

Beechwood Newsletter



Attendance

At our school, attendance and punctuality are key priorities for both students and staff. Good attendance is strongly linked to improved academic achievement, better mental health, and positive behaviour—it's also an essential part of safeguarding.

Class 8 has made attendance their top responsibility! They recently created a fantastic poster outlining their agreed targets to boost attendance across the class. Well done, Class 8—go team!

Nursery and Reception Shine Bright

At the beginning of May, our nursery children stood out with the highest attendance and punctuality across the school! It's wonderful to see how eager they are to come to school every day, building great habits for when they transition to Reception. A huge well done to our nursery children and staff! In the second week of May, our Reception superstars have been recognised for their outstanding attendance and punctuality with the prestigious Alia and Pedro frames. This exceptional achievement highlights the incredible determination of our Reception children as they strive to secure the highest attendance across the school. Well done, everyone—keep up the fantastic effort!

Exciting Attendance Prizes on the Horizon

As we approach the end of the summer term, anticipation is growing for our attendance prizes! Children with attendance rates above 95%, up to 100%, will be entered into a special draw, with fantastic prizes such as bikes and scooters waiting to be won. Please continue to support your child's attendance and punctuality—they could be one of the lucky winners!

A Gentle Reminder

Please remember to communicate with the school whenever your child is absent. Absences should be reported daily unless agreed otherwise. If supporting evidence is required, please ensure it is provided so absences can be properly authorised.

Parents have the responsibility to inform the school when children are absent.

Support Is Available

If attendance or punctuality is a challenge for you or your child, please do not hesitate to reach out for support. You can contact the class teacher, our school SENDCo (Mrs. Giles), the attendance officer (Mrs. Ileana), or a familiar school staff member who can offer guidance.

Thank You!

A big thank you to all the parents who proactively communicate with the school and seek support when needed. We are here to assist every student and family, but it's essential we are kept informed of any individual needs or struggles.

Trips, Visits and Experiences

Year 4 Lake District Residential

Year 4 had a fantastic residential to the Lake District. We took in the beautiful sights, participated in some activities in Keswick (impressing the public), went on a boat trip, learned how to use a compass, went bug hunting, drew a picture of the stunning scenery and had a sing along at the hostel. We had a great trip and everyone had a great time.



VE Day celebrations and Spirit Alive Fundraising

Last Friday, the whole school enjoyed taking part in VE Day celebrations and activities to raise money for

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our Spirit Alive event at the end of the summer term. Year 5 planned lots of exciting activities that included wearing red, white and blue, a bake off, a drawing competition, a penalty shoot-out and a sponsored 1940's dance. Thanks to your generosity, we have raised an impressive £1342.26. Year 6 are now excited to start planning lots of exciting events. Thank you!



Bethan Woollvin Author Assembly

Last week, children in reception, year 1 and year 2 enjoyed a visit from the author Bethan Woollvin. She came into school to share her new book 'These Are My Rocks'. The children also enjoyed completing an activity afterwards. Some children bought a copy of her book and were lucky enough to get it signed.



Year 6 SATs

Year 6 have worked incredibly hard all year in their learning leading up to the SATs this week. Every child has impressed us with their hard work and

dedication in the recent weeks and they should be proud of what they have achieved. You and your child will be able to find out the results during the last parents evening in July. Well done year 6!

Year 6 Rugby

On Thursday afternoon, year 6 had a rugby session with a coach from Leeds Rhinos. They enjoyed playing different games and practising their invasion games skills.



Year 5 India Workshop

Our Indian workshop (delivered by Hannah from the DEC) was brilliant as it gave us the opportunity to explore similarities and differences between Britain and India. We learned that while our cultures and countries are different to an extent, we share lots of similarities too. We enjoy the same foods, hobbies and subjects at school. After learning where India was located on a map, we enjoyed a treasure hunt which helped enrich our understanding of India. We learned about its population, the cities it has and what money is used there. To finish, we created our own animals which in India, are considered sacred. It was a great workshop and all children were excellently behaved. Well done year 5!



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Year 2 Skipping

Y2 showed great determination in their skipping workshop with Katie from The Skipping School on Thursday. They worked hard to develop skipping skills ahead of a competition in June with other schools.



Year 5 Residential

Year 5 pupils enjoyed a memorable and action-packed residential trip to Herd Farm, where they took part in a range of exciting outdoor activities. These included soaring through the air on the zip wire, testing their balance and teamwork on the crate stack, improving their aim in archery, and pushing themselves on the demanding assault course. The children showed fantastic determination, courage, and support for one another. Staff at the centre were extremely impressed, praising the pupils for their excellent behaviour, positive attitude, and respectful manners throughout the stay. It was a brilliant experience that helped the children grow in confidence and build strong friendships.



Bikes and Scooters

A reminder that bikes and scooters are encouraged for safe riding to and from school as part of our active and sustainable travel plan. However, we politely request that you encourage your children to consider safety as the first rule. Bikes and scooters need to be pushed while on the school grounds for the safety of all. Children should walk with their vehicles until they have left the school gates to ensure the safety of everyone in school. Please remind your children of this. See below for more information.



