

# Bulletin Home – 11 December 2020

Dear Parent and Student,

We now have less than a week to go until the end of term and in our 'Weekly Bulletin' next week I look forward to sharing some of the highlights of this last term. We will also have our end of term Celebration Assemblies and information relating to this will also be shared. For now, however, I want to reiterate what I shared in the communication I sent home on Wednesday.

In light of the Government communication received on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December, we are bringing forward the end of term by one day. Term will end for students on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December and students will be dismissed at the following times

**Year 7** - 12:00  
**Year 8** - 12:15  
**Year 9** - 12:20  
**Year 10** - 12:10  
**Year 11** - 12:05  
**6th Form** - 12:10

Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December will be a non-uniform day as a treat for the students – no donation to charity is required.

Over the first part of the holiday – up to and including Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> December – if any student receives a positive test result for Covid 19 parents are asked to contact the school immediately via email. The email address to use is [enquiries@beechwood.slough.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@beechwood.slough.sch.uk)

We will then engage in the process of contact tracing, advising close contacts of the student who tested positive that they must self-isolate and we will provide specific information about the period of time this is required for.

The contact tracing is an urgent and vital health and safety precaution to ensure that virus transmission is reduced and no one becomes very seriously ill. Sadly, we are all aware of how extremely dangerous and life-threatening this virus can be.

With regards to contact tracing, it is absolutely essential that we have accurate contact details on file for the parents/carers of all our young people. If you have changed your telephone number or email address and have not advised us yet, please do so immediately. If there has been a change of address that has not been notified to us, again, please let us know immediately and definitely by Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December at the very latest.

Thank you very much indeed for your support and understanding with this.

My very best wishes to you all



**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**

## **Year 7**

Thank you very much for your thoughtful and generous support with our appeal for donations to Slough Foodbank. Year 7 donated the most (by a long way!), and these donations will make a real difference this Christmas.

## **Learning**

I was impressed with the quality of answers in History this week when students are learning about the Feudal system.

Looking through some exercise books this week, I was interested to read some longer pieces of writing about the Domesday Book. It's clear that many of our Year 7 possess a wide vocabulary along with a good awareness of spelling, punctuation and grammar.

All subject areas are aware of the need to promote literacy as part of their marking and teaching. In tutor time, we have focussed on a Word of the Week. This is also shared in this bulletin, and if you are able to, it would be helpful if you can ask your child about this and what the word means.

## **Google Drive**

Please find attached a guide to accessing Google Classroom. Most students are using and all students have been shown along with passwords and logins checked during tutor time.

## **Rewards**

Well done to students in 7JSU AND 7RBL who had the attendance and achievement point cups this week. I hope you all got my text message to say well done.

Subject areas will be sharing again what they are teaching after Christmas. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please contact teachers or myself-we are happy to help.

Many thanks for your support and interest.

