

BEECHES GREEN PAGES

Issue 1

9th September 2021

WELCOME BACK!

We are delighted to welcome you back to Beeches Junior School for a new school year and, to those of you joining us for the first time, an especially warm welcome! We hope you've had a happy and healthy summer and are raring to go, as we are. It has been lovely catching up with all the children this week and starting to get to know our Year 3 children. Everyone has settled superbly and we've had a great week. We are hopeful that we will have a much more settled year, although we do need to be prepared to put Covid restrictions back in place if necessary. For the time being, however, it is lovely to have parents and carers back on the site and to be able to interact with you and work with you properly. We can't promise that the sun will always shine as it has this week, and we can't promise that we will always get everything right, but we do promise to do our very best to give your child the best possible experience at our school. Working together with you is the best possible way, so please do look out for opportunities to get involved and be part of your child's Beeches journey!

TEACHER DAY

Tomorrow (10th September) is a Teacher Day and school will be closed to children. The staff will be learning about a new handwriting approach that we believe will be of benefit to the children. Enjoy the long weekend!

FRIDAYS

Aside from tomorrow, we are back to full Fridays - we will be open for the full day. Of course, if the Covid situation deteriorates, we may have to consider this measure coming back... but we hope not. Children should be in school for five full days a week and we are delighted to be able to provide that again. Thank you for your co-operation during our Friday afternoon closures.

SCHOOL OFFICE HOURS

The school office is open from 8.15am until 4.00pm Monday to Friday during term time. Outside those hours, our phones are disabled and you will not be able to get through. You can send emails out of hours but there is no guarantee they will be looked at until the next working day.

SPECIAL NEEDS IN BIRMINGHAM

A conference is being held on Wednesday 15th September and you are invited. This is an opportunity to help shape the future of Special Needs provision in Birmingham and to give your views from a parent's perspective. Details of this and a survey you can complete are here:

<https://www.beechesjnr.bham.sch.uk/about-us/special-educational-needs-and-disability>

OPERATION ENCOMPASS

Birmingham City Council Education Safeguarding Team and West Midlands Police have been working in collaboration with Birmingham Children's Trust to launch Operation Encompass across all schools in the Birmingham Local Authority next week, ourselves included. It is a new initiative to ensure professionals are working together to support any child affected by domestic incidents at home.

With the help of these organisations, we will endeavour to ensure we are supporting our children's emotional wellbeing. We are sending a letter today with more details. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to email Mrs. Liddington:

c.liddington@beechesjnr.bham.sch.uk

ATTENDANCE

We are also sending an important letter regarding school attendance. It is a legal obligation for all children to be in school unless they are too poorly to attend. The letter outlines this information and highlights how we can work together to ensure all children are provided with the education they are entitled to. If you have any concerns regarding this letter or your child's ability to attend school, please contact Mrs. Liddington.

STAFF NEWS

Mrs. Frances and her wife are adopting a little girl! We are delighted for them, but it does mean we will be without Mrs. Frances for most of this year as she takes leave. We wish the family all the very best at this exciting time.

TERMLY INFORMATION SHEETS

On the back of this newsletter you will find some information particularly relevant to your child's year group. This includes key dates, PE days, information about homework, curriculum information and contact details for your child's teacher. If you have any questions or concerns, it is usually most appropriate to contact your child's teacher in the first instance. It is usually difficult for teachers to meet with you at the start or end of the school day, but if you would like to chat about anything, we will be happy to arrange a time. Please email your child's teacher or contact the school office if you would like to arrange to have a chat.

DIARY DATES

Fri 10 Sept	<i>Teacher Day - School Closed</i>
Tue 21 Sept	<i>Professor McGinty visiting Year 4</i>
Thu 7 Oct	<i>Professor McGinty visiting Year 5</i>
Tue 19 Oct & Wed 20 Oct	<i>Parents' Evenings</i>
Mon 25 Oct - Fri 29 Oct	<i>Half Term - School Closed</i>
Mon 8 Nov	<i>Year 5 Diwali assembly</i>
Tue 9 Nov	<i>Photographer in school</i>

BEECHES BRILLIANT READERS

Beeches Brilliant Readers will return next week - make sure you read at least five times a week and note it on your bookmark.

