Beechwood Bulletin

Beechwood Primary School
Ambleside Close
Woodley
Reading
Berkshire
RG5 4JJ Telephone: 0118 9695976
Email:office-beechwood@fraysacademytrust.org

Term 1 Issue 1

Wednesday 9th September 2026

WELCOME BACK!

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Mrs Reece and I would like to extend a very warm welcome to all of our returning families, as well as those who are joining the Beechwood community for the first time this year. We are excited about the year ahead and look forward to seeing every child grow, develop and achieve their very best.

We were delighted to be able to share the fantastic news that, following its recent inspection, Ofsted judged Beechwood to be at the **EXPECTED** standard in all areas with safeguarding confirmed as **MET**. This is a significant milestone in the school's journey and reflects what we have known for some time: Beechwood is a school where children thrive, staff are dedicated, and high standards are at the heart of everything we do.

This achievement is something the entire school community can be proud of. We would like to thank our staff, pupils, families and governors for the vital role they have played in this success. If you have not yet had the opportunity to read the inspection report, please take some time to do so. It highlights many of the strengths of our school and includes some wonderful comments from both inspectors and pupils.

While we are incredibly proud of this outcome, we remain committed to continual improvement. The team at Beechwood works tirelessly to provide the very best educational experience for every child, and we will continue to build upon our successes as we strive for excellence.

Thank you for your support with our end-of-day collection arrangements. The new system of closing the gate at 3.20pm is working well, and we appreciate everyone ensuring that children are collected promptly.

We are also grateful that so many children have been arriving at school before the gates close at 8.50am and are ready to begin learning straight away. Please continue to support us by ensuring that your child arrives on time each day. Learning begins as soon as children enter the classroom, and even small amounts of lost learning time can have an impact on progress.

We are pleased to introduce a new way for children to celebrate their birthdays at school. Children may now wear their own clothes on their birthday as a special treat. If a birthday falls during a weekend or school holiday, children may choose to wear their own clothes on the Friday before or the Monday after. If a birthday falls in the summer holidays, the school will decided on a day in July when the children can come in their own clothes. We have already enjoyed celebrating with some of our September birthdays and look forward to many more throughout the year.

Children have looked exceptionally smart in their uniforms this week, and we would like to thank families for their support. As a reminder, children who wear earrings should only wear stud or sleeper earrings. For health and safety reasons, hoop or hanging earrings are not permitted. During PE lessons, stud and sleeper earrings must be removed or covered, and for swimming lessons all earrings must be removed.

This week, we also launched our new school vision and values. Our vision, **Strong Foundations, Limitless Potential**, replaces our previous motto of *Explore, Discover and Achieve*. Alongside this, we have introduced six core values: **Courage, Independence, Community, Respect, Aspiration and Resilience**.

The children have already begun exploring what our vision and values mean, and over the coming weeks these will be a key focus in assemblies and classroom discussions. We will share our weekly values focus with you so that you can continue these conversations at home. In next week's bulletin, I will explain the thinking behind our new vision statement and why it reflects our ambitions for every child at Beechwood.

We wish you all a wonderful rest of the week and thank you, as always, for your continued support.
Mrs Minter and Mrs Reece
Co-Headteachers

NOTICEBOARD

ATTENDANCE AWARD:
Each week we will be announcing which class will have the best attendance—we hope it's a tight fought competition!

LOWER SCHOOL BOOKWORMS:
Our Bookworm winners will continue next week

EQUIPMENT:

Please ensure your child comes into school each day with a named water bottle and a packed lunch if they are not having a hot meal.

Just to remind you we are a **NUT FREE** school. Therefore no nut products should be brought into school. This includes Nutella and similar choco-nut sandwich fillings. Many thanks.

THE PANTRY—School Lunches:
Please ensure that school lunches are booked on the Pantry website by 9am. For your information, the school office has no access to the ordering system.

ATTENDANCE
Thank you for a very positive start to term with minimal absences each day so far.
We hope to maintain this throughout the Autumn term with your support and aim to be above our percentage target each week when we publish the figures.

