

# Bulletin Home – 25<sup>th</sup> June 2021



Dear Parent and Student,

Today I want to congratulate our current Year 11 and Year 10 students for their excellent engagement in their transition days.

On Monday and Tuesday, our Year 11 young men and women engaged in the Sixth Form Induction Programme. They were truly excellent. Motivated, engaged, mature, determined to do themselves justice are some of the characteristics and attributes we observed. They showed great ambition and it is clear that when this approach is sustained, that great success ensues. They are joining a highly successful Sixth Form and we are confident that with them as members of our Sixth Form community, even greater success lies ahead.

Our Year 10 young men and women experienced 'A Day in the Life of a Sixth Former'. They came off their usual timetable, dressed as a Sixth Form student and had a full experience in the Sixth Form Bubble area (all other students were working elsewhere so 'Bubbles' were preserved). The Sixth Form 'Taster Lessons' were incredibly well received. Students were massively impressive in terms of their engagement and undoubtedly show that they too are highly ambitious and they are prepared to put maximum effort into realising their future ambitions. I am very proud of them.

Attached to this bulletin is a letter from Gavin Williamson, the Secretary of State for Education. We have been asked to share this. Clearly, as I have done previously, it is a reminder that we need to continue to take every precaution to keep as safe as possible whilst the country is still dealing with covid and new variants.

Please do not hesitate to get in contact if you would like to discuss any matters further.

Very best wishes for the week ahead.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kathleen M Higgins". The signature is written in a cursive style.

**Kathleen M Higgins**  
**Executive Headteacher**

**BE RESPECTFUL**  
**BE RESPECTED**  
**BE ADMIRED**  
**BE CONNECTED**  
**BE THE CHEERY FACE OF WELCOME**  
**BE THE FRIEND YOU**  
**CAN DEPEND ON**  
**BE DYNAMIC**  
**BE INSPIRED**  
**BE EXCITED**  
**BE ADMIRED**  
**BE THE PERSON YOU**  
**ASPIRE TO BE**  
**BE AN ACADEMIC**  
**SUCCESS STORY**  
**BE A HERO**  
**BE A LEADER**  
**BE A WINNER**  
**BE A DREAMER**  
**BE A CREDIT TO THE SCHOOL**  
**BE THE ONE WHO'S EXCEPTIONAL**  
**BE DEMANDING**  
**BE COURAGEOUS**  
**BE THE IDEA**  
**THAT'S CONTAGIOUS**  
**BE YOURSELF**  
**BE SET FREE**

**BE THE BEST YOU CAN BE**

**Education Secretary Gavin Williamson has today written to secondary school and college parents and guardians in England to talk about the importance of regular testing when it comes to keeping covid out of the classroom.**

*The Prime Minister announced on 14 June that step 4 of the roadmap would have to be paused for up to four weeks because of the spread of the new variant.*

*With the increase in cases with variants of concern, it is important to continue regular testing in order to detect cases of coronavirus, stay ahead of the virus and keep covid out of the classroom.*

*This means that regular asymptomatic testing for all will continue, and we need you and your children who are in secondary school or college to carry on testing at home, twice a week.*

*As you know, testing has been playing a vital role in our response to the virus. It is helping to break chains of transmission by identifying asymptomatic positive cases quickly. This means those who test positive can self-isolate, keeping other pupils and students in face-to-face education. Reporting all test results, positive or negative, helps the health experts have a clearer picture of any potential outbreaks in different parts of the country.*

*I want to thank you all for your efforts so far. I know that this has been an enormously challenging time for families, who have faced many pressures over the past 18 months. Your continued support in helping us fight the virus has been vital.*

*Secondary pupils and college students, households and their bubbles, along with school and college staff have now completed more than 50 million tests since these were introduced back in January. That really is an incredible number and we need you to continue your efforts.*

*It is wonderful to see so many children back in school and through your actions we can work together to keep everyone safe ensuring we can also keep your children in school with their friends.*

**Rt Hon Gavin Williamson CBE MP Secretary of State for Education**

### **Year Group Updates**

#### **Year 7**

Thank you for taking the time to make appointments last Thursday and I hope you found the system easy to use. All Year 7 reports were posted home last week in time for Thursday but, if you have not received yours yet, please let me know.