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

## **Year 8**

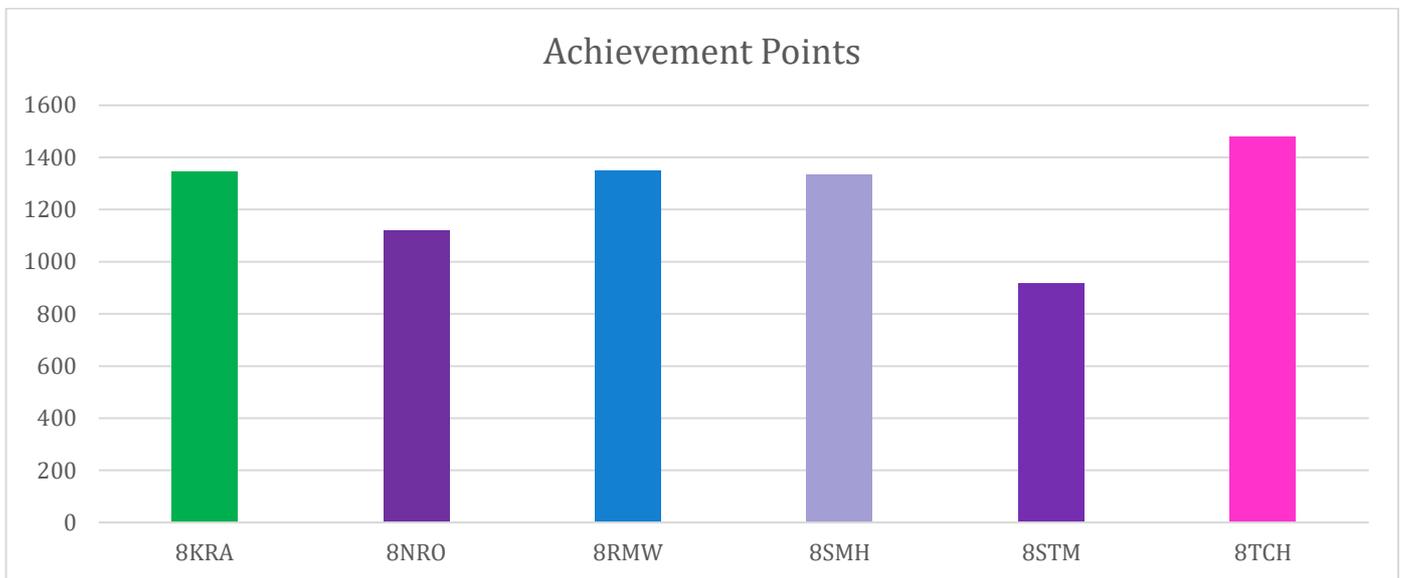
### **Star of the Week**

This week's **Star of the Week** is **Abdul Ibrahim 8RMW**. Abdul has been extremely helpful to staff and students and often acts as a mediator between students. Well done on doing the right thing, being responsible and being a good friend to others in the year group.



### **Year 8 Achievement Points – Leader Board**

Reaching the end of term 8TCH are 130 achievement points above 2<sup>nd</sup> place RMW. All tutor groups have worked extremely hard this term.



### Year 8 Form Competition – Winner 8KRA

All forms worked really hard on their notice boards and it was difficult to choose one winner. In the end 8RA's creative talent won out, with 8TCH in second and 8RMW third.

### Google Classroom – Help

If students are struggling with google classroom I have attached a student guide to the newsletter which may help. There are also some useful tutorials on YouTube.

Ms Feehan, Director of Studies for Year 8

## Students' Guide to Google Classroom

This short guide will show you how to access Google Classroom in school and at home.

To begin with, open a web browser such as Google Chrome .

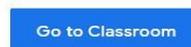


Once you're on Chrome, simply search for "Google Classroom". Alternatively, click the link below and it will take you straight there.  
<https://www.classroom.google.com>



You will arrive at a new page and you will see something similar to this. Click "Go to Classroom".

Classroom helps students and teachers organize assignments, boost collaboration, and foster better communication.



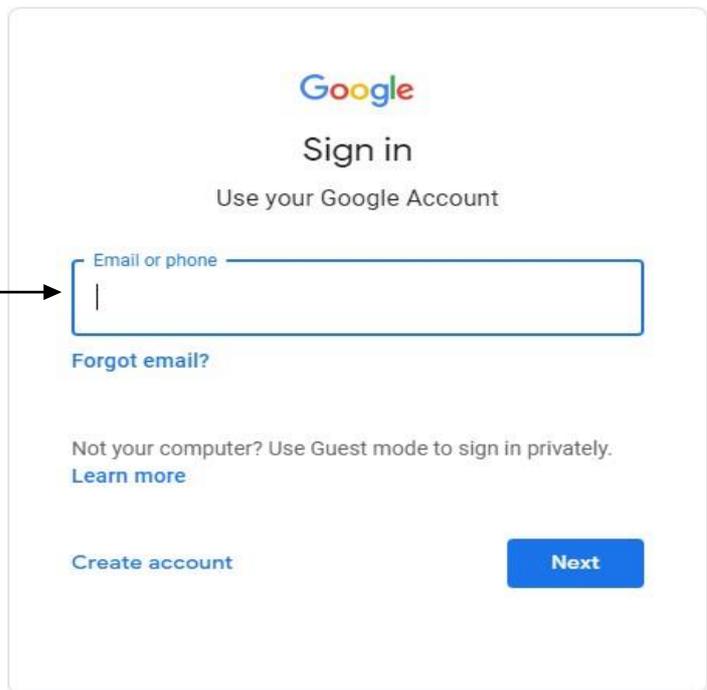
Having trouble signing into Classroom? [Get tips and help here.](#)

You will now be asked to sign into your Google Classroom account.

Your username (email) will be the same username you use to log onto the computer followed by @beechwood.slough.sch.uk

For example, if I login to the computer with "smithj20" then my username for Google Classroom would be "smithj20@beechwood.slough.sch.uk".

Then you'll just need to enter your password. If you can't remember your password go and see IT support and they can change it for you.



Google

Sign in

Use your Google Account

Email or phone

Forgot email?

