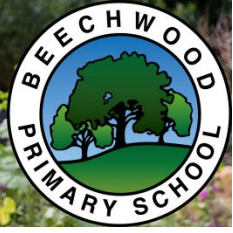


Beechwood Newsletter



Attendance

The first two weeks of the summer term have seen a slow start in attendance, with various factors contributing to absences. One significant issue has been children taking unauthorised holidays during term time, alongside other family circumstances affecting attendance. While we understand that family commitments can sometimes arise unexpectedly, we encourage all parents to ensure their children attend school regularly to support their learning and progress.

On a positive note, we are delighted to announce the **Summer Term 2 attendance champions**- with an impressive 96.7% attendance, class 1 is leading the way, closely followed by class 4, 6 and 7. A special mention also goes to class 3, who continue to hold the title of **punctuality heroes**—well done to all! Every class is striving to reach the attendance goals set by our champions, and we commend all students for their dedication and effort.

As we move forward, there are still five more weeks until our end-of-term celebration! This exciting event will reveal the lucky students who are going to be rewarded with a bike or scooter in recognition of their excellent attendance and punctuality. There is still plenty of time for children to improve their attendance so their names can be included in the end-of-year draw—keep up the fantastic efforts!

A gentle reminder to parents: regular communication with the school regarding absences is essential. If your child is unwell or unable to attend, please inform the school promptly and provide supporting evidence where possible. Parents are responsible for ensuring the school is updated regarding their child's attendance, and we kindly request prompt responses to school communications, including emails or phone calls regarding unexplained absences.

It is important to remember that attending school is a legal requirement. We urge all parents to prioritise school attendance and follow the law to ensure their children receive the education they deserve. Consistent attendance fosters learning, development, and confidence—let's work together to support all our students.

Finally, we extend a heartfelt thank you to all parents who consistently communicate with the school and

provide necessary documentation in line with school procedures. For more information regarding illness-related absences and other attendance-related queries, please visit the school website, where you will find useful guidelines and policies. If you have any further questions, do not hesitate to reach out to the school office and attendance team. Your support is invaluable, and we appreciate your commitment to your children's education!

Equality and Diversity at Beechwood

At Beechwood Primary School, we believe that every child deserves to feel valued, respected, and included. Our differences—whether in skin colour, culture, or background—make our community richer and more wonderful. Being anti-racist means standing up for fairness and treating everyone with kindness. It means learning about each other's traditions, listening to different stories, and making sure that no one feels left out. Just like in a beautiful rainbow; every colour matters and together we create something special.

This month, we encourage our students to think about ways they can be great friends to everyone. Whether it's inviting someone new to play, learning how to pronounce a friend's name correctly, or speaking up if they see unfairness, small actions can make a big difference. Let's celebrate our uniqueness while standing together as one school family!

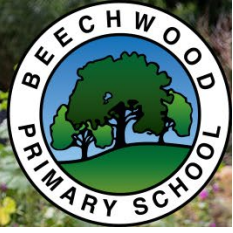
Trips, Visits and Experiences

Mayo Boys visit from India

Year 5 have absolutely loved meeting the Boys from Mayo College, and it has certainly enhanced their learning on our topic. We have completed some excellent podcasts interviewing them about their life in India. They were confident interviewers and asked some fantastic questions. We debated with them, baked with them, coded with them and some of us even played mini golf with the boys too. It has been an experience we won't forget anytime soon!

The rest of the school have enjoyed meeting them during the assembly last week where they introduced themselves. They then went into the different classes to answer questions our children had to learn more about India. Other groups of children have also enjoyed taking parts in different visits such as Nell Bank and golfing alongside the boys. On Thursday, we thoroughly

Beechwood Newsletter



enjoyed the Mayo Boys final assembly to the school where they showcased their talents. We wish them a safe journey home after visiting London this weekend.



Year 2 Skipping Competition

After a lot of practice in school, the children put their skills into action at the Skipping Festival in Armley. We came away with lots of 1st, 2nd and 3rd place individual skill certificates and came 2nd in both team skips. It was fantastic to see the children approach the competition with confidence and maturity.

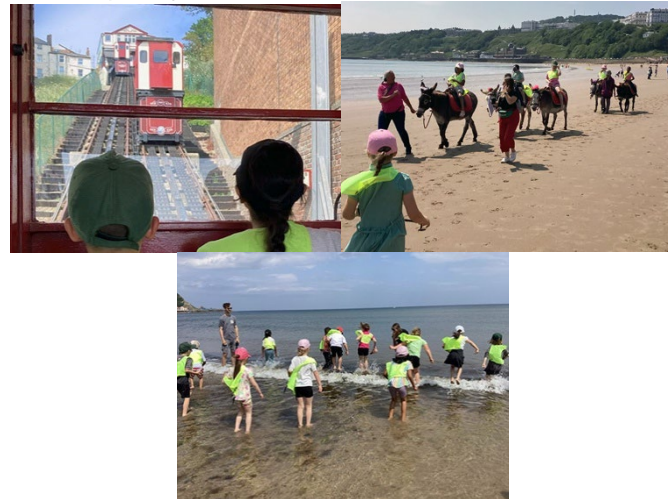


Year 3 Mosque visit

Year 3 visited Leeds Grand Mosque as part of our R.E. learning. We had a fascinating time exploring inside the mosque, learning many interesting facts about Islam, and especially enjoyed the opportunity to ask our own thoughtful questions to our guide.

