

BEECHWOOD SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Whole School Notices

**THURSDAY
7th NOVEMBER
18:00 - 20:00**

**Tickets available now
£10 each includes
hotdog, burger or
vegetarian options**

<https://www.trybooking.com/uk/DYXU>

**BEECHWOOD
FIREWORKS NIGHT 2024**

[Click here to Link for
Fireworks Tickets!](#)

**BPAC
NEWS**

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Community is at the heart of everything we do. Events such as Fireworks Night, the Christmas Fair, and Beechwood Day not only bring us together but also reflect the vibrant and supportive community we are proud to be. In that same spirit of involvement and contribution, I am sharing the link for volunteers to help with Fireworks Night. We appreciate your support!

<https://volunteersignup.org/4AWQC>

Prep School News!

Dear Parents,

It's hard to believe we've already reached the six-week mark since the start of the school year! As we settle into the term, I'm delighted to share that we've seen exceptional focus, phenomenal artwork and a huge number of sports matches taking place. Well done, Prep pupils – you've been brilliant!

Thank you to all families who contributed to the Harvest Festival collection for Nourish this past week. I don't know yet about any totals but will feedback as soon as I get a tally. I appreciate we've had quite a few community events of late but they have all been a tremendous success. Friday we were in full rainbow stride. This was an initiative from the catering staff. They decorated the lunch room, made rainbow-inspired food and the children had an absolute blast! Thank you to all involved in making life at Beechwood fun!

Typically, we would send out an interim report around this time, but Mrs. Bowles and I have decided to take a slightly different approach this term. Instead, we will hold a Parents' Evening on 9th December (sign-up via Parentmail to follow after half-term), followed by reports. We believe that providing interim reports just six weeks in, ahead of the November assessment week, might not give a true reflection of each pupil's current progress. By holding Parents' Evening with a more robust approach, we can include test results and targets, and give you the opportunity to review your child's books. This will offer a clearer view of how they're being stretched and supported.

A huge thank you to BPAC for their generous support in providing two robots for the Prep school to compete in the First Lego League competition in February, as well as new tablets for use across the Prep school. The team is already hard at work building, and they'll soon begin coding their robots. I hope to share a few updates on their progress after the half-term break.

We're excited to continue building on this positive momentum and look forward to making the rest of the term as enriching and rewarding as possible for all pupils. Enjoy the rest!



Preschool: Music and Art



This week Pre-School have been working hard on their physical development. The children played outside, learned Ballet and Tennis and had their regular football and PE lessons. All this great physical activity is in line with the studies carried out by Arnold Gesell the child development theorist who is known for his work on physical development. Gesell's theory of physical development is based on the idea that growth occurs in cycles, with each cycle taking about six stages, or half a year. He observed many children and created age-norms for physical development, which we use in Pre-School to understand, support and promote every child's physical development.

Well done Pre-School for working so hard and we hope your children have slept well this week!



Space Week in Reception

This week, our Reception class had an out-of-this-world time celebrating Space Week! The children dived into the wonders of the solar system, exploring fascinating facts about planets and stars. They even blasted off to the moon using a fantastic rocket they crafted together in the outdoor area. There was plenty of excitement as they investigated magnets, making space objects fly through the air, which sparked their curiosity further. To top it all off, they counted various space objects, enhancing their numeracy skills while having a blast. What a stellar week for our little astronauts!



Mellow Yellow

The children in Reception and Year One listened to the story *Silly Billy* by Anthony Browne. It is a lovely story about a boy who worries about many things, from small worries like shoes and hats to bigger ones like staying at his Grandma's. His Grandma gives him a worry doll, a traditional Guatemalan charm. The idea is that you tell the doll your worries and place it under your pillow, allowing the doll to worry for you while you sleep peacefully. The children enjoyed making their own little worry dolls.



