BEECHEN CLIFF WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

19th November 2026

Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is so important that bullying is reported and that we collectively stand up for what is right and redouble our efforts to take action against bullying and enable all members of our community to feel safe, happy and to thrive.



It was particularly good to have our Anti-bullying Ambassadors, led by Mrs Wilmot, speaking to younger pupils in assemblies this week. Following this, many Year 7 students have signed up to become Anti-bullying Ambassadors which we are really impressed with and they will receive their training next week. Many students also took part in Odd Socks Day on Monday, the tenth year of the event organised by the anti-bullying alliance. I am really pleased that so many of our students are championing kind and respectful conduct and committing to taking positive action against bullying.

This evening we have our annual Beechen's Got Talent event and we look forward to sharing pictures and the results in next week's newsletter

Next week we have a few differences to the usual timetable.

We have an INSET day on Wednesday 25th November so students are not required to be in school.

On Thursday 26th November we have our first Bath Hub Ignite Day of the year. On this day a different programme is in place for each year group. Year 7 students will be working with peers from Hayesfield and St Marks and learning about sustainable careers and space exploration. Year 8 students will be based at Hayesfield working on a Teamwork, Marketing and Enterprise Day. Year 9 students will have a careers focussed day based around GCSE Options. Year 10 students will have a day based around employability and preparing for Work Experience. Year 11 students will have a day based around English speaking assessments and NEA. Year 12 students will be completing careers exploration using our Unifrog portal and based at home that day unless they have been invited in for specific Sixth Form sessions. Year 13 students will be completing revision for mock exams which begin on Friday 27th November. We hope it will be a really interesting and productive day for all.

Wishing you all a good weekend ahead.

T. D. Markall .

Mr T. D. Markall
Headteacher

KEY NOTICES

Reporting all Absences

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

Lower School Pupils
To report a Lower School absence please call the Main School direct on 01225 480466 (**OPTION 1**) 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 01225480466 (**OPTION 2**) 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 the Diary

Thursday 19th November
Beechen's Got Talent
PTA AGM -The Bear. Wellsway 7pm

Wednesday 25th November
INSET day

Saturday 28th November
PTA Pre-Loved Uniform Sale - Clubhouse 10am-12

Tuesday 1st December
SEND Parental Support Session - Dyslexia - Identifying and Supporting 5-6 pm

Friday 4th December
GCSE results assembly for Year 11



PTA News

PTA AGM, Thursday 19 November, 7pm, The Bear, Wellsway

Come along to meet the members of the PTA Committee and to learn more about how you could help in a big or small way. If you'd like any more information about this meeting or the PTA in general, please do email us at chair@beechenpta.org or info@beechenpta.org.

Pre-loved uniform sale, Saturday 28 November, 10am-12pm, Clubhouse





SEND Parent Support Sessions

An opportunity to find out more about special educational needs and ways to support young people at home.

Dyslexia: Identifying and Supporting

Date
Tuesday
1st December

Time
17:00–18:00

Who is it for?
Parents/carers of students in Years 7–13 who may or may not be diagnosed with dyslexia and who are seeking advice and support

Session lead(s)
Joanna Blair (SENDCo)

ADHD: Identifying and Supporting

Date
Thursday
28th Jan

Time
18:00–19:30

Who is it for?
Parents/carers of students in Years 7–13 who may or may not be diagnosed with ADHD and who are seeking advice and support

Session lead(s)
BANES Parent and Carer Forum
Joanna Blair (SENDCo)

Venue for all sessions:
Beechen Cliff School

Booking:
There is no need to book. Please arrive at reception 5–10 minutes before the start of the session and we will collect you.

Digital Day 2026 - Computing



















We were delighted that 28 year 9 students were able to take part in the BIMA Digital Day this year.

This year's challenge was sponsored by Vue Cinemas.

How can we use digital ideas to make Vue the number one cinema young people choose first, more often - and help build longer term brand loyalty?

Students could choose one of three options:

- Option 1: Club Vue How could Club Vue reward more than just spending money?
- Option 2: Off Peak How could Vue fill their seats at off peak times?
- Option 3: The cinema experience + App How could Vue improve the overall experience before, during and after a cinema visit?