Summer and Uniform Reminder

Now the weather is warmer, please ensure you apply sun cream to your child before school and send in a labelled bottle for them to reapply during the day as well as a hat. In order to help keep children safe in the sun, please ensure children wear tops that cover their shoulders and shorts of an appropriate length. Vest tops should not be worn to school.

We would also like to remind everyone that Crocs and flip flops should not be worn to school. They pose a safety risk as children move around school and the playground. Sandals with a secure back fastening and a flat heel as allowed to be worn.

Food Wise - Just One More Competition

This year they are running a city-wide competition! All you need to do is take photos of veg! It could be photos of your child eating vegetables or anything creative related to vegetables!

Here are the prizes to be won!

- Tropical World vouchers
- Carriage Works - 4 Family Theatre tickets
- Lotherton Hall vouchers
- Temple Newsam vouchers

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- Family ticket to a Leeds Rhinos game of choice
Leeds Rhinos Healthy Living Assembly
How to enter:
All you need to do is share your JOM pictures on social media using tagging @foodwiseLeeds and using the hashtag #JustOneMore2025 and then we can trawl and allocate prizes. Alternatively, you can email them to schoolwellbeing@leeds.gov.uk

Young Carers

Beechwood Primary School is taking meaningful steps toward becoming a Young Carer-friendly school, ensuring that students who take on caring responsibilities receive the understanding and support they need. As part of this ongoing commitment, school staff will soon participate in comprehensive training led by experts from Leeds City Council. This training will build upon the themes introduced in the recent whole-school assembly, which raised awareness about young carers and the challenges they face. Staff members will be equipped with the skills to recognise young carers within the school community and respond with empathy and practical support. The upcoming training will cover essential topics such as identifying young carers, understanding the impact of their responsibilities on education and well-being, and developing strategies to provide meaningful assistance. Staff will explore ways to create an inclusive environment where young carers feel seen, valued, and supported in balancing their roles at home and school. Beechwood Primary School aims to foster a culture of awareness and proactive support, ensuring that young carers thrive both academically and emotionally. For a sneak peek from the whole school assembly [click here](#).

Mental Health and Wellbeing

This week's safety focus is about how to keep children safe on roads. Traffic related incidents are a significant risk young pedestrians and cyclists. The guide offers strategies for parents and carers to help empower young people to navigate the roads confidently and responsibly. See below.

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

Wednesday 21st May	Year 3 Class 8 Dodgeball Tournament
Friday 23rd May	Year 2 Trip to The Deep - please refer to google form
Friday 23rd May	Break up for Half Term
Monday 2nd June	Return to school
Tuesday 17th June	Year 2 Scarborough Trip
Thursday 19th June	Year 1 Skipton Castle Trip
Thursday 26th June	Year 3 Magna Trip

Residential Date Reminders

21st - 23rd May – Year 6 London Residential

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



SchoolGrid

School App

Please remember to download the school App so that you don't miss any communication.
<https://www.theschool.app/>



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1. Why Scoot the Route?

Turn journeys into adventures... it's time to Scoot the Route

Scooting is not just for Scoot the Route sessions! It can be done throughout the year.

Scoot the Route is all about encouraging children to use their scooters for short journeys, whether that's on the school run, going to after-school activities, or to visit friends and family locally. Swapping short car journeys for scooting helps children to stay active, cuts traffic congestion, and makes the neighbourhood streets safer for everyone.

More children scooting to school can also help to improve air quality around schools and helps children to be more aware of road safety, an invaluable skill as they start to travel independently.

In short, swapping the car for a scooter when possible is:

- more fun
- healthier
- cheaper

It also:

- improves road safety
- reduces congestion
- improves air quality

Guide to Scoot the Route



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2. Safety first!

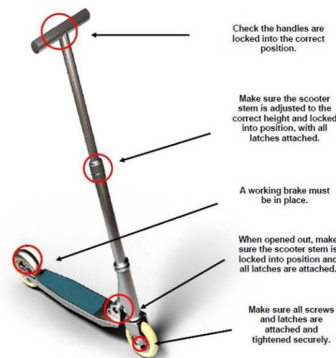
Simple tips to keep safe when scooting:

- Encourage children to wear a helmet and make sure it is appropriately fitted and fastened
- Wear bright/high visibility (during the day) or reflective clothing (when it's dark) – this will help drivers see and be aware of children scooting on the pavement
- Ensure scooters are in good working order by doing scooter checks (see details of the 'L-check' below)
- Always remember to use the 'Green Cross Code' when crossing roads – **THINK, STOP, LOOK, LISTEN**
- When crossing roads, get off the scooter and walk alongside it
- Remind young children to always keep their grown up in sight
- Scoot on the 'inside' of the pavement, away from the kerb and road

Guide to Scoot the Route



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CHECK:

1. Brakes

Do they stop the scooter?