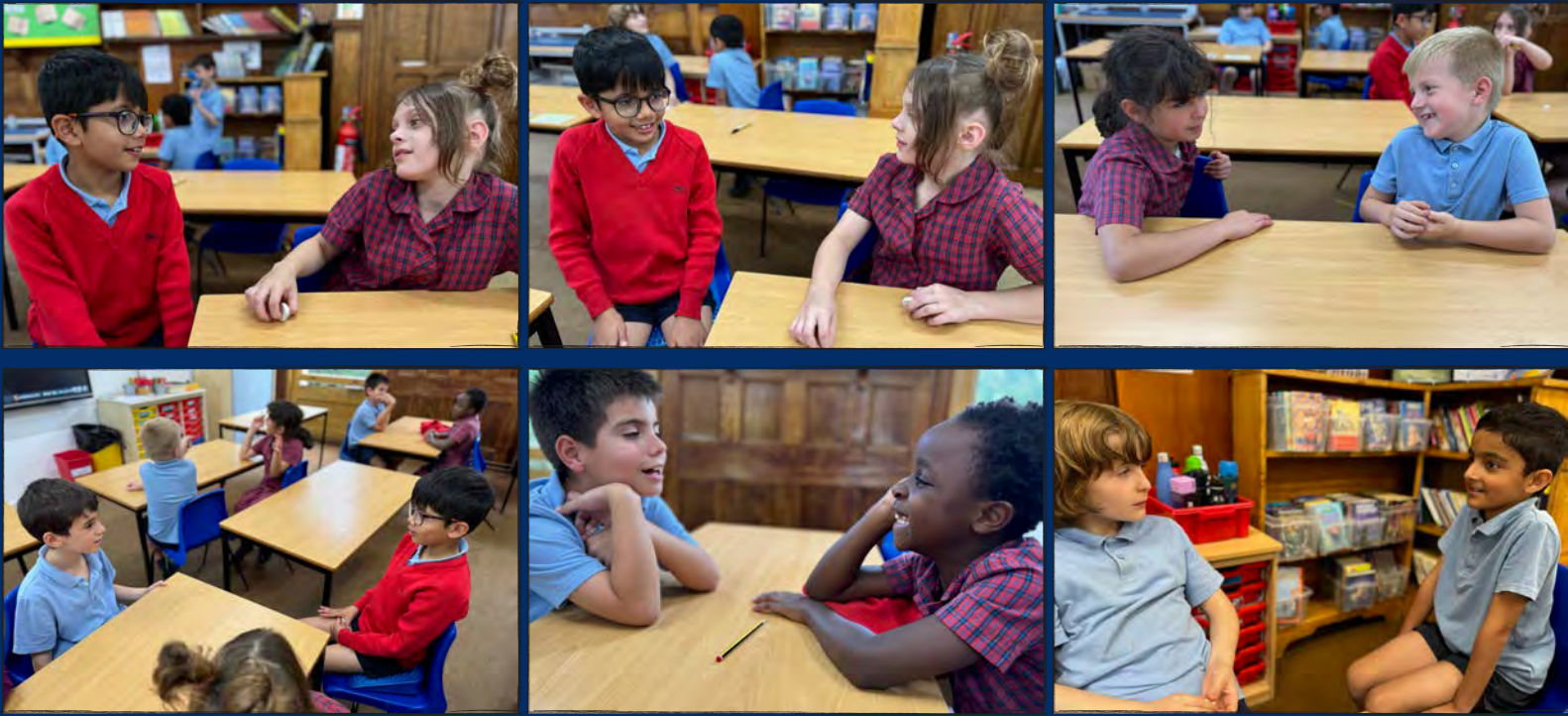
Drama For All

This week, to celebrate Space Week, an alien visitor from Saturn landed in Reception, Year 1, and Year 2, whisking the children away on an unforgettable galactic adventure! They soared through the stars, exploring the wonders of the universe in a thrilling drama session. The children were captivated from start to finish, their imaginations sparked by the incredible journey, all thanks to the amazing Drama 4 All team!



Year Three: Thoughtful Communication in PSHE

This week in PHSE Year Three, we learned about effective communication and how to be good listeners. The children had fun practising their active listening skills with each other. An essential skill, Year Three!