TEAM POINTS THIS WEEK

1	Team Malala (Yellow)	438
2	Team Zephaniah (Green)	423
3	Team Cadbury (Red)	419
4	Team Lewis (Blue)	342

PUPIL OF THE WEEK

3AL: Ethan	4AP: Max	5CL: Leisha	6IS: Dylan
3AP: Kaben	4KP: Cassius	5CS: Mason	6KA: Riley
3SP: Kacper	4RW: Yugjit	5SM: Kieran	6LA: Dhaval

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 Birmingham Website: www.beechesjnr.bham.sch.uk
 B42 2PY Follow us on Twitter: @BeechesJnr

All our newsletters can be seen in colour on our website.



The Year 3 staff would like to welcome you all to the start of this academic year and we hope you all had a good summer. Here at Beeches Junior School, we will do everything we can to ensure your child has a positive and successful year and we look forward to working with you as your child strives to achieve their full potential.

Staff Team - Teachers & e-mail addresses			
3AP: Mr. Ali (Year Group Leader)	<i>s.ali@beechesjnr.bham.sch.uk</i>		Teaching Assistants
Mrs. Pereira (Year Group Leader)	<i>h.pereira@beechesjnr.bham.sch.uk</i>		Mrs. Grant
3AL: Miss Lawley	<i>a.lawley@beechesjnr.bham.sch.uk</i>		Mrs. Wall
3SP: Mr. Price	<i>s.price@beechesjnr.bham.sch.uk</i>		
Timings - Our doors open at 8.45am and children must be in by 8.55am . School finishes at 3.20pm.		Snacks - Please send your child to school each day with a healthy snack for morning break.	
P.E. days this term - The whole year group will have outside PE on a Monday and indoor PE on a Tuesday. On PE days (but not swimming days), children can wear their PE kit to school but must wear their school jumper/cardigan over the top. Please ensure your child has suitable clothing for indoor and outdoor activities. If the weather is dry we will be outside even if it is a bit cold, so tracksuits & sweat tops are appropriate. Jewellery must not be worn for P.E. and if children are wearing earrings, they must be able to remove these by themselves. If your child does bring in any earrings or watches, this is at your own risk.			Key Dates 19th & 20th October Parents' Evenings TBC Topic based experience
Homework - The main things that we ask are your child has an opportunity to read with someone every day , learn their weekly spellings and they continue to learn the times tables . The children enjoy our home reading scheme and we ask for your support by ensuring that books are well looked after and that your child's reading book and bookmark come to school every day. Please make a note on the bookmark each time your child reads. The children will be given a homework task every Thursday and this is due back the following Tuesday. This is non-compulsory, but we strongly encourage your child to complete the task.		Concerns - Do you have any concerns about your child? Usually, the best person to speak to in the first instance is the class teacher. If your child is falling behind in their learning or having a specific difficulty, you may wish to speak to Mr. Ellis, our Inclusion Leader. If your child is experiencing emotional difficulties or friendship issues, or if you are experiencing any problems as a family, our Learning Mentor team of Mrs. Liddington and Mrs. Frances are here to help. Please contact the school office if you would like to arrange a meeting.	
Curriculum Overview - Here is a summary of the main learning your child will be doing this term:			
English - This term, we will be focusing on developing an understanding of various types of writing genres. Writing learning journeys will be based as much as possible on our topic of the Stone Age. We will cover a range of writing skills including the use of adjectives, conjunctions, a range of punctuation and appropriate vocabulary choices.		Computing - Pupils will be learning how to use animation software to create time-lapse videos and PowerPoint to present information.	
Maths - A range of topics, focusing this term on a secure understanding of place value and the four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division). We will also be learning about different types of measure and how to calculate with money. As mentioned above, there will be a big focus on rapid recall of times tables and corresponding division facts. Children are expected to learn these for a weekly test to take place every Thursday.		P.E. – In Outdoor PE, pupils will be learning a range of athletic skills in order to implement these in invasion games. In Indoor PE, we will be covering gymnastics and dance.	
Science - Our topic in Science this term is 'Let it Shine' where we will be learning about light and shadows. We will also learn how to conduct tests and how to ensure these are fair.		Topic (inc. Geography and History) – In History, we will be learning about changes in Britain from the time of the Stone Age to the Iron Age. Our Geography study will revolve around map work and being able to locate continents, countries and cities. We will also be looking at different human and natural features within landscapes.	
P.S.H.E. – In PSHE, we will be learning about ourselves and aiming to develop an understanding of who we are as individuals, what drives us and how to express ourselves in positive ways.		R.E. – We will be learning about Hinduism where there will be a focus on the celebration of Diwali.	Music – In Music, we will be learning about how songs are composed using beats and rhythms.
Art – Our learning in Art will be based on charcoal drawings with a link to Stone Age cave drawings. We will also be learning about the artist Joel Daniel Phillips.	Design & Technology – We will be learning how to make simple structures and how to carefully select appropriate materials to do so.		German – Pupils will be learning simple words such as numbers, colours, days of the week and greeting phrases.



