

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, in anticipation of the switchover to our winter uniform after October half-term, the Beechwood Preloved School Uniform Shop will be opening on the following dates;

8-8:30am - Mon 7 Oct
8-8:30am - Mon 14 Oct
8-8:30am - Thurs 17 Oct

As always, we kindly ask that all uniform is paid for in the shop either in cash or using our QR code.

Nb - Please note the Beechwood uniform shop will NOT be open during half-term.

Many thanks
Sonja
Beechwooduniformshop2022@gmail.com

Prep School News!

Dear Parents,

Last week my assembly topic looked at what shapes not just what we want to do in life, but who we want to become. In our discussion, one thing was clear: no career is out of reach, and the choices they make in their professional lives are just as important as the values we hold within ourselves. Whether the children dream of becoming a doctor, engineer, artist, or entrepreneur, the key to success lies in how we go about reaching our goals—with integrity, pride, and a sense of ownership.

We shone a special light on girls in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) fields where women are increasingly breaking barriers and showing the world that gender should never define what you can achieve. I did preface by asking if they thought it was too early to talk about careers; we concluded it is never too early to dream!

They all agreed on the importance of pursuing our goals with integrity—doing the right thing, even when it's difficult and no one is looking, and taking responsibility for our actions. Integrity in their schoolwork, friendships and the sports they play set the foundation for long-term success. At the heart of Monday's assembly was a simple but powerful idea: who we are matters as much as what we do. Whether their passion lies in STEM, the arts, business, or any other field, the values they carry within themselves will shape their impact on the world. We decided that people should choose careers that excite them, and also to let them be an extension of the kind, ethical, and driven person they strive to become. Go after it with integrity, pride, and a strong sense of who you want to be.

Tomorrow, KS2 children will join the senior school for an assembly on Black History Month.

Housekeeping

Pick-up: In an effort to reduce the traffic in the car park and keep everyone safe, the Prep has brought back their timings by 15 minutes. This wasn't a great struggle as our lessons finish at 3.30 and those extra minutes were used as an end-of-day catch-up. Since most of the Prep children are in school well before 8.30, giving us plenty of time for Form time in the morning, I felt that the benefits outweighed the cost. The new timings have had a positive impact on congestion in the car park- Thank you! As you know, and always with safety in mind, we have made additional changes to pick-up times and I would be grateful if they could be more strictly observed (traffic permitting, I understand). The school day for **Reception, KS1 and KS2 finishes at 3.30**. Activities-based clubs **finish at 4.30** with homework club **running until 5 pm**. After-school care which is an additional cost of £2, **runs from 5.00 - 6.00**. Children who are collected at 3.30 should be downstairs and ready to go- and as long as **they/we know**, I will ensure the children are ready. Club leaders now have to bring their children to the door and ensure they are collected at 4.30. Prep teachers have a rota for Homework club and they will also bring the children down at 5.00. To ensure pupils are safe and that we know where they are at all times, registers are taken at the start of clubs and throughout homework club. I appreciate that on the days when we have Speech and Drama and on match days these timings can be slightly different, we will make allowances, of course. To ensure we always have a responsible person at the door, Ariadne, a 6th Form student at Beechwood is now assisting us at the door from Tuesdays through Fridays.

Preschool, Reception and Year One (4-5 pm): To better cater for the needs of the littlelies at school, we decided that it would be best to do the afternoon holding for them in Preschool from 4.00-5.00. Children in Reception and Year One who are NOT being collected at 3.30 by the side garden entrance and not doing a club, will be sent to preschool and you can collect them from there. **All Preschool, Reception and Year One children** will be brought up just before 5 in readiness for 5 pm collection by the front door. Of course, this has no impact on any Preschool through Year Six pupil staying for after-school care who can be collected at any time from 5.00 - 6.00. **(Charges for ASC will apply from 5.10 pm)**

As ever, I am very grateful for all your help in this matter.

Preschool: Floor Play Promoting Coordination

This week in Pre-School we have been encouraging lots of floor play. Such a simple thing moving table activities to the floor yet it promotes and supports learning and development. Floor play helps children develop their muscles and coordination. It helps children understand that space has different shapes, sizes, and textures. Moving across the floor in different ways stimulates the brain and sparks curiosity, which leads to more movement and social development as they learn to share resources, discuss what they want to achieve and how to do it. All the children loved being on the floor and had a wonderful week.



