



BEECH HILL NEWS



Friday 8th March

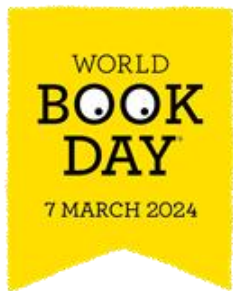


Ramadan Mubarak!

The month of Ramadan will begin at the end of this week. We would like to wish all our Muslim families a blessed Ramadan.

If you are wanting your child to fast during the month of Ramadan, could you please inform your child's class teacher via Seesaw or the school office so we are able to make arrangements for them during the lunch break.

If your child informs their class teacher that they are fasting but you haven't contacted school to inform us of this then we will be contacting you to confirm. To avoid an early morning phone call from school, please let us know in advance.



World Book Day 2024

On Thursday, we thoroughly enjoyed celebrating World Book Day.

The whole school came dressed up as different book characters; it was great to see so many creative, handmade costumes.

In the morning children attended an assembly and took part in different reading activities.

In the afternoon the whole school had to listen for a 'drop and read' announcement - classes stopped whatever they were doing and read a book of their choice or listened to their teacher reading their favourite story.

Children then took part in a book talk session. They were encouraged to have a chat about what they were reading and give book recommendations.

You can also take part in book talk at home, please see the poster for conversation starters and ideas.



Stay and Read Sessions

This week, we hosted parent 'Stay and Read' sessions for years 1 and 2.

Children enjoyed sharing books and using puppets to help them retell stories, with their parents.

It was wonderful to welcome so many parents into school and there was such a lovely atmosphere in the hall whilst these sessions took place.



We still have sessions for the following year groups; please sign up via Parent Pay:

Year 3 - Wednesday 13th March

Year 4 - Monday 18th March

Year 5 and 6 - Tuesday 19th March

World Book Day Vouchers (sent home yesterday)

Pupils can use their World Book Day £1 book to get one of these brilliant reads for free until 31 March 2024.



You can use your voucher at the following retailers:

- Your local independent bookseller
- Morrisons
- Tesco
- Waterstones
- Asda
- Sainsburys
- The Works
- WHSmith

Please check with your local store before you visit to see if they stock the £1 books.



TT Rockstars Most Improved Accuracy

- Year 2 - Rehaan R (Switzerland)
- Year 3 - Adwaith C (Jordan)
- Year 4 - Haleema U (South Africa)
- Year 5 - Isaac A-H (France)
- Year 6 - Jayden S (Egypt)

Class with the highest average speed per question
Egypt (1.94 seconds)

House Points

The following children have received their **bronze** award for achieving **50** house points:

Abdul Aziz A
Alizah B
Ismail M
Ahmad Z

The following children have received their **silver** award for achieving **100** house points:

Mehak K
Ismail M
Areeba N
Aliha A
Alesha I

The following children have received their **gold** award for achieving **200** house points:

Hassan K
Safa A

Attendance Update

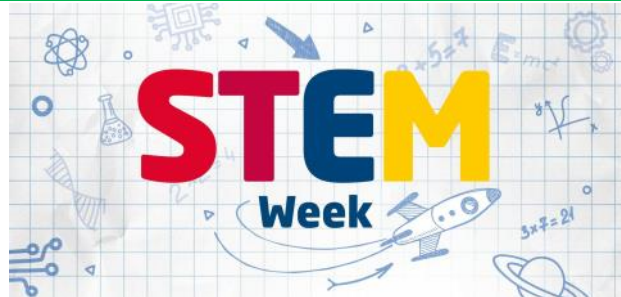
w/c Monday 26th February

Congratulations to class Egypt on achieving the highest attendance last week.

Overall, the attendance has slightly improved but it would be great to see it above 95% next week.

| Group | % Attend |
|------------------|----------|
| Halifax 3 | 93.8 |
| Halifax 4 | 92.1 |
| Halifax 5 | 91.3 |
| Wales | 97.8 |
| Northern Ireland | 95.5 |
| Switzerland | 97.0 |
| Nigeria | 90.6 |
| Canada | 97.9 |
| Jordan | 96.6 |
| Mexico | 96.7 |
| Morocco | 96.0 |
| South Africa | 86.1 |
| Australia | 88.4 |
| Denmark | 88.5 |
| Singapore | 91.7 |
| France | 91.3 |
| Tanzania | 94.0 |
| Egypt | 98.4 |
| Totals | 93.7 |

| | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| | Poor attendance, I am very concerned. |
| | Below expectations, I am worried. |
| | Best chance of success, well done. |



On Friday 15th March, as part of **STEM** (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) week, your child is invited to come into school dressed as something **STEM** related (this is optional)

We also have places left on our **STEM** Family Workshop on Friday 15th March at 9am. Parents will have the opportunity to join their children and take part in **STEM** themed activities, as well as having the chance to learn about different careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

If you would like to attend, please sign up using the online booking system.

Memory Café

Well done to our super group of year 6 children who were part of a 'smashing day' at Memory Lane on Monday.

They were kept busy organising raffle tickets, playing games, serving drinks and dancing!

We are incredibly proud of them and there were lots of lovely comments from the café attendees who really enjoyed spending time with them.