All of the staff in the year group would like to give you a warm welcome to Year 4 and we hope you had a lovely summer. We are delighted to have the children back with us and look forward to a very productive year. Even though they are in the same corridor, many of the children have already made the step up to Year 4 expectations and we couldn't be prouder. If you have any queries at all, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Staff Team		
<u>Teachers & e-mail addresses</u>		<u>Teaching Assistants</u>
4RW:	Mr Wheatley (Year Group Leader)	<i>r.wheatley@beechesjnr.bham.sch.uk</i>
4AP:	Miss Parsons	<i>a.parsons@beechesjnr.bham.sch.uk</i>
4KP:	Miss Parmar	<i>k.parmar@beechesjnr.bham.sch.uk</i>
Timings		Snacks
Our doors open at 8.45am and children must be in by 8.55am . School finishes at 3.20pm.		Please send your child to school each day with a healthy snack for morning break.
P.E. days this term		Key Dates
The whole year group will be swimming on a Tuesday and doing outdoor PE on a Friday. On PE days (but not swimming days), children can wear their PE kit to school but must wear their school jumper/cardigan over the top. Please ensure your child has suitable clothing for indoor and outdoor activities. If the weather is dry we will be outside even if it is a bit cold, so tracksuits & sweat tops are appropriate. Jewellery must not be worn for P.E. and if children are wearing earrings, they must be able to remove these by themselves. If your child does bring in any earrings or watches, this is at your own risk.		21st September A visit from Professor McGinty
		TBC Christmas Show
Homework		Concerns
The main things that we ask are your child has an opportunity to read with someone every day , learn their weekly spellings and they continue to learn the times tables .		Do you have any concerns about your child? Usually the best person to speak to in the first instance is the class teacher. If your child is falling behind in their learning or having a specific difficulty, you may wish to speak to Mr. Ellis, our Inclusion Leader. If your child is experiencing emotional difficulties or friendship issues, or if you are experiencing any problems as a family, our Learning Mentor team of Mrs. Liddington and Mrs. Frances are here to help. Please contact the school office if you would like to arrange a meeting.
The children enjoy our home reading scheme and we ask for your support by ensuring that books are well looked after and that your child’s reading book and bookmark come to school every day. Please make a note on the bookmark each time your child reads.		
The children will be given a homework task every Thursday and this is due back the following Tuesday. This is non-compulsory, but we strongly encourage your child to complete the task.		
Curriculum Overview - Here is a summary of the main learning your child will be doing this term:		
English		Computing
Covering a range of writing skills including subordinate clauses, tenses, noun phrases and fronted adverbials. Some of the learning journeys are: The Proudest Blue – Writing a diary entry , Catch A Lot – Descriptive writing, How to Brush Your Teeth – Writing an instruction text		Desktop Publishing – Creating a Roman Information Sheet Video editing – Creating a news report ‘live’ from a volcano.
Maths – We will study a range of topics, focusing this term on: time, place value, addition, subtraction, division and multiplication. As mentioned above, there will be a big focus on rapid recall of times tables and corresponding division facts. Children are expected to learn these for a weekly test every Thursday.		P.E. – Our children are very excited to be going swimming this term and we will also be building on individual and teamwork skills in Football.
Science – Children will be learning about “Terrific Teeth” & “What a State!” (solids, liquids and gases) including the contributions of scientists Earl Renfroe and Katsuko Saruhashi.		Topic (inc. Geography and History) - We will study the Ancient Roman civilisation and its impact on Britain.
P.S.H.E. – We will be learning to appreciate ourselves and other in our units: Being me in my world & celebrating differences.	Music - Using percussion instruments to compose and create.	R.E. – Focusing on Buddhism, with the key question: Is it possible for everyone to be happy?
Art - Our art, this term, will be painting with watercolours studying the work of Inkquisitive.	Design & Technology Designing and building Roman chariots.	German – We will be building on our vocabulary including greetings and German place names.



