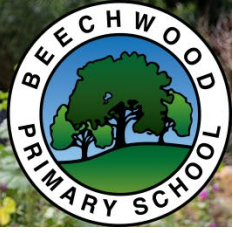


Beechwood Newsletter



Attendance

As we approach the end of this week, we also reach the end of Spring Term 1 - a moment we always look forward to as we prepare to celebrate our children's hard work. This term, we will be recognising good attendance and punctuality, impressive effort, and the many small but meaningful achievements our pupils make every day. It's a wonderful opportunity to highlight the children who consistently give their best.

Last week, Class 1 shone brightly once again by achieving the best punctuality across the school. Not a single child was late, which is an outstanding accomplishment and a reflection of the commitment shown by both pupils and families. Well done to everyone involved!



2026

FEBRUARY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

As we reach the end of term, we will be holding special celebrations for children who have excelled in key areas, including attendance and punctuality. These pupils will enjoy a well-deserved treat (Beechwood Cinema and snacks) as a reward for their fantastic dedication.

It's a lovely way for them to celebrate such a significant achievement.

Last week, we also shared some exciting news with the children: the prizes for the end of the academic year have already arrived. Each class has been allocated four brand new scooters, which will be awarded to pupils who achieved good attendance and punctuality throughout the year. More details about these rewards and the criteria can be found on our school website. We can't wait to see who the winners will be and to celebrate the continued effort, enthusiasm, and resilience shown by our wonderful pupils.

Trips, Visits and Experiences

Year 1 Matthew Bellwood workshop

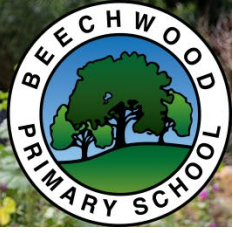
We had an exciting workshop linked to our work on Traditional Tales in English. We have been reading Jack and the Beanstalk and we watched a puppet show and acted out the story in costumes. We were then able to make our own puppets based on the characters in the story.



Year 5 Synagogue Visit

Last week, Year 5 enjoyed a fantastic visit to the United Hebrew Congregation Leeds synagogue.

Beechwood Newsletter



They explored key features in the synagogue such as the bimah, Torah Ark and sacred Torah scrolls, and learned about important Jewish festivals including Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, Pesach, Sukkot and Simchat Torah. Children also discovered the meaning of a Bat Mitzvah and how the synagogue supports worship, celebration and community life, bringing their RE learning vividly to life. Staff at the synagogue praised the children's behaviour, thoughtful questions and strong prior knowledge, making the visit a valuable and memorable learning experience for everyone.



Year 3 Recycling Centre Visit

Class 7 and 8 had an amazing time at the Recycling and Energy Recovery Facility (RERF). We learned all about the importance of recycling and how the facility is trying to protect the planet. We got to see their amazing wall garden and even tried their Virtual reality headset experience! We are going to make sure that going forward, we REDUCE, REUSE and RECYCLE!

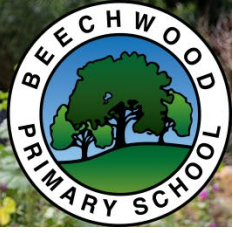


Year 5 Matthew Bellwood workshop

Y5 enjoyed a fantastic workshop with historian and storyteller Matthew Bellwood. During the workshop, the children learned all about life on the Home Front. Using a variety of replica artefacts and props, the children took on different roles such as ARP wardens, fire guards and even Potato Pete! They experienced an air raid and discovered how everyone played their part during the war. It was a brilliant day and the children participated brilliantly in the activities.



Beechwood Newsletter



Leeds Youth Summit

A group of Year 5 children attended a youth summit at Leeds Civic Hall on Friday. They represented school brilliantly during question and answer sessions with our local councillors and different workshops to learn more about democracy. Everyone enjoyed meeting the Leeds Mayor in the council chambers at the end of the event.



Foot Tech Tournament

Mrs Haylings and Miss Taylor took children from both Y5/6 to compete in a Foot Tech football 3 v 3 tournament at Bishop Young Academy on Tuesday 9th February. The children played a number of

competitive games against schools from across East and North Leeds. Everyone enjoyed the morning and there were some incredible skills shown including perseverance and resilience. At the end of the tournament a select few children were shown to be standout players (MVPs!) and Year 6's very own Summer H was chosen! We are very proud of all the children who took part.

Place2Be Mental Health Week

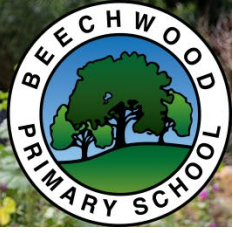
This week we have been celebrating 'Children's Mental Health Week' and Place2Be chose the theme 'This is my Place'. We launched in assembly last Friday and the whole school were challenged to complete a map to show the places, people and objects that give them a sense of belonging.

There has been so much effort and enthusiasm put into this from all the children. It was lovely to observe the differences and similarities between the maps, highlighting the diversity and uniqueness of all the children at Beechwood who all 'belong' within our school community.

Jenny also set all the children a challenge throughout the week to get to know someone new from the school and build new friendships so that they develop a further sense of belonging within the school. It was nice to observe the staff also taking part in this. The lunch staff delivered cake to new members of staff they had noticed but not had the opportunity to properly speak to and introduce themselves to.



Beechwood Newsletter



School Council

School Council will be meeting this week and we will explain that we are going to start the votes again next term for new members as some children have left and some children are not able to attend after school. We will thank them in assembly this Friday and give them a certificate for helping out.