The groups had to present their ideas at the end of the day in a pitch with the best idea as voted by the teachers and year 9s sent to BIMA to be entered into the national competition. Everyone who attended was presented with a certificate.

Alpaca and the Lads (Elliott A, Oscar B, Raphi M, Rory R and Idris A) won the teacher vote with The Next Gen of Vue (Simeon, Will , William, Toby and Jasper) winning the year 9 vote

Well done everyone for being so engaged and coming up with some great ideas throughout the day.

Mr Cottle and Ms Jarvis
Computing Department.

MNSP Trust Competition

Are You the next Jamie Oliver, Gordon Ramsey or Big Zulu

1. Internal Heats & Progression

The MNSP Trust is discovering our next big culinary talent in Year 9!

Internal Heats at Beechen Cliff

Tuesday 1st December | Room T3 | 10:20 – 12:30

The winner advances to compete against other schools in the Trust on 10th February at Writhlington School. (Self-arranged travel required).



2. The Brief & Judging Criteria

Main Course Dish Serves 2 90 Mins Max £15

Rules & Ingredients:

- Use seasonal & locally sourced ingredients wherever possible.
- No pre-prepared elements (except homemade stocks).

Judging Criteria:

- Recipe creativity & ingredient balance
- Technical skills required
- Use of local / South West regional produce
- Final dish quality & presentation

Want to compete? Year 9s: Email Mrs Gallagher before 20th November

Only 8 spaces available! Contact: kathryn.gallagher@beechencliff.mnsp.org.uk

LIBRARY NEWS

Amazing Reading Records!

I have had the fabulous job this week of distributing rewards to students in Year 7-11 for excellent, regular recording of their reading in their handbooks.

Altogether, I have handed out over 500 "commitment to studies" awards (worth four positives) and a similar number of packs of sweets. Well done to the students for their reading and thank you tutors for checking this is being done consistently.

Competition Winners

Over the holiday, I set students the task of writing book reviews to be in with a chance of winning a whole set of books.

We had over 100 entries, on a huge range of different books. From fantasy to horror and real life to science fiction. We also had a number of non-fiction book reviews and some graphic novels (comics) too.
All the reviews will be bound together in a folder so other students can see what their peers are reading.

Year 7 Winner
Sebastian P :
"Time Keys"

Runner up
Samson B: "Orion Lost"

Year 8 Winner
Paddy S : "One Piece"

Runner up
Ayaan H: Formula One Cars"

Year 9 Winner
Shunran Y: "Pickford"

Runner up
Unnamed entry: "Wonder"

Year 10 Winner
Alfrey M: "British Prime Ministers"

Runner up
William M "The Dirt Directory"

Year 11 Winner
Chris N: "Carrie"

Runners up
Oliver P: "The Name of the Rose"
Ali L: "Teen's Guide to Money"

Overdue Library Books







Just a reminder about overdue books:

- ➢ First reminder: Email to student after 3 days
- ➢ Second reminder: Email to student after approx. 1 week
- ➢ Final reminder: Email to student after 14 days.
- ➢ At this point, after this, we will email the tutor and the parent/guardian.
- ➢ If books still have not been returned after another week, the book will be marked as lost and this will be recorded on Arbor as a negative 1 (lack of equipment).

If your son has a genuine reason for not returning their book on time, please ask them to come and see me or email me at laura.bridge@beechencliff.mnsp.org.uk. Thank you!


Otto says, "Return your books!"

OPENING TIMES
Mon - Wed: 8:00 AM - 3:30 PM
Thu - Fri: 10:00 AM - 2.15 PM
Homework Club:
Mon- Fri from 3.15-4.15

Questions? Contact Mrs Bridge
(Library Lead & Literacy Coordinator) •
laura.bridge@beechencliff.mnsp.org.uk
"The library is for everyone. Keep reading!"

Our library is a safe, welcoming space for all, supporting a love of reading and learning across the school community.

Book review

Time Keys

by M.G Leonard





Reviewed by: Sebastian P

Genre: Action and adventure
Suitable for Age Range 9-13

This book is about a boy called Sim, who discovers his mum can open doors through time. His friends and him go on a dangerous adventure, to find Ancient Egyptian treasure, before the evil Council of Keys does.