Not your computer? Use Guest mode to sign in privately.

Learn more

Create account

Next

Once you've logged in, you will be taken to the page shown below, where you can see all the classes you're a member of.



This student is only a member of one class. You can see the name of the class and the teacher it belongs to.

If you've been asked to join a new class, simply click the plus icon in the top right where it will then prompt you to enter a class code. This code should be provided by your teacher.

After clicking on the class, you want, you will be taken to its stream. Here you will be able to see any post and resource your teacher has provided. You will also see any upcoming assignments. To view the assignment, simply click on it.

Out of the two posts in the stream shown below, the top one is an assignment whereas the bottom one is just an announcement to the class with a document attached.



**Upcoming**

Woohoo, no work due in soon!

[View all](#)

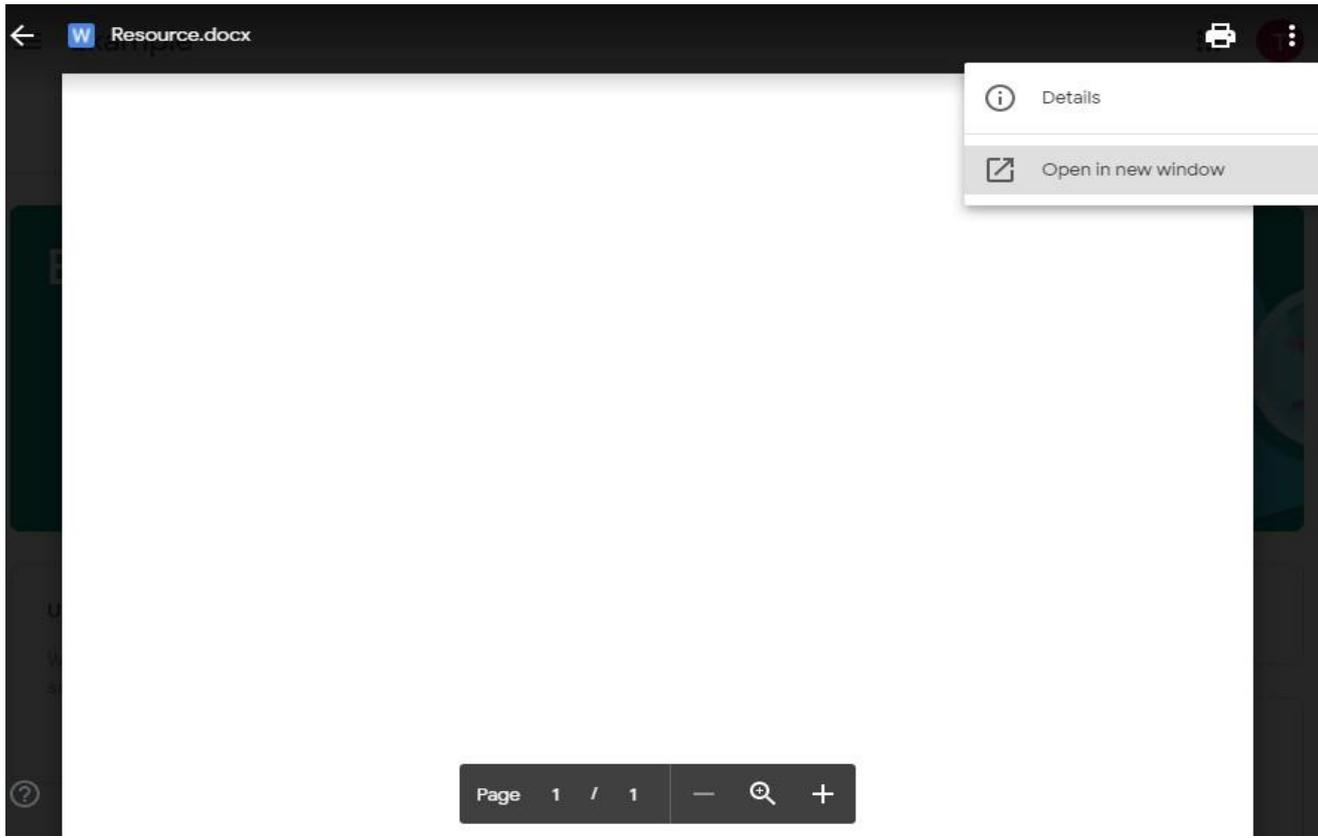
 **Staff afisentzides posted a new assignment: Example Assignment** 13 Mar (Edited 09:01)