Year 2 Scarborough trip

The sun shone on Scarborough for the Y2 visit to the seaside. A jam-packed schedule saw the children go on the Victorian tramway, enjoy a donkey ride and paddle in the sea before enjoying an ice-cream! Sandy toes and smiles aplenty!



Year 3 Ancient Egyptian workshop

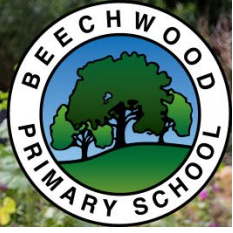
This week we had an ancient Egyptian workshop with Matthew Bellwood. We were really excited to find out more about mummification and ancient Egyptian funerals. Matthew also told us a story all about the very first Egyptian mummy. We enjoyed watching Matthew act out the different characters using his masks.



Year 5 & 6 Boy's Mental Health Workshop

Leeds Rhinos came to speak to year 5 and 6 boys about mental health. He was really impressed with what the children already knew. The boys enjoyed playing some games as part of the session and sharing ideas on how to recognise when their mental health is good or not

Beechwood Newsletter



good, how it links to physical health and how to help others.

Year 1 Skipton Castle Trip

On Thursday, Year 1 enjoyed a very successful visit to Skipton Castle. The children learnt a great deal about the history of castles and had the opportunity to explore one of the best-preserved castles in the country. They visited the medieval kitchens, discovered the 'long drop', and even ventured into the dungeon – experiencing what it might have been like to be there in total darkness. The children behaved brilliantly throughout the day, and we'll be following up the visit with some related learning activities over the coming weeks.



Year 6 Artis assembly

Y6 enjoyed an interactive workshop with Artis and our parents. In the workshop, the children performed the rap they had written with Shine in their previous session by adding actions to the lyrics. The parents enjoyed a discussion about climate change and all the work that the children at Beechwood have been doing to help make it a sustainable school. The Y6 children gave excellent performances and thoroughly enjoyed having an audience to share their hard work with.

Young Carers

During Carers week, our school embraced the theme of "**Caring About Equality**", creating a meaningful space to recognise and celebrate our young carers. These incredible students dedicate their time and energy to caring for loved ones, demonstrating compassion, kindness, strength, and resilience in their everyday lives. Their stories were nothing short of inspiring,

reminding us of the vital role they play in supporting others.

To honour their dedication, our young carers created beautiful artworks, capturing heartfelt messages that reflect their unwavering love for those they care for. Each piece of art serves as a powerful reminder that caring is one of the greatest acts of kindness, and our world would not be the same without the selflessness of these remarkable individuals.

We are also pleased to share that our school website has been updated with new information for young carers, including details about University Centre Leeds and its mentoring scheme. This initiative offers one-to-one mentoring to students from diverse backgrounds, helping them explore higher education opportunities and prepare for future academic success.

Additionally, the support network for young carers in Leeds continues to expand and strengthen. Leeds Young Carers Services now collaborates with a variety of organisations, including Barca Leeds, Healthwatch Leeds, Youth Voice West Yorkshire, Leeds Youth Service, and many more. This growing network ensures that young carers receive the help, guidance, and resources they need to thrive.

For more information about these initiatives and how we support young carers, please visit our school website. We are immensely proud of our young carers and the compassion they show every day, and we are committed to supporting them in every possible way. Thank you for being part of this important celebration!

[Young Carers | Beechwood Primary School](#)

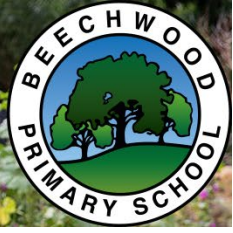
Safeguarding

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

25th June	Year 4 Hockey Tournament
26th June	Year 3 Magna Trip - please complete google form consent
30 th June 2.15pm	Year 6 Shakespeare Performance Parents welcome
2 nd July	Year 5 Rugby Tournament
3 rd July	Whole School Transition Day
8 th July	Reception Harlow Carr Trip

Beechwood Newsletter



	Please complete google form consent
9 th July	Year 6 Football Tournament
17 th July 9:00am	Year 6 leavers Performance – Parents Welcome
17th July 3.45-6:00pm	Y6 Fish and Chips/Disco night (children only) Please complete google form

Mental Health and Wellbeing

This week's online safety focus is all about Generative AI safety. Lots of AI tools such as ChatGPT are now commonly used by children. While these tools can boost learning and creativity, they also raise concerns about misinformation. This guide offers parents and carers a way to explore the key risks and how to support safe use. (See below for more information)

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/>

Leeds SENDIASS
Leeds SEND Information Advice and Support Service

We provide information, advice and support about special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) for children and young people aged 0-25.

