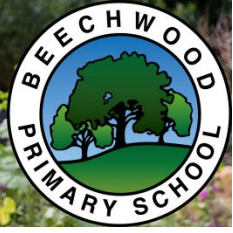


Beechwood Newsletter



Attendance

Attendance and punctuality - a shared success at Beechwood Primary School

As we move closer to the end of the summer term, attendance and punctuality remain key priorities at Beechwood Primary School. It is wonderful to see the commitment from pupils, parents, and staff alike in striving for strong and consistent attendance. Every morning starts with such enthusiasm, and we are so proud of how dedicated our pupils are to arriving on time and ready to learn.

Celebrating our weekly stars

A huge congratulations goes to Class 4 for achieving the highest attendance last week with over 97%—what a fantastic accomplishment! Their attendance and punctuality have set a shining example across the school. The week before, Class 3 mirrored this success, demonstrating excellent attendance and punctuality as well. Well done to both classes—your hard work and team spirit truly stood out.

Climbing the ranks with determination

We're also thrilled to recognise Class 8 and Class 11, who have made an incredible effort to improve their attendance and have now placed in the top three for the last week. Your determination is a real credit to your classes, and we're proud of the progress you've made.

Everyone's efforts make a difference

It's inspiring to see how every pupil, parent, and staff member contributes to our shared goal of strong attendance. From daily routines to staying positive through early starts, every effort matters. Thank you for showing up, encouraging each other, and working together—it is making a visible difference week after week.

Looking ahead and reflecting back

As the academic year draws to a close, you'll soon receive your child's end-of-year report, which will include their attendance certificate. If their

attendance is above 95%, give them a well-deserved round of applause! If it's a little lower, this is a great time to reflect and think about changes for September as there will be a fresh start. Attendance is a journey—and there is always time to get on track.

Support and responsibility

If there are any barriers to your child's attendance, please do not hesitate to reach out. Our staff are here to help, and where needed, we can signpost you to additional support. We also remind parents of the importance of reporting absences daily unless otherwise agreed. Prompt, honest communication is essential, and we are grateful to everyone who has maintained open lines with the school.

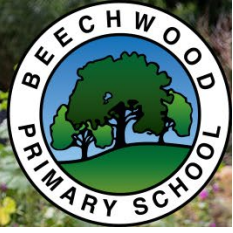
Trips, Visits and Experiences

Year 2 Church Visit

Last week, Year 2 visited St. James's Church on Seacroft Green to learn more about what can be found in a church and how babies and children are baptised in the Christian faith as part of our R.E. topic. Rev. Anne Russell told us all about what happens when someone is baptised, and we all enjoyed joining in. The volunteers at the church were really welcoming and we loved having juice and biscuits before our walk back to school.



Beechwood Newsletter



Year 3 Magna Trip

We had a fantastic time on our Y3 trip to the Magna Science Centre! The children explored the four amazing zones – Air, Water, Fire and Earth – and were totally absorbed in each one. They especially loved the Forces and Magnets workshop, where they got to make their own fire and even launch rockets across the room with impressive power! Throughout the day, their behaviour was brilliant – we were so proud of every one of them.



Year 1 Artis Showcase

We've been very lucky to have SHINE from Artis working with us again this term. SHINE uses drama, music and movement to develop children's language skills, always linking her sessions to our curriculum and current topics. Last week, she led a fantastic showcase based on Year 1's history topic Homes Through Time. The children took part in freeze-framing, singing, and performing. Class 3 shared their amazing artwork, and Class 4 impressed everyone with a brilliant dance to House of Bamboo. A big thank you to all the parents who came to support—it was a wonderful opportunity for the children to share their learning.



Year 4 Hockey Tournament

Year 4 took part in the LEPP hockey tournament at Fives. It was a very hot day and our teams showed great effort in all their games. We had a fabulous time.



Year 6 Shakespeare Performance

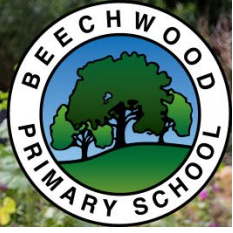
The Year 6s put on a brilliant Shakespeare performance! The children enjoyed sharing what they had been practising and did a fantastic job performing the Shakespearean language both to parents and to the other children in school.



Year 6 Boys Space Workshop

As part of our 'Boys Do Cry' project, Place2Be managed to secure a visit from Leeds Rhinos captain, Cam Smith, last week. The Y5/6 boys questioned him about how he takes care of his mental health and manages his feelings. He was brilliant and gave some fantastic advice and support to the children. I have heard that all of the children who managed to go to the Leeds Rhinos

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match on Friday night had a fantastic time. Cam will have loved having you all supporting! Last week, I also facilitated our 'Boys Space' workshops for the Year 5 and 6 boys with their parents and carers. It was fantastic to hear the boys discussing their emotions so openly with each other and their parents. Thank you to the adults who came and got stuck in with the activity and also shared their own feelings and emotions with the children.



