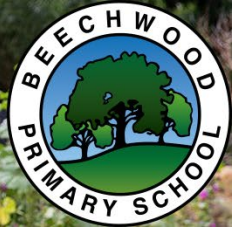


Beechwood Newsletter



Attendance

Class 1 has truly set the bar high for punctuality this academic year. Every morning, they arrive on time, ready to learn, and their consistency continues to shine through. During Friday assemblies, they share practical tips with the rest of the school on how to be punctual and prepared each day. The weekly prizes have given them even more motivation to strive for perfection, and their efforts are paying off. Well done, Class ☆ 1 ☆ - you are an inspiration to everyone!



Class 11 ☆ has shown incredible determination in improving their attendance. What began as recognition for being the "most improved" class has now grown into an outstanding achievement. Last week, they not only surpassed the school target of 95% but also achieved the highest attendance across the entire school. This is a fantastic accomplishment and a testament to their hard work and commitment. Congratulations, Class 11 - keep up the amazing effort!

The spotlight also shines on Class 3 🏆 who have achieved an astonishing attendance rate far above the school target, reaching above 96%! This makes them the top champions of attendance at Beechwood Primary.

At Beechwood Primary School, we know that punctuality and attendance are key to success. As we celebrate these milestones, we encourage every class to take inspiration from these shining examples. Together, we can continue building a culture of excellence where every child is ready to learn, every day.

Trips, Visits and Experiences

Year 2 Awungelama Workshop

Year 2 took part in an exciting workshop as part of our South Africa topic. We learnt a traditional African story with Matthew and re-told it using different costumes and props.



Year 3 Viking Workshop

We learnt all about the Viking Raid on Lindisfarne. The children got to dress like Vikings and recreate battle scenes, before listening to Matthew tell a myth in class.



Year 1 Eureka trip

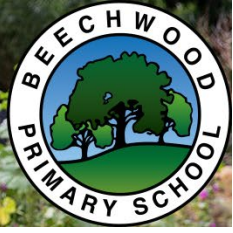
Year 1 had a wonderful trip to Eureka. We had a 'Gross Lab' show where we learned about all the disgusting things our body can do! After that we explored the museum and found out so much about our senses. We had a lovely time and were all very well behaved.



Year 3 Meanwood Valley Trip

Year 3 visited Meanwood Valley Urban Farm to take part in a rocks and soils workshop as part of our science topic this half term. We had a fantastic time carrying out practical investigations.

Beechwood Newsletter



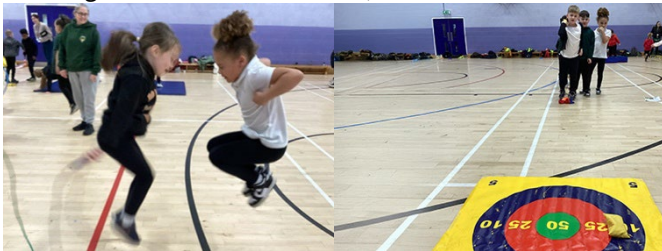
Year 4 Ancient Greece Workshop

Year 4 took part in a brilliant workshop where we explored theatre in Ancient Greece. The children got to dress up like actors and performed in front of their class. We also learnt how myths were central in beliefs and religion within Greece.



Year 2 Sports Afternoon

10 Year 2 children visited John Smeaton Leisure Centre to take part in a Leeds Well Schools Inspire and Engage event with other local schools. The children had a very active afternoon, completing a range of infant agility activities showing fantastic determination, stamina and coordination.



Road Safety workshops

In nursery we learnt how to stay safe near roads, why it's important to stop, look and listen, and how to cross safely with a grown-up. They were really engaged and shared lots of ideas about keeping themselves and others safe when out and about.

In reception children learned all about road safety last week. They were reminded to always hold a grown up's hand and to 'Stop, Look, and Listen'. They especially enjoyed playing with the toy cars, creating their own traffic lights, and completing the problem-solving activity on how to get to school safely.

Year 1 talked about potential hazards on the road and we found out the things we need to do to safely cross the road.

In Year 2 we discussed the different ways we come to school: by walking, scooting, riding our bikes, in the car and on the bus and thought about how we can stay safe in each of these.

Year 3 discussed the different ways we come to school: by walking, scooting, riding our bikes, in the car and on the bus and thought about how we can stay safe in each of these.

Year 4 took part in a road safety workshop where they learnt the importance of being safe near and around roads. They learnt about possible dangers such as a driver being distracted, how to cross the road safely and steps to follow. The children built up their confidence of crossing roads independently and were very proud of themselves for achieving this!

Year 5 played a game to decide what was road safety advice and was the law. Then we presented road safety messages - we had some brilliant raps!