The Year 5 staff would like to welcome you all to the start of Year 5 and we hope you all had a good summer. Here at Beeches Junior School we will do everything we can to ensure your child has a positive and successful year and we look forward to working with you as your child strives to achieve their full potential.

Staff Team <u>Teachers & e-mail addresses</u> 5CS: Mrs. Strickland <i>m.strickland@beechesjnr.bham.sch.uk</i> Mrs Colling (Year Group Leader) <i>c.colling@beechesjnr.bham.sch.uk</i> 5SM: Mr. Milner <i>s.milner@beechesjnr.bham.sch.uk</i> 5CL: Mr Lancaster <i>c.lancaster@beechesjnr.bham.sch.uk</i> Miss Weston: <i>j.weston@beeches.jnr.bham.sch.uk</i> <u>Teaching Assistants</u> Mrs. Goddard Miss Silvera		
P.E. days this term 5CS: Outdoor - Monday. Indoor - Tuesday 5SM: Outdoor - Monday. Indoor - Thursday 5CL: Outdoor - Monday. Indoor - Tuesday P.E. days this term On PE days, children can wear their PE kit to school but must wear their school jumper/cardigan over the top. Please ensure your child has suitable clothing for indoor and outdoor activities. If the weather is dry we will be outside even if it is a bit cold, so tracksuits & sweat tops are appropriate. Jewellery must not be worn for P.E. and if children are wearing earrings, they must be able to remove these by themselves. If your child does bring in any earrings or watches, this is at your own risk.	Key Dates Professor McGinty: Thursday 7 th October Parents' Evenings: Tues 19 th /Wed 20 th October Diwali Assembly: Monday 8 th November School photographer: Tuesday 9 th November Timings Our doors open at 8.45am and children must be in by 8.55am . School finishes at 3.20pm. Snacks Please send your child to school each day with a healthy snack for morning break.	
Homework The main things that we ask are your child has an opportunity to read with someone every day , learn their weekly spellings and they continue to learn the times tables . The children are very excited about the home reading scheme in school and we ask for your support by ensuring that books are well looked after and that your child's reading book and bookmark come to school every day. The children will be given a homework task on a weekly basis which will normally be due back the following Tuesday.	Concerns Do you have any concerns about your child? Usually the best person to speak to in the first instance is the class teacher. If your child is falling behind in their learning or having a specific difficulty, you may wish to speak to Mr. Ellis, our Inclusion Leader. If your child is experiencing emotional difficulties or friendship issues, or if you are experiencing any problems as a family, our Learning Mentor team of Mrs. Liddington and Mrs. Frances are here to help. Please contact the school office if you would like to arrange a meeting.	
Curriculum Overview Here is a summary of the main learning your child will be doing this term:		
English Greek myths – understanding the features of a myth and writing their own Non-fiction writing	Computing Making videos to re-tell Ancient Greek Myths.	
Maths A range of topics, focusing this term on: place value, number bonds and times tables knowledge at speed including related division facts.	P.E. Outdoor – Netball Indoor - Athletics	
Science 'Marvellous Materials' – Finding out about the properties of materials and their uses.	Topic (inc. Geography and History) A Greek Odyssey – finding out about Greece and Ancient Greece	
P.S.H.E. 'Being Me'	R.E. Sikhism (Belief into action.)	Music Folk Music
Art Sketching and Painting (Exploring water colours/patterns)	Design & Technology It is Art this half term.	German Conversation and numbers up to 10



The Year 6 team would like to welcome parents and children back to what (hopefully) will be a 'normal' year. We are all thrilled with the start the children have made so far and look forward to facing together the challenges that this year brings.