Year 5 Rugby Tournament

Year 5's trip to FIVES for our tag rugby tournament was such a fun afternoon! The children demonstrated excellent leadership skills, determination and teamwork! There were some very close games and while we missed out on medals, the children should be hugely proud of their resilience and the way they represented Beechwood. We're certainly proud of you, Class 11!



Year 2 Punch and Judy Puppet Workshop

Year 2 enjoyed a visit from Matthew Bellwood this week to support their history learning about The Seaside. After laughing through a Punch & Judy show, the children participated in a drama workshop, taking on roles of the characters to re-enact the story. Back in class, we designed and made our own version of the puppets.



Year 5 Bishop Young Visit

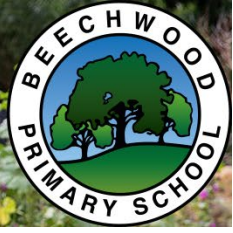
Year 5 showed excellent behaviour as they experienced a taster day at Bishop Young High school. They took part in maths, PE and science and had a great lunch too! The high school teachers were incredibly impressed with their maths school and their overall love of learning. The children loved their day out and got a real taste of high school life. Well done Year 5 — what a great day!



Mental Health and Wellbeing

This week's online safety focus is online challenges. In today's digitally connected world, children and adults are constantly presented with new ways to engage, react and contribute. Viral Challenges draw on these emotions and, as the name suggests, spread and gather pace very rapidly. New challenges are constantly emerging and evolving. They're often completely innocent,

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raising awareness of worthy causes or simply providing amusement. However, they can have much more sinister undertones, putting children at risk of physical harm or, in extreme cases, fatal injury. This need-to-know guide offers parents and carers advice on how to keep their children safe.

Staff News

At the end of this term, Mrs Keirl is going to be retiring. She has had a massive impact on the lives of the children she has taught over the years; especially with her passion for drama and outdoor learning. She has been such a huge part of our school community for 32 years. We will also be saying goodbye to Mr Powell who is retiring at the end of this term. He has also been a huge of the Beechwood community for 20 years and has played a key role in welcoming our visitors from the Mayo College in India each year.

Mrs Keirl and Mr Powell will be greatly missed by us all. We wish them both lots of happiness for their retirement. We hope you come back and visit us!

At the end of this school year, we are saying goodbye to Miss Moss who is relocating to Sheffield and has secured a class teacher role at another school. Thank you for all your hard work over the last 5 years and we wish you the best of luck in the future.

We are also saying goodbye to Miss Das and Miss Yasir at the end of this term. Thank you for everything you have done in the last year and we wish you well as you move on.

In September, we are excited to welcome lots of new members of staff to our school. Mrs Chandler (Year 5), Miss Burns (Year 4), Miss Scrivens (Year 1), Mrs Williamson (Reception) and Miss Fletcher (Nursery).

We are also pleased to welcome back Mrs Isenring in September who is returning to school after her maternity leave.

Bikes and Scooters

This is a polite reminder that any bikes or scooters left at school should be locked and secured to the designated bike racks. School cannot take any

responsibility for those left on the premises. We would also like to ask parents to speak to their children and remind them they should not be riding bikes and scooters on the school grounds and should walk with them to avoid accidents or damage. Thank you in advance for your support.

Summer Reading Challenge

The year's [Summer Reading Challenge](#) theme is Story Garden and is all about the outdoors, which is full of enchanting words, all kinds of creatures and plants, and fascinating facts - get ready for a book-borrowing adventure! Children will be able to find new reads linked to nature, and access activities at the library - and best of all, it is completely FREE!

Please follow the link above if you would like to sign up for this!

It starts Saturday 5th July and children can read anything they like – stories, poetry, fact books, graphic novels or listen to audiobooks – it's up to them! The books (physical or digital) can be borrowed from the library, and we recommend reading at least six books over the summer, with Story Garden rewards on offer throughout the challenge. Once they have read their sixth book, they complete the challenge and will be awarded a certificate and medal. Bravo!

Vanessa, our local librarian, is coming into school on Monday 7th July to talk to all the children about the challenge and provide more information.

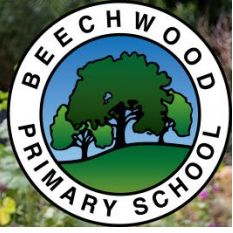
Young Carers

At Beechwood Primary School, we are committed to identifying young carers and ensuring they receive the support they need and deserve.