 **Staff afisentzides** 12 Mar

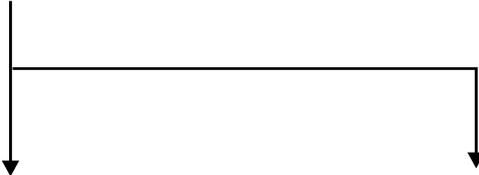
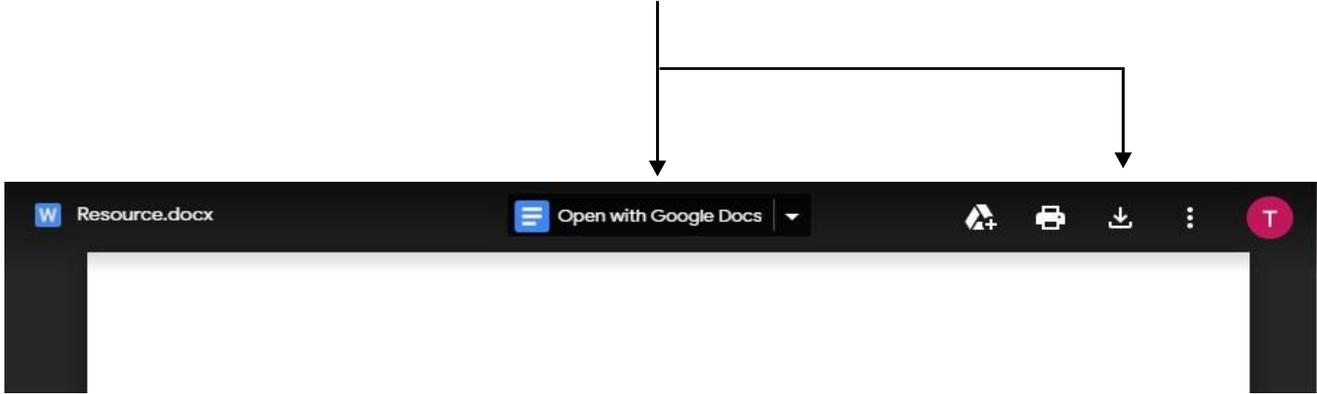
This is an example post. Look at the attached document.

 **Resource.docx**  
Word

If you click on an attachment or resource provided, it will pop up in the same window you're currently in, it can't be edited from here. To edit or download a copy of the file, you'll need to open it in a new window. To do this, click on the three small dots in the top right corner followed by "Open in new window".

