



Newsletter Issue no.7 - 12th January 2024



@beecholme



@BeecholmeSchool

Head of School Update

Dear Parents/Carers,

It is wonderful to see you all back as we start 2024. I have thoroughly enjoyed greeting you all on the gate this week and hearing about the wonderful things you got up to over the Christmas holidays. I went away to a beautiful house in Lincolnshire and had a very relaxing time with lots of long walks and too many chocolates of course! Thank you to those children and families who gave myself and the staff gifts before the end of term. It was very kind of you and greatly appreciated by all.



As we start the Spring term, we realise how short it is and how much we need to cram in before another half term. This term we will be holding parent workshops and information meetings about our upcoming trip to PGL, the statutory assessments in May for year 6 as well as the times table check for year 4 - just a few to mention. We will also be holding our very first family movie night which we are excited to host - more information will be coming soon. If you have any suggestions for the school in order to work with our wider community, then please feel free to let me know!

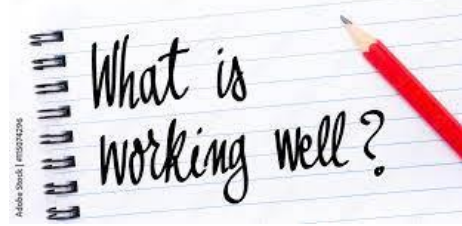
Over the next few months Beecholme will be taking part in a trial that is being conducted by the London University in conjunction with Place2Be. The trial is based on the behaviours of children in schools across London and how this can affect mental health in conjunction with educational outcomes and attainment. We are extremely excited as this trial will not only offer the school invaluable CPD but it also means we get a copy of the published programme to use with your children which is fantastic!

I want to take this opportunity to say thank you to those who completed the recent parent questionnaire. I didn't receive as many responses as I had hoped, so, next time please do take a couple of minutes to complete as it is your chance to have your say and have a voice. Below are some of the outcomes of the questionnaire:

What's going well at Beecholme?

- Children feel happy and safe at school
- Positive changes in the way the children are being taught
- Teachers are approachable
- Offer of additional trips - including a residential

- Good sporting opportunities
- A wonderful learning environment
- Community feel
- Small school which makes it more of a community school



What you said you would like to change and what we did or are planning to do.

<u>What you said</u>	<u>What we did</u>
Toilets are not clean	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Toilets are all cleaned regularly • Flooring in the toilets have been replaced • The toilets have been painted to make them more accessible and inviting • Toilets will be fitted with systems to freshen the air • Some toilets and basins have been replaced
More teachers on the playground to support behaviour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An updated behaviour policy has been created and shared • A clear behaviour system is in place throughout the school • Behaviour continued to be monitored and supported to ensure it remains a positive part of Beecholme • More staff have been recruited meaning there are more members of staff on the playground to support and engage the children
More helpers at Beecholme Primary School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We already have a number of volunteer readers supporting the school • The school welcomes work experience • If anyone would like to support the school and volunteer their help, then please do come and see me
Improve communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fortnightly newsletters • Seesaw • Updated information on the website • Use of social media • Consistent communication via ParentMail

Finally, I would like to warmly welcome Kristy Lassiter and Hannah Piper to the Beecholme family team. They have both joined us as learning support assistants and have settled in really well.

Have a wonderful weekend,

Mrs Hayley Lewis

September Reception Places 2024

The deadline for Reception 2024 places is **January 15th 2024**. Please ensure you apply for your Reception place if your child is due to start school this September.

Curriculum Update

We have started the new term with an exciting whole-school project based on the book 'In our Hands' by Lucy Farfort. It focuses on what we, as individuals, can do to make our world and brighter and more positive place. There has been lots of creative writing and art going on this week and you'll soon be able to see some of this on our new hall displays.



Don't forget we have Food Technology week coming up on 15th and the whole school will be taking part in designing, making and tasting some nutritious food products. Take the time to get your children involved in cooking at home and sharing key skills with you. Remember to bring in £1 so that we are able to provide ingredients for your child.

Look out for the new curriculum maps on Seesaw, detailing what your children will be learning over the coming term and how you can support at home.

Attendance at Beecholme

At Beecholme we strive for the best education for all the children and to ensure this is happening, we need to ensure the children are in school EVERYDAY - unless there are situations like being unwell meaning they can't come to school.



I am sure you have all identified the current drive for attendance, including our whole school attendance letter and attendance letters for those dropping below 96% which is our whole school target. We will continue to do this and to monitor the children's attendance too ensure we are in line with or above national averages. If you have any questions or concerns about your child's attendance, then please do speak to someone at school about it.

Please support us, to support YOUR children in having the education they deserve.

To promote attendance, I will be sharing the attendance figures with you each week. We will share the attendance figures for each class and share which class have won our Beecholme Bears - Bobby and Polly, and in addition which children will receive extra playtime for their good attendance in school. If you could share this with your children, as we do in assembly time, to promote each classes attendance this will be most helpful.

Week beginning 9/1/24

Reception - 93%

Year 1 - 97%

Year 2 - 99%

Year 3 - 97%

Year 4 - 96%

Year 5 - 98%

Year 6 - 92%



And the winner with the best attendance this week is: Year 2

Open Days



Although we do not have any planned open days for the Spring term, we welcome prospective parents to tour the school to find out more about Beecholme. Please recommend our wonderful school to your family and friends and tell them to ring the school office or pop in for a school brochure.

