before the end of January, you will get a Moam!



(For books with a return date in 2025!)

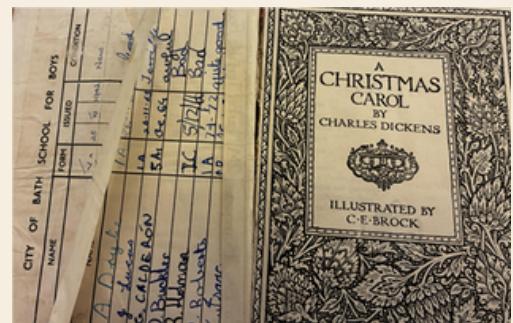
Please encourage your child to check in bag/under bed for books!

Keep Reading!

Mrs Bridge

Look at this beautiful copy of A Christmas Carol, found recently in a box in the library. First issued to a student in 1942! Still in remarkably good condition.

It's a lovely reminder of how classic literature is timeless and generations of students have enjoyed this story.



HOSPITALITY AND CATERING



This week in Hospitality and Catering classes, our Year 10 classes have been making and decorating White Chocolate Cheesecakes. In the first hour of their lesson the focus was on creating the cheesecake element and in the 2nd it was all about decoration and presentation – along with washing up!



EXTRA CURRICULAR CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

A major strength of our school is our phenomenal extra curricular offering that the staff put so much effort into and the students gain so much from.

Beechen Cliff's Extra Curricular Clubs and Activities list for Term 3 and Term 4 is available on the School website at

<https://www.beechencliff.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/Extra-Curricular-for-Terms-3-4-2026-Terms-3-4.pdf>

The majority of activities will commence first week of term, however please check the website for see where this is not the case.



Recent Fixture Results

Fixture			Result
Thursday 15th January	FOOTBALL	BCS 1st XI v Queen Elizabeth School, Wimbourne	1-0
Monday 19th January	FOOTBALL	BCSU16A v Chew Valley School	5-2
	HOCKEY	BCS U12A v Kingswood (A)	0-0
		BCS U12B v Kingswood (A)	0-0
		BCS U15A v Kingswood U15B team (A)	6-2
Tuesday 20th January	HOCKEY	BCS U13A v Kingswood	1-9
		BCS U13B v Kingswood	0-0
		BCS U14A v Kingswood	0-0
	Cricket (Indoor)	BCS U15A v Ansford Academy (A)	BCS won
Wednesday 21st January	HOCKEY	BCS 1st XI v Kingswood Boys U18B	1-2
	RUGBY	BCS U17A v The Bishop Wand Church of England School	31-17

FOOTBALL

U16 Football Team Marches On



Well done to the U16A football team on progressing to the quarter finals of the Somerset Cup with a well-deserved 5-2 victory against Chew Valley this week.

Mr N Quintin
PE Department

Rugby Sponsorship Opportunities at Beechen Cliff School

Beechen Cliff School is pleased to invite local businesses and organisations to partner with us through rugby sponsorship opportunities that support school sport while promoting your business within our community.

We are currently seeking sponsors for:



Junior Rugby Football Kit

- **Main Kit Sponsor**
- **Sleeve Sponsor**
- Sponsor logo displayed on official junior rugby kits worn at matches, tournaments, and events



1st XV Pitch Post Pad Protectors

- Sponsor branding displayed on **post pad protectors** on the 1st XV pitch
- High-visibility exposure during home fixtures, training sessions, and school events

Additional Sponsor Benefits

- ✓ Promotion in the **Beechen Cliff School newsletter**
- ✓ Promotion across **Beechen Cliff School social media channels**
- ✓ Regular visibility to students, parents, staff, visitors, and the wider community

Why Sponsor Beechen Cliff Rugby?

- Support youth and school rugby
- Increase local brand awareness
- Align your business with teamwork, commitment, and excellence

For more information or to discuss sponsorship packages, please contact Mr Macdonald pmacdonald@beechencliff.mnsp.org.uk

SPORTS FIXTURES for w/c 26th January 2026

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>

Below details were correct at the time of publication, however please check the website for up any changes/updates

Fixture			Start time/kick off	Meet time	Transport	Finish/Return time
Monday 26th January	HOCKEY	BCS U16 @ Clifton College				
	FOOTBALL	BCS 1st XI v Hampton (h)	13:45	13:00	n/a	
Tuesday 27th January	FOOTBALL	BCS U13 v St Katherine's (h)	14:30			
		BCS U15 football v Worle (h)	13:45			
		BCS U14a v QEH (a)				
		BCS U14b v QEH (a)				
		BCS U15b v QEH (a)				
Wednesday 28th January	FOOTBALL	BCS U12a v RGS Worcester (h)				
		BCS U13a v RGS Worcester (h)	14:30			
	RUGBY	BCS U17 v Glantaf (a)	15:00			
	CRICKET	BCS U13 Indoor Cricket @ Wellsway	15:30			
Thursday 29th January	NETBALL	1st v St Mary Calne (a)	14:45			
		2nd v St Mary Calne (a)				
	FOOTBALL	BCS 1st XI v QEH (a)				
		BCS 2nd XI v QEH (a)	14:15			
		BCS 3rd XI v QEH (a)				
Sunday 1st February		U14 Dean Close 7s				

WELLBEING

Dear Parents,

In the Autumn term, Tara Gretton and Susie Ingram ran a Parent/Carer training session on the Solution Focused Approach that we use in school. We use this with our 1:1 therapy sessions with pupils in school and our staff use it too with all children. One of the things parents asked us was how to use this approach to de-escalate tricky conversations with their children, that can lead to arguments.