It is set in a range of places: the assembly rooms, which is where they live, modern-day London, Ancient Egypt, also in the first book thousands of years in the past.

The main character is Sim Lockier, a brave and curious boy, who discovers his family have special powers to travel through time. Another main character is Jeopardy, she is Sim's cousin and is a Time Key.

The key themes are: adventure, friendship, family, mystery, courage and time travel.

I recommend it because it is exciting and full of surprises and mysteries, as well as dangerous adventures, to keep you on your toes. I particularly like how it teaches you about Ancient Egypt, while telling an interesting story.

I rate this 5/5 stars. ★★★★★

Year 7 Winner (Sebastian) and Runner Up (Samson) in the Book Review Competition



Orion lost

Alastair Chisholm

Science fiction

Age rating: 9 -14 years old

Reviewed by: Samson B

This book is about: The transport ship Orion is four months out of Earth when disaster strikes - knocking out every adult aboard the ship on board stranded in deep space. Suddenly it's up to thirteen-year-old Beth and her friends to navigate through treacherous and uncharted territory to reach safety.

Setting: It is set aboard a ship called the orion stranded in deep space that is damaged , where every system failure could be fatal.

The main character is: The main character is Beth McKay, a colonists daughter who is suddenly forced to take up the role of captain.She is brave and resourceful but is still scared to make a mistake that could cost them their lives.

The key themes are: I would say the key themes are leadership, responsibility, and growing up.

I recommend it because: I recommend this book because it shows how the children can control the ship even though someone is trying to stop them from succeeding. Also it is fast paced and keeps you guessing who is trying to sabotage the ship.

Five star review!

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

Friday 27th Nov - Monday 7th Dec

DISCOVER MORE BOOKS ONLINE!

www.bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/bookcases

Help Earn Free Books! Every purchase you make gives Beechen Cliff points to spend on books for our school!



All our KS3 students will get the chance to visit the book fair during lessons and the fair will be open for KS4 and sixth formers to browse at breaks. The selection includes revision guides as well as fabulous fiction and non-fiction choices which could make fabulous Christmas presents. Parents will also be able to come to the school Foyer after school on Mon 30th Nov, Tue 1st and Wed 2nd Dec from 3.20 - 4.00pm.

For the full range of books on offer and details of how you can pay, please scan the QR code or go to www.bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/bookcases

We will have the bookcases for 'Reading On' and 'Teen Titles' at Beechen Cliff, but if you want to order from the other lists, you can do provided that the order is in and paid for, before Monday 7th December at 9am.

Payment Details:

Once you know which book your young person wants to read (either after they have visited the fair or when browsing online) you can pay from home in two steps:

1. Make payment online using the QR code or at: bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/pay

2 .Forward the confirmation email to laura.bridge@beechencliff.mnsp.org.uk with the book title(s) you have paid for OR return the wishlist your child will bring home from the fair to the library with your payment reference

SCHOLASTIC Book Fairs

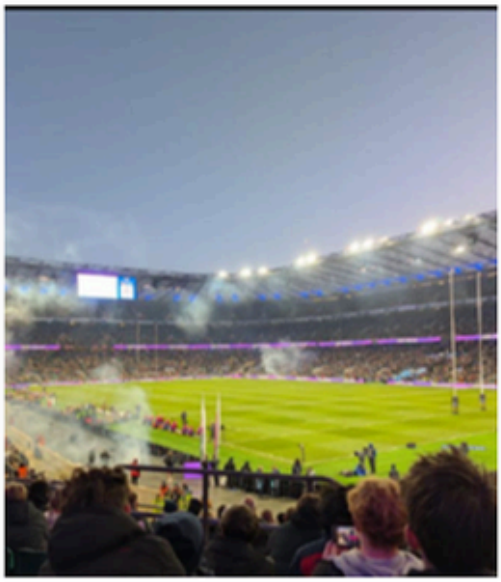
Scan the QR code to pay for your books online or visit bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/pay

