

# Beech Green News

Thursday 19th September

# School News





1 - New Knowledge and Making it Stick!

Learning is the process of acquiring new knowledge, skills, or understanding through experience, study, or teaching. It leads to changes in behaviour, thoughts, or abilities.

Through July and over the summer, the teachers worked to create a clearer and more challenging curriculum for all subjects. As well as White Rose Maths, we have also introduced a fluency programme called Number Sense for Years 1 to 6.

We considered how to make sure the new mixed classes (Year 3 and 4 and Year 1 and 2) provided a differentiated approach. Some of this is a new to us: although we can already see some positive impact, we have also identified what needs to change. Everyone at Beech Green wants to ensure the children learn new skills, acquire knowledge and demonstrate their understanding.

# How do you know what your child is learning this term?

This week, you should receive curriculum overview; a paper copy to go on the fridge and via ParentMail. In the next few days, you will also find more detail on the website <a href="https://www.beechgreenprimary.co.uk">https://www.beechgreenprimary.co.uk</a> on the Year Group Pages. I have asked the teachers to send you this link again.

# How do we know they've learned it?

Alongside the curriculum, we have introduced low stakes quizzes (LSQs). These short tests will mean we can quickly work out what your child has learned and then reteach to a group, revisit that learning or make sure it is included in the retrieval practice the following week, month and term

# What do we need to do and how you might help

As well as planning lessons that both challenge and support learning, we know we need to communicate with you. Please let us know if you have not received the curriculum plans or can't find the information on the website., or if you want something explained.

Parents' Evenings are on 8th and 9th October; we have planned to share as much academic information with you as possible in ten minutes! We want to listen: please bear in mind that teachers are busier in the mornings. If you know you'll need more than a few minutes, please make an appointment. It is important that you talk to the year group adults first; you will find contact details for your child's teacher here <a href="https://www.beechgreenprimary.co.uk/staff">https://www.beechgreenprimary.co.uk/staff</a>

# **Homework and Reading**

From this week, homework is being sent out electronically and as a paper copy in a homework book. Children will need to show they've completed this as well as read to an adult every week. Please tell us if it is not working for you and your family.

# **OPAL Outdoor Play and Learning**



We aim to make lunchtimes creative, fun and active. OPAL hopefully provides the opportunity for children to explore the outdoor environment and develop personal qualities. Play is essential for children's development. It goes beyond just having fun—play is how children learn about themselves, others, and the world around them. It can be a natural stress reliever for children; it helps them process emotions, release energy, and cope with stress or anxiety.

Play helps children develop essential cognitive skills like thinking, problem-solving, and decision-making. It allows children to express themselves, develop social skills, and understand their emotions. Interacting with peers during play helps children learn to take the lead, make choices, and develop strategies to control their actions.

Active play is vital for building motor skills and promoting physical health and is a natural setting for children to develop their language and communication skills.

Three times a year we invite parents to come to school to experience opal play with their children. This gives children the opportunity to show parents which activities they choose to do in their breaktimes, new skills they have learnt and how they interact with their peers. **The next Opal stay and play session in on Tuesday 22nd October, 2.30 - 3.00.** 

You may not know that we also provide an indoor space called The Regulation Station. Miss White has developed a safe space for children to play and talk.

The weekly OPAL assembly is used to remind children about RISK: Responsible, Imaginative, Safe and Kind. They can earn points from being considerate to others and helping to tidy up. The site can get messy with all the resources and mud! So we'd like your help to do more. On Monday 7th October we'd like as many families as possible to stay for a Tea and Tidy Up. This link

https://forms.office.com/e/be6v2dYsWf will take you to a very short survey so that you can sign up to help and tell us what you'd like to help with. Tea, coffee, cake etc will be available and you can bring as many people in your family as possible.



### Ms Griffin

We are thrilled to announce that Ms Griffin and husband Carter are expecting their first child in February! We will let you know that arrangements for Willow class nearer the time.





# **Gloucester City Council's Poster Competition**

Before the summer break, a number of children entered Gloucester City Council's anti-littering poster competition. Following a noticeable increase in the amount of litter in Gloucester's parks and open spaces as well as on our streets, the council wanted to engage with children aged 5 to 11 at school in Gloucester, to help them tackle the problem. They wanted to put signs up reminding people not to litter, but needed a design.