Year Three Art

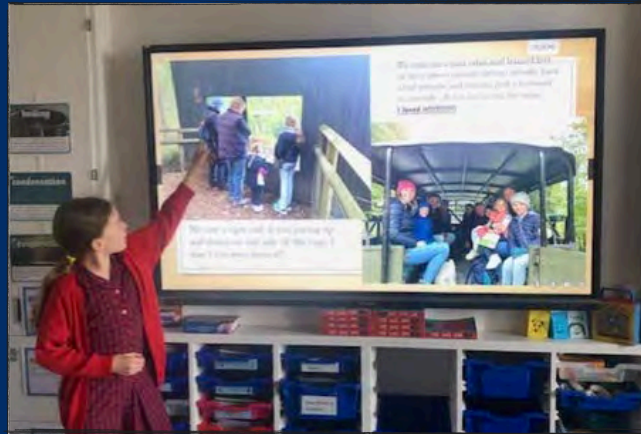
Year Three pupils have been learning to mix paint with a limited colour palette, ranging from light to dark tones. This formed the background to their latest prehistoric project: a mixed-media picture of Stonehenge.





Year Five Speaking Publicly

Bella was keen to share memories of her exciting experience at the zoo last weekend, so she used her initiative to independently generate a vibrant and informative PowerPoint to show her classmates. Harnessing her skills of public speaking, Bella spoke confidently about each of the animals she had encountered as well as answering questions that arose. Super job, Bella!



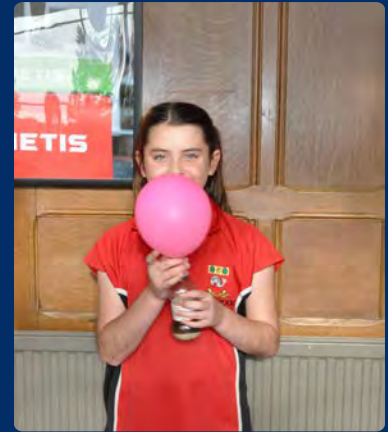
Year Five Science

Year Five has been focusing on devising and recording experiments this week. Working collaboratively, the pupils had to devise a fair test to separate various materials using evaporation, filtering, sieving and magnetism.



Year Five Science Last Week

In science year 5 have been looking at reversible and irreversible changes. On Wednesday 16th October we conducted an experiment using a balloon, vinegar and bicarbonate of soda. The children were thrilled when the chemical reaction inflated their balloons. We learnt that the chemical reaction used the original materials to create a new one – carbon dioxide. This is the product that caused the balloons to inflate. It was very exciting, and the children were sad to see their balloons go into the bin.



Beechwood Prep Week in Sports

U10/11 Hockey v St Ronan's

U11 Lost 2-0

U10A Drew 2-2

U10B Lost 4-0

On Wednesday, the girls travelled to St Ronan's; they knew this was going to be a hard match. The U10's played first using half the pitch, making it wide and slightly shorter, therefore the focus was playing the diagonal ball and once in the circle going for goal. The U10's were on attacking form, from the whistle, with Manaka performing exceptionally well in midfield continually playing the ball wide and changing direction of play. They had many shots at goal and were putting pressure on the defence; their persistence paid off with a goal from Angelina. Almost straight away Liv made a great run down the wing into the circle scoring from an incredibly tight angle to make it 2-0. Sienna and Jess were solid in defence but St Ronan's managed to sneak one in. With just seconds until the final whistle, St Ronan's managed to get one back to make it 2-2.

Star Player: Manaka

The U10B's tried hard but were just unable to get the ball in the back of the net. Morwenna had a great game confidently taking the ball forward and making some great crosses into the circle whilst Yana and Reya tackled hard in defence. However, St Ronan's had the upper hand because they were moving their feet when stopping the ball ready to make the quick pass. We were too slow at this hence being tackled and losing the ball giving them back possession. However, as a team they showed resilience and determination.

Star Player: Bella & Morwenna

The U11's knew this was going to be a tough match as it was St Ronan's A team. With success comes failure and we learn more from our losses than we do wins. You must take the good with the bad. This was one of those days. The girls just didn't connect as well as they had the following week and instead of slowing things down, they got into a panic and lost their form. Saying that, by half time it was still 0-0 and Beechwood were defensively clearing the ball and making strong tackles. Dakota was made to work and saved several shots at goal showing excellent mobility and judgement. In the second half however, St Ronan's continued to pile on the pressure scoring two lovely goals. We look forward to our next game against Hilden Grange and Hilden Oaks.

Star Player: Dakota

U8/U9 Vinehall Football The year 3 and 4 boys travelled to Vinehall on Thursday.