#### **Learning**

Ms Ilkova is running an after-school STEM Club for our Year 7 students and I was impressed with their knowledge and explanation about electrical circuit boards when I popped in last week, and this week when they were using this knowledge to build a vehicle.

The photographs below give a snapshot.

We are now able to let Year 7 use some of the Science and Design Technology facilities and they are able to see some more of Beechwood.

Students have been learning how to use Bunsen Burners in Science, and I enjoyed watching students making their wooden robots in Technology.



Our amazing Year 7 students have been working on their first STEM Project" Design a vehicle for transport".

So, what is STEM?

STEM stands for science, technology, engineering, and math. Careers in STEM-related fields are vast and diverse. They obviously include careers in the pharmacy, energy, programming, and engineering fields. However, STEM careers may also take the form of a physician's assistant, network communications expert, or agricultural professional. Finance, risk analysis, and even athletic training have elements of STEM in them. And, of course, teaching is an essential career that stimulates the STEM field.

Beechwood school is working closely with General Electric's ('GE').

GE in the UK: Preparing students for the jobs of the future by driving STEM (science, engineering, technology, and mathematics) education in public schools. From September we have a few workshops booked: Career Conversations, Virtual Work Experience, STEM get together, Mentoring and STEM-in-a -box

# Secondary schools offer summary – STEM, Careers, Work Experience



We are happy to work virtually and in-person and can tailor most activities to your preferred age group, from 11-18 year-olds.

 <p><b>STEMtogether</b> Online challenges on five different themes together with soft skills workshops 11-18 year olds. Option to gain Industrial Cadets after accreditation</p>	 <p><b>Career conversations / Routes into STEM</b> GE people give insights into their career journeys and the various routes you can take into different jobs. Primary and secondary students. Flexible format.</p>	 <p><b>GirlsGetSET 100%</b> Multi-year program introducing students to world of STEM through projects and mentoring For 11-18 year olds</p>
 <p><b>Virtual Work Experience</b> New for 2021. Available during various weeks of the summer term. Insights into GE, Learn project, mentoring sessions &amp; soft skills workshops. For 11-18 year olds.</p>	 <p><b>Virtual Careers Fairs</b> Virtual stand showcasing what GE's businesses do, with experts available to chat with students. Can join a pre-arranged fair or create a bespoke event for a school. 11-18 year olds</p>	 <p><b>GirlsGetSET 10<sup>th</sup> Birthday</b> Week of online activities to mark this milestone. Alumni stories, expert panels, projects 21-25 June 2021. For 11-18 year olds <a href="#">Register your interest</a></p>
 <p><b>Mentoring</b> Volunteers work with students on their key challenges and help them determine the best way forward. Mentoring also available for teachers. Flexible format. Mostly aimed at secondary age students.</p>	 <p><b>STEM in a Box</b> Portable box full of things to drink, make and play with. Can be loaned to schools. Volunteers deliver sessions using the material. For 7-18 year olds.</p>	 <p><b>Bespoke curriculum-linked activity</b> We offer various projects and activities that link to the science and maths curriculum. Our volunteers deliver the sessions and provide any material needed to complete the tasks. 11-18 year olds. In school or virtual.</p>

Please treat confidentiality disclosure. Edit or delete from master slide if not needed.

**Ms Ilkova, Science Teacher**

## Curriculum

I hope you have found these summaries useful. This will be the last one, but if you have any questions, please contact me or teachers directly.

This week, Drama have shared what is being taught and learnt.

Last half term we were studying a poem called 'The Haunted Lift' through Drama and we had great fun completing some practical tasks outside now the weather has improved. Some of this work was exceptional! Well done Yr 7!

In this half term in Drama, we are studying the genre of Commedia dell'arte culminating in students creating their own Commedia dell'arte performance. I hope to see families getting involved again to support their child's learning as the students really enjoy sharing their knowledge.

Mrs Dadak, Head of Drama and Performing Arts, [d.dadak@beechwood.slough.sch.uk](mailto:d.dadak@beechwood.slough.sch.uk)

## Rewards

7DRT have won the Achievement Points cup again!