Deadline for orders: 9am Monday 7th December

Extra Curricular Activities

TWICKENHAM - ENGLAND V JAPAN

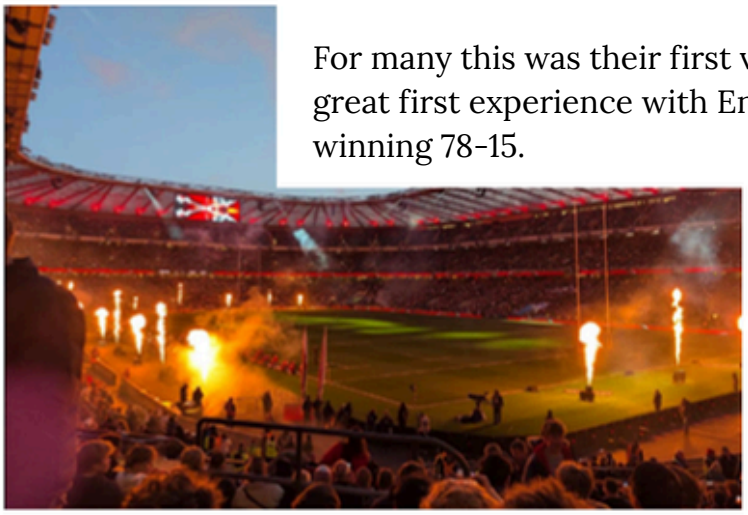


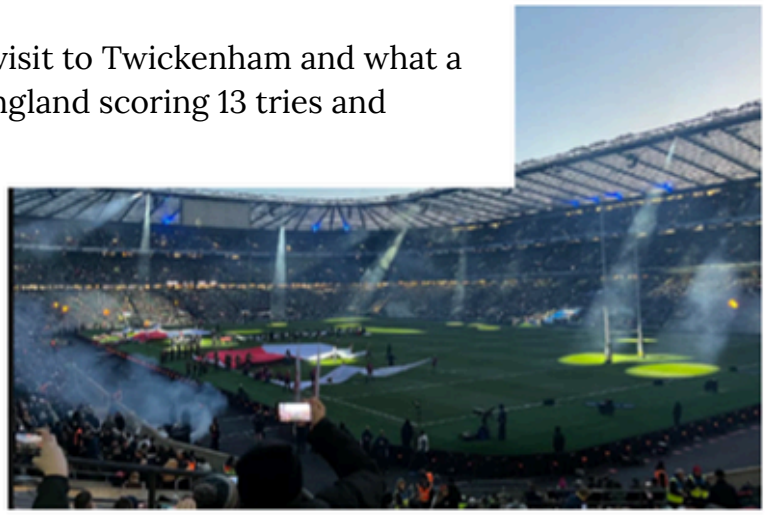




On Saturday, 15th November, 100 year 8 and 9 pupils went to Twickenham to watch England v Japan.

For many this was their first visit to Twickenham and what a great first experience with England scoring 13 tries and winning 78-15.