We are pleased to announced that Julia's entry was chosen as the winner in the 7 to 11 year old's category! The judges loved the design and the thought that had gone into this entry. They particularly loved the theme 'operation recycle!'. The poster will now be made into signs and displayed around the city!

Also, a high commended was awarded to the wonderful entry from Ella (also Y5.) Both girls are set to receive their prizes shortly.

### **Tesco Stronger Starts**

A reminder that you are still able to vote for our school in the Tesco Stronger Starts scheme until the end of September. The blue tokens are available at the till points, and can be dropped into the collection box near the exit. We are collecting tokens in the hope that we will be able to improve the opal play equipment.

We are hoping to achieve the highest number of votes across our region as we could receive up to £1,500. Our collection will feature in 15 Tesco stores around the city, so please ask friends and family to also support our worthy cause!

#### Music Lessons at Beech Green

Learning about music and having the opportunity to play musical instruments is a vital part of a rich and rounded education.

It has also been proven that music plays a key role in brain development. This is because it helps with the nurturing of language, motor skills, emotional intelligence and collaboration skills.

At Beech Green, we want all children to be able to access opportunities to engage in music, one way in which we do this is to work with peripatetic teachers and music organisations to bring lessons to school. Currently we have a piano and violin teacher, Rachel Clarkson, a drum teacher, Phil Jones, the team from Rock steady and guitar and ukulele lessons starting shortly with Link learning. These lessons are bookable directly with the teachers, contact details listed below. If you have concerns about funding, please contact our business manager, Amy Bancroft, sbm@beechgreen,gloucs.sch.uk, to see if we can offer any assistance.

Violin and piano: Rachel Clarkson <a href="mailto:rclarkson.violin@gmail.com">rclarkson.violin@gmail.com</a>

Phil Jones, Inspire Drums: phil@inspiredrums.com





# **Book Amnesty**

Please can everyone look to see if you have any school issued, levelled reading books lurking around at home? We are completely out of some levels and to replace them will cost a lot of money.

# **Play Team Vacancy**

We have a vacancy for someone to join our lunchtime Play Team. If you are interested in this term time only position and would like more details, then please contact: Amy Bancroft sbm@beechgreen.gloucs.sch.uk or phone 01452 722363, option 5.

# **Parent Governor Vacancy**

We have an exciting opportunity for two parents to join our Governing body, please see attached Parent Governor Election form.

Parent Governors play a vital role in shaping the future of our school, helping to ensure that we provide the best possible education and support for all our children. By joining the governing body, you can make a real difference, offering your insight, ideas, and feedback to help guide our strategic decisions.

# Why become a Parent Governor?

- Make an impact: Your voice will represent the wider parent community, ensuring the needs and views of all parents are considered in key decisions.
- **Support the school**: Work closely with the headteacher, staff, and fellow governors to help shape policies, improve student outcomes, and support school improvement.

- Develop new skills: You will gain valuable experience in areas such as governance, leadership, budgeting, and policy-making, which may also benefit your personal and professional development.
- **Be part of a team**: As a governor, you'll collaborate with a diverse group of people committed to making our school the best it can be.

#### What's involved?

The role of a Parent Governor is a voluntary one, requiring attendance at termly meetings which are held on Tuesday evenings in the school premises and are around two hours long. There will also be a requirement to be involved in committees or working groups these will be additional meetings. Visits into school on a regular basis are expected and reports of these visits will need to be completed. However, all Governors are provided with support and training, and no prior experience is necessary—just a willingness to contribute, learn, and work in the best interests of the school.

If you are passionate about making a positive contribution to our school and would like to know more, please don't hesitate to get in touch. You can also find further details about the role and nomination process by contacting <a href="mailto:clerk@beechgreen.gloucs.sch.uk">clerk@beechgreen.gloucs.sch.uk</a> or <a href="mailto:chair@beechgreen.gloucs.sch.uk">chair@beechgreen.gloucs.sch.uk</a> or if you would like to have a chat with Mrs Julie Poulson or Helen Parkinson about the voluntary role then please email; head@beechgreen.gloucs.sch.uk

We warmly encourage you to consider applying and becoming part of a team that plays a crucial role in supporting our school's growth and success.

Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to hearing from you.

