

Beechwood Bulletin

Beechwood Primary School

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Happy New Year

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome back and Happy New Year. I hope you all had a lovely Christmas break. It has been wonderful welcoming the children back into school and hearing all about their new years resolutions.

Each year group has now started their new topic for the term. Curriculum Overviews will be coming home next week outlining the learning taking place in each of the different subject areas.

As we begin the spring term I would like to take this opportunity to remind you of our school closure procedure. A decision to close the school is never taken lightly and is something we would endeavour to notify you of as early as we can. In the event of a school closure you will be notified via text message as soon as a decision has been made and we will also notify the local radio station (Heart FM). If you have recently changed your mobile number, please ensure you notify the school office as soon as possible so we have the correct number on the school system.

Over the last few weeks before the Christmas break and since returning to school, despite the children being supervised closely and staff encouraging children to eat their lunch, we have noticed an increasing amount of food on the dining room floor at the end of lunchtimes. We will be speaking to the children in assembly but please can we also ask that you speak to your child at home. We are concerned that some children are choosing to dispose of food items they do not want to eat in this manner, which of course is a waste of food but more importantly may result in children being hungry during the afternoon.

Just to remind you that the drop off window in the morning is from 8.35-8.45am. Please be aware that from Monday we will be shutting the gate promptly at 8.45am. If children arrive after this time, they will need to come into school via the school office.

Kind regards,

Miss S E Hunter,
Headteacher



NOTICEBOARD

ATTENDANCE AWARD:

The class with the best attendance across the whole school last week was Eagles, with 98.8% attendance.

A very well done to Eagles!



THANK YOU

Thank you to the very kind parents who have donated furniture to be used in the library and our offices. We have been making good use of these already!

PARKING PERMITS

A reminder that parking permits are available from Wokingham Borough Council's website. Please see below for the timings they can be used:

- Headley Road Woodley Car Park (Beechwood Primary School - 8.30am to 9am and 3.05pm to 3.35pm)

Also valid in Lytham Road East and West

<https://www.wokingham.gov.uk/parking-and-transport/parking-and-permits/apply-car-park-permit>

CAN YOU HELP US?

We are looking for parents or grandparents who would be willing and able to come into school on a regular basis to listen to children read. Please let the office know if you would like to help. Many thanks.

TECH WATCHES IN KEY STAGE ONE

We are aware a number of Key Stage 1 children received tech/fitness watches for Christmas and have been wearing them to school.

We understand the children are very keen to monitor their steps and check the time throughout the day, however, they are currently a little bit of a distraction in class. Some children are also trying to use them to play games on.

Please could we ask that if your child is wearing a tech watch to school, you speak to them about not fiddling with it during lesson times and not playing games on it in school.

Attendance

Our minimum attendance target is 96.5%. Please help us to ensure your child receives the best education by attending school regularly and being on time.

Our whole school attendance for last week was 91.6% which is unfortunately well below our target!

Star Pupils—w/c 03/01/24

Butterflies— Kacper
Robins — Sophie
Rabbits— Leo
Hedgehogs— Eden
Badgers— Hatab
Foxes— Oliver

Woodpeckers— Amjad
Owls— Jonty
Kites— Two next week
Falcons— Nieve
Hawks — Alex L & Parker
Eagles— Two next week

Well done to all of our Stars!

Over the last week at Beechwood.....

Foundation Stage have visited Italy this week! They have made and tasted delicious pizzas and have written recipe instructions. In maths, they have been consolidating their understanding of the composition of numbers to 5. The children are excited for the end of the week, as they will be learning about Italy's volcanoes and creating their own volcanic eruptions!

Years 1 & 2 really enjoyed having some animals visit them on Monday. They met lots of different animals such as geckos, snakes and even a tarantula! They have learnt lots of interesting facts and are now writing a fact file on one of the animals that came to visit. In maths Year 2 have been finishing off their shape unit by looking at edges, faces and vertices on 3D shapes. Year 1 have moved onto Place Value; understanding the numbers between 10 and 20.

Year 3 have been enjoying learning about the rainforest in their lessons this week. They have been learning lots of facts in their new reading book, 'Rainforests in 30 seconds', as well as learning about the location of famous rainforests in the world and locating them on a map. In maths, they have continued developing their knowledge of multiplications. In art the children have begun to look at the art of John Dyer and in science they have been looking more in depth at the parts of a plant.

Year 4 have been very excited about starting their swimming lessons this week. In P.E. on Tuesdays they are starting their new unit on basketball. In maths, the children are beginning to focus on formal methods for multiplying one digit numbers by two and three digit numbers. This may be different to the way you learnt to do it when you were at school, so do ask your children to show you, as this will also help their learning. In English, the children have started a new unit, based on the genre of adventure stories. They will be writing their own adventure stories, aided by the new adventure story they have just started in guided reading, *Sky Hawk* by Gill Lewis. In science, the children are studying a chemistry based unit on states of matter; identifying whether things in the environment as solids, liquids or gases. The children have all settled back into school quickly and we look forward to lots of exciting learning over the Spring term.

Year 5 have enjoyed starting their new topic 'Raging Rivers'. In geography, they have explored different features of a river and how the water-cycle works. In English, the children have started to look at writing an information text to compare rivers across the world. In maths, they have started their second unit on multiplication and how to multiply up to 4-digit numbers by a 2-digit number. In science, the children were tasked to separate a range of materials, using a variety of different equipment, which proved a lot of fun!

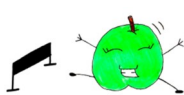
Year 6 have started the term by exploring *The Lost Thing* by Shaun Tan in reading and English lessons, and have written a diary entry as the character Shaun. In maths they have enjoyed learning about ratio and are now applying their learning to scaling objects. In computing the children have tinkered with Microsoft MakeCode which they have used to program a microbit. Despite the snow, they had fun playing basketball this week in P.E. A Very Happy New Year to you all from Year 6!

House Points

**Outstanding
Oranges**
203



**Amazing
Apples**
226



**Super
Strawberries**
204



**Brilliant
Bananas**
303



Congratulations to Brilliant Bananas for collecting the most house points this week

Dates for your diary:

- | | |
|--|---|
| Thursday 18th January | - Census Day—Menu change to Fish & Chips <u>NEW</u> |
| Wednesday 24th January | - SEND Coffee morning 9.45-10.30am <u>NEW</u>
- Foxes class assembly—2.30pm |
| Wednesday 31st January | - Falcons class assembly—2.30pm <u>NEW DATE</u> |
| Wednesday 7th February | - Year 5 Bake off at Bulmershe— <u>NEW</u> |
| Monday 12th to Friday 18th February — HALF TERM | |
| Monday 19th February | - Inset day—School closed for pupils— <u>NEW</u> |
| Mon 26th Feb—Fri 1st March | - D.T. week- <u>NEW</u> |
| Wednesday 28th February | - Woodpeckers class assembly—2.30pm |
| Thursday 29th February | - Family Learning Session—9.00-10.00am — <u>NEW</u> |
| Wednesday 13th March | - Hedgehogs class assembly—2.30pm |
| Mon 18th & Wed 20th March | - Parents Evenings- Both in person and both 3.30-6.00pm— <u>NEW</u> |
| Tuesday 26th March | - Hawks Class assembly—2.30pm <u>NEW</u> |
| Thursday 28th March | - End of Term |