The two mixed Year 3 and Year 4 teams competed very well at Vinehall on Thursday, resulting in two wins (5-0 and 6-0) and two losses (1-0 and 2-0).

All the boys in both teams put in a lot of effort and represented the school brilliantly, both on and off the pitch. That combined with some moments of great skill and brilliant finishing meant that, all in all, it was a very successful afternoon for Beechwood. Well done, boys!

Standout performers were Abdul (Y4) and Luis (y3). Mr. Johnson



Beechwood Prep Week in Sports

U8/9 Girls v Hilden Grange & Hilden Oaks

The girls travelled to Tonbridge School to play a mini style festival with Hilden Grange and Hilden Oaks. They were split into two teams of 5 playing 4 matches in total.

They all played with determination and effort trying hard to pass the ball managing to score some goals. Their tackling was good, but we still have work to do on playing to our positions using the full pitch.

The most pleasing part was how the girls improved with every game listening to advice given. Well done on a very enjoyable afternoon.

Tournament at Vinehall U10s

Dulwich - Won 1-0 cracking goal from Phoebe and an awesome goal line clearance from Yana to ensure our victory.

Skippers Hill - Lost 3-1 a wonderful goal scored by Morwenna, who did not give up on the ball making sure it went into the back of the goal. The girls worked hard, unfortunately they were beaten by the better team.

Malborough House - Lost 1-0. A very close game where the girls battled hard. The strong defence of Ida and Yana putting their bodies on the line to stop more goals being scored was exceptional and they were extremely unlucky to lose the match.

Battle Abbey - Lost 3-0. We came up against a strong side who passed the ball well. We lost our shape a little in this game which meant that Battle were able to use their wider channels to cross the ball into the D and convert their chances.

Overall the girls worked hard and gained confidence throughout the afternoon, they represented the school well. Our star player had to be Yana who worked so hard to defend the goal throughout the afternoon, without her, we would have conceded a lot more.

U10/11 v Hilden Grange & Hilden Oaks

U11 W3-1 L3-0

U10 W6-0 W3-0

It was a beautiful, sunny day when the girls played a triangular against Hilden Grange & Hilden Oaks.

The U11's were against two strong sides; however, they rose to the challenge, and I was very pleased with their play. Against Hilden Oaks, the girls kept to their formation playing the ball wide to Ruby and Elodie. Their aim was to play the quick pass; when they did this the play opened up, giving themselves scoring opportunities. Lucy played a great game up front and deservedly scored a hat trick. Stephanie and Masie were solid in defence with Dakota making some great saves.

Hilden Grange had a very skillful side and quickly scored in the opening minutes of the game. Our defence was under a lot of pressure as once possession was lost the midfield and wingers were too slow to get back. However, the girls battled hard and were unlucky not to score.

Star Players: Elodie & Dakota

The U10's had two excellent matches, scoring 9 goals in total. They were dominant in both games displaying quick and accurate passing. Manaka controlled the game well in midfield ensuring the wingers were continually fed with strong passes. Liv and Freya both maintained their width resulting in some great goals. Jess and Sienna make an effective team in defence clearing the ball away from danger and making some strong tackles.

Star Players: Manaka & Liv

U11 Football - Somerhill L 8-4

An entertaining, goal-laden game saw us come out second best to a strong Somerhill team on Wednesday. Despite a lot of effort and some good passing moves from the Beechwood boys, we came unstuck by making some repeated poor choices both in and out of possession of the ball. The team attempted to correct these errors after our half time team talk and played much better in the second half as a result, but the game had unfortunately got away from them by that time. Nevertheless, the boys were not downbeat at the finish, were positive, and showed the opposition the respect they deserved. Great sportsmanship boys and we go again!

Star player - Christian (for his work in goal and great positioning in defence)

Reminders for the 1st Week in November

04 Mo School Resumes

05 Tu

06 We Individual and Form Photos (Whole school)

U10/11 Girls Hockey v Somerhill (A)

07 Th U8/9 Girls Mini Hockey Festival @ Kent College (A)

U8/9 Boys Football v Battle Abbey (H)

Fireworks Night

08 Fr Reception to Year 4 + Year 6 Swimming

HALF TERM BREAK !

