

Bulletin Home – 9th October 2020

Dear Parent and Student,

It has been another really busy week here in school, with much going on and being achieved.

Our Black History Month Celebration and focus this week has enabled us to learn about those who have achieved great things and about racism, colonialism, Art, Music, the value and strength in diversity. The focus has brought us to having the opportunity to appreciate how important our school values are and what they should mean to each of us in terms of the reality of our daily lives as members of the Beechwood community. We cannot re-visit these values too often and so I share them again as a timely reminder.

“Our Beechwood Values”

We value all
We respect all
We believe all

We see the good and potential in all

We have a strong sense of all having an entitlement to experience excellence and success.

We are all determined to ‘do our best to be the best we can be’.

Moving on from this, but continuing to focus on how we can support one another as a community, it is appreciated that the national guidance continues to change, or it is suggested that there will be change, due to a rise in Covid infection rates. When we receive any new information, I will share this with you, but for the time being it is important to keep doing what we are doing and to ensure no complacency creeps in and we do not take anything for granted.

Our young people need to be ever more careful about physical contact with one another, about ensuring they do not mix in large groups outside school and they do not mix in cross year group clusters outside school. They need to ensure they arrive at school at the designated time and leave directly once dismissed. They must also continue with very regular hand sanitising, washing of hands and excellent personal hygiene. Overall, we have been incredibly impressed with their efforts in all of these regards it is just a question of sustaining efforts even though they may find it tedious.

As I am focusing on reminders, it is helpful to reiterate that when a young person is sent home from school due to a high temperature, a cough, a change/loss of taste or smell, then they will not be allowed to return to school until they have had a negative Covid test and the NHS test result has been shared with us – i.e. we need to see the NHS communication. This is part of the required protocol and will keep us all safe. Thank you again for your co-operation and understanding.

We have two weeks now until half term – this academic year is passing quickly and much needs to be achieved in terms of learning and progress. Some important information is shared below by our Directors of Studies which enables families to know some of the key issues, dates and focus areas at this time. As always, please do not hesitate to be in contact if there is any further information you would find helpful.



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

My very best wishes to you all



Kathleen M Higgins
Executive Headteacher

Year 7

Year 7 have been impressive this week. Their positive attitude in the classroom, behaviour and uniform are all very good.

I had a lovely reminder of how creative our students are when I saw them sketching in Art. Even though drawing and sketching doesn't come naturally to everybody, I was delighted to see the pride taken with the careful presentation of their sketchbooks.

Ms Taylor is excited by the potential shown in these sketchbooks with some work already close to "mastery" and showing a mature grasp of technique. Not easy! Well done!

We will include some photographs of their work here so you can see this high standard.

Attendance

The year group have excellent attendance and we want to recognise this. Today, students with excellent attendance have been given extra achievement points and a badge to be worn on their blazer. To give everyone an opportunity to be rewarded, we will do these every three weeks.

Awards

Each week a tutor group will be awarded a cup for best attendance and one for the most Achievement Points. If you are a parent/carer of a child in 7RBL or 7DRT, I hope you got my text on Monday saying "Congratulations!".

Curriculum

I thought it would be helpful if each week one or two subjects shared with you what Year 7 are currently studying. It is the turn of Drama this week:

I am Mrs Dadak and as Head of Drama and Performing Arts, I am your go-to person for all things Drama! Across this term, our Year 7 students will be first looking at the basics of performance through the Theatre Practitioner Constantin Stanislavski and then applying them to create a realistic character when we study at 'A Christmas Carol' in the second half term. Many students have not been taught Drama before so they are a little daunted at first, so we start by building on their confidence and group work skills.

In order to support your child, please discuss what they are doing in Drama and ensure they are completing any homework set, preferably on Google Classroom where possible.