7 KRI had the best attendance this week.

I hope you got my text home saying "Congratulations!"

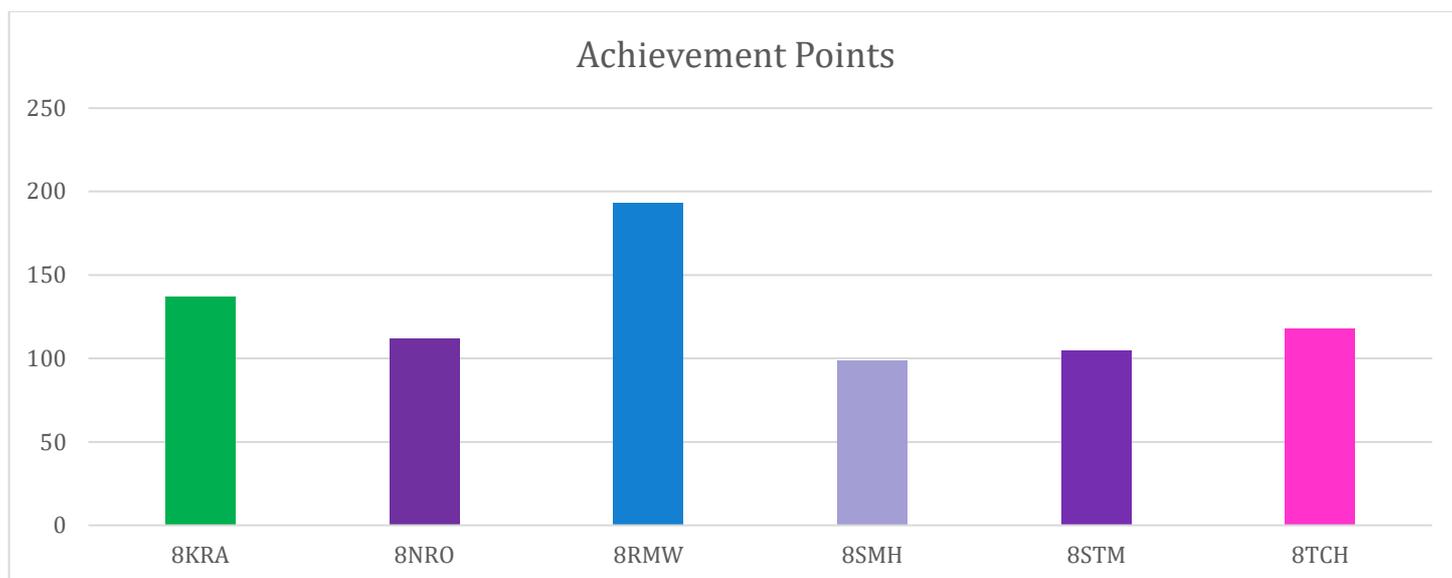
Thank you for your interest and support and please do not hesitate to get in contact if you have any questions,

**Mr Walker, Director of Studies for Year 7**

## Year 8

### Year 8 Achievement Points

Year 8 have had a great week and have been rewarded for their efforts. Well done to **8RMW** who have shot to the lead with **193** achievement points.