Parents Evening Information

Spring Term parents evening will take place between 3.00 and 7.00pm on Thursday 8th February for all pupils. Parents of children who attend morning nursery sessions will also have some earlier

afternoon slots available to them. A reminder will go out via ParentMail on 29th January and sign-up sheets will go up outside classrooms on 1st February.

It is vital that you attend to discuss your child's progress. If you are unable to attend, please speak to your child's class teacher to arrange an alternative appointment during the week of 5th February.

SEN/Safeguarding

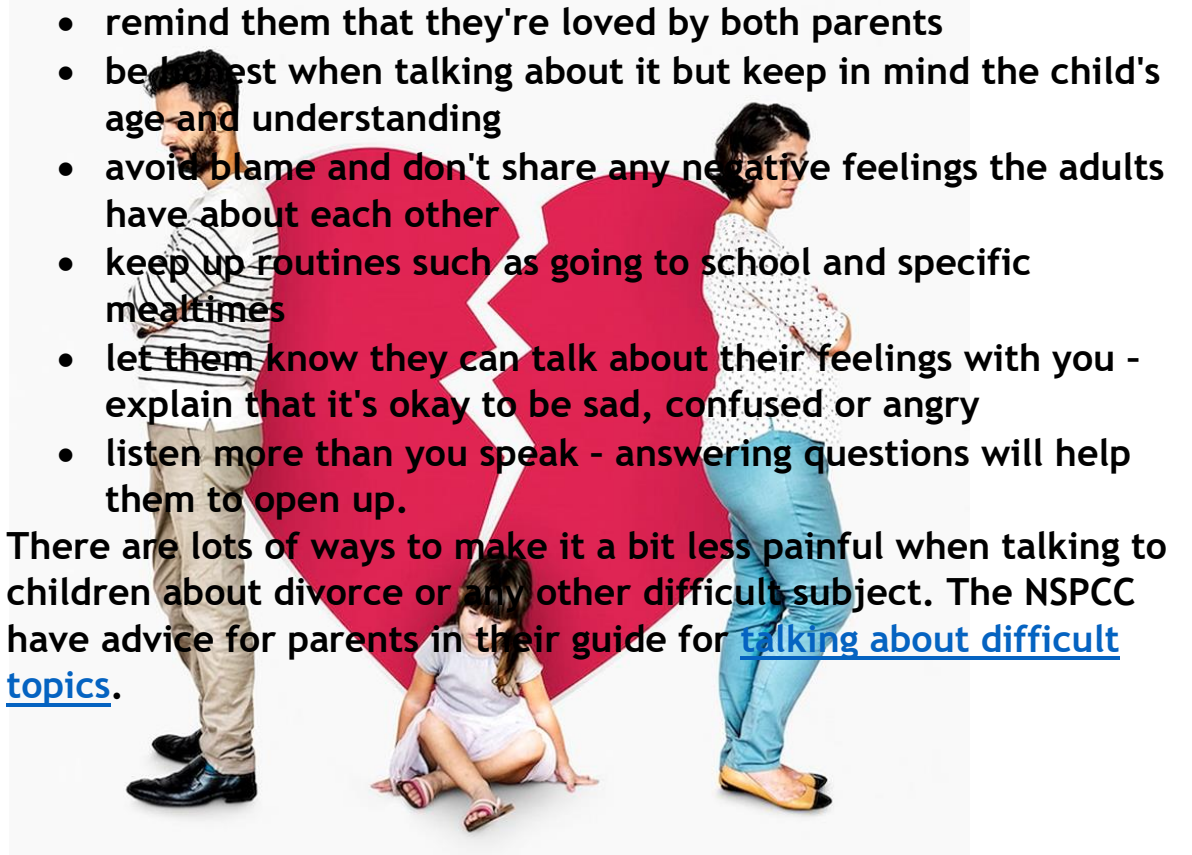
How to help children deal with divorce or separation

Separation may involve bad feelings between the parents and their families. Children can pick up on this, which may make them confused or unhappy - or even blame themselves for a break-up.

To support children during a separation and help them with their worries, you should:

- remind them that they're loved by both parents
- be honest when talking about it but keep in mind the child's age and understanding
- avoid blame and don't share any negative feelings the adults have about each other
- keep up routines such as going to school and specific mealtimes
- let them know they can talk about their feelings with you - explain that it's okay to be sad, confused or angry
- listen more than you speak - answering questions will help them to open up.

There are lots of ways to make it a bit less painful when talking to children about divorce or any other difficult subject. The NSPCC have advice for parents in their guide for [talking about difficult topics](#).



Important Dates for the new term



Monday 15 th January	Deadline for application for Reception places Food technology week
Friday 19 th January	Year 3,4 and 5 rescheduled visit to see the panto at Wimbledon Library
Friday 2 nd February	Parents evening sheets to go up
Monday 5 th February	Children's Mental Health Week
Tuesday 6 th February	Safer Internet Day
Thursday 8 th February	Parents Evening
Monday 12 th - Friday 16 th February	Half term holiday
Monday 19 th February	Back to school