Reception and Simon Sock

This week in Reception, the children had a delightful time reading "Simon Sock". The story captured their imaginations and led to a fun-filled maths activity where they enthusiastically matched various pairs of socks. To further develop their fine motor skills, they enjoyed pegging the socks onto a washing line. This engaging task not only sharpened their dexterity but also required a great deal of patience and determination as they worked together to make sure each sock was properly secured. It was wonderful to see their teamwork and problem-solving skills flourish during this enjoyable learning experience!



Reception and Measuring

In Reception, the children have been diving into the world of weighing! They've been using scales to explore the concepts of heavier and lighter, really getting hands-on with their learning. First, they worked with small scales to get a feel for how weight works, and then they moved outdoors to use the large wooden scales. It was a fantastic opportunity for them to see how to balance the scales while having fun in the fresh air! It's amazing to watch them develop these skills and work together in such an engaging way.



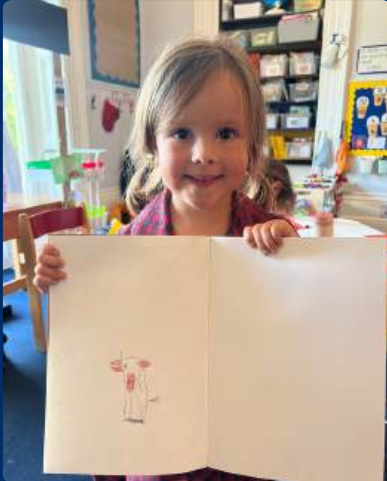
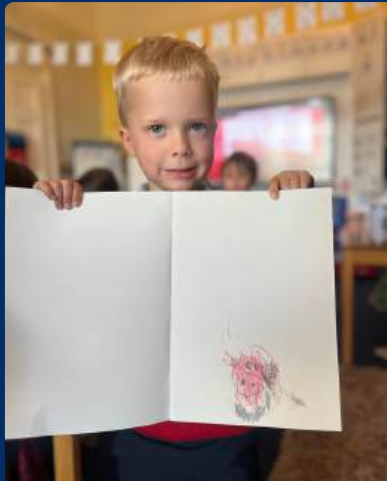
TriGolf Club

TriGolf is a great introduction to the world of golf for little people. It uses safe, kid-friendly equipment and focuses on building skills in a fun way. Children have been learning hand-eye coordination, focus, and patience—all while getting active and enjoying friendly competition. It's a wonderful way to build confidence, teamwork, and perseverance. And if my golf game is anything to go by, patience and perseverance is an absolute must! Well done, KS1!



Illustration Club

This week in illustration club, we focused on learning how to draw cows. It was a fun challenge to capture the unique shapes and proportions of their bodies, from their hooves to their spots! Super!



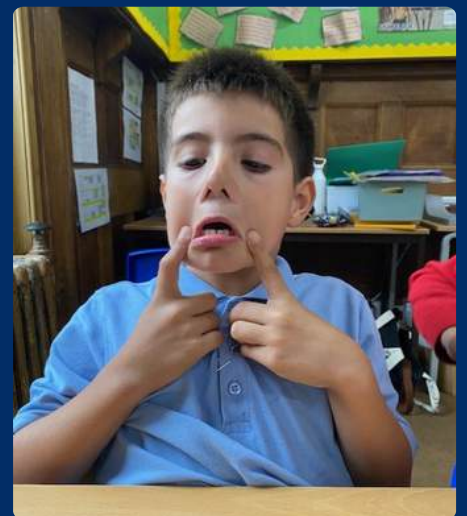
Year Two Fire Art

Year Two continue their cross-curricular topic on The Great Fire of London. This week they practised their blending skills to make striking abstract fire art using chalk pastels. Impressive!!!!



