



Beenham Primary School Newsletter



VALUES
EDUCATION

www.beenhamschool.co.uk



Daniel Self and Mya Trinder

Friday 26th June 2020

**Our VALUE this month is
SIMPLICITY**

Staff appointments

I am so very pleased to be able to tell you that we are now fully staffed for September.

The final piece in our staffing jigsaw was put in place yesterday when we appointed Mrs Nicola Edwards as the new Teacher for Torak class.

Mrs Edwards came into teaching via the route of being an Emotional Literacy Support Assistant in school. This is the same role as Mrs Wheeler has at Beenham. Not only did it give Mrs Edwards the grounding and pre-requisite skills that she needed to be a teacher, she comes to Beenham with a real strength in nurturing children, managing their emotional wellbeing and behaviour, and also being able to create a learning environment where children can feel safe, happy and ready to learn.

We are absolutely thrilled with both the appointments that we have made and are now able to focus on moving forward to September.

Classes for September will be:

Mai class: Years R, 1 and 2 taught by Mrs Cannings

Torak class: Years 3 and 4 taught by Mrs Edwards

Mosi class: Years 5 and 6 taught by Miss McBean

What will the rest of the Summer term look like at Beenham Primary School?

Home learning

We will continue to upload learning onto our website until the end of term. This is for children who continue to learn at home and for those returning to school.

You will also notice that the learning will become much easier from Monday 29th June. This is in recognition that we are nearing the end of the academic year and learning always eases off in school at this time.

We are also aware just how hard everyone has worked over the last 4 months. It has been a very intense time. Whilst we will continue to post learning on the website, please note that it is not compulsory. At this stage, it may be better for you and your child to go out for a walk together or play a game in the sunshine. The aim is to keep things happy and buoyant and not to cause tension in your household.

I am already working on catch up plans for all children in September so please, please don't worry if you can't get your child to undertake the home learning anymore. Parents you have all done an amazing job as teachers, I wish there was a special award I could give you all. I am so proud of the parents in the Beenham School community and what you have achieved during the lock down period.

Returning to school

School is now open for children in years R, 1 and 6, as well as vulnerable pupils and children of key workers.

Now that we have appointed two new teachers, we are able to consider a plan to be able to invite other year groups back into school before the end of the Summer term.

The current plan, **which I will finalise in the newsletter next Friday** is to offer some morning sessions to children in years 2, 3, 4 and 5. They will have the opportunity to work with their new teacher in their new classroom during the sessions. The dates and times will be as follows:

Tuesday 7th July – 8.25am until 12pm – All of Torak and half of Mosi
Thursday 9th July– 8.25am until 12pm - All of Torak and half of Mosi
Tuesday 14th July– 8.25am until 12pm – All of Torak class and half of Mosi
Thursday 16th July– 8.25am until 12pm - All of Torak and half of Mosi

We will finalise details in next week's newsletter. At that time we will let children in Mosi class know which group they will be in for their return.

Summer holiday provision

Some of the larger schools will be offering summer holiday provision for pupils at their schools.

At Beenham we have decided to close for the summer holiday to give families a break from learning and to allow teachers time to recharge their batteries and work on plans for September.

However, I will be working during the week before we return to school. Other adults will also take it in turns to be in school during that time so I am not lone working. At this time, I will be inviting selected SEN and vulnerable pupils to come into school, on a one to one basis, for a couple of hours each. I will be undertaking a simple literacy and maths assessment to ascertain the gaps in basic skills. This will enable me to write some intervention programmes and new SAPs, that we can implement from the first week back in the Autumn term.

Planning for the Autumn term

As you can imagine, this is going to be a mammoth task. There will be a good deal of missing skills in pupils when they return to school in September. Not only will we have to plan regular learning, we will need to think about a strategy to address the gaps.

I will need to send teachers off for the Summer with a strategy to support their planning for the Autumn term. **With this in mind, I have decided to close the school for an additional day on Monday 6th July.** We will still post home learning on the website but will be unable to welcome other children into school as we won't have the manpower to provide the required health and safety levels. I do apologise profusely for this but I can't see another way around it.

Please let me know if you are a key worker and this causes you a childcare issue.