Time Out for Parents: Children with Additional Needs Course.

Treasure Seekers are running a course for parents of any child with an additional need. this course offers support if;

- · You are struggling to understand or manage your child's behaviour, or
- · Your child has developmental challenges, or
- · Your child becomes overwhelmed by their emotions, or
- · You're feeling isolated because of your child's needs, or
- · Traditional parenting methods are just not working well for your family,

Absolutely no official 'diagnosis' is necessary, you don't even have to know what might be causing your child to need extra help.

Through the course we encourage a willingness to explore ideas and find out what works for you and your family. We recognise that all children are individuals and no-one knows your child better than you.

The course offers practical, jargon-free advice and practical steps to engage and build relationships with your children with additional needs. The course is also a great opportunity to build relationships with other parents.

There are seven sessions, including:

- 1. Parenting Children with Additional Needs
- 2. Self-Esteem
- 3. Coping with Your Feelings
- 4. Understanding Behaviour
- 5. Managing Behaviour
- 6. Home and School Issues
- 7. The Wider Family

The course begins on **Monday 14th October 2024, 10am- 12noon**, in person at Treasure Seekers, 52 Westgate Street, Gloucester, GL1 2NF.

There are 7 sessions on consecutive Mondays (There will be no session on Monday 28th October during the school break). The final session is on Monday 2nd December 2024.

The cost is £35 total

# Parents can book a place on the course using the link below:

https://kftseekers.community/civicrm/event/info/?reset=1&id=8

# **Beech Green Community Fund**

# What is the Beech Green Community Fund?

With the help of voluntary contributions, we hope to do all we can to off-set the financial pressures that schools and families are facing at the moment. It's our ambition to be able to give our children an equal opportunity to participate in all experiences Beech Green can offer, whether that be accessing equipment, taking part in extra-curricular activities or making a positive change to the school environment.

### How can we become a supporter?

You can make a donation via your parentpay account under the item, "Beech Green Community Fund." We understand family circumstances differ, so are keen to create a culture of giving at a level that suits each individual. We value each and every donation, even £1 a month will make a difference. You can make a one-off donation when you can, or have the ability to set up a direct debit if you wish. We will keep you informed, via our fortnightly newsletter, of how the money raised by supporters is helping the school and it's community.

Thank you!

# **Sports News**



### **Football**

On Thursday 12th September the boys football team took part in the first competitive fixtures of the new school year. With a mixture of experience some having played last year and some having not played for school before we turned up to Kingsway School with hope for a good season.

Our first game was against Field Court School and we put in a resounding 3-0 victory. Goals coming from Hadley, William and Aiden. Our second game was much tougher coming up against Hardwick School however we battled well and came away with a solid 0-0 draw, despite possibly playing the best football. This left us needing just a point to qualify from our final game against our hosts for the evening. Again we were the better side but couldn't manage to get the ball in the net despite having some very good chances. The game finished 0-0 meaning we qualified for the next round and did so without conceding a goal all evening!

The next round of the tournament is today (19.9.24) and we head to Upton St Leonards to face them along side Longlevens Junior School and Heron School.

# **Community News**





# Supporting a Child with ADHD



Challenge the stereotypes and get practical help
Tuesday 24th Sept (7pm to 9pm) £24
Available to book now
facefamilyadvice.co.uk









# Sir Thomas Rich's School – Open Day and Evening 26 September

Our next open day and evening takes place on Thursday 26 September – online registration is open at <a href="https://www.strschool.co.uk/admissions/opendays">www.strschool.co.uk/admissions/opendays</a>.

Prospective Year 7 pupils and their families are warmly invited to find out more about life and study at Sir Thomas Rich's and take a tour of the school. Welcome talks, followed by a guided tour of the school, take place at 9.30am, 12pm, 6pm and 7pm.

# Contact details:

www.strschool.co.uk / info@strs.org.uk / tel 01452 338400

Sir Thomas Rich's School, Oakleaze, Gloucester GL2 OLF







# Dates this Term

https://www.beechgreenprimary.co.uk/calendar-dates

# Contact Us

Beech Green Primary

St James

Quedgeley

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# https://beechgreenprimary.co.uk/

Email addresses for Wildwood After School Club and extra-curricular clubs wildwoods@beechgreen.gloucs.sch.uk