Mental Health and Wellbeing

This week's online safety focus is the safe use of Artificial Intelligence (AI). AI is increasingly woven into young people's digital lives. It can offer some educational benefits and day-to-day assistance; however, it also raises concerns about misinformation, privacy, fairness and safety. Please see the link below for practical strategies to help parents and carers support children to navigate AI tools responsibly and safely.

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, Miss Magill 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](#).

Dates for your diary

23 rd Feb- 4 th March	Year 5 Bikeability
4 th March	Climate Joy Day (more info to follow)
5 th March	World Book Day - more info to follow
11 th March	Year 2 Leeds Beckett University Trip
17 th March	Year 5 Lotherton Hall Trip

Half Term

Break up at normal pick-up time on Friday 13th February

Children return to school - Monday 23rd February

Parent assemblies

Y3 – 24th March 9am

Y6 – 24th March 2:30pm

Y4 – 26th March 9am

Y1 – 31st March 9am

Y2 – 31st March 2:30pm

Y5 – 1st April 9am

Reception – 1st April 2:30pm

School App

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

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



Wrap Around- Premier Education

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



Beechwood Newsletter



Timings*

Breakfast club

7.30am – 8.45am

Includes breakfast.

After School club

3.30pm – 5pm

3.30pm – 6pm

Includes snack and light tea option.

*Some timings will vary.

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.
- **Stagings Discount and Special Offers:** Enjoy increased stagings 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: <http://tinyurl.com/premierchilcarevouchers>

SUITABLE FOR ELIGIBLE SERVICE PERSONNEL

Eligible Service personnel (ESPs) can register for up to 20 hours per week, per child, term time only (39 weeks per year) of wraparound childcare funding for up to 15-year-old children attending before and after school childcare in the UK.

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

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 this booking [link](#).

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators SUPPORTING SAFE USE OF AI

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is increasingly woven into young people's digital lives. It can offer some educational benefits and day-to-day assistance; however, it also raises concerns about misinformation, privacy, fairness, and safety. This guide provides parents and educators with practical strategies to support young people to navigate AI tools responsibly, and to use them safely and with discernment.

1 DEMYSTIFY WHAT AI REALLY IS

Children encounter AI in most online places, including games, streaming platforms, and school tools. Explain that AI uses patterns from past data to make decisions, but it doesn't think or feel like humans. Use age-appropriate examples, like how recommendations on YouTube or Netflix work, to build understanding and prevent false beliefs about AI being all-knowing or alive.

2 TALK ABOUT RISKS OF MISINFORMATION

AI can create convincing false information, including deepfake videos, photos, and fake 'facts'. Encourage children to think critically about what they see and read. Teach them to double-check information using reliable sources, to look at images and videos carefully, and to ask an adult if something doesn't seem right.

3 DISCUSS DATA AND PRIVACY

Explain that AI systems learn by analysing lots of data, sometimes including personal information. Help young people to be mindful of what they share online and why protecting personal data matters. Model good habits like reading app permissions together or reviewing what's collected by voice assistants like Alexa or Siri.

4 ENCOURAGE CREATIVE USE OF AI

Support children, when using AI tools, to explore ideas, make art, or build projects. This fosters confidence, imagination, and independent thinking. When children use AI creatively, rather than just passively consuming it, they are more likely to stay engaged and make thoughtful choices.

5 USE AGE-APPROPRIATE AI TOOLS

Not all AI platforms are suitable for children. Choose tools designed for education or creativity, with clear safety policies. Review terms of use and privacy settings, and help children use them in age-appropriate ways. For example, some chatbot tools mimic conversation but should only be used with guidance and boundaries in place.

6 USE AI TOGETHER

Exploring AI tools together can help adults understand how they work and spot potential issues. Try co-writing a story with an AI writing assistant or experimenting with an AI art tool. This encourages curiosity, helps you stay informed about the latest AI tools, and allows you to reinforce safe and respectful use while modelling critical thinking.

7 SET BOUNDARIES FOR AI USE

Establish when, where, and how AI tools can be used, just as you would with any digital technology. For example, you might agree not to use AI tools to complete school assignments without permission, or to avoid unsupervised use of voice assistants. Consistent boundaries help manage overuse and misuse.

8 WATCH FOR OVERRELIANCE

Some AI tools, like homework help apps, may be tempting shortcuts. Encourage children to use AI to support their thinking, not replace it. Celebrate effort and process over perfect answers. Reinforce that mistakes are part of learning and that relying too heavily on AI can limit real understanding.

9 TEACH DIGITAL ETHICS AND LITERACY

Help children explore how AI works, where it might be biased, and why ethical thinking matters. Building digital literacy alongside ethical awareness ensures children engage with AI critically, not just conveniently. Help young people to understand that not all people use AI for legitimate purposes; some use it for malicious reasons. Encourage questions about fairness, representation, and who benefits from certain tools; talk about algorithms, echo chambers, and the impact of automation on daily life.

10 STAY CURIOUS AND INVOLVED

AI is developing rapidly, and staying informed helps you support the young people in your care. Follow trusted sources for updates and keep the conversation going. If a child brings up a new AI trend or tool, take the opportunity to learn about it together. Showing interest builds trust and strengthens digital resilience.

Meet Our Expert

Home to the world's largest CPD library for educators, The National College has transformed the way education establishments go about developing their workforces and managing compliance. Our three memberships help all phases and types of setting raise standards, save time, reduce risk, and build a culture of improvement.

#WakeUpWednesday®

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