Year 6 took part in a road safety session, looking at how to stay safe while gaining increased independence as they move to high school. The instructor got us to think about concentration and distractions that may impact our safety on the roads and we looked at the Green Cross Code.



Children in Need

Beechwood Newsletter



On Friday 21st November, the children took part in a range of activities to raise money for children in need. We raised a total of £313. A huge thank you for all your support in helping us raise this amount!

Interfaith Week 2025

Last Monday, we were very lucky to invite Rev. Anne Russell along with different faith leaders who lead workshops throughout the day with all classes. The focus was how if we all work together, we can build something beautiful. The children enjoyed working to create a whole school tapestry by weaving. We are looking forward to seeing the finished result.



Odd Socks Day

Odd Socks Day 2025 was a fun and colourful way to start the week at our school. The week began on Monday 10th November with a whole-school assembly, marking the start of Anti-Bullying Week and reminding everyone about the importance of kindness and respect. Children were invited to wear odd socks for the day to celebrate uniqueness and show that our differences make us special. The bright socks brought plenty of smiles and helped reinforce the message that small actions can make a big difference.

School Council

This week our School Council met with our governor and local counsellor John Tudor. The children had prepared questions to ask John about both roles as part of our 'Year of Aspirations' work. John was very impressed with the children's questions and enjoyed hearing about their plans for school.



Mental Health and Wellbeing

This week's online safety focus is on the TikTok app. The provides potentially addictive and never-ending stream of short clips tailored to users' interests. While most content is benign, Ofcom considers it the app where young people are "most likely to encounter potential harm." Please see the

link below for a guide to help parents and carers keep their children safe.

Safeguarding

If you are worried about any safeguarding situation or about your child being harmed, then you should contact Miss Roberts (Designated safeguarding lead), Mrs Giles or Mrs Ticala (Deputy designated safeguarding leads) to share your concerns.

Young Carers

For more information about Young Carers—including events, updates, and news—please visit the school [website](#).

Key Dates

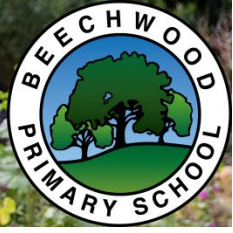
Thurs 11 th Dec	Whole School Christmas Dinner
Fri 12 th Dec	Reception – Stick Man Performance at Leeds Playhouse
Fri 19 th Dec	Mr Shuffles Whole School Winter Disco – more information to follow
Fri 19 th Dec	Break up at usual time at end of the day
Mon 5 th Jan	Training Day SCHOOL CLOSED
Tues 6 th Jan	SCHOOL OPEN - Children return to school

Christmas Performances

Wed 10th Dec 9:15am or 1:45pm	Nursery Carol & Craft sessions (please only attend one session)
Wed 17th Dec 9:15am	Reception
Wed 17th Dec 2:15pm or Thurs 18th Dec 9:15am	Year 1 & 2 (please only attend one performance)
Thurs 18th Dec 2pm	Year 3 & 4
Tues 9th Dec 9:15am	Year 5 & 6

Apply for Primary School Place

Beechwood Newsletter



Is your child due to start primary school in 2026?



Applications are open for Reception places to start in **September 2026**

You can apply online until **Thursday 15 January 2026**

www.leeds.gov.uk/apply



Wrap Around Care – Premier Education

We are pleased to let you know that there are still places available in our Wraparound Care provision run by Premier Education.

If you are looking for a flexible, high-quality childcare before or after school, please see information below.

To secure a place for your child, please use the booking link [here](#).

Holiday Club Bookings

Connecting Crossgates Healthy Holidays bookings for the upcoming school holidays are now open. To book your child's place, please follow the booking link [here](#).

Dates and Venues:

St Richards Seacroft

Sunday 21st December 12noon-4pm & Monday 22nd December 10am-2pm

St James Manston

Tuesday 23rd December 10am-2pm & Wednesday 24th December 10am-2pm The club offers games and activities based around healthy living & eating and is open to children aged 4-17. The funding is mostly for children on income-related Free School Meals.

Dental Check-Ups

If anyone with children age 7-11 years old is looking for their

Timings*

Breakfast club
7.30am – 8.45am
Includes breakfast.

After School club
3.30pm – 5pm
3.30pm – 6pm
Includes snack and light tea option.

*example timings only

Why choose Premier Education?

- **Wide Range of Activities:** From gymnastics to gardening, we offer diverse activities to enrich each child's experience.
- **Convenient Online Booking:** Our simple online booking system allows parents to book activities with ease. Receive instant email confirmations for hassle-free tracking and reduced administration.
- **Responsive Office Support:** Our dedicated office support team is available from 9am to 5pm daily to address any queries or concerns promptly.
- **Slings Discount and Special Offers:** Enjoy increased slings discount and exclusive offers for our valued families.