If you are a young carer, or know someone who is, and would like more information about available support in Leeds, please contact the school and ask to speak with the designated lead for young carers, who will be happy to help you further.

Please visit our school website for the most up-to-date information about Young Carer services in Leeds.

Beechwood Newsletter



Leeds Young Carers Support Service provides dedicated support for anyone under the age of 18 who helps care for a family member. Whether the person you support has a physical or mental illness, a disability, or struggles with alcohol or substance misuse, this service is here to offer you practical help and emotional guidance.

If you're regularly involved in tasks such as helping someone with personal care (like dressing, washing, or taking medication), managing household responsibilities (like cooking, shopping, or cleaning), or providing emotional support, you may be recognised as a young carer—and you don't have to do it alone.

The service offers a personalised package of support, including expert advice and guidance, a Young Carers Assessment, one-to-one tailored support, access to the Young Carers Ambassadors Programme, and the chance to connect with others for peer support.

To get in touch for help or more information, you can email leedsyoungcarers@family-action.org.uk or call 0113 733 9126.

If you'd prefer to reach out or visit by post, the address is:

Leeds Young Carers Support Service
Hollyshaw House
2 Hollyshaw Lane
Leeds
LS15 8BD

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 (Deputy designated safeguarding lead) or Miss Ileana (Deputy designated safeguarding lead) to share your concerns.

Key Dates

8th July	Reception Harlow Carr Trip — please complete google form consent
9th July	Year 6 Football Tournament
9th July	Parents Evening – please refer to email (Reception – Year 5 no appointment needed, Year 6 please booked appointment via booking system)
9th July	Pop Up Bookshop during parents evening (please see separate letter already sent)
14th - 17th July	Spirit Alive Week - more information to follow
17th July	Year 6 leavers Performance – 9am Parents Welcome
17th July	Y6 Fish and Chips/Disco night (children only) – 3.45pm-6pm – please complete google form
21st July	Whole School Celebration Day

Term Dates

For the term dates [click here](#) to visit our website.

The School Grid

Reminder if your child normally has, or would like to have a school meal, please pre order their meals for the week via the School Grid



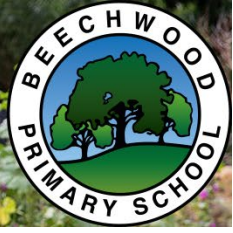
School App

Please remember to download the school App so that you don't miss any communication.

<https://www.theschool.app/>



Beechwood Newsletter



ST GEMMA'S HOSPICE

Sunset WALK

Roundhay Park
Saturday 5th July

fundraising@st-gemma.co.uk
www.st-gemma.co.uk/events
0113 218 5555
Registered Charity No. 1015941

Sign up now

St. Gemma's Hospice

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A Celebration of Life at Sunset

Join us for a heartwarming evening in the stunning surroundings of Roundhay Park. Together, we'll walk in celebration of life, love, and those we hold dear as the sun sets on a summer's day.

Gather friends, family, colleagues and neighbours to walk 5km and raise money in support of St Gemma's Hospice.

Join us in our event village for live entertainment, delicious street food, and a vibrant atmosphere before you set off - making this a truly special and memorable experience.

Supporting St Gemma's

St Gemma's is a local, independent charity that has been providing expert and compassionate care to the people of Leeds at the end of their lives for almost 50 years.

By taking part in the Sunset Walk, you'll be helping us continue to care for thousands of local people and their families every year.

Sign up at
www.st-gemma.co.uk/events/sunset-walk/

DO YOU PLAY AN INSTRUMENT OR SING?

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LEEDS SCHOOLS' BRASS ENSEMBLE

LEEDS SCHOOLS' STRING ORCHESTRA

LEEDS SCHOOLS' WIND ORCHESTRA

CITY OF LEEDS YOUTH TRAINING ORCHESTRA

ROOTS ALIVE - YOUTH FOLK GROUP

LEEDS YOUTH JAZZ-ROCK ORCHESTRA

CITY OF LEEDS YOUTH WIND ORCHESTRA

CITY OF LEEDS YOUTH ORCHESTRA

WEBSITE: www.artformsleeds.co.uk
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In today's digitally connected world, children and adults are constantly presented with new ways to engage, react and contribute. We're sociable beings; it's a natural human instinct, especially amongst younger audiences, to want to belong and join in. Viral Challenges (as they're often known) draw on these emotions and, as the name suggests, spread and gather pace very rapidly. New challenges are constantly emerging and evolving. They're often completely innocent, raising awareness of worthy causes or simply providing amusement. However, they can have much more sinister undertones, putting children at risk of physical harm or, in extreme cases, fatal injury.