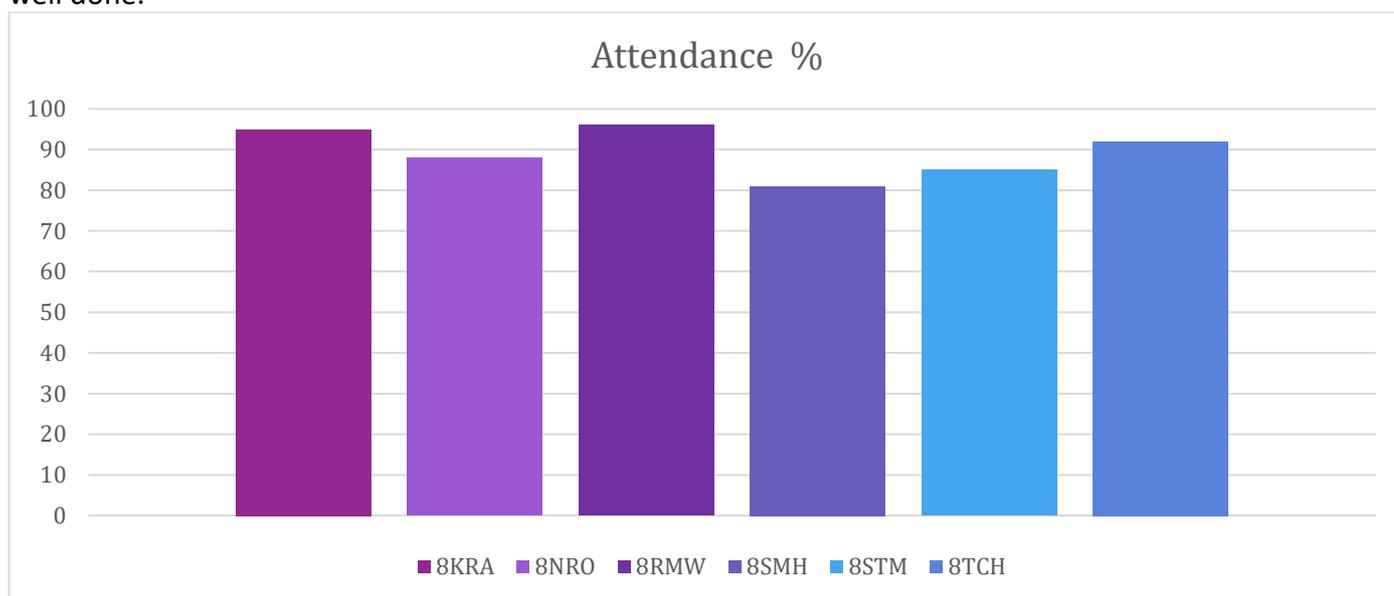


### Star of the Week

This week's star of the week is **Ayesha I 8 KRA** with **12** achievement points this week. Ayesha has an incredible 222 achievement points in total for her fantastic effort this year, she has demonstrated an excellent attitude to learning and exceeded her target in some subjects. Well done Ayesha.

### Year 8 Attendance

Most forms have very good attendance this week. 8KRA, 8RMW and 8TCH all have attendance over 90% – well done.



### Reading Books

Students have silent reading on Friday mornings and are encouraged to have a reading book with them at all times as part of their equipment. Can you please support us with this.

### Reading and Spelling Assessments

Year 8 will be sitting online reading and spelling assessments next week. To assist with this can students bring in their own headphones if they have them. 8SMH, NRO, TCH and RMW will need their headphones on

Monday, 8KRA and STM on Thursday. If students do not have their own the school can provide them for the assessments.

### **Ms Feehan, Director of Studies for Year 8**

#### **Year 9**

Positivity celebration

Well done to the students listed below who received more than 20 positive points/achievement points last week!

<b>Baktawar, A</b>	9SBY
<b>Elda, B</b>	9SBY
<b>Ibtihal, K</b>	9SBY
<b>Brajan, K</b>	9SBY
<b>Abeera, N</b>	9ABU
<b>Tobey, R</b>	9SBY
<b>Lia, S</b>	9STY
<b>Prathamesh, S</b>	9SBY
<b>Wiktorija, S</b>	9STY
<b>Julia, Z</b>	9JFR

#### **Uniform**

Please ensure that you are sending your child to school in the full school uniform. This includes not wearing trainers, hoodies or jewellery.

Persistent failure will result in confiscation of the item.

#### **Charity July month**

Here at Beechwood, Year 9s will be learning about what charity means and how they can participate. Students will have the opportunity to win prizes and the money raised will be going to a charity that they have chosen. More details will follow soon.

### **Ms Bagga, Director of Studies for Year 9**

#### **Year 10**

A massive congratulations needs to go to Year 10 for completing their PPEs for this year! This week's practical exams went really well. Students will now be focusing on getting their Speaking and Listening assessment completed for English over the next couple of weeks.

Tutoring for Maths and English is still running for some students and this will continue right up until the last day of school for those involved.

The taster days in 6th form have been a success, students all were well presented and hopefully got a lot out of their experience in the 6th form area. It is never too early to start making decisions regarding post 16 study, so please be talking together as a family about options after GCSEs. We are also nearly through everyone's first Careers interview which has hopefully also provided information and guidance about next steps.

