



NEWSLETTER

WELCOME

23 January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to the parents who have filled in the parent survey. We are very keen to work with you to support your children. We really want to hear about what you think we are doing well and where we can make improvements. If you haven't filled it in then please click on this link <https://edurio.com/poll/eSijFu>

Last year we were recognised for listening to parental feedback. It would be amazing for us to gain this award again.

We are currently having a big focus in school on the foundations of learning. We want you to work with us to encourage your children to hold their pencil correctly and form their letters and numbers correctly, practise their spellings and times table and to read every day at home.

Please take some time to practise these things with your children. There is some advice about how to do this later on in the newsletter.

Have a good weekend.
Mrs Jackson

TRUST FOOTBALL - BFS v CTS

This week the school football team had their first fixture. Despite losing to a very strong Cherry Tree team, there were lots of positives to take from the match - the highlight being an outstanding player of the match performance from Roman. He won every tackle and never stopped running for his team, well done Roman! The team will look to get a more positive result in their next fixture!

Mr Jarvis.

POLITE REMINDER - SCOOTERS

Scoters and bikes must not be ridden on school site, particularly down the slope towards the Woodland Path exit. There have been a few near misses and we want everyone to keep themselves and others safe from harm. Thank you for your co-operation.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

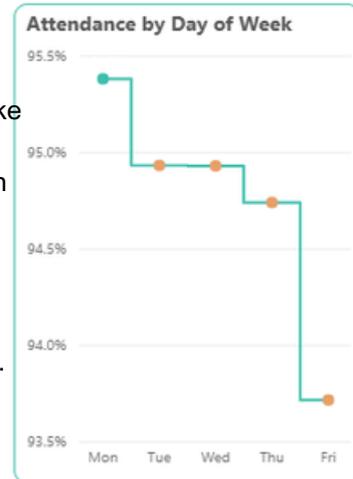
26th January: Reception Parents Workshop/Reading Stay & Play 3-3.25pm
2nd February: Reception Parents Workshop/Maths Stay and Play 3-3.25pm
4th February: Book Look 3.00-3.25pm
10th February: Parents Evening - in person 3.30-6pm
11th February: E-safety Day
12th February: Parents Evening - online 3.30-5.30pm
13th February: Non Uniform Day
16th - 20th February: Half Term
w/c 16th March: Y5 +Y6 Bikeability Course
17th March: Y2 Florence Nightingale and Mary Seole Workshop
27th March: End of Term at 1.30pm

Full term dates for 2025-26 and 2026-27 can be found on the school website.

<https://www.beechfield.herts.sch.uk/termdates>

ATTENDANCE GRAPH

We are very pleased with the improvement in our overall attendance. However, school would like to draw your attention to the lack on attendance on Fridays. There is a significant decline in attendance towards the end of the week. School does monitor for patterns. Please ensure that your child is on time and in school every day. If you need any help or support then please talk to Mrs Carvalho.



HSCA AWARD

We are very pleased to have been awarded The Herts Shining Communication Award. The HSCA is a tool for schools to help improve the universal support for children with communication needs.





BREAD MAKING IN Y4

Year 4 took part in an engaging bread-making workshop organised by Aspens in the school dining hall. The children learned about the ingredients used to make bread and the steps involved in the baking process, from mixing and kneading, to shaping the dough. They carefully made their own bread, which was then baked, and the children took their bread home to share with their families. It was an enjoyable, hands-on experience that linked well to learning about food and nutrition.



E-SAFETY

Constant use of screens is changing how pupils behave in school. The Thrive Approach shows that this affects attention, emotional control and resilience, and that the issue is not just screen time itself, but what children miss out on because of it. Play and real-life interaction are still essential for healthy emotional development, even as children grow older. These experiences help children manage their feelings, relationships and focus. When children miss out on these foundations early on, schools often see the effects in behaviour and wellbeing. Read more about this in the article here: <https://www.thriveapproach.com/news/screens-and-constant-connectivity-understanding-behaviour-in-schools>.

CREATIVE WRITERS!

We have some very creative students in our school and would love to share these two poems written by Ariadne in Y4 and Mark in Y3.

Kindness by Ariadne

Kindness is key when it comes to friends.
Kindness is key when you want to help.
Kindness is key when you say please.
Kindness is key when you are in need.
Kindness is key when you want a turn.
Kindness is key in everything you do and everything you need.

Wish (a dream) by Mark

Clasp in your hand,
The amazing, golden trophy
Left in your garden,
As a sign to start training every day.
Practice the drills
That you learnt from your idol.
Find your new luxurious football boots
And some silver shimmering shinpads.
Find the back of the net,
Using the skills you've completed.
Now gather the team together,
With the positive spirit to win.
And DREAM.

SEND NEWS

Please see the DSPL9 January newsletter that is being sent out with this newsletter which has lots of information and course details in.



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GENERAL WAYS FOR PARENTS TO SUPPORT THEIR CHILD'S LEARNING AT HOME

- Talk with your child and listen with genuine interest to promote good communication skills and an understanding of vocabulary.
- Ask them questions and show your willingness to learn (where, when, who, why, what).
- Ask them what their day has been like.
- Read to/with your child regardless of their age and encourage them to talk about what they have read and what the words mean. Discussing books is important.
- Work together to develop a love of learning.

SPELLINGS

Children will have weekly spellings to learn. Home learning tasks for spelling will be set on Purple Mash. Teachers will check these have been completed. Daily practise and repetition will help the children to learn them. Strategies you can use at home to support with learning spellings are:

- practise writing them
- write them in 'rainbow writing' using a different colour for each letter
- use bubble writing
- write the syllables in different colours
- write the vowels in a different colour
- practise typing them in different fonts
- write them in sand, rice, flour
- use a paint brush and water

TIMES TABLES

Daily practice of times tables will help embed them in the memory. This will reduce the working memory load when applying them in Maths lessons.

Year 1: counting in 2s, 5s and 10s

Year 2: 2, 3, 4, 5, 10

Year 3: 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8

Year 4: all times tables up to 12 x 12

Year 5: all times tables

Year 6: all times tables

READING

We expect ALL children regardless of their age/Key Stage to read daily. It doesn't have to be a book, it could be a comic, magazine, newspaper, recipe, subtitles on the television, appropriate signs and captions in the street.

All children from Reception onwards should read and share books at home every day and record this in their reading record. Children in Early Years and Key Stage 1 may also have specific words to practise related to the phonics they are working on. Parents can help their children at home by using these strategies:

- sounding out the word
- looking at the pictures to help with reading an unknown word
- looking for words within words
- finding 'special friends' e.g. sh, ea, ay
- discussing the book to check that the child has understood what has been read
- fostering a love of reading.

Key Stage 2 children should be reading for at least 20 minutes each day, either to themselves if they are a proficient reader, or to an adult. The children are responsible for filling in their reading record every day and making sure it is in school. Parents can help their children at home by using these strategies:

- talking about the story, the characters and any new vocabulary (even if they read alone)
- discussing why the author chose to use specific words
- identifying what the author is suggesting even though it may not be written literally
- encouraging children to read all types of texts including non-fiction
- fostering a love of reading.