Most micro scooters have a rear brake. Check this is in place if there is one. These sometimes become stiff and can need oiling.

Some larger scooters have brakes like the ones you would find on a bicycle. If so, check

- **Front brakes** - The best way to check is to stand at the side of the scooter, push it forwards and pull on the front brake. The front wheel should lock, and more force will lift the back wheel.
- **Back brake** - pull the scooter backwards and pull on the back brake lever. The back wheel should lock and lift the front wheel.

Guide to Scoot the Route



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Some **adjustments** can be made by using the barrel adjuster on the brake lever. Also check alignment and condition of brake blocks. Some cheap brake blocks can become polished and ineffective. They can be made rough by rubbing on stone but you should recommend they need replacing.

Make a visual check of cables, which should not be frayed anywhere in the operative length.

2. Handles

Ensure the handles are locked in place.

3. Stem

Make sure the scooter stem is adjusted and locked at the correct height and ensure all the latches are in place.

4. Locking mechanism

Ensure the scooter stem is locked in the open position and that the latch is firmly in place.

5. Wheels

Wheels should run freely and be securely attached. Ensure all screws and latches are in place and fastened / tightened.

Guide to Scoot the Route



10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators SAFETY ON THE ROAD

Traffic-related incidents are a significant risk for young pedestrians and cyclists, so understanding road safety is crucial for children's wellbeing. While all road users share responsibility for keeping one another safe, this guide offers strategies for empowering young people to navigate the roads confidently and responsibly.

1 TAKE PRACTICE JOURNEYS

Making 'practice' journeys with children is a great way to help them stay safe, thereby modelling responsible behaviours and having road safety conversations as they prepare to travel independently. Add hazard perception activities like spotting electric vehicles – which may have a green number plate – and point out how quiet they are. Children learn by watching others; remind them that their peers might not always be the best role models.

2 BE BRIGHT, BE SEEN

Visibility is lower during darker winter days, and drivers need to take extra care to look out for pedestrians. Wearing bright and reflective clothing can help make children more visible to drivers near roads. In poor daylight conditions, encourage children to wear light, bright or fluorescent clothing. When it's dark, wear reflective clothing or materials such as a reflective armband or jacket.

3 EYES UP

Encourage children to look up and keep their eyes on the road. Teach them to constantly watch for traffic and practise double-checking the road before crossing – looking right, left and then right again.

4 LIMIT DISTRACTIONS

Where possible, devices like phones should be kept away from children while out and about near roads. If they're carrying devices, these should be put away until they've reached their destination. Children must also avoid playing with toys or being distracted by friends. If a friend wants to show them something funny on their phone, there'll be time for that once they've safely arrived.

5 SLOW DOWN

Discuss the importance of waiting instead of crossing immediately. It can be tricky to judge the speed of traffic and spot obstacles that could cause a trip or a fall. For safety, children must stop and think before they get to the kerb and should always walk – not run – when crossing the road. They should avoid crossing until they're certain they have plenty of time. Even if traffic seems a long way off, it could still be approaching very quickly.

6 STOP BEFORE THE KERB

Teach children to stop before reaching the kerb – not right at the edge of it. Halting before they get to the kerb allows them to see if anything's coming, whereas getting too close to traffic is dangerous. If there's no pavement, children should stand back from the road's edge but ensure they can still see approaching traffic.

7 CROSS SAFELY

Children should always find a safe spot to cross the road, prioritising zebra crossings or pelican crossings, footbridges and subways. Find a place where they can see traffic coming from both directions. Avoid crossing near junctions, bends in the road, or obstacles that block their view, instead moving to somewhere they can see and be seen. Remind them to use their eyes and ears together when checking the road, as sometimes they can hear traffic before they can see it. Looking and listening while crossing helps them quickly spot traffic, including cyclists and motorcyclists driving between other vehicles.

8 PARKED VEHICLES

Crossing between parked vehicles is very dangerous. Teach children to use extra caution if crossing in this way, and, ideally, avoid it altogether. They should use the outside edge of a vehicle as if it were the kerb, waiting and checking for traffic before moving. They should ensure vehicles aren't about to move, by looking for drivers in the vehicles and listening for engines running – but remember that electric vehicles may move off silently. They should always make sure there is a gap between any parked vehicles on the other side, so they can reach the pavement.

9 REVERSING VEHICLES

Children must never cross behind a reversing vehicle – it's extremely dangerous. Remind them to look for white reversing lights and listen out for warning sounds. Can they hear the engine sound or a radio playing inside the vehicle?

10 WAIT FOR THE BUS TO LEAVE

When getting off a bus, children must wait for it to leave before crossing so they can have a clear view of the road in both directions. This also allows them to see and be seen by other road users. Crossing near large vehicles is particularly dangerous and should be avoided.

Meet Our Expert

THINK! is a year-round national campaign that aims to encourage safe road behaviours – whether we're driving, cycling, horse riding or walking – with the aim of reducing the number of people killed and injured on the UK's roads each year. Find out more at: <https://www.think.gov.uk/education-resources/>



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The National College