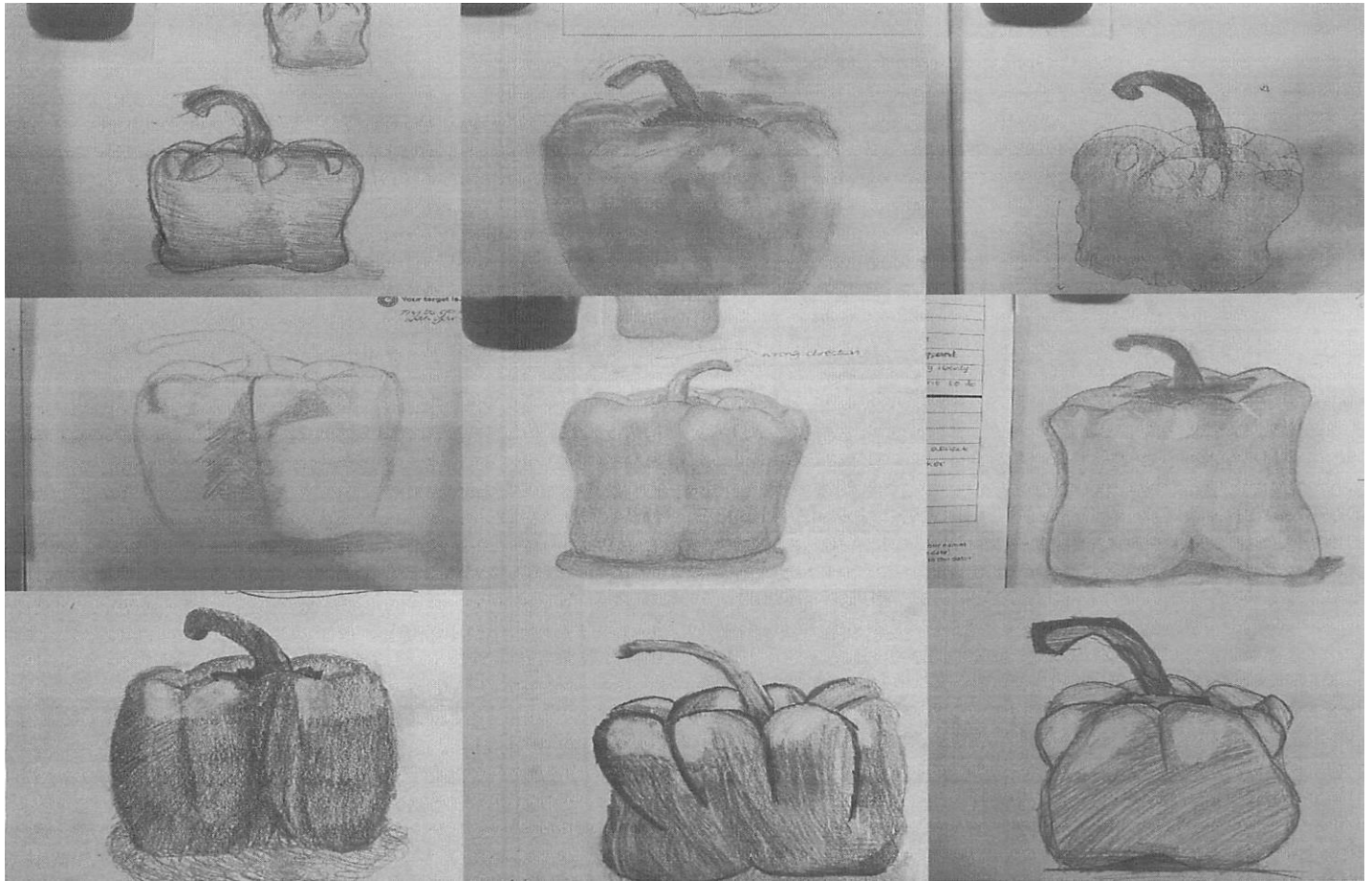
I am looking forward to supporting you and your child throughout their time here at Beechwood School.

d.dadak@beechwood.slough.sch.uk

Thank you for your help and support. We want to work in partnership with you so please keep letting us know if we can help in any way.