As we all know, Year 6 brings added pressure for the children because of transition to secondary schools, SATs, grammar tests etc. Ultimately, we want our children to succeed and be the best that they can be. Together, we endeavour to build on their emotional intelligence and independence to ensure that they reach their full potential. This year, like any other, parental support is vital and we look forward to working closely with you.

The deadline for selecting your child's secondary school is **31st October** and this should be completed online via the Birmingham City Council website. If you have any issues completing the form, please contact the school office. To avoid disappointment, it is advised that you use all six of your selections; otherwise the Local Authority may choose a school for you if your child is unsuccessful in gaining a placement at your preferred choice. If you are hoping to gain a placement at a grammar school and your child is going to complete the grammar tests, the information may differ so it is advised that you read the instructions from the website carefully to ensure you do not miss the deadlines. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch about any concerns you may have.

Teachers & e-mail addresses

6KA: Miss Abraham (Year Group Leader)	k.abraham@beechesjnr.bham.sch.uk	<u>Teaching Assistants</u>
6LA: Mrs Ambris	l.ambris@beechesjnr.bham.sch.uk	Miss Bayliss
6IS: Mr. Smith	l.smith@beechesjnr.bham.sch.uk	Mrs. Cartmell
6KD: Mrs. Doherty (morning groups)	k.doherty@beechesjnr.bham.sch.uk	

P.E. & Games days this term Wednesday and Friday will be our P.E days which will alternate between indoor and outdoor.	Please ensure your child has suitable clothing for outdoor activities. If the weather is dry we will usually be outside, even if it is a bit cold, so tracksuits are appropriate. Jewellery must not be worn for P.E. and if children are wearing earrings, they must be able to remove these by themselves.
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Homework To prepare your child for secondary school and ensure a smooth transition, homework is strongly encouraged in Year 6 . This is an important year and continuous provision at home is a powerful tool that can accelerate your child's progress. We will be sending home Maths and Reading boosters weekly on Thursday to be returned on Tuesday to go through as a class. In addition to this, the children are expected to read five times a week for 20 minutes to be entered into Beeches Brilliant reader. The date and comment about what they have read should be recorded on their bookmark and will be checked and signed by their teacher. A homework club on Tuesday lunchtime will enable children to complete homework that was not completed at home. Thank you in advance for your support! <i>'As long as teachers and parents work together as allies, the sky is the limit for our children.'</i>	Concerns Do you have any concerns about your child? Usually the best person to speak to in the first instance is the class teacher. If your child is falling behind in their learning or having a specific difficulty, you may wish to speak to Mr. Ellis, our Inclusion Leader. If your child is experiencing emotional difficulties or friendship issues, or if you are experiencing any problems as a family, our Learning Mentor team of Mrs. Liddington and Miss Frances are here to help.
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Curriculum Overview Here is a summary of the main learning your child will be doing this term:

English Throughout the Autumn term, we will be completing several exciting learning journeys including links to our topics.		Computing Digital Literacy/Desktop publishing: creating a brochure	
Maths There will be a heavy focus on arithmetic including: place value, four operations, fractions, decimals and measurement.		P.E. Gym/dance and invasion games	
Science Light and how we see		Topic (inc. Geography and History) World War Two	
P.S.H.E. Being me	Art Sketching and creating backgrounds	R.E. - How does a Muslim show commitment to God? - Do Christmas celebrations and traditions help Christians understand who Jesus was and why He was born?	Music Composing repetitive patterns
Design & Technology Air raid shelters		German Developing understanding basic words and phrases	