LAPTOPS

Finally, during the last week of term, we will be providing learning that will not require a laptop. This will enable us to collect all school laptops back in before the end of term. If you foresee a problem in getting the laptop you have back to us, then let Mrs Sharp know and we will arrange to collect it from you.

Many thanks for your continued support.

Sue

Tribute to Mosi wolf

Speaking to some of you, I think there are still some outstanding pictures of Mosi wolf. Please could you send them to Mrs Sharp by Monday at 3pm. Mrs Sharp will finish the film on Monday evening and then we will send it across.

Well done to everyone for your amazing artwork.

Team Points

Red Team – 2141

Yellow Team – 2391

Green Team – 2125

Blue Team – 2231



Stars of the week

Mai Class

Leo Trinder - For having such a positive attitude to school. Leo is able to work independently and has been fully engaged in his learning.

Jenson Edwards Armstrong - For his wonderful enthusiasm towards school, learning and friends.

Torak Class

Jessica Reeve - For all her hard work and great learning especially in maths. She has shown great understanding of time and converting from analogue to digital time.

Tommy O'Hannelly - Tommy has been using his maths fluency and amazing problem solving skills to answer questions about time.

Mosi Class

Lara Moore - For a beautiful drawing of Mosi wolf. Lara produced a wonderful picture that she clearly put a lot of thought into, carefully selecting colour to create an outstanding image. Well done Lara.

Charlie Robins - For his amazing, descriptive writing. Charlie has worked ever so hard on his writing while learning from home and has made such excellent progress because he has taken the time to challenge himself to make the best vocabulary choices. Well done Charlie, your writing is amazing.



Mai Class news

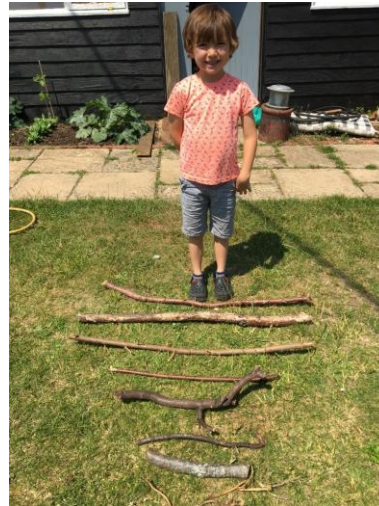
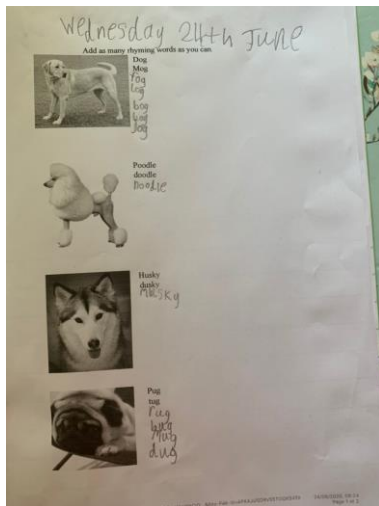
It has been so good to see so many of you back at school this week. I'm glad you will be able to spend the last few weeks having fun together enjoying the wonderful weather. I so wish I was with you but I'm also pleased you have the amazing Mrs Cannings as your teacher.

Mrs Cannings and I have been very impressed by the way everyone has settled back in to school and by the great work you have all been doing.

This week's book 'Hairy Maclary' by Lynley Dodd has been enjoyed by everyone and some fabulous rhyming work has been produced.

Our work on measuring length has also been good to see especially the stick investigations outside.