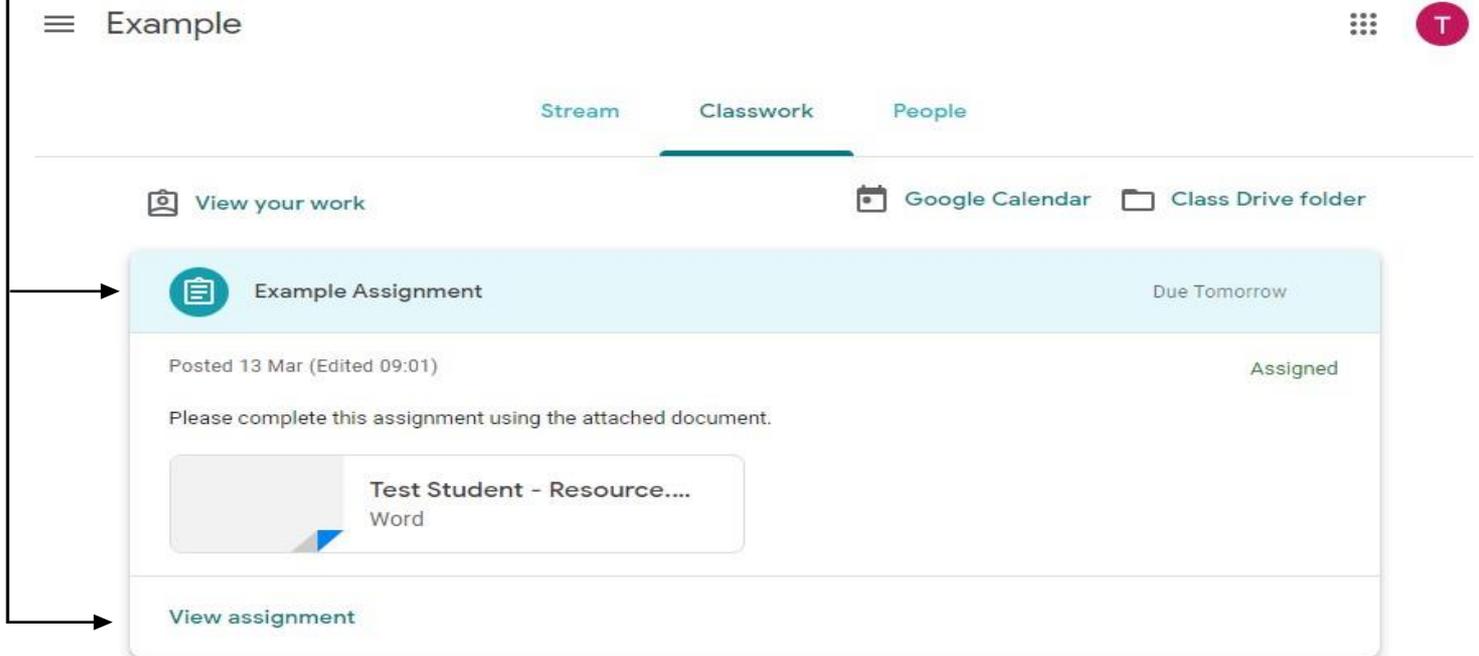


It will now open in a new window where you will be able to edit it using Google Docs, or you have the option to download it too if needed. Any changes made to the document while using Google Docs will be automatically saved as a personal copy in your own Google Drive.



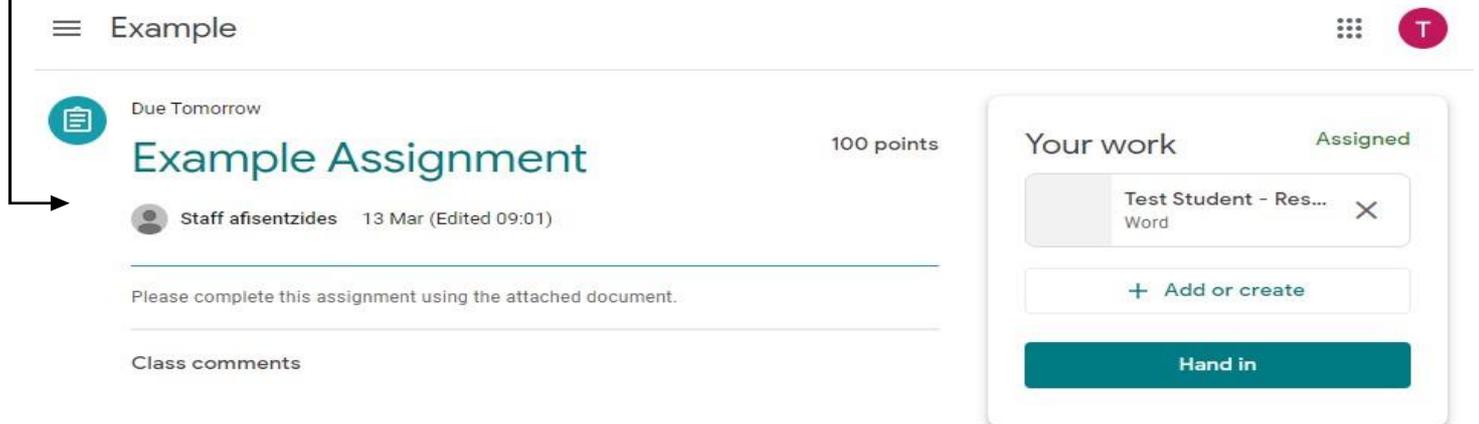
On the Classwork page, you'll be able to see any work set by your teacher. Work will mostly be in the form of an assignment. As you can see below, we have one assignment waiting for us. To view the assignment, first click on its name and then "View assignment".

1



The screenshot shows the top navigation bar with a hamburger menu, the word "Example", and a profile icon. Below the navigation bar are three tabs: "Stream", "Classwork" (which is selected and underlined), and "People". Under the "Classwork" tab, there are three items: "View your work", "Google Calendar", and "Class Drive folder". The main content area features a card for "Example Assignment" with a "Due Tomorrow" label. The card includes the text "Posted 13 Mar (Edited 09:01)", "Assigned", and "Please complete this assignment using the attached document." Below this is a document preview for "Test Student - Resource.... Word". At the bottom of the card is a "View assignment" button. Arrows from the text above point to the assignment card and the "View assignment" button.

After click on the assignment, you will see something similar to the page below. On the left you will see the name of the assignment, the teacher who's assigned it and any instructions provided.