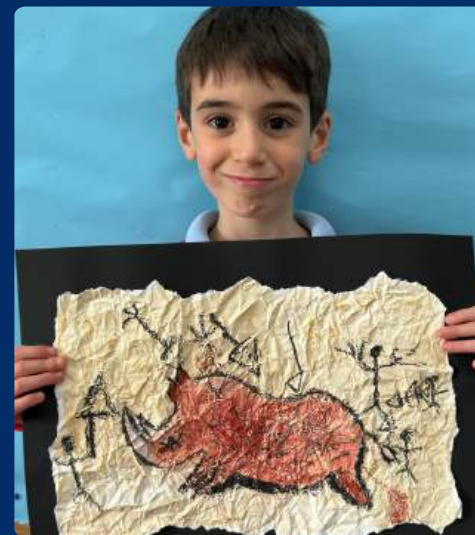
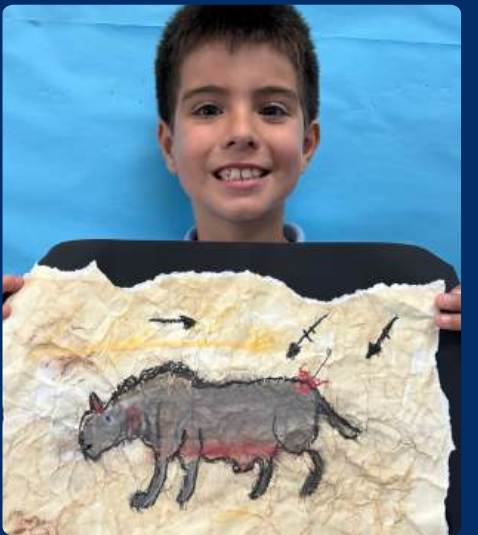
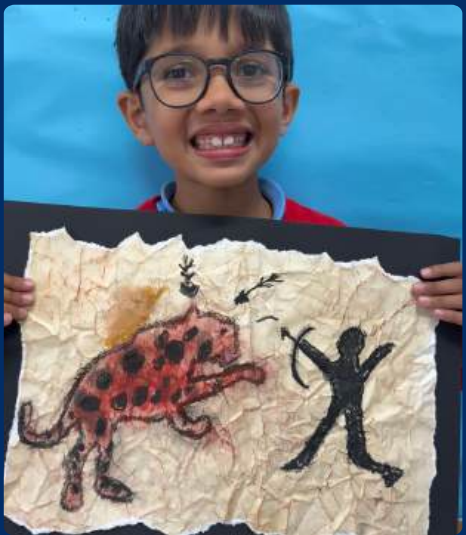
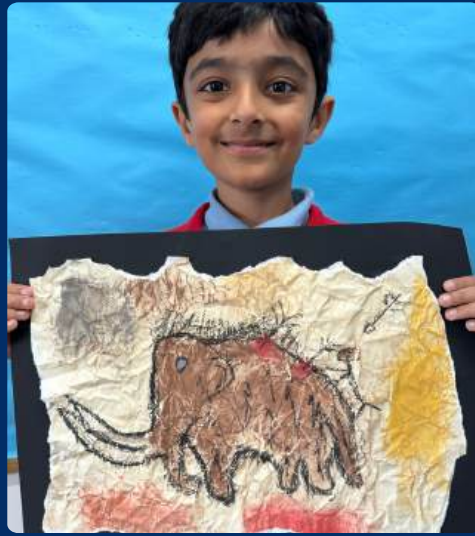
Ça va, Year Three?

Year Three were asking each other this question in French this week. We wanted a variety of answers. Can you guess what they said in French? Ça va très bien, merci, comme ci, comme ça ou non, ça ne va pas!



Year Three Prehistoric Cave Painting

The most common subjects for cave paintings were large wild animals. Having stained and scrunched paper to represent a cave wall, Year 3 drew their animals in oil pastels and chalk.



Year Three Cartoon

Have you ever wondered what your Stone Age ancestors might have looked like? Year 3 have, and have created hilarious cartoon versions of their prehistoric selves. What a hairy, scary group they are!



Year Four Illuminated Letters

Year 4 have been working hard in the last few weeks on creating their versions of Anglo Saxon Illuminated letters. They have 'lit up' their work with gold and silver pen and the results are stunning!





Year Five English

This week, 5H have been focusing on using words and phrases within the text, 'The Boy in the Back of the Class' to formulate viewpoints about characters and events. Working collaboratively in teams helped us to bounce ideas off one another and 'magpie' evidence to support our decisions.



Beechwood Prep Week in Sports

On Wednesday 2nd October the rain held off for the U10 girls to take part in a Hockey festival. We played 4 games in total, and the girls worked well as a team with great communication.

Our results were as follows:

Hilden Oaks – Drew 2-2 with Freya and Manaka scoring for us.

Radnor House – Drew 1-1 with Freya finding the back of the net once again.

Hilden Grange – Lost 2-0 in a challenging game, but the girls never gave up and kept battling to the final whistle.

Homewood House – Drew 0-0

A great afternoon with some fabulous hockey played.

The player of the festival was Sienna who showed courage, respect, and perseverance throughout.

U10/11 Girls Hockey v Kent College

U11 Won 10-0

U10/11 Lost 3-0

The U10/11 girls travelled to Kent College on Wednesday ready to put the skills taught in lessons into the game situation. We have been working on the passing game, using the width and keeping their formation.