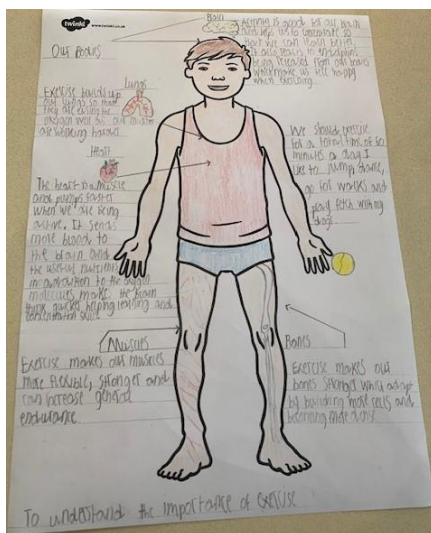
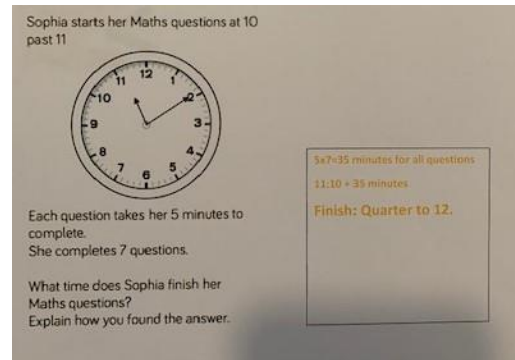
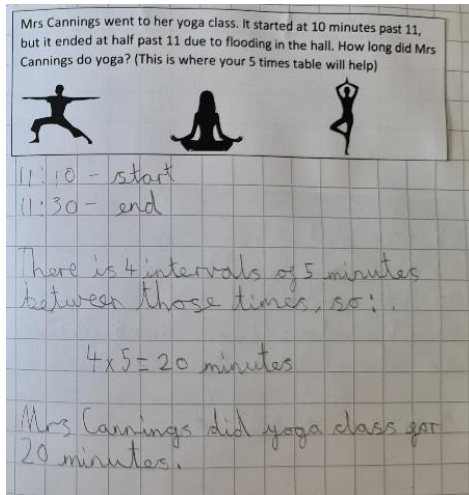
Keep up the good work everyone.



Torak Class news

Well done Torak class for all your amazing work this week.

In maths, the children have been using their reasoning and problem solving skills to answer a range of time questions. When solving questions involving 5-minute intervals, I was so impressed that they applied their 5 times table knowledge, supporting maths fluency.



In science, we have been learning about the importance of exercise to keep our bodies healthy.

Please keep sending in your photographs of all the wonderful activities you are doing.

Have a lovely weekend 😊

Mrs Cannings

Mosi Class news

Well done everyone for trying your hardest yet again this week despite the distraction of the hot sunshine!

Earlier this week the children created some wonderful drawings of Mosi the wolf to send to The Wolf Trust in remembrance of Mosi. Everyone took their time to produce some lovely pictures and I know that when Mrs Sharp sends them over, The Wolf Trust will be so appreciative of your efforts. Well done everyone, you put a lot of thought into your pieces of art.



Now that we have completed our formal learning this term, next week's learning will be fun, project style learning with a daily task to complete. Look out for this new learning! Everyone has done amazingly to keep going for so long so give yourself a big pat on the back as we enter in to the last three weeks of the school year. Don't forget to send pictures of what you have been up to – we really do enjoy seeing them!

Mrs Russell





Big Sing Day

Saturday 27 June 2020

You and everyone in your family is invited to join us for the first ever Berkshire Maestros online Big Sing Day! At Berkshire Maestros, we believe that everyone has a voice so gather as many people as you can to join in with this FREE event to discover the amazing feel good power of group singing.

Our virtual doors will be open on **Saturday 27 June** to anyone who enjoys singing, including adults, whether you are a regular singer or just enjoy belting out a tune in the shower. We will be singing some fun music that won't be too challenging – and as we are meeting on Zoom nobody even needs to hear you.

This event is also a chance for our music centre and county choirs to come together online to sing, however you don't need to be a member already – it's a great opportunity to just enjoy some singing or to get a taste of what singing with a Berkshire Maestros choir is like.

Join our Big Sing Day open sessions:

- Juniors (primary school aged children) - 10.30am-11.15am
- Seniors (secondary school aged students) - 11.30am-12.15pm
- Adults - 12.30pm-1.15pm

This is a free event to everyone. Sessions will take place via Zoom. Register online for a place on a session and details of how to join will be sent to you. To register, click [here](#).



The 2020 digital Summer Reading Challenge is now live!

The theme for this year's challenge is 'Silly Squad': a celebration of funny books, happiness and laughter. Children can sign up to take part at <https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk>. When they do so, they will need to include an email address for a parent or carer. Their parent/carer will then be contacted by The Reading Agency and will need to sign up on their own account and give permission for their child to take part in order to complete the registration process. Please note that as part of their sign up, children need to create their own, unique UserName and to select West Berkshire as their place of residence. However, no personal names are used on the public website.