Dinner Menu w/c Monday 11th March

| 1 | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|-----------------|---|---|----------------------------------|---|---|
| Hot Meal Option | Chicken Goujons 1, 3, 4, 5, 10 | Homemade Meat & Potato Pie 5, 10, 12 Or Chicken Tikka Wraps 5, 12 | Battered Fish 2, 5 | Homemade Mexican Chicken Enchiladas 5, 10 Or Shredded Chicken 5 | Pizza 5, 10 |
| | Loaded Potato Skins 10 | Quorn Sausages 5 Gravy | Homemade Vegetable Curry Rice | Mac 'n' Cheese Croquettes 5, 10 | Spinach & Ricotta Tortellini 3, 4, 5, 10, 12 |
| Vegetables | Potato Cubes 5 Beans | Roast Potatoes Broccoli Mixed Veg | Chips Mushy Peas Sweetcorn | Potato Wedges Peas Carrots | Curly Fries 5 Beans |
| Served Daily | Jacket Potatoes with various fillings Salad Bar Selection of Sandwiches Allergies for the daily items available on request | | | | |
| Dessert | American Pancakes 5, 10, 12 | Jam Sponge 5, 10, 12 Custard | Cheesecake 4, 5, 10 | Choc Chip Sponge 5, 10, 12 Custard 10 | Assorted Fresh Baking 5, 10, 12 |
| | Strawberry Ice Cream 10 | Angel Delight 10 | Assorted Biscuits 5, 10, 12 | Jelly | Chocolate Ice Cream 10 |

If you require an allergy list please email kitchen@beechhillschool.co.uk

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators PROMOTING STORYTIME

Being read to regularly can help the under-fives in acquiring literacy; teaches them the value of books and stories; and sparks their imagination and curiosity. Reading to babies, meanwhile, provides the building blocks of language development and the beginnings of social and emotional skills. Here are our top tips for helping children discover the wonder of stories.

1 BE A READING ROLE MODEL

Children thrive on copying the behaviours of adults around them, so it's vital to model regular reading habits: if your child sees you reading, they're likely to copy you. Reading on a screen could be misinterpreted by a child as a different activity, so a printed book is preferable.

2 JOIN A LIBRARY

Local libraries are a cost-effective way of introducing your child to new books. Libraries often host free events to build engagement with reading. Librarians can recommend books based on age, interests, genre or author. Having their own library card and choosing their next read can be exciting for little ones.

3 TAKE IT IN TURNS

Taking turns to read and turn the pages can build your child's confidence and lets you model what's expected. For younger ones, reading doesn't have to mean the exact words on the page – they might prefer their own version! Reading to different audiences is useful: teddies are excellent listeners!

4 CATER TO THEIR INTERESTS

Like adults, children tend to favour books with themes they're interested in. If they're less keen to move away from their preferred subject matter, you could vary the type of book they read by swapping between fiction and non-fiction. There'll be plenty of scope to diversify as they grow up.

5 BUILD READING INTO YOUR DAILY ROUTINE

Building reading into your daily routine will have a positive impact. Just before bedtime is ideal for many families, helping settle the child to sleep. The adult usually reads the story, but children enjoy more interactivity as they get older. It can be handy to have books with you when out and about.

Reading Corner

6 USE PICTURES AND PROPS

Most children's books contain beautiful illustrations which enrich the text. Spend time discussing these with your child and pointing things out. As well as doing voices for different characters and making any relevant noises, you could also enhance story time with props such as toys or puppets.

7 RELISH THE LANGUAGE

The language in children's books is varied and rich; sometimes they might include words children are less familiar with, so you can take the opportunity to explain what they mean. With younger children, you could try paraphrasing certain sentences afterwards to help with understanding.

8 A COMFORTABLE ENVIRONMENT

Where possible, read to your child in an environment that's free from distractions. This helps children to get fully immersed in the experience, supporting their concentration and engagement. Doing this often can help to build up the child's ability to focus for greater lengths of time.

9 TAKE REGULAR BREAKS

Although reading can be hugely enjoyable, children can sometimes struggle to sit for long periods or to engage with texts fully. Have regular breaks: reading a few pages is better than none. You could also have some movement breaks – there's no particular 'right' or 'wrong' way to enjoy a story.

10 RE-READ FAVOURITES

Most children have certain stories that they love hearing again and again. This repetition lets them become familiar with language patterns and more engaged by feeling able to join in. Choosing other books by your child's preferred author can help them to discover new favourites.

Meet Our Expert

Kara Kierman has worked in senior leadership positions (both in the UK and internationally) for 15 years, supported by an MEd in Educational Leadership. As an educational consultant, she now delivers training for a range of organisations – notably on EYF's practice and child development. Previously, Kara was head of a nursery and junior school and has also been a director of early years.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Source: <https://literacytrust.org.uk/blog/reading-children-so-powerful-so-simple-and-yet-so-misunderstood/> | <https://cdn.booktrust.org.uk/globalassets/resources/research/benefits-of-reading---booktrust-2023.pdf> | <https://www.nlc.ac.uk/news/blog/the-importance-of-reading-to-your-children/>

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