Mr Walker

Year 7 Drawings



Year 9

After a positive start to this academic year I feel it is time for a few important reminders. I would be grateful if as parent/carers/guardians you take the time to discuss the following with your young person and emphasise the importance of following our School rules and expectations, particularly in light of our current climate:

- Be respectful - to both staff and each other
- Do as you are asked to do, without question, (it is likely to be for your safety)
- Be kind - to yourself and each other
- Follow the routes around school
- Line up to come back in from break times, as soon as the whistle is blown
- Go straight into lessons, no waiting in the corridors
- Wear the correct uniform (no hoodies even on days when you have PE)

Many thanks for your support with this
Mrs McEvoy

Year 10

We have had another good week at school for Year 10. Just thought I would use this week's message to give a last call for all Year 10 students to check on Parent Pay and see if there are any of the revision guides that you would like to purchase. The one that all students need to buy is the Macbeth script - which is £1.50. This will be the copy they use in English to annotate. If anyone has any concerns about purchasing these, please feel free to get in touch and we can help you sort something out.

Secondly, on Monday, our Year 10 leaders will be beginning their 30-day challenge! There will be updates about how they are going over the next month. A big thank you to all of those who are involved with this, we look forward to hearing about your progress and about some of the benefits your chosen practice has.

Thanks,
Amanda Irvine, Director of Year 10 Studies

Year 11

This week, the English department started the process for Year 11's Speaking and Listening Assessments. As I made my way around the classrooms at the end of the day, it was great to see the focus, determination and passion the students had for their topic of their presentations. Some students were obviously nervous, but the feedback from their English teachers has been amazing. The students have presented themselves with confidence and they have really impressed across the board.

Well done and I look forward to seeing this week's students, who I am sure, will be just as successful.
Miss Hallett

Sixth Form

Over the last few weeks Sixth Form students have been completing their applications to become a Sixth Leader for 2020-2021. Please join me in congratulating the following students on successfully becoming a **Sixth Leader**:

Rohail Abdul	Arslan Mahmood
Isaac Abib	Yaser Mateen
Tayyaba Ahmad	Umar Nasib
Nashat Ajaz	Ibrahim Pallin
Stephanie Angelkovski	Milan Patel
Agnesa Beka	Harnish Salhotra
Andreea Beldiman	Boguslawka Sarzynska
Julia Cunningham	Julia Sienkiewicz
Ilhaam Ibraahim	Alicia Steadman
Shoaib Jaan	Anna Taglieber
Amani Khan	Hussein Waiswa
Zohaib Khan	Daniel Wilton
Nicholas Linford	

In addition to this, I would like to also introduce you to our Year 13 Senior Sixth Leaders for this academic year. Congratulations to Amani Khan and Ibrahim Pallin on becoming our Vice Presidents for 2020-2021 and to Umar Nasib who will be our President for 2020-2021.

[UK University & Apprenticeship Search Virtual Fair](#)

Join us at the free UK University & Apprenticeship Search Virtual Fair on

Wednesday 4th November, designed to feel exactly like a Careers Fair, just from your home! Over 90 universities, colleges and apprenticeship providers will be attending, making it the best place to explore all your post-18 options.

- Explore Russell Group, red brick, modern and specialist universities.
- Personal Statement webinars led by universities at 1pm and 5pm.
- Chat directly with university and apprenticeship representatives and ask questions.

The fair will run from 12pm to 6pm so you can **visit at school or at home**. The event is perfect for Years 13, 12 and 11 - whether you're finishing off your UCAS application or looking for inspiration.

Miss Rebecca Doncaster, Director of 6th Form

Be Word Savvy - Part of the new Disciplinary Literacy Strategy

This week the word is **colonialism**: **colony** meaning an area under control of another country.; **ial** meaning relating to or about; **ism** meaning the action or a belief.

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 and 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

Root word colony

An area under control of another country occupied by settlers. From the Latin word for farmer



suffix ial

relating to or about



suffix ism

means the action of or a belief



Example Word

colony

area under control of another country occupied by settlers.

ial

relating to/ about

ism

the action of or belief

Using your understanding of the prefix, stem, and suffix, what do you think this means?



Colonialism.

The act of one nation controlling another for economic gain