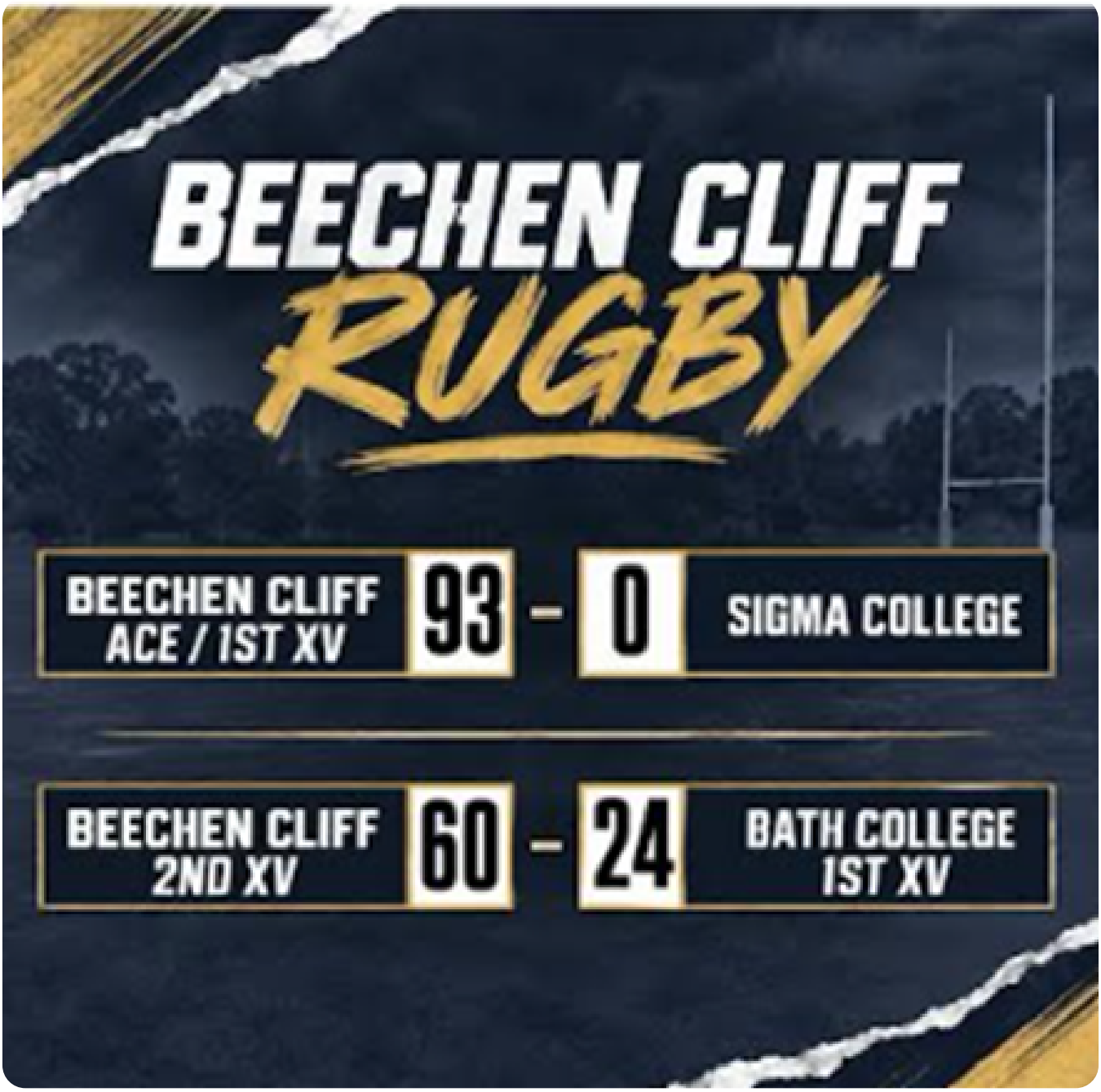
Mr P Macdonald
Sport

Extra-curricular Clubs and Activities for Terms 1 and 2

The List of Extra curricular Club and Activities on offer for terms 1 and 2 and can be viewed on the school website.
Link to Extra-curricular List

Beechen Cliff Rugby Matches - Wednesday 18th November

Tremendous results for Beechen Cliff ACE/First teams yesterday. More details to follow in the next edition of our Rugby Newletter.



Recent Sporting Fixtures Results

Fixture			Result
Wednesday 18th November	RUGBY	1st XV v Sigma College (h)	93-0
		2nd XV v Bath College 1st XV (h)	60-24

Historic Wales victory against New Zealand
14th November 2026

The Welsh team line up for last weekend's game against the NZ All Blacks in Cardiff. Congratulations to former pupil Gabriel who played for Wales in this historic match!

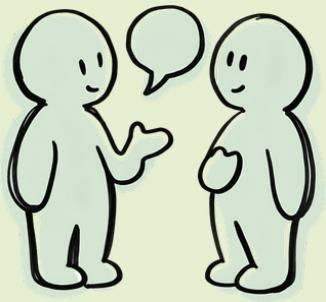


Sporting Fixtures for wc 23rd November

Advance details below of fixtures planned for week commencing 23rd November as at the time of publication. These are potentially be subject to change, so do please check the website (link) for any changes or updates.

Fixture			Start time/kick off
Tuesday 24th November	**RUGBY**	U15a v Clifton College (a)	14:30
	FOOTBALL	U14a v Lytchett (OD)	13:30
Wednesday 25th November	**RUGBY**	ACE v Bishop Burton (a)	14:30
Thursday 26th November	**RUGBY**	BCS 2nd XV v QEH (a)	14:30
	TENNIS	1st tennis v Monkton (a)	14:15
Saturday	**RUGBY**	BCS U14a v QEH (a)	10:30
		BCS U15a v QEH (a)	10:30
		BCS U16a v QEH (a)	10:30

Wellbeing



Dear Parents and Carers,

Following on from last week's Wellbeing entry on "Understanding Our Young People - Recommended Reading and Podcasts", this week we are inviting you to look at the types of conversations we might have with our young people, that matter.