What can I say? The U11 team were on fire! Elodie and Ruby were superb on the wing keeping their width and positioning themselves on the post to pop several goals in the net. Lucy was excellent as striker, never giving up, playing an attacking game, driving the ball forward, scoring several goals as well as setting up many an opportunity. Kiki, Maisy, Stephanie and Isobel were excellent in defence with strong tackles and wide clearances. As Kent College did not have a Goalkeeper, Dakota swapped halfway through to play for them getting lots of practice. She really has found her position. Well, done, girls – it was a joy to watch you play.

The U10/11 girls also had an extremely exciting game with the ball going from end to end. Phoebe and Reya played well on the wing with Phoebe, unluckily, missing a couple of chances to score. Bella worked hard in midfield as did Yana and Ida in defence, trying hard to clear the ball wide. However, Kent College was strong in the circle and managed to get 3 goals in. I was impressed with the girls' resilience and their determination, never once giving up. Well done!

Star Players;

Ruby & Bella

U8/9 Girls Hockey v Sutton Valence Prep

Won 2-0

Drew 0-0

Lost 4-0

On a beautiful sunny Thursday, the U8/9 girls headed to Sutton Valence Prep for our first match of the season. We started against their C team and from the whistle the girls played an attacking game making some super passes. Our focus was looking up for the space/person and passing before being tackled, which they did well resulting in two great goals from Diya and Grace. Naomi and Emilia worked well in midfield.

The second game we played the B team, ending in a 0-0 draw. Against the A team the girls battled hard, but SVPS were too strong in the circle with the game ending in a 4-0 win to them. Well done to Amira, Phoebe and Mbali on their first match and credit to the Year 4 girls for supporting them so well. We are looking forward to our next game.

Star players:

Grace & Naomi

Beechwood Prep Week in Sports

U10 Boys Radnor Tournament

Hilden Oaks L2-1
Radnor House W5-0
Lingfield College L3-0
Brookfield W1-0
Hawthorns D1-1
Solefields W1-0

The U10 team travelled to Radnor House for a football tournament, performing very well in all the six games that they played.

We won three games, lost two, and drew one in what was an extremely competitive afternoon. All the boys performed excellently, representing Beechwood positively, not only in their overall play but in their sportsmanship and attitude. Well done all, you did the school proud. Player of the day for Beechwood was Oliver Adom, whose tenacity and desire were unmatched in all matches. Excellent job Oli!

Mr. Johnson

U8/U9 Boys Rosehill

Both Year 3 and Year 4 boys football teams travelled to Rosehill School for matches on Thursday afternoon.

All the boys played brilliantly. The passing and movement of both teams combined with the effort all of them put in to regain possession of the ball meant that they did Beechwood proud. Year 3 won their match 5-1 with Alex K scoring a hat-trick! The Year 4 team lost their match 3-2 but were very unlucky - the result did not reflect their performance. Slyvester D-H was my player of the match.

Magnificent work boys, onwards and upwards. We go again!

Mr. Johnson

U10 Football

Our first match of the season saw us comfortably defeating Sacred Heart Wadhurst who, to be fair, tried manfully but were not a strong team. We played simple football and put together some good moves, winning by a comfortable margin.

Superb week for Sports at Beechwood!

This Week in the Prep

07 Mo

08 Tu Reception, Years 1 & 2 - Drama4All/ Year 7 Taster Day

09 We U10/11 Girls Hockey v St Ronan's (A)

10 Th Mental Health Awareness Day - Wear Something Yellow
U8/9 Boys Football v Vinehall (A)

11 Fr Reception to Year 4 + Year 6 Swimming

Next Week

14 Mo Harvest Festival Collection Begins

KS1 Harvest Festival Celebration 3.00 (Parents invited)

15 Tu Years 2 & 3 Cake Sale

16 We U10B Girls Vinehall Hockey Tournament (A)

U10/11 Girls Hockey v Hilden Grange & Hilden Oaks (A)

U10/11 Boys Football v Somerhill (H)

17 Th U8/9 Girls Hockey v Hilden Grange & Hilden Oaks (A)

U8/9 Boys Football v Claremont (H)

18 Fr Reception to Year 4 + Year 6 Swimming (Rainbow Colours Day!)

HALF TERM BREAK

Stars of the Week

- Year 6: **Stephanie** - For always ensuring her mathematical explanations are clear and use correct vocabulary.
- 5H: **Angelina** - For writing a thoughtful and reflective piece 'I wish I knew' celebrating the importance of religious freedom.
- 5R: **Freya** - For her wonderful ideas in English lessons this week. You really embraced the character's mindset, well done.
- Year Four: **Jaydon** - For always giving his best in every lesson.
- Year Three: **Arnav** - For his amazing capital city knowledge in Geography.
- Year Two: **Marylou** - For showing kindness and taking care of Angelina when she hurt her knee.
- Year One: **Declan** - for his impressive progress in his reading and writing. Keep up the amazing work!
- Reception: **Rosana** - For her positive attitude and enthusiasm in everything she does.