For the digital challenge, children can set their own reading targets regarding the number of books they hope to read before September. This can be as few or as many as families think practical, although we recommend 6 books as usual. The books don't need to be library books - they can be books from home, from school or anywhere else, including e-books and audiobooks.

As they progress through the digital challenge and rate and review their books, children will unlock a range of games, quizzes and exciting video content. A downloadable certificate will be available to anyone who completes their challenge and perhaps this is something that your pupils may like to bring into school in the autumn? There is also a [School Zone](#) on the Summer Reading Challenge website, where you can find downloadable activities and other resources to help inspire your pupils to read for pleasure.

Once our Order and Collect service is operational, families will be able to request books from us, either online or by telephoning their local library. For those who are unable to take part in the digital **Summer Reading Challenge**, we will have a simple, printed form that they can complete with details of any 6 books that they have read this summer. Certificates will also be available for those who return completed forms to us - but sorry, there are no medals or other prizes this year!

I do hope that your pupils will enjoy this year's challenge and that you find it useful. Throughout the summer, West Berkshire Libraries will continue with our own programme of online events and activities for children as well, which include digital Storytimes on Fridays and weekly book-related craft activities. For more details about all of these and to keep up with other library news, please follow WBerksLibraries on [facebook.com/wberkslibraries][Facebook](#), [instagram.com/wberkslibraries][Instagram](#) or [twitter.com/wberkslibraries][Twitter](#).

REMINDER: Deadline to apply for the Kendrick School and Reading School Admission Tests for Entry into Year 7 in September 2021

Dear Parents/Carers of Students in Year 5

The deadline for applying to take the **Kendrick School (girls)** and **Reading School (boys)** admission tests for entry into **Year 7 in September 2021** is **midnight on Wednesday 1st July 2020**. Please note we cannot accept late applications unless there are **exceptional** circumstances.

Please find below the links to each school's online application form:

[Kendrick School Application Form](#)

[Reading School Application Form](#)

Provisional information regarding testing arrangements will be emailed to registered candidates in mid-July 2020. We appreciate that the uncertainty around testing arrangements is difficult but we have to ensure that the arrangements we make are safe and practical for all staff and children involved. We would appreciate it if you do not email the school for an update but wait for this information or check the [Kendrick School](#) or [Reading School](#) website on a regular basis.

Kind regards

Ms Amanda Emberson
Admissions Officer
Kendrick School

Miss Caroline Mole
Admissions Officer
Reading School

PGL trip to Osmington Bay

Many parents have asked if the planned trip to PGL will go ahead in September for Years 5 and 6.

I can confirm that the date for the trip has now been changed to **W/C 17th May 2021.**

PGL have price matched the booking so there will be no additional cost to parents.

As the date has been changed, payment for the trip will now be required by 1st March 2021.

If you have any further questions please email me at finance@beenham.w-berks.sch.uk

Mrs Sharp



Beenham Primary School on TWITTER

Find us by searching for @BeenhamPrimary

MAKING CONTACT WITH SCHOOL STAFF

If you have an issue that you would like to discuss with any member of the school staff and you wish to make an appointment to see them, then please email them direct. We do encourage face to face contact whenever possible as we genuinely believe it is the best way to resolve any concern that you may have. Email addresses are as follows:

School Office: office@beenham.w-berks.sch.uk

Mrs Godfrey: jgodfrey@beenham.w-berks.sch.uk

Mrs Cannings: lcannings@beenham.w-berks.sch.uk

Mrs Russell: erussell@beenham.w-berks.sch.uk

Mrs Butcher: headteacher@beenham.w-berks.sch.uk

Keep in touch with the school governors by visiting their website regularly. Follow the direct link below.

[Beenham School Governor website](#)

NEWSLETTER COMMENTS

If you would like to comment or respond to any of the items in this newsletter then please email office@beenham.w-berks.sch.uk or fill in the slip below.

Name(s) _____

Parent/pupil comment:

Signed: _____ **Parent/guardian/pupil**