JUST TO REMIND YOU THAT IF YOUR CHILD IS GOING TO BE ABSENT, PLEASE EITHER LEAVE A MESSAGE ON THE ABSENCE LINE OR EMAIL THE OFFICE BY 9.30am.

Beechwood Stars will resume next week

Over the last week at Beechwood, and looking forward……

Foundation Stage — Butterflies have settled really well into school, this week we have been exploring our learning environment and learning all the important routines of school. Today it's our first full day of school and we started this terms topic of 'We Are Unique', we are starting this learning by thinking and talking about our families, please keep sending in family pictures and baby pictures to support us with our learning.

Year 1— It has been wonderful to see how well the children have settled into their new Year 1 class! They are already becoming familiar with their new routines and show great enthusiasm for their learning. We are so proud of the confidence, kindness and independence they are already demonstrating, and we are looking forward to a fantastic year together!

Year 2— I am so proud of how the children have settled into their new routine in Year 2. This week, we have begun our exciting topic, Fire Fire!, and have started learning about the Great Fire of London. In English, we are reading Toby and the Great Fire of London and practising using capital letters, full stops and conjunctions in our writing. In Maths, we are building our understanding of place value and exploring numbers using practical resources.

Year 3— It's been an exciting start to Year 3, and we have loved welcoming our new Badgers! We began by getting to know our classroom and expectations for the year. In Reading, we started The Stolen Spear, while Maths saw us revisiting place value using tens and ones and tackling some partner reasoning. In English, we explored what makes a good writer, and in Science, we became rock detectives, using magnifying glasses to investigate the different features of rocks. A fantastic start to Year 3!

Year 4— Year 4 have been busy settling into their new class and getting to know their new class teachers. We have already started learning about the Romans - our main topic for the term. We even had a hunt and a dig for Roman artefacts! We are hoping to find something exciting this week that we could perhaps write about in English. Swimming was a hugely fun time for all - just a reminder that it is easier for children to come to school with their swimming kit already under their PE kit.

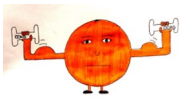
Year 5— Year 5 have returned to school fresh and ready for the year. This week they started their swimming lessons, which will run for 7 weeks and have been introduced to their new writing unit on suspense. In music, the children used the boomwhackers which was great fun, even if a little noisy!

Year 6— In History we have started learning about our topic, WW2. We have learnt about air-raids, listened to air-raid sirens and started to think about what life was like as an evacuee. We have begun reading 'The Midnight Guardians' in Guided Reading, which features the adventures of an evacuee during WW2. In PE, we have started football and gymnastics lessons - our PE days are Monday and Thursday so please ensure your child comes into school in correct PE kit on those days.

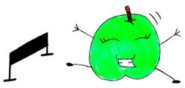
House Points

House Point totals will start next week

Outstanding Oranges
0

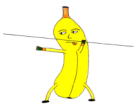


Amazing Apples
0



Super Strawberries
0

Brilliant Bananas
0



Dates for your diary:

Wednesday 23rd September	— SATs Parents Evening
Monday 28th September	— SEND Coffee Morning
Wednesday 7th October	— Open Morning 9.45-10.45am (Reception 2027)
Thursday 8th October	— FS/KS1 Harvest Festival Church Visit
Monday 12th October	— Yr 6 Residential Week
Tuesday 13th October	— Open Morning 9.45-10.45am (Reception 2027)
Mondy 19th October	— Enterprise Week
26th October—30th October	**— HALF TERM**
Tuesday 10th—17th November	— Book Fair
Wednesday 11th November	— Open Morning 9.45-10.45am (Reception 2027), Remembrance Service—Years 3,4,5,6
Friday 13th November	— Michael Rosen Day
Wednesday 18th November	— Eagles Class Assembly 2.30pm
Monday 23rd November	— Parents Evening (more info to follow)
Tuesday 24th November	— Open Evening 5.00-6.00pm (Reception 2027)
Wednesday 25th November	— Parents Evening (more info to follow)
Wednesday 25th November	— SEND Coffee Morning
Thursday 3rd December	— Aspiration Day
Monday 7th December	— Open Morning 9.45-10.45am (Reception 2027)
Tuesday 8th December	— EYFS Nativity
Monday 14th December	— KS2 Church Visit
Tuesday 15th December	— KS1 Nativity
Wednesday 16th December	— KS1 Nativity
Friday 18th December	**— END OF TERM**

Our Beechwood Vision

At Beechwood Primary School, our vision of **"Strong Foundations, Limitless Potential"** is more than a statement—it is the promise we make to every child.