BEECHWOOD SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Dear Senior Parents,

This week, I've been inspired by Mrs Smith's assembly on whether success is based on luck or do people make our own luck and therefore success? It led me to reflect on an interesting question: Is success about luck, or is it all about skill? Inspired by the book 'Bounce' by Matthew Syed and Malcolm Gladwell's 'Outliers' (highly recommend), I've been exploring the idea that while luck may play a small role in life, it's hard work, discipline, and dedication that truly pave the way to success.

In Bounce, Syed talks about the "10,000-hour rule"—the idea that it takes roughly 10,000 hours of practice to master any skill, whether it's in sports, music, art, or academics. What stands out from this idea is that success doesn't come overnight or by chance—it's earned through perseverance, learning from failures, and showing up every day with the commitment to improve.

Small marginal gains, I say!

While that may very well be true, one must not rule out the role of natural talent too. Hard work isn't just about improving a specific skill. The journey teaches us important lessons that shape who we are. Discipline, both on and off the court or pitch, helps develop qualities like integrity, determination, time management, resilience, and focus—key ingredients to becoming not just a successful professional, but a fulfilled person. The effort you put into practising, the sacrifices you make, and the way you push yourself to keep going when things are tough, are the building blocks of personal growth.

While the 10,000 hours often refer to mastering sports or creative skills, the discipline we develop along the way impacts every part of our lives. The self-control to study harder, the ability to stay focused on goals, and the mindset to bounce back after something hasn't gone to plan are all life skills that benefit us beyond any sport or classroom.

Success, it seems, isn't about luck—it's about showing up and putting in the work, consistently and with purpose. The rewards may not come instantly, but as we've learned, the journey itself builds us into stronger, more resilient, and more fulfilled people.

Have a great week,

Dani Saffer

Senior School News!

Judo

BROTHERS N ARMS (LOCKS)

Harry and Dean competed at the English Judo Championships at Norfolk with both competing well. Dean walked away with a bronze medal. The English Judo Championships 2024, specifically the "English Closed Championships," took place on September 21 and 22 at Breckland Leisure Centre in Thetford, Norfolk. It's a prestigious event that brought together talented judokas from across England to compete in various categories, including Pre-Cadets, Cadets, Juniors, and Seniors. Superb job, chaps!



Craft Club

In readiness for the Christmas Fair, Year Seven students are painting nutcracker dolls to sell at the Beechwood fair. Wait! Stop! Are we actually already talking about Christmas???



Criminology in the Sixth Form

Year 12 students have prepared and presented work on the 5 strands of hate crime in preparation for Hate Crime Awareness Week 12-19 October 2024. Thank you, Mrs Hughes! Great stuff, Daniel!



Disability hate crime is a form of hate crime involving the use of violence against people with disabilities. This is not only violence in a physical sense, but also includes other acts, such as the repeated blocking of disabled access and verbal abuse. The incidence of hate crime committed against Disabled people is disproportionately high and hugely under reported. Research by the Disability Hate Crime Network showed that 57% of disabled people asked were attacked on the streets.

Many people with various disabilities may be subjected to this hate crime. More than 11,000 (11,224) disability hate crimes were reported to police between April 2021 and March 2022. This is a 25% increase on the previous year and just 1% of these cases resulted in a charge. Disabled women were more than twice as likely to experience domestic abuse than non-disabled women, and almost twice as likely than disabled men. Around 1 in 6 (17.3%) disabled women experienced domestic abuse in the last year, compared with 1 in 15 (7.0%) non-disabled women. In comparison, disabled men were more than twice as likely (9.0%) to have experienced domestic abuse in the year ending March 2019 than non-disabled men (3.7%).

0% of all disability hate crime cases reported to police as 'violent' towards victims in 2019/20 - a 16% increase

Not even 2% of all reported disability hate crimes in 2019/20 resulted in a successful prosecution or charge

Disability hate crime the rise again in the UK
More than 7,300 disability hate crimes reported in 2019/20 - an average of 21 every single day

Leopard Cheshire

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