The screenshot shows the details of the "Example Assignment". At the top left, it says "Due Tomorrow" and "100 points". The assignment title "Example Assignment" is prominently displayed. Below the title, it shows the assigner "Staff afisentzides" and the date "13 Mar (Edited 09:01)". The instructions "Please complete this assignment using the attached document." are repeated. There is a "Class comments" section. On the right side, there is a "Your work" panel with the status "Assigned". This panel shows the attached document "Test Student - Res... Word" with a close button, an "Add or create" button, and a large teal "Hand in" button. Arrows from the text above point to the assignment title and the "Hand in" button.

Google Docs or upload a file of your own. Once you've uploaded your work, just click "Hand in", it will then be submitted and your teacher can access it. By returning to this page, you will be able to see any comments your teacher has left. They can return the work to you too for you to make any amendments before handing it back in.

## Year 9

This week, I wanted to say how impressed I was with Year 9's organisation for non-uniform day and the Foodbank collection. Many of you took part in both and it was so nice to see how in these difficult times, you are thinking of others and taking the time to be involved in helping our local community. Although we didn't bring in the most items for the foodbank as a year group, we did our best and whatever we were able to donate will help others. I know many of you have signed up for the upcoming sponsored events and this is another opportunity for you to get involved with.

Please make sure you are aware of the arrangements for the end of term and if you have any questions ask your tutor, myself or Mrs Foster.

**Mrs McEvoy, Director of Studies for Year 9**

## Year 10

To spread a little Christmas cheer, Year 10 had a Christmas Decoration competition. Students were tasked with decorating their form rooms to help everyone get in the festive spirit! Congratulations to 10CCE/FLY for being the winner overall in Year 10. Have a look at their work!



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

## Year 11

### Best Decorated Room

This week Year 11 form groups have been competing for the best decorated classroom in our lead up to the Christmas holidays and it has been brilliant to see how well the form groups have worked together as a team to decorate their classrooms. I must admit, the winner was a difficult choice as they all put so much work and time into their decorations, however I must admit that there was one classroom that was made extra festive with all students wearing Santa hats and playing some festive tunes as I walked in for the judging.

Congratulations to KGO on first place, KBE second and DDA third. Well done to all Form Groups for making our Year 11 bubble feel and look extra festive.

## Purple Tie - Slough Food Bank

This year has not been easy for all of us because of the pandemic however there are families who have been less fortunate this year and have had to rely on the local food banks to get by.

Did you know 1 in 5 people in the UK population live under the poverty line. This statistic is very high, so as a school we should try to help our families in our local community. Our local food bank is the Slough Food Bank who opened in 2010 and who last year gave **4,781** three-day emergency food supplies to local people which had seen a 19% increase since 2018. The school has been collecting goods that will go to helping our local community. Today the delivery was made by Miss Irvine and Miss Milner and we are waiting to hear the final number of donations made by students and staff. It doesn't stop here though, so please if you can donate, donate anything you can as it will be very appreciated by the less fortunate families in slough.

Samir Mamoun  
Deputy Head Boy

## Miss Hallett, Director of Studies for Year 11

### Sixth Form

One of our Beechwood Sixth Form Traditions is our annual Christmas Party. Although this year will be slightly different, the Sixth Form will still be competing in a festive quiz. This year we would like to share this with all of our community so families can host their own quiz at home over the Christmas break. Look out for more information in our virtual celebration assembly that will be posted to the Beechwood News Google Classroom on Thursday 17 December.

## Miss Rebecca Doncaster, Director of 6th Form

### Be Word Savvy - Part of the new Disciplinary Literacy Strategy

This week the word is **December**: prefix 'dec' meaning 'ten'.

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

Be Word Savvy  
Week of 7 December  
2020



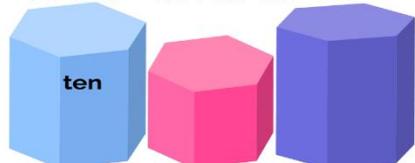
prefix  
dec

10 from Greek  
and Latin



Example Word

Dec ember



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



December - was  
the tenth month  
in the Roman  
calendar. Now the  
twelfth month

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!



- What other words can you think of with this prefix and suffix?
- What do they mean?
- What subjects do you use them in?

### Achievement Centre

Year 7 Unit Award Scheme students have been studying a unit on Christmas Customs around the world, one of the outcomes was to produce a Christmas card of their own design. Here are some examples of the fabulous card they have created.

### Ms Hill, Achievement Centre