Stars of the Week

- Year 6: **Ruan** -For exceptional out-of-the-box thinking across all curriculum areas. **Lucy** - For showing amazing organisational skills and setting a good example for how to be ready and eager to learn.
- 5H: **Ida** - For being unfailingly kind, thoughtful and empathetic - an example to her peers. **Morwenna** - For using her initiative to writing informatively and maturely about emotional well-being.
- 5R: **Manaka** – For her positive approach to all aspects of school life and for representing the school so well in our recent hockey fixtures. **Yana** - For her warrior performance in the school Hockey team. She put her body on the line to defend her goal!
- Year Four: **Thomas** - For excellent application during Humanities lessons. **Joseph** - For being an outstanding Form Captain.
- Year Three: **Oliver** - For consistently working hard in all lessons. **Mbali** - For her entertaining acting skills as a policeman.
- Year Two: **Sandy** - For handing out books and helping to keep the classroom tidy all week. Well done Sandy, this is very thoughtful! **Oruj** - For being on time for the start of the day all week and for excellent focus and hard work in all lessons.
- Year One: **Maddie** - For her enthusiasm and progress in reading—well done, Maddie! All of Year One - For their fantastic start to KS1. You have all worked super hard and we are very proud!
- Reception: **Alex** - For his enthusiasm for this week's story and for creating his own adventure. Well done Alex! **All of Reception** - For a fantastic first term at school. Well done Reception!

BEECHWOOD SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we move further into the academic year, many of our pupils are considering their GCSE and A-level subject choices, an important decision that will help shape their educational journey and future opportunities. At Beechwood, we understand the significance of this process, and we are proud to offer a broad and exciting range of subjects to suit the diverse interests and ambitions of our students. As I shared recently at our Options Evening, our curriculum is designed to not only meet academic requirements but also to foster a love of learning and encourage students to explore their passions with real-world applications. From traditional subjects such as Maths, Sciences and Humanities, to more specialised offerings such as Computer Science, Drama and Design Technology, and other unique offerings such as criminology, we are committed and have the ability to provide a comprehensive selection that supports every pupil's unique talents and career aspirations.

In addition, Beechwood also places a strong emphasis on personalised support. Our experienced teaching staff and dedicated careers guidance team are here to help students make informed decisions about their subject choices, ensuring they choose the right combination to achieve their goals and open doors to future success.

As is customary this time of the year we send home grade sheets and behavioural marks. As we look to the future and embrace more efficient ways of communicating, we are moving towards a digital system for providing student reports. In line with this, grade sheets will be emailed to you over the next couple of days.

Thank you to all who have contributed to the Harvest Festival collections by bringing items of food into school or donating online. Our civic engagement endeavours show how committed the pupils are to taking leadership roles in this arena and paving the way to a more equitable world.

If you have any questions or need further assistance, please feel free to reach out. Wishing everyone a wonderful half-term break.

Warmest wishes,

Dani Saffer

Senior School News!

Japanese CLUB

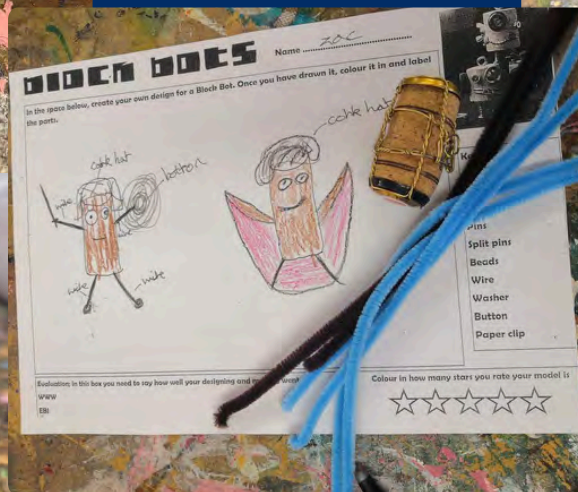
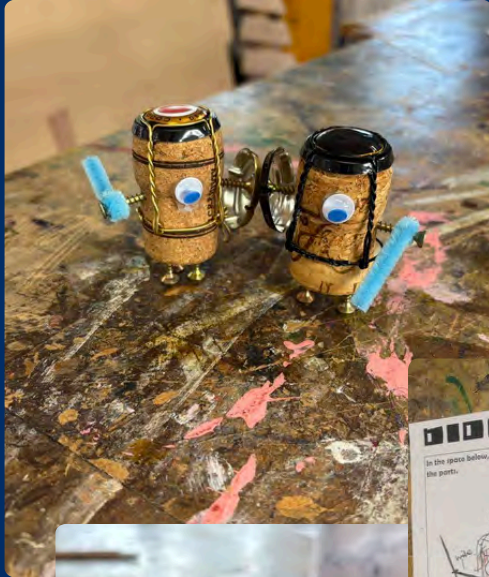
Our Japanese Club has been buzzing with excitement this term as pupils immerse themselves in Japanese culture and language. Recently, the club members had the opportunity to roll up their sleeves and make their own sushi! Under Mrs Wan & Mrs Hobbs' guidance, pupils learned how to prepare sushi rice, roll nori, and add a variety of delicious fillings. The results were as tasty as they were impressive!