OFSTED REGISTRATION

Our wraparound clubs are registered with Ofsted, ensuring compliance with regulatory standards. This allows us to accept childcare vouchers against our provision.

Learn more about childcare vouchers at: <https://tinyurl.com/premierchildcarevouchers>

SUITABLE FOR ELIGIBLE SERVICE PERSONNEL

Service personnel (The Armed Forces) can register for up to 20 hours per week, per child, term time only (19 weeks per year) of wraparound childcare funding for 4- to 10-year-old children attending before and after school childcare in the UK.

Learn more at: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/childcare-for-service-personnel>

children to have a dental check-up and treatment, the University of Leeds is accepting self-referrals on their undergraduate clinics. They will be treated by a 4th or 5th year undergraduate

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about TIKTOK

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Online videos are often associated with apps such as YouTube, but among teens, TikTok is king. The app provides a potentially addictive, never-ending stream of short clips tailored to users' interests based on their viewing habits. Around half of British children use TikTok, and while most content is benign, Ofcom considers it the app where young people are "most likely to encounter a potential harm".

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

(Certain features are restricted to over-18s only)

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

TikTok's Following Feed shows videos from known creators, while the default For You Feed serves endless clips based on viewing history. Most are harmless, but unsuitable content can still appear, and watching for long enough signals interest to the algorithm. Although TikTok bans illegal or inappropriate uploads, the volume of posts means some slip through, increasing the chance that children encounter age-inappropriate material before it is detected or removed.

BODY IMAGE AND DANGEROUS CHALLENGES

Ofcom reports that most online harms for girls involve body image, while boys more often see dangerous stunts. Both types appear frequently on TikTok and spread quickly through its engagement-driven algorithm. Harmful challenges have included the "blackout" trend, where users held their breath until passing out. Families filed lawsuits after children died linked to the trend, showing how extreme or risky content can rapidly reach young people and negatively influence them.

IN-APP SPENDING

TikTok is free, but children can still spend money. TikTok coins, costing £9.99 to £224.99, let users buy gifts for creators. TikTok Shop adds risk by allowing purchases from influencers or companies, sometimes leading to poor-quality items driven by persuasive marketing. A Canadian investigation found TikTok collected personal data from many children for targeting and advertising despite age limits, meaning young users may lose control over their personal information.

CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

Between 1.6 and 1.9 billion people use TikTok, meaning there's a high risk of unwanted attention from strangers. Accounts created by over-16s (or young people using a fake date of birth) are set to public view by default. This means that not only is someone's profile visible to everyone else on the app, it also suggests their videos to others and allows anyone to download or comment on them.

MISINFORMATION AND RADICALISATION

TikTok's short videos may appear lighthearted, but they can expose young people to harmful ideas. Misinformation is common, and Ofcom reports that nearly one third of 12–15-year-olds use TikTok as a news source, increasing the chance of seeing racist, misogynistic, extremist or conspiracy material. Even brief clips can influence impressionable users and shape their worldview, making discussions about critical thinking, propaganda and online influence especially important for parents and educators.

ADDICTIVE DESIGN

TikTok's fast-paced stream of eye-catching videos can be potentially addictive for young users. In 2024, UK children spent an average of 127 minutes per day on the platform, double the time recorded in 2020. Excessive use can disrupt sleep, increase irritability, and distract from healthier activities. Constantly skipping between short clips may also affect attention span, making it harder to focus on longer tasks such as homework or reading.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ENABLE FAMILY PAIRING

Family Pairing allows parents to link their TikTok account to their child's in order to manage settings remotely. Parents can then turn on Restricted Mode (reducing the chances of a child seeing inappropriate content), set screen time limits, make accounts private and manage whether their child can send messages – and if they can, to whom. Children cannot alter these settings without parental approval.

DISCUSS THE DANGERS

If a child wants to use TikTok and you're happy for them to do so, it's good practice to discuss the potential risks. Ensure they don't share any identifying personal information or respond to dangerous trends, and that they know to talk to a trusted adult if they're worried by interactions on the app. With more teens using TikTok for news, it's important to talk about misinformation and propaganda.

BLOCK IN-APP SPENDING

Parents can restrict in-app purchases on iPhone and Android devices to prevent accidental or impulsive TikTok spending. Young people can easily spend large amounts on TikTok coins or low-quality products promoted through TikTok Shop. If a disappointing purchase occurs, turn it into a discussion about influencer marketing and how online promotions can be misleading.

READ THE SIGNS

If you're concerned that a child is spending too much time on TikTok, or that they've been emotionally affected by something they've seen, it's important to know how to spot the signs. Increased irritability and a lack of concentration are potential red flags, as is failing to complete homework or skipping meals. Remember, the parental controls are there for a reason, and it's never too late to introduce limits.

Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for the likes of Wired, TechRadar, Tom's Guide, The Evening Standard and The New Statesman.



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