💬 Understanding Our Young People: The Conversations That Matter

Why the smallest moments can lead to the biggest conversations:

"How was school?"

"Fine."

"What did you do?"

"Nothing."

Sound familiar?

As parents and carers, we naturally want to know what's happening in our young people's lives. We want to hear about their friendships, worries and successes. But sometimes, the more questions we ask, the less they seem to want to tell us!

Perhaps the answer isn't always to ask more questions, but to create opportunities for conversations to happen naturally.

🌿 Connection Before Conversation

Some of the best conversations happen when we least expect them. In the car, walking the dog, preparing dinner or, rather inconveniently, just as we're heading to bed!

Being alongside our teenagers, rather than sitting face-to-face, can sometimes make talking easier. Shared activities can take away the pressure, allowing conversations to unfold naturally.

And not every moment together needs to become a discussion about feelings. Sometimes simply being available, sharing a laugh or enjoying each other's company is enough.

💛 Curiosity Rather Than Solutions

When our young people share a problem, our natural instinct is often to jump in and fix it. After all, that's what parents do!

But the Solution Focused Approach encourages us to be curious rather than assume we know the answer.

Instead of immediately offering advice, try asking:

"What would be most helpful from me right now?"

Or:

"Has there been a time when things felt a little easier? What helped?"

These questions encourage young people to recognise their own strengths, reflect on what has worked before and begin discovering their own solutions.

Of course, sometimes they simply need us to listen, acknowledge how they're feeling and offer reassurance. That's important too.

The Wellbeing Team

👣 This Week's Small Step

Try spending ten minutes alongside your young person without an agenda.

No questions about homework, no reminders about tidying their room and no pressure to talk.

Perhaps they'll chat. Perhaps they won't.

"I enjoy being with you, and I'm here when you need me."

🌻 A Moment to Reflect

As our children grow older, our role gradually changes. We move from solving their problems to helping them discover their own solutions.

And sometimes, the most meaningful conversations aren't the ones we plan.

They're the ones that happen when we simply make space for them.

