



Newsletter Issue no.9 - 1st March 2024



@beecholme



@BeecholmeSchool

Head of School Update

Dear Parents/Carers,



We are in our second week of another busy half term. We had a very special visit from our CEO Zoe Harris this week who walked the school and was able to see some of the innovating learning happening. She was particularly impressed with decorating that had been completed in our early years provision making the area even more inviting for the children. We are excited to announce that we will also be decorating the Nursery room too, we have already discussed with the children what colour they may like. Next week we will also be opening our doors to our governing body who will be coming to Beecholme to work with and have lunch with the children.

Whilst I am on the topic of making Beecholme a wonderful learning environment, I would like to send a special thanks to one of our Friends of Beecholme (one of our parents) who has worked exceptionally hard this year to help maintain the grounds and keep them looking fresh and tidy. We are excited to already see some of the plants blooming ready for the sun. Can I ask that you kindly remind your children to not climb on or in the planters and watch as they walk around the school to avoid treading on any of the new plants. Thank you very much!

This week, Miss Ellington in the office, has sent out an email to all parents who previously showed an interest in joining our Friends of Beecholme group. Please note, it is not too late. If you would like to support the school in fundraising and the drive to make us an outstanding school, then please do pop into the school office and let us know.

As always, thank you for the support with the uniform. If you are not sure what your children should or shouldn't be wearing to school, then please check our website. A polite reminder that trainers and leggings should not be worn. Can I also ask parents to avoid colourful or patterned tights, these should be grey or black only. In addition, can all children please bring a book bag or rucksack to school.

On Thursday, we are super excited about hosting our Beecholme World Book Day. We look forward to seeing and showcasing the children's costumes. Please remember we

are not expecting parents to do anything unnecessary for this day. Watch out on our social media for photos of our door displays that will be created!

We have finally received confirmation that Beecholme will be a polling station this year and therefore this will be the school's additional INSET day. School will be closed on this day - Thursday 2nd May.

Have a wonderful weekend,

Mrs Hayley Lewis

Curriculum Update - History

This week the children of Beecholme started exploring their first History unit of the year. There's been some exciting things happening in each class from drama to making clay structures.



Year 1 have been looking at homes, castles and huts.

Year 2 have completed some fantastic drama based on their new topic 'The Great Fire of London'.

Year 3 went outside to complete a survival activity linked to the Stone Age.

Year 4 investigated pyramids and created some fantastic clay models of some of the main types that the Ancient Egyptians built.

Year 5 started looking at the 'Ancient Greeks'. On Thursday, the children researched different buildings and on Friday created their own Ancient Greek columns based on their research.

Year 6 have looked at artefacts from The Shang Dynasty to find out about this ancient civilisation.

Open Days



After popular demand we have added another date for an open morning, please tell your family and friends. On Wednesday 20th March we will be holding an open morning at 9.30am. We look forward to seeing you all there.

SEND

How can I help my child with handwriting?

Talk to your child's teacher about their handwriting policy so that you are practising writing letters in the same way.

Explore some of the activities below which provide some of the building blocks for developing good handwriting skills and try to have fun.

Hand strengthening exercises:

Play with playdough - rolling, squeezing and pinching.

Use tweezers or tongs to transfer small objects such as smarties, or Lego cubes from one plate to another.

Squeeze out sponges or flannels in the bath.

Build with small construction toys.

Pop bubble wrap.

Cooking and baking activities which involve squeezing, kneading, beating, whisking, chopping etc.

Cutting with scissors.

Try forming letters in a sand/rice tray. Put a small layer of sand/rice in a small tray or box. Let your child use their finger or a pencil/stick/paintbrush to practise forming the letter shapes.

Encourage drawing and colouring activities, including following mazes and tracing.

Practise handwriting patterns.

Check out the list of Apps to support handwriting on the [National Handwriting Association website](#).

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 to 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 23/02/2024

Nursery - 92%

Reception - 88%

Year 1 - 98%

Year 2 - 95%

Year 3 - 96%

Year 4 - 98%

Year 5 - 99%

Year 6 - 97%



And the winner with the best attendance this week is: Year 5 with 100% WOW. Well done!



Important Dates for the new term



Thursday 7 th March	World Book Day
Friday 15 th March	Whole school author visit
Monday 18 th March	Keeping Safe Week
Thursday 28 th March	Last Day of Term 1:45pm finish
Friday 29 th March - Friday 12 th April	Easter holiday
Monday 15 th April	Back to school
Monday 15 th April	Year 4 swimming begins
Monday 29 th April	Year 4 PGL trip
Thursday 2nd May	Polling Day (school closed)