In addition to mastering the art of sushi-making, the club also explored the traditional Japanese craft of origami. Students carefully folded paper to create intricate designs, including cranes and flowers, while discovering the cultural significance behind this ancient art form.



Year Seven Taster Day

Last week, we welcomed Year 6 students to experience a taste of Senior School life. In Science, the students became mini chemists, experimenting with Bunsen burners. In Food Technology, students channelled their inner master chefs while tackling the challenge of making focaccia. Meanwhile, in Design Technology, students designed and created cork people; they crafted unique characters that showcased their artistic flair. Finally, in P.E., teamwork took centre stage. Through a series of games and challenges, students honed their collaboration skills.



Hello Yellow

This year, Beechwood joined thousands of schools, companies and communities to celebrate Hello Yellow to show young people they're not alone with their mental health. It was a day of understanding, solidarity, compassion, sharing of stories and of course, a lot of yellow!



Remembering Lily Ebert

Students in year 8 are currently studying John Boyne's 'The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas' which is set during World War 2. On Thursday, students dedicated part of their lesson to reflecting on Lily Ebert who sadly passed away on 9th October 2024 aged 100 years old. Lily Ebert was a Holocaust survivor and chose to share her powerful and emotional experience of the concentration camp in Auschwitz. After watching a short clip present by Lily about her symbolic gold pendant, the students wrote their own dedications to her. The students' words were beautiful, powerful and emotive.

rest in peace. I hope you
reunite with your family
and you deserve every bit
of peace that is bring
to you in your afterlife.
Rest in peace

Lily Ebert, we thank you for
sharing your story. I hope you
rest in peace and go back to
your family. We are all proud and
look up to you for your resilience
and determination to get through
WW2. You will forever be an
inspiring leader in our hearts.

Lily Ebert, ✨
Thank you so much for teaching us
your story & thank you for being
so brave. May you please reunite
with your family & your mother
so much. Rest in peace Lily Ebert.
RIP
Rest in peace Lily



Rest In Peace Lily!
☆☆☆
Lily Ebert,
Rest in peace Lily. ✨
You were a great person that
lived, you must of been a very
strong woman and well done
for being so brave. We
are all so proud.

Lily Ebert...
We thank you so much for all
you've done you've educated so
many people and all of the
honors you have received. You
are sooooo brave and so
many people look up to you.
May you Rest in Peace. ✨

Lily Ebert, you were a strong and inspiring
individual. What you did was nothing less than
extraordinary. You were one of few people who
survived and your stories and memories
educate us and will always be helpful for
the future generations. May you rest in peace.

Black History Month

On Monday, students from Key Stage 2 through to 5 attended a celebration assembly to mark Black History Month. The assembly focused on influential black artists and included a reading of Benjamin Zephaniah's poem 'The British (Serves 60 Million)' and readings from 6th formers about influential musicians. The assembly concluded with the Year 10 band playing Bob Marley's 'Three Little Birds'.



Criminology in the Sixth Form

Year 13 criminology students learned about how physical evidence is processed. They enjoyed being Crime Scene Investigators, collecting and examining forensic evidence such as fingerprints, examining hair and fibres and blood (aka red paint). So much fun, Mrs Hughes!