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

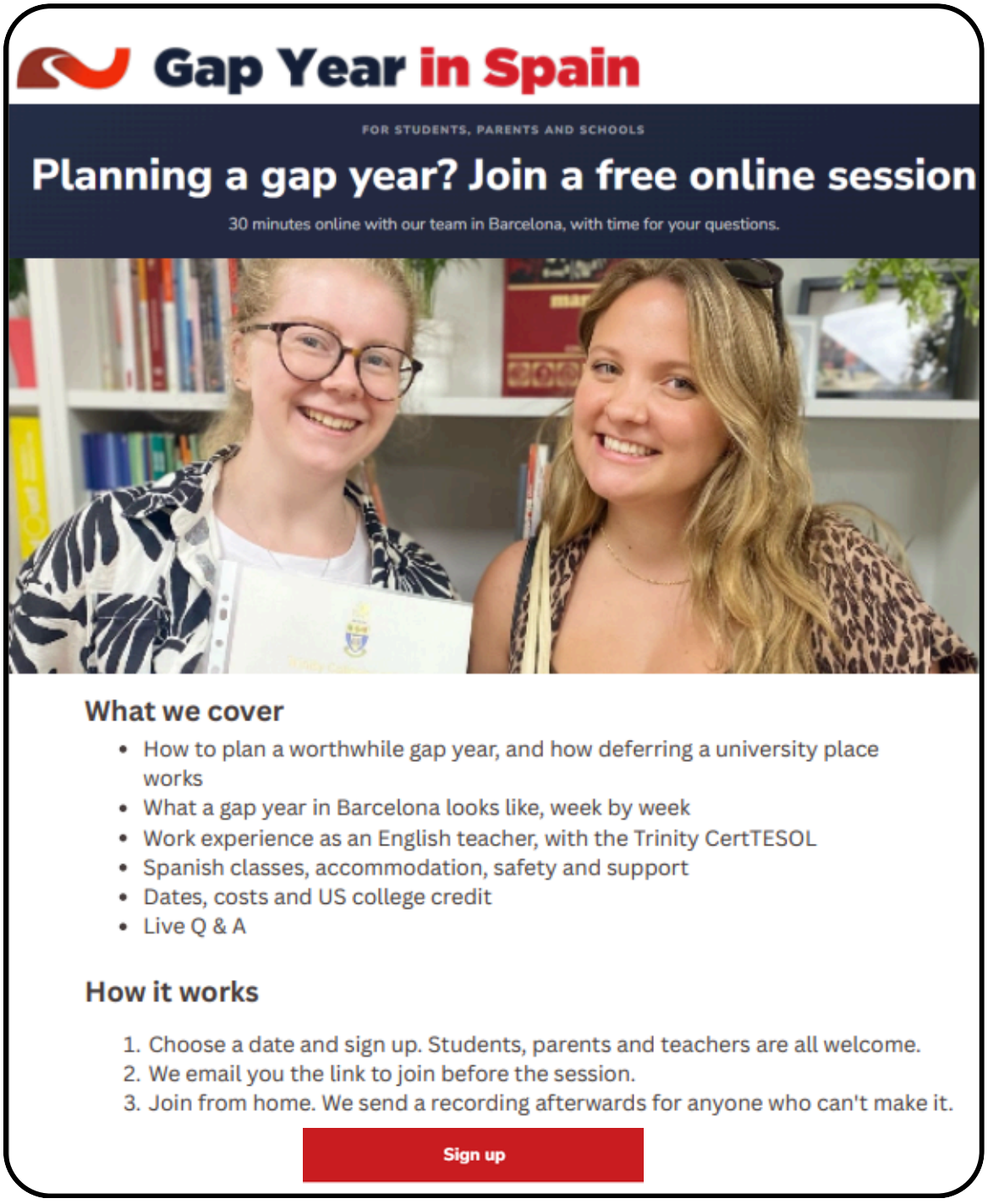
CAREERS



This week's Beechen Cliff Future Horizon Careers publication (edition 10) is published alongside this school newsletter.

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

Mrs E Pascoe
Level 6 Careers Adviser



Gap year in Spain Brochure - Click Here

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.

Please be aware at this event not all stall holders will take card so remember to bring some cash



West of England Music & Arts





📍 Bath

Coming soon!
Mid Season
S&C programme

Spotters HOCKEY

booking form

Working together with

CITY OF BATH 2000 1889 1957 HOCKEY CLUB

Corsham HOCKEY CLUB

KHC KEYNSHAM HOCKEY

TBB HOCKEY CLUB

17 & 18 December - Workshops

0930-11am | 11.15-12.45pm | 1.30-3pm Ages 7-16

New! Beginners - ages 7-8

Dribbling and Elimination Skills: Passing, Receiving & Scoring: Game Play

Developers (ages 8-11) & Performers (ages 12-16)

Goal Scoring | Elimination/3D skills | Transition from Defence to attack

21 & 22 Dec Camps

10am- 12pm and 1-3pm - Ages 8-16

Developers (ages 8-11) and Performers (ages 12-16)

Registration 0930 pick up by 3.20pm

23 Dec Advanced Masterclass

10-11.30am | 12 -1.30pm | Ages 12-16

Focus: playing at stretch, performance tips, tactics and techniques for success

Specialist GK coaching at all events!

Sponsored by

KOOKABURRASPORT.CO.UK

Sponsored by

JOHN MOORE SPORTS

inspiring excellence for all

https://www.spottershockey.co.uk

BEECHEN CLIFF FACILITY HIRE

For clubs, for community groups, for individuals



Floodlight 3G and Astro Pitches
Sports Hall
Indoor Cricket Nets
Gym
Classrooms







All available for hire evenings and weekends

All availablity and prices, contact jdavis@beechencliff.mnsp.org.uk

PERCY YOUTH PROJECT

Providing activities and experiences for young people from age 11.

Our skilled team are excellent listeners, fun, energetic and determined to champion our youth!

Come along to one of our youth nights and find your fit. We offer sports, art, music, cooking and more.