Have a good weekend Year 10 - give yourself a break from studies after a tough couple of weeks of exams! Well done.

### **Miss Irvine, Director of Studies for Year 10**

## Sixth Form

### Year 12 End of Year exams:

- Well done to all of our Year 12 students for completing their End of Year exams this week. After a very challenging year, we look forward to celebrating your success at the end of this academic year.

### Year 12 Induction Days:

- This week we welcomed back our internal Year 12 applicants to get part in our Induction Days. All students engaged effectively and maturely throughout the two days.
- Our fantastic external applicants were also able to join the day virtually, allowing them to experience the fantastic Level 3 teaching here at Beechwood School.
- We look forward to welcoming them into our Sixth Form this September.

### Year 10 Induction Days:

- This week we also welcomed our Year 10 students into our Sixth Form area to experience a day in the life of a Sixth Form student.
- During the day students were able to attend in smart, business wear - just like our Sixth Formers - and took part in three Level 3 Taster Lessons.
- All students engaged exceptionally well and acted in a mature way throughout. We can't wait to welcome some of them into our Sixth Form in September 2022!
- At the end of the day students completed some work exploring their next steps - after Year 11 and after Year 13. [Click here](#) for a copy of the worksheet Year 10 students have been issued. If you are a parent/carer of a Year 10 student please encourage them to complete the worksheet and discuss their options with them.
- It has been proven that when the student, school and parents are involved in discussions, students are more motivated and leads to greater success.

## Year 10 Sixth Form Taster Day

### **TASK 1: Your feedback** (5 minutes)

- Please complete this [Google Form](#) to help us support you, and improve experiences for all students.

### **TASK 2: Virtual Sixth Form Open Evening** (10 minutes)

- Using the [Prospectus](#), find out the entry requirements for the three courses you experienced today, and complete the table below.

Course Title	Beechwood Entry Requirements <i>Can be found on the subject pages</i>	Self-Reflection <i>Do you think you are likely to exceed / meet / miss this entry requirements?</i>
<b><i>What can you do between now and May/June 2022 to ensure you meet/exceed your target grades?</i></b>		

### **TASK 3: The Buzz Quiz** (10 minutes)

- Learn more about yourself by completing [The Buzz Quiz](#) and then complete the table below

Question	Answer
What are you?	
What's your motto?	
What percentage of the population are the same?	
What job roles are recommended?	
<b>Pick one of the job roles, watch the video and complete the questions below</b>	
What do I need to do?	
What are the related skills?	
What are the related subjects?	
What are the desirable qualifications?	
What are the related jobs?	
What are the job families?	

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**Wanting to go to university? Complete Tasks 4A and 4B.**  
**Not wanting to go to university? Complete Task 5.**

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**TASK 4A: Informed Choices (5 minutes)**

- If you're wanting to go to university, now is the perfect time to start exploring courses and universities. You can do this by visiting university websites, their YouTube pages and the UCAS website.
- If you're wanting to go to university, now is the perfect time to start exploring courses and universities. You can do this by visiting university websites, their YouTube pages and the UCAS website.
- When applying for university in Year 13 you will need to select five choices - they can be **five** different courses, five different universities or a combination of both.
- We advise that you select **one** aspirational choice, **three** realistic choices and **one** back up option.
- For your aspirational choice you might want to explore the [Russell Group universities](#). *Russell Group universities have a shared focus on research and a reputation for academic achievement. They have huge social, economic and cultural impacts locally, across the UK and around the globe: They produce more than two-thirds of the world-leading research produced in UK universities.*
- What you study at Sixth Form can affect your options at university and your future career. Use [Informed Choices](#) to help you understand which subjects open up different degrees, particularly at Russell Group universities.

**TASK 4B: University League Tables (10 minutes)**

- For your aspirational choice you might want to explore the [Complete University Guide](#) and see which are the best performing universities - you can also filter this to display the best universities for the course/s you are interested in.
- Using the resources on the [Complete University Guide](#) complete the table below.

