



Beenham Primary School Newsletter



VALUES
EDUCATION

www.beenhamschool.co.uk

Happy Birthday

Mason Edwards Armstrong

**Summer holiday birthdays: Cowan Allan,
Ruby-Mae Allan-Bruce and Jack Hazzard**

Friday 17th July 2020



Wow!

We all made it through, what can only be described as, the strangest and most challenging school term in our lifetimes.

Throughout, what has been impressive has been your collective commitment as parents, to do what is right and best for your children. You have been amazing teachers. Your children are so fortunate to have parents like you.

I would also like to thank all my staff for their great work in such extenuating circumstances. There also has to be a special thanks to those members of staff who have continued to work in school throughout the lockdown. They have given so much of their own time to make the wider opening work for your children . . . and they do it because they care. Working with children is a vocation for them all. We are so lucky!

I must also give great thanks to our governors who work very hard for the school and your children behind the scenes: interviewing, supporting the maintenance of our IT equipment in school, helping to move furniture at the outset of the lockdown and all of our school policy - making.

I would also like to say a special thanks to Pdraig O'Hannelly who is our chair of governors. He is such a wise man. He works tirelessly on the school's behalf and nothing is ever too much trouble. The school is in very good hands

This year we say farewell to Mrs Bridger, Mrs Godfrey and Mrs Russell and thank them all for their contribution to our school over time. We all have our special memories of all three members of staff and will have all sent our separate wishes to say farewell.

Finally, I would like to wish each, and every one of you in our school community, a restful and enjoyable summer break with your families.

Look after yourselves and stay safe.

Much love, Sue

Looking forward to next term . . .

We will be welcoming ALL children back into school on Wednesday 2nd September.

Look out for a newsletter on Friday 28th August, when we will write to you again about final arrangements for the new term. The government will update their guidelines for returning to school around that time, so we will know more by then.

We are looking forward to working with Sophie McBean, Nicola Edwards and Kirsty Hicks . . . we have lots planned and new initiatives that we can't wait to tell you about . . .

Stars of the week

Mai Class

Mrs Cannings, Mrs Bridger, Mrs Wheeler and Miss Saint – For doing such an amazing job this term in Mai Class under very tricky circumstances. I wish I could have been with you but you have all been incredible!

Torak Class

The whole class for always showing our school values and being a pleasure to teach. I feel very honoured to have been your Class teacher 😊

Mosi class

All of our year 6 - Daniel, Cowan, Mason, Millie, Abbie and Ruby-Mai for being a great cohort throughout your time at the school. We wish you lots of luck and hope you come back and visit us!



Farewell from Mrs Bridger

After 12 ½ years, 10 of which have been in Foundation stage, it is time for me to say goodbye. I have so many very happy memories of working at Beenham Primary:

- Forest school
- Painting scenery
- Making costumes
- Water day
- School trips
- Painting 2 horses and a camel
- Running art workshops



I would like to thank the staff and pupils of Beenham Primary for making my time here most enjoyable and rewarding. I will especially miss working in Foundation class and helping the children at one of the most exciting stages of their education.

I wish you continued success with the school. It is such a lovely kind and caring community and I know that my own children still appreciate the values-based education they received here.

I'm looking forward to spending more time on my sewing business and riding my motorcycle.

Have a wonderful Summer everyone.

Mrs Bridger



Team Point Totals

Red Team – 2283

Yellow Team – 2520

Green Team – 2354

Blue Team – 2394



Congratulations to yellow team who are this year's team cup winners!



Mai Class news

So, the end of term is now upon us and this is my last newsletter entry.

I would like to say a big thank you to Mrs Butcher and the governors for allowing me to finish teaching Mai Class remotely.

I think I could possibly have been the most remote teacher in the world and I feel very privileged to have been given this experience.

I would also like to thank the wonderful staff, parents and all the children at Beenham. You make an amazing team and working with you has been an experience I will always remember.

Finally, I would like to thank the children in Mai Class for being such incredible, happy, individual little learners. I am so proud of you all and have loved being your teacher.

Happy holidays and stay safe everyone.

Mrs Godfrey

Torak Class news

We have had such a lovely last week of term. Torak class came into school again to see their friends and enjoyed spending more time with Mrs Edwards.

For home learning, the children created some spectacular learning showing their understanding of the solar system. In school, it was lovely to see children in Torak and Mosi class working together sharing their knowledge of the solar system to create wonderful mobiles!



The children have completely blown me away with their work this term and have shown such responsibility and dedication to their learning. I have loved being Torak's class teacher and I will miss you all very much.

I wish you all a wonderful Summer break and I look forward to seeing you all in September 😊

Mrs Cannings

Free School Meals (FSM) are provided to children whose parents/guardians are in receipt of:

- Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods)
- Income Support
- Income Based Job Seekers Allowance*
- Income related Employment Support Allowance
- support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 (from the National Asylum Support Service)
- the guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit, provided you're **not also entitled to Working Tax Credit** and have an annual income of no more than £16,190
- Working tax credit run on-paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit

*Children who receive Income Based Job Seekers Allowance in their own right are also eligible to receive free school lunches.

Applying for Free School Meals

To apply for free school meals at West Berkshire schools:

- [Apply online](#) - it's quick and easy and you can do this at any time that is convenient for you - we'll contact you about your application and to confirm that you qualify
- [Apply over the phone through Customer Services](#) - we'll take you through the form for you right there and then - just have your National Insurance number ready

Additional money for schools

The Pupil Premium is the government's name for a sum of extra money that's paid to schools to help with costs. It can help to pay for important things, like school trips, uniforms and PE kit, music lessons, and additional help with subjects like English and Maths.

It's there to help support children from lower income families, so the government uses information about children that are entitled to free school meals to work out where, and how much, to pay.

Free school meals and Pupil Premium

Getting the right information to make sure that Pupil Premium money can be claimed for your child is sometimes complicated for schools.

When a child applies successfully for a free school meal, their application includes allocation of Pupil Premium money for the school.

However:

- some children don't claim for the meal - for instance because they bring a packed lunch
- and all children under the age of 7 are given a free school meal automatically - they don't need to apply

Both of these situations mean that Schools miss out on funding because they don't have the right information from parents that would enable them to apply for the Pupil Premium.



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