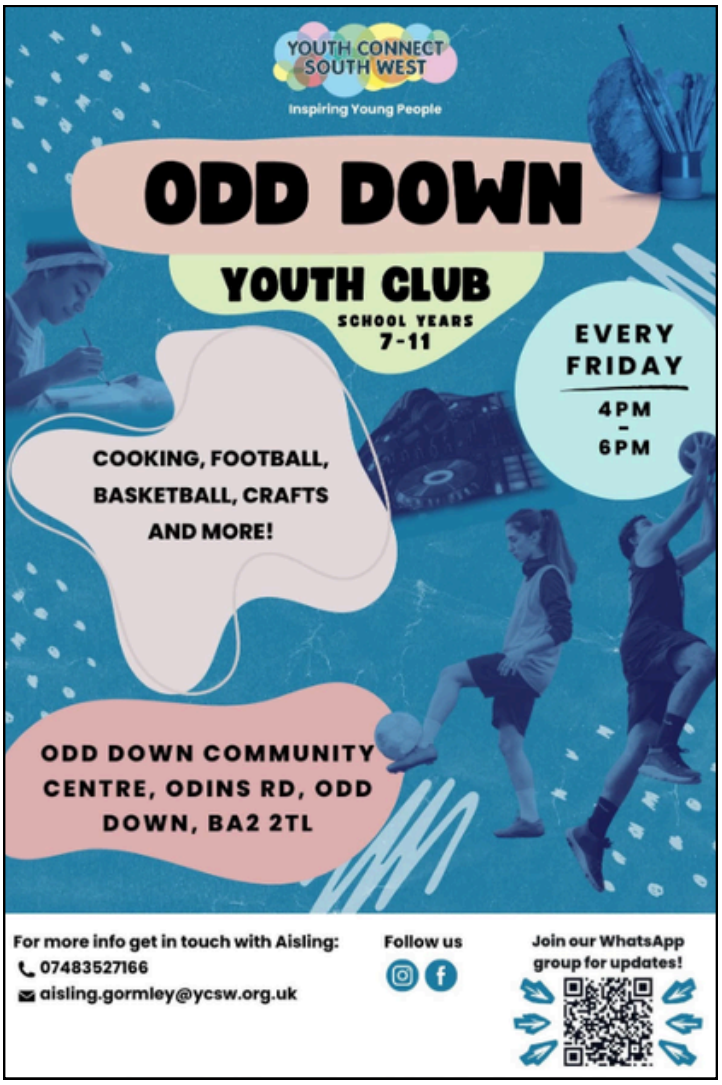
It's also **FREE!**

If you have any more questions, contact:

Liz@percycentre.org.uk











MentoringPlus Upcoming Events



Ball stars Charity fun day at Lansdown Tennis and Squash club

Day event 1-6pm, Evening 6:30-11pm
28th November

Lansdown Tennis club invites you to a fantastic day multi-sports day followed by a sparkling drinks reception, two course dinner and live music!

The afternoon consists of an all abilities circuit of ball sports, where you will be allocated into teams and compete for BALL STARS WINNERS.

The evening will then become a dinner and drinks with live music and more opportunities for fundraising.

Get your tickets here
https://buytickets.at/mentoringplus1/2408926



Wreath making workshop at Riverside Youth Hub

5th December 10:30-12:30

Join experienced wreath maker, Marina Beare for a festive and relaxing workshop at Riverside Youth Hub. From 11-2pm, enjoy a guided workshop and leave with a beautiful, natural wreath to hang at home or give to your loved ones.
Buy your tickets here https://buytickets.at/mentoringplus1/2476848



Where? Riverside Youth Hub (near Morrisons, London Road), BA1 6AE

Collection days: Sat 5, Sun 6 & Sat 12 Dec, 10am-3pm

Pre-order for collection / buy on the day





HARRY PLOWRIGHT MATHS TUTORING

I'm Harry, an ex Beechen Cliff student, now studying Maths at the University of Birmingham. I've been providing onine Maths tutoring at a variety of levels, ranging from Year 9 to Year 13, for the past three years, with tutees seeing great improvement in their confidence and ability within Maths.

If you're interested in receiving online tutoring, please contact me on the email below. That includes students transitioning from GCSE to A-Level.

Email: harryplowright@icloud.com
Session rate: £30