



NEWSLETTER

WELCOME

06 February 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

We would like to say a big welcome back to Mrs Saunders who has returned from maternity leave. She will be working in Peach class on Thursday and Fridays.

We are looking forward to seeing you all next week at the Parent Consultations. On Tuesday 10th February the consultations will be held in the school hall from 3:30-6:00pm. On Thursday they will be online. Teachers will be talking with you about how you can support your child's learning at home. If your child is working below age related expectations please ensure that you are confident that you know what they need to work on and how you can help them.

We hope that you enjoyed looking at your children's books on Thursday after school in your child's classroom and can see the progress that they are making. You will have noticed that we are having a big push on letter formation, handwriting joins and spelling in all year groups. In Maths we have been focusing on the basics and giving the children lots of chances to practise and over learn important concepts.

We really do appreciate your support with hearing your children read daily at home and signing the reading records. The children being heard to read regularly at home by an adult are making very good progress. If you have a reluctant reader then you can always read to them. Hearing stories and learning new vocabulary is very important.

Have a good weekend.
Mrs Jackson

LETTER FROM THE EDUCATION MINISTER

We were very pleased to receive a letter from the Minister for Education, Bridget Phillipson, congratulating our school for the excellent outcomes that our disadvantaged pupils achieved at the end of the academic year 24/25. This reflects the dedication of our staff and the hard work of our pupils.

The full letter can be found on our Instagram page.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- 9th February: Reception Stay and Play 3pm - 3.25pm and EYFS Book sale (dining hall)
- 10th February: Parents Consultation Meetings for N, R, Y1, Y2, Oak class, Y4, Y5, Y6 - in person 3.30-6pm
- 11th February: E-safety Day
- 11th February: Nursery Parents Consultation Meetings Online 12.30-2.30pm.
- 12th February: Parents Consultation Meetings for N, R, Y1, Y2, Oak class, Y4, Maple class and Y6 - online 3.30-5.30pm. Elder class 3.30pm to 4.30pm only.
- 13th February: Non Uniform Day
- 16th - 20th February: Half Term
- 23rd February: Y4 Parents Times tables Workshop 3.15-3.45pm
- 24th February: Ash class Parents Consultation Meetings in person 3.30-6pm
- 26th February: Ash class Parents Consultation meetings online 3.30pm to 6pm and Elder class from 3.30pm to 5pm.
- 10th March: Y6 parents: secondary school support with Lisa Sillitoe: 9am to 11am.
- w/c 16th March: Y5 +Y6 Bikeability Course
- 17th March: Y2 Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole 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

Thank you for your ongoing support with improving our whole school attendance. Today our attendance has been 97.1%. It is very important that our attendance stays as high as possible. The children with regular attendance are doing better academically, socially and emotionally in school. If your child's attendance is below 90% they are classed as persistently absent from school. We do not want any of our pupils to be persistently absent. If you need any support with improving your child's attendance then please feel free to contact Mrs Carvalho.



MOCK SATS COMPLETED!

Year 6 were really happy after successfully completing their mock SATS. They are now using Willow Learn to discover more about the roles of women in WW2.



PEER MEDIATORS

We want to say a big thank you and well done to our children who are being Peer Mediators at lunchtime. They are doing a super job solving issues on the playground. They are showing great maturity and leadership skills. Well done to:

Yara, Marc, Nitha
Zain, Elijah, Molly
Aamina, Oscar, Droshum
Victoria, Joel, Ayaana
Ted, Lala, Sena, Irina

E-SAFETY - DIGITAL CITIZENS

Our whole school assembly on Monday was about digital citizenship. We talked about being safe and kind on and off line. Please ensure that you know what your children are accessing on line and keep an eye on their messages. Talk to your children and see if they can tell you ways to stay safe online. We also talked about being aware that things online may be altered or untrue. Our Headteacher Prefects, Maya, Alice and Hrishi are doing brilliantly leading our assemblies - we are very proud of their leadership and oracy skills.

SEND NEWS

Please see the latest DSPL9 newsletter that is being sent out with this newsletter.

VISIT BY VEOLIA

We loved our assembly on recycling by Veolia this week. It really got us all thinking about how small actions can make a big difference.



BAGS OF TASTE

Bags of Taste is a non-profit organisation committed to helping people gain control over their food choices, health, and budgets. They run courses across England targeting individuals who are struggling with their health or food bills. These may include:

- Young people
- Families and single parents
- Pensioners and socially isolated individuals
- People over-reliant on ready meals or fast food
- Those managing medical conditions or mental health challenges

Please see the attached flyer for more information should you be interested.

PARENT GOVERNOR VACANCY

We currently have a vacancy for a parent governor. If you are interested, please look on our website - Our School/Governance and read the Governor Recruitment Pack for more information or email: head@beechfield.herts.sch.uk



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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.