



Beeches Green Pages

YEAR 6 ISOLATION

Thank you to all our Year 6 children and families for your hard work during the bubble closure. We have been extremely impressed by the children's willingness to work and the quality of the work they have been producing. We are also very grateful for your support and the helpful communications the staff team have had with you. While the working at home has been a success, we are very pleased that the period of self-isolation is nearly over, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back on Tuesday 1st December.

READING FOR PLEASURE

On the back of this newsletter there is a guidance leaflet, published by @MisterBodd on Twitter, giving advice on supporting your child to develop a love of reading. Reading really is integral to most things your child will want to do in life, so please support them to get into great habits with reading and, above all, enjoy it!

NUT-FREE SCHOOL

Due to the number of children with nut allergies at school, we are considering becoming a nut-free school. This would mean that children and staff are not permitted to bring any nut products into school. This would mean, for example, no nuts, nut-based cereal bars or chocolate bars and no peanut butter. Cakes and sweets brought in for birthdays would need to be nut-free. We are aware that many products state on the packaging: "May contain traces of nuts." The plan is that those items can still be brought in. We'd like to know your views on this, so if you have an opinion you'd like to share, please email: consultation@beechesjnr.bham.sch.uk by Friday 4th December. Thank you for your support.

RSE QUESTIONNAIRE

A last call for you to give your views on RSE at our school. A letter was sent home last week, which includes a link to a questionnaire we are asking you to fill in. The letter and questionnaire are available on our website - please do have a look and let us know your thoughts. The questionnaire is here: <https://tinyurl.com/yyyylc23> This questionnaire will close on Wednesday 2nd December.

MR. ALI'S QUOTE OF THE WEEK

We have a bank of lots of quotes of the week that we've found on the Internet, but we would like more from our school community - children, parents, staff. What does reading mean to you? What would you say to someone to help them develop a love of reading? Please send quotes to Mr. Ali: s.ali@beechesjnr.bham.sch.uk
"26 letters + 1 pen + a lot of imagination = ANYTHING YOUR MIND CAN DREAM OF." Mr. Ali

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CHRISTMAS DINNER

Our Christmas Dinner is taking place on Tuesday 15th December, and this is available to book on School Grid. This is open to all children, including those that normally bring a packed lunch. If you have no access to School Grid, please contact the office staff who will be happy to help you.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS

A last call on about Christmas gifts. We know that for some families, this has been a very difficult year financially, and you may be worried about giving your children the Christmas you would like to give them. If you are in the position where you would like a little help for your family this Christmas, in the form of some anonymously donated presents, or if you are in a position to donate presents and would like to do so, please contact Mrs. Liddington on 0121 272 5888 or email c.liddington@beechesjnr.bham.sch.uk by **Friday 4th December at the latest**. This information will be completely anonymous. No-one will know, other than a small number of members of staff.

IT CAPACITY AT HOME

Please let us know your IT capacity at home in the event of further closure by **Wednesday 2nd December**. If we know your situation, we can better tailor the work to you. The questionnaire is here: <https://tinyurl.com/y5yofkup>

DIARY DATES

Tue 15 Dec	<i>Christmas Dinner</i>
Fri 18 Dec	<i>Last day of term</i>
Mon 4 Jan 2021	<i>Teacher Day—School closed</i>
Tue 5 Jan	<i>School reopens</i>

THIS WEEK'S TEAM POINTS

1	Team Malala (Yellow)	517
2	Team Lewis (Blue)	473
3	Team Cadbury (Red)	450
4	Team Zephaniah (Green)	390

THIS WEEK'S ACT OF KINDNESS AWARD

Kieran (4CP)

BEECHES BRILLIANT READERS

Year 3: Kobi (3W) Year 5: Renesmee (5S)
Year 4: Tanvi (4CP)
We'll have extra winners in Year 6 when they return to school.

BEECHES BRILLIANT WRITERS

Last week's winner: Jaskirat (3P)
This week's title: A Strange Tradition

ATTENDANCE

Whole School This Week: 67.4%
This Year So Far: 88.8%

PUPIL OF THE WEEK

3L: Yaashvi	4CP: Jessica	6IS: Lewi
3P: Eli	4KP: Maisie	6KA: Clark
3W: Olivia W	5L: Robbie	6LA: Adam
4AP: Lola	5M: Ben	6SA: Maymunah
	5S: Harjas	

Promoting Reading for Pleasure at home



@MisterBodd

Introduction

There is strong evidence linking reading for pleasure and educational outcomes but the benefits of reading for pleasure go beyond this and stretch throughout a person's life. Reading increases our understanding of our own identity, improves empathy and gives us an insight into the world view of others.

We have put this poster together to help you promote reading for pleasure at home.

Reading Role Models

We need to make sure that the children see us reading. Many children see their parent on their phone and just assume that they are playing a game as that is what they would use the phone for. Not understanding that we may be reading. Similarly with kindles, children may think it is just a tablet.

The more they see the adults around them read, the more they will consider doing it themselves. Show them that it is fun!



Bedtime Stories

Due to time restraints, many families miss out on bedtime stories but the benefits are huge! Reading to your child for just 10 minutes a day/night can improve their vocabulary, encourage them to read independently and can also improve parent/child relationships. This is not just a KS1 issue. Older children love a bedtime story too (even if they won't always admit it!)

Bedtime stories can be whatever you and your child want to read together!(Extra tip – Do the voices! You can have a good giggle together at your brilliant/miserable attempts at doing various accents...)

If you don't feel confident reading aloud there is always the CBeebies bedtime story, but do this as a family activity rather than the children on their own, then you can talk about the story together afterwards.



Book Talk

Sometimes, children will just want to sit and listen to a book because they are so engrossed in the story. This is completely fine, there is no need to quiz them after every chapter that you read.



But sometimes informal book talk can be a fantastic way to discuss what has been read. Picture books lend themselves well to informal book talk because children want to explore and discuss the pictures, which often tell us so much more than the words.

- **Make links/connections** Do the characters/settings remind you of anyone/anywhere? Have you been in a similar situation? Have you learnt about this from TV/School?
- **Make predictions** Can you guess what the story is about? What will happen next?
- **Discuss/introduce vocabulary** If there is a tricky word, can you explain what it means?
- **Discuss emotions** How does the story make you feel? Some children find it hard to articulate their feelings, so if it is modelled for them by adults it can help them understand their own feelings.

Allow Their Choices

We need to allow children to read what they want to (within reason). Some children may find comfort in re-reading a book. There is nothing wrong with this at all. As adults we re-watch films many times and notice new things with each viewing, the same applies with books.

Comics, graphic novels and audiobooks are all valid reading materials and shouldn't be looked down upon. The same goes for the popular authors like Walliams and Kinney (Diary of a Wimpy Kid).

Imagine that books are like food... Comfort reads are not nutritional but we still love them (just in moderation). Harder richer texts are delicious, but too many can make us feel a little overwhelmed and needing of something easier occasionally.

If you do feel that your child is 'stuck' on a particular author or genre and you need book recommendations, speak to your child's class teacher or check out these reading tube maps that may help. <https://tinyurl.com/reading-tubemap>