Ask us about:

- What SEND means and what it can include
- SEND law and guidance
- SEND support in mainstream schools and settings
- Specialist schools and settings
- Education Health and Care Needs Assessments and Plans (EHCPs)
- Mediation and SEND Tribunal appeals

Our service is **free, impartial and confidential**.
For our full offer please visit our website
www.leedssendiass.co.uk

Leave us a voicemail
0113 378 5020

Email us
sendiass@leeds.gov.uk

Follow us
Leeds SENDIASS

Watch our videos
[@leedssendiass4614](https://www.youtube.com/@leedssendiass4614)

Killingbeck & Seacroft Ward

Your Local Labour Councillors

Councillor Drop-In Advice Sessions
Every Saturday

- 10:00am - 11:00am** - Seacroft Community Hub, Deacon House, LS14 6JD

First Monday of the month

- 5:00pm - 5:45pm** - Cross Gates Community Centre, Maryfield Ave, LS15 7TU

First Tuesday of the month

- 6:00pm - 7:00pm** - Denis Healey Centre, Foundry Mill Street, LS14 6RD

(Except for August and Bank Holidays)

Councillor
David Jenkins
Tel: 07505 642253 (Mobile)
Tel: (0113) 378 8816 (Office)
Email: david.jenkins@leeds.gov.uk

Councillor
John Tudor
Tel: (0113) 378 8816 (Office)
Email: john.tudor@leeds.gov.uk

Councillor
Katie Dye
Tel: (0113) 378 8816 (Office)
Email: katie.dye@leeds.gov.uk

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about GENERATIVE AI SAFETY

Generative AI tools – such as ChatGPT – are now commonly used by children. In fact, 3 in 4 pupils in the 2024 Annual Literacy Survey reported using generative AI, up from just 2 in 5 the previous year. While these tools can boost learning and creativity, they also raise concerns around misinformation, privacy and overuse. This guide explores the key risks and how to support safe use.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

MISINFORMATION AND ACCURACY



Generative AI can sometimes produce false or misleading content. Children – and even adults – may assume the information is accurate and trustworthy. This can affect learning and understanding of important topics. It's vital to teach children to critically assess all information, even when it comes from AI.

EXPOSURE TO INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Because generative AI is trained on vast datasets from across the Internet, there is a chance it may occasionally generate harmful or inappropriate content. Without supervision, children could encounter disturbing or unsuitable material. Active monitoring and clear usage boundaries can help reduce this risk.

PRIVACY AND DATA SECURITY

Some AI tools ask for personal details or store users' interactions. If privacy settings are not correctly configured, children's personal data could be exposed or misused. Teaching good digital hygiene and setting strong privacy controls is essential for protecting children online.

REDUCED CRITICAL THINKING



Relying too heavily on AI-generated responses may reduce children's willingness to think independently. If they consistently use AI to solve problems or complete tasks, it could impact their ability to reason, analyse and form their own ideas. Encouraging thoughtful reflection is key.

DIGITAL DEPENDENCY



Regular use of generative AI can contribute to increased screen time and less real-world interaction. If left unmanaged, it may affect physical activity levels, sleep, and social development. Striking a healthy balance between online and offline activities is important for wellbeing.

UNCLEAR ETHICAL BOUNDARIES



Children may not fully understand the ethical implications of using AI to complete homework or creative tasks. This can lead to unintentional plagiarism or dishonest academic practices. Conversations around responsible use and academic honesty are crucial.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ESTABLISH CLEAR GUIDELINES

Set clear, age-appropriate rules for when and how generative AI can be used. Reinforce these regularly to help children develop a healthy, respectful and informed relationship with the technology.



ENCOURAGE CRITICAL EVALUATION

Help children to question the accuracy of AI-generated information and seek out additional trusted sources. This builds essential digital literacy skills and supports better decision-making.



PROMOTE ACTIVE SUPERVISION

Keep an eye on how the children in your care use AI tools. Check in regularly to ensure they're using them appropriately and be ready to step in if something doesn't feel right.



ENHANCE PRIVACY AWARENESS

Talk to children about the importance of keeping personal information private. Make sure privacy settings are in place and explain how data shared with AI tools could be used.



Meet Our Expert

Brendan O'Keefe, Deputy Headmaster and Director of Digital Strategy at Eaton House Schools, has extensive expertise in digital safety, safeguarding, and generative AI in education. As an author and speaker on digital literacy and online safety for institutions such as The National College, Brendan guides parents and educators in creating safe digital learning environments.



The National College