Question	Answer
What is the overall number one university?	
What university has the highest student satisfaction	

rate?	
Which university has the highest graduate prospects?	
What job roles are recommended?	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Click <b>SUBJECT LEAGUE TABLES +</b></li> <li>2. Choose a <b>Subject Area</b></li> <li>3. Click <b>Apply</b></li> </ol>	
What are the top ten universities for your selected subject area?	

**TASK 5: National Apprenticeship Service (15 minutes)**

- After you complete your Level 3 studies after Year 11 you might want to go straight into work, or complete an apprenticeship to gain more qualifications, skills and training.
- Explore current available apprenticeships using the [National Apprenticeship Service](#)
- Using your feedback from *The Buzz Quiz*, select a role/industry and type it into the Keyword box. *For example, 'Marketing'.*
- Enter your home postcode/location and change the distance to what you would be willing to travel. *I would recommend 20 miles.*
- Leave the apprenticeship level as 'all apprenticeships', and hit search.
- Sort the results for what you want. *I would recommend by distance or best match.*
- Using the results complete the table below

Question	Answer
What are the job titles of the top five apprenticeships?	
When are the start dates for each?	
What is the journey time for each?	
<b>Pick one of the available apprenticeships and complete the questions below</b>	
What is the job title of the apprenticeship?	
What is the name of the company? (Below the job title)	
What are they looking for? (Summarise the role)	
What is the wage?	
What are the working hours?	
What is the duration of the apprenticeship?	
What level is the apprenticeship?	
What are some of the responsibilities?	
What are some of the key requirements?	
What are some of the desired skills?	
What are some of the personal qualities?	
What are the desired qualifications?	
Are there any future prospects? If so, what are they?	

**Miss Doncaster, Director of Studies for Sixth Form**

## Great Literacy

### **Be Word Savvy - Part of the new Disciplinary Literacy Strategy- continuing this term.**

This week the prefix is '**de**' meaning the opposite, remove or reduce. Some of the words we are looking at are: **deconstruct, debug, decontaminate.**

Please do ask your son/ daughter each week about the week's 'Be Word Savvy' focus and encourage them to spot the week's prefix or suffix in other words. The aim is for the students to become more aware of how words are related and built up so that when they come across words they are unfamiliar with they can work out the meanings themselves. In this way, pupils gain the knowledge of not just a single word each week but a strategy of how to approach new words they are presented with.

**For more information and any queries please contact Mrs Bowker**

### **Be Word Savvy** Week of 21 June 2021

This week's prefix is .....



This week's Example Word

## de construct

Prefix meaning opposite, reduce or remove

Means to heap up in Latin.

The builders constructed the tower.

To deconstruct a piece of writing or work of art is to study it carefully by looking at the ideas and the language or the style to understand the meaning.

<u>d</u> ecrease	To make smaller - Is the opposite of increase
<u>d</u> ebug	To debug a computer is to remove errors
<u>d</u> efrost	To melt or remove icy frost
<u>d</u> econtaminate	To remove dangerous substances such as radioactivity or germs
<u>d</u> erail	The train was derailed - came off its tracks.



- What other words can you think of using de as a prefix?
- What do they mean?
- What subjects do you use them in?

Throughout this week, your teachers will be focusing on this prefix and suffix in lessons using vocabulary from the subject.

Show them what you learned this morning when they ask you what they mean!



### Other Information

Please see the link below giving more information about County Lines and where to get help if needed.

<https://www.unseen.uk.org/county-lines>



**FREE**  
for those eligible  
for free school  
meals!\*

# Join in the fun at **SUMMER 4-4-4!**

## Summer Holiday Activities and Food Programme

Eligible children can access four-hour sessions, four-days a week, over four weeks at no cost to you. The sessions include a healthy meal, advice to families on how to source, prepare and cook nutritious food and a variety of exciting activities and sports!

Contact the Slough Family Information Service for a list of providers and what's available on 01753 476589 or go to [www.sloughfamilyservices.org.uk](http://www.sloughfamilyservices.org.uk) \*If not eligible you can pay to attend and join in the fun!

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[www.slough.gov.uk](http://www.slough.gov.uk)  
**Slough**  
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 **Slough**  
Holiday Activities  
and Food Programme

  
Department  
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