We are committed to providing the strong foundations that enable children to grow academically, socially, emotionally and morally. Through our core values of **Community, Independence, Resilience, Courage, Aspiration and Respect**, we equip every child with the confidence, character and skills to embrace opportunities, overcome challenges and achieve more than they ever believed possible.

At our school, we believe that every child can succeed. Through nurturing **strong foundations** in learning, character and wellbeing, we ensure that all children develop the knowledge, skills and confidence they need to thrive, regardless of their starting point.

We are equally committed to helping every child recognise their **limitless potential**. By inspiring ambition, raising aspirations and encouraging a growth mindset, we empower children to believe in themselves, embrace challenges and pursue their dreams with confidence.

Together, we build strong foundations today so that every child can realise their limitless potential tomorrow.

Values

Community: At Beechwood, every child belongs.

We are proud to be a welcoming, inclusive and thriving community where every individual is known, valued and supported. From the moment children join us, they become part of a school family that celebrates diversity, nurtures positive relationships and encourages collaboration.
Our sense of community extends beyond the school gates. As a school at the heart of our local area, we help children develop a strong sense of responsibility and belonging within the wider community. We prepare them to become proud, respectful and active citizens who understand the importance of contributing positively to the world around them.

Together, as pupils, families, staff and governors, we work as one team to create the very best environment in which every child can thrive.

Independence: At Beechwood we grow confident and capable learners.

From their very first day at Beechwood, children are encouraged to take ownership of their learning, make informed choices and develop the confidence to tackle challenges independently. Through carefully planned opportunities for problem-solving, reflection and self-management, we help children build the skills they need to succeed both in school and beyond.

By nurturing independence, we develop learners who are motivated, resourceful and prepared to embrace future opportunities with confidence.

Resilience: At Beechwood, we understand that growth comes through challenge.

We actively develop resilience in every child, teaching them that mistakes are opportunities to learn and that perseverance is the key to success. Children learn to adapt to new situations, overcome setbacks and approach challenges with determination and positivity.

In an ever-changing world, resilience enables our children to remain emotionally regulated, reflective and strong-minded. It helps them become individuals who are equipped to face life's challenges with confidence and who continue striving towards their goals even when the journey becomes difficult.

Courage: Courage is the foundation of growth, confidence and leadership.

At Beechwood, we encourage children to step beyond their comfort zones, embrace new experiences and believe in their own capabilities. Courage allows children to share their ideas, stand up for what is right, speak with confidence and take positive risks in their learning.

We nurture courageous individuals who are willing to challenge themselves, support others and seize opportunities. Through developing courage, our children gain the confidence to achieve things they once thought impossible.

Aspiration: We believe there are no limits to what our children can achieve.

Every child deserves to believe in themselves and their potential. At Beechwood, we inspire children to set ambitious goals, have high expectations and strive for excellence in all they do. We expose them to a wide range of opportunities, experiences and future possibilities, helping them to see the exciting pathways available to them.

We encourage every child to dream big, work hard and understand that their background should never define their future. Through aspiration, we help children recognise that with determination, effort and support, they can achieve their limitless potential.

Respect: Respect underpins everything we do.

We teach children to value themselves, others and the world around them. By fostering kindness, empathy and understanding, we help children appreciate that everyone is different and that every individual has something valuable to contribute.

Respect shapes our relationships, our learning environment and our wider community. It enables children to listen to others, celebrate diversity and act with integrity. We are proud to develop respectful young people who leave Beechwood ready to make a positive contribution wherever life takes them.