What parents need to know about ONLINE CHALLENGES

MENTAL HEALTH & WELLBEING

As well as having the potential to cause actual physical harm, some challenges can be extremely upsetting for children. Many are created with the sole purpose of instilling fear in an individual in order to coerce them into doing things that could have a long-term emotional effect on them.

VARYING LEVELS OF RISK

As a parent or carer, it's important to take a balanced view and understand that not everything online has the potential to do harm. Mass-following and interaction can be a force for good. For example, the Ice Bucket Challenge, which swept the nation, set out to raise money and awareness of Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS). At its height, over 28 million people uploaded, commented on, or liked Ice Bucket Challenge related posts on Facebook. It's equally important to be aware though that online challenges often have a darker side. Malicious trends and challenges can expose children to dangerous or even life-threatening situations, so it's critical that parents and carers are aware of the latest risks and understand what steps to take to mitigate them.

'FOMO' - FEAR OF MISSING OUT

The 'Fear of Missing Out' (FOMO) is a strong emotional characteristic, particularly displayed in young people. The nature of viral challenges encourages children to explore and push boundaries. They tap into FOMO by feeding on a child's natural desire to join in, be accepted and share experiences with their friends and the wider online community. A recent study also found that FOMO is one of the greatest causes of Social Media addiction.



STRIVING FOR LIKES

In a major study by the Children's Commissioner, it was found that children as young as ten years old are reliant on 'Likes' for their sense of self-worth. A major concern around viral challenges is not knowing how far children will go to earn 'Likes'. Couple this growing appetite for acceptance with commonplace peer pressure and the potential problem is compounded. The result is that when young people are drawn into online challenges, because it is what all their friends are doing, saying 'no' can seem like a very hard thing to do.

"The coolest person at school will start a trend and then everyone copies her"
Merran, 12, Year 7

"If I got 150 likes, I'd be like that's pretty cool it means they like you"
Aaron, 11, Year 7



National Online Safety®



Top Tips for Parents



COMMUNICATION & MONITORING

It's important to talk to your child regularly and monitor their online activities. Encouraging honesty and openness, will give you a much clearer viewpoint of how your child is interacting online and what concerns they have. Create an atmosphere of trust. Ensure they feel they can confide in you or another trusted adult regarding anything they may have seen or experienced online that's upset them.

THINK BEFORE ACTING

As with most concerns in life, let common sense prevail when it comes to Viral Challenges. Young people need the freedom and space to explore and going in all guns blazing may well be counter-effective. Address the importance of safety and wellbeing, both online and offline, by getting the facts and understanding the risks. Start a discussion about the Online Challenges that may have captured your child's interest, gauge their likely involvement and explain the importance of thinking and acting independently when it comes to participating.

SETTING UP EFFECTIVE PARENTAL CONTROLS

As with all online activity, ensuring you have effective parental controls set up on all devices will help filter and restrict the dangerous or inappropriate content you don't wish your child to access. Additional measures for protecting your child include checking the privacy settings on your child's devices, monitoring their friends list, ensuring their personal information is safe and secure and keeping a watchful eye on the content they're sharing.

REPORTING & BLOCKING

Parental controls can only go so far in blocking potentially harmful content. A rise in the decoding of social media algorithms, has led to age inappropriate content increasingly appearing on platforms and apps used by children. Where possible, you should regularly monitor what your child sees online and flag/report any content which is inappropriate or dangerous. You should take the time to talk to your child, define what you consider to be appropriate content and show them how to report and block users/accounts themselves.

VALIDATE SOURCES

Not everything is as it seems. Some people create fake content that's designed to 'shock' in order to encourage rapid sharing. If your child has seen something online that has triggered concern you should encourage them to, check its origin, verify that it came from a credible source and check the comments made for any clues to its validity.

FACING REALITY

Trends and Viral Challenges can be tempting for children to take part in; no matter how dangerous or scary they may seem. As a parent or carer it can be difficult to keep pace with the very latest Online Challenges emerging. In recent months these have included potentially dangerous crazes, including the 'Bird Box' challenge, which was inspired by Netflix's popular film and encourages followers to upload videos of themselves attempting everyday tasks while blindfolded. The best advice is to keep talking to your child. Show that your taking an interest and not just prying. Ensure your child knows they don't have to get involved and if they're unsure, let them know you're there to talk before they consider participating. Children often need reassurance that not everything they see online is real. If your child has viewed distressing or frightening content it's important to talk to them about their experience, support them and, if required, help them find additional support.