We all know the exhaustion that comes after a long day when a simple request—like asking your child to put away their shoes—spirals into an heated argument. These moments can leave both parents and children feeling frustrated and disconnected.

To help navigate these challenges, we want to share an insight into the Solution-Focused approach. Unlike traditional methods that dwell on why a problem started, this approach shifts the energy toward what is already working and what a "better" tomorrow looks like.

What is the Solution-Focused Approach?

The core idea is simple: We don't need to analyze the history of a conflict to find a way out of it. By focusing on the "solution" rather than the "problem," we can lower the temperature of arguments and build a more collaborative relationship with our children.

Three Practical Tools You Can Use Today

If you find yourself stuck in a cycle of arguing, try these three techniques:

1. Look for "Exceptions" Think of a time recently when a similar situation didn't result in an argument. What was different? Maybe the timing was better, or your tone was softer. By identifying these "exceptions," you can repeat the behaviors that already lead to success.
2. Use the "Miracle Question" Ask your child (and yourself): "If a miracle happened tonight and this problem was gone tomorrow, what would be the first small sign that things are better?" This helps move the conversation away from blame and toward specific, positive actions.
3. Scaling Questions On a scale of 1 to 10 (where 10 is a perfectly peaceful home), where are things today? If the answer is a 3, don't aim for a 10 immediately. Instead, ask: "What would it take to get us to a 4?" This makes progress feel manageable and less overwhelming.

Why It Works

When we focus on the problem, we often trigger a "defensive" response in children. When we focus on the solution, we invite them to be problem-solvers. This approach validates their feelings while giving them a clear path forward, helping to preserve the parent-child bond even during difficult moments.

We hope these tools provide a fresh perspective for your family. Small shifts in how we talk can lead to big changes in how we feel.

The Wellbeing Team

CAREERS

Beechen Cliff Careers Newsletter

The most recent edition 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 at epascoe@beechencliff.mnsp.org.uk

In addition further information about upcoming careers opportunities are available on the next few pages

Mrs E Pascoe
Head of Careers

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.

Relationship Works – the new name for Relate Avon

We know that parenting can put a strain on adult relationships. We're here to help. Whether you're facing difficulties, looking to strengthen your relationship, or want help talking things through.

We're your local relationship specialists with over 80 years of experience and over 100,000 people helped. Whatever your circumstances, whatever your background, no matter how big or small the issues, we're here to help.

Adult relationship counselling: either online or face-to-face from our premises in Bristol or Bath.



Relationship Works

www.relationship-works.co.uk / enquiries@relationship-works.co.uk / tel 01179 428 444

FOSTERING

*There are Children in Bath and surrounding area right now who need a safe loving home.

*You don't need to be perfect – just patient, caring and willing to learn.

*Could fostering be something you've never consider...but should?

Fostering Myths – Busted!

You have to be married X

You need a spare mansion X

You have to be a stay at home parent X

You can be single √

You can work √

You just need a spare room and a big heart √

Contact Five Rivers Fostering – 0333 0603 962

carer.enquiries@thefosteringcompanyltd.co.uk

**BEECHEN
CLIFF
FACILITY HIRE**



All available for hire evenings and
weekends

For clubs, for community
groups, for individuals

Floodlight 3G and Astro Pitches

Sports Hall

Indoor Cricket Nets

Gym

Classrooms





PLAYERS WANTED!

Under 14 — School year 9



Everyone welcome — all abilities, all confidence levels.

No trials, no pressure. Turn up, have a go, and see if you enjoy it.

Players from lots of different schools across Bath.

Coaches are friendly, supportive, and focused on helping kids feel comfortable, not judged.

**NEW
PLAYERS
ARE ALWAYS
WELCOME!**



TRAINING

Mondays at 18:00
St. Marks (winter)
Lansdown (summer)

GAMES

Sunday
afternoons

For more details, please email
larkhallathleticyfc@gmail.com
mentioning this flyer.



***tennis for all
ages + abilities***

**Blue Sky**
TENNIS

6-A-SIDE LEAGUE



LEAGUE NOW RUNNING
JOIN NOW

TEXT FOR INFO 07400827109
WWW.SOCCERSIXES.NET

THE UNIFORM CUPBOARD

Giving away good quality
second hand school uniform
& coats

FREE
SCHOOL
UNIFORM



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

the cupboard@soundchurch.co.uk

Find us on Facebook: /soundchurchcupboard

