

Bulletin Home – 13 November 2020

Dear Parent and Student,

This forthcoming week is a really important one for our current Year 11 students. On Thursday 19 November we have the launch of our **Sixth Form Open Evening Event**. It is a 'launch' because, due to lockdown and the Covid circumstances, we are holding this really important event virtually. It is so important that our current Year 11 students consider carefully their next steps at this time. This is something they should feel excited about and which enables them to see clearly what all their current hard work and efforts will lead to. It is something our Year 10 young men and women can also engage with as it certainly is not too early for them to be looking to fulfilling their ambitions post GCSE. Ms Doncaster Director of Sixth Form and the Directors of Studies for Year 11 and Year 10 – Ms Hallett and Ms Irvine – will share more detail with students prior to Thursday.

In terms of sharing more detail, the DFE regularly share information on their website for schools and families within the context of issues relating to the nation's Covid situation and impact on schools. If you are interested in finding out what is current, you can follow the links below.

Department for Education guidance

Our guidance to support education providers, local authorities and parents during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak can be accessed using the links below:

- [Guidance for early years and childcare providers](#)
- [Guidance for schools](#)
- [Guidance for further and higher education providers](#)
- [Guidance for local authority children's services](#)
- [Guidance for holiday or after-school clubs and other out-of-school settings](#)

Finally, from me this week, I want to ask for the support of those parents who drop students to school by car. Maintaining a good relationship with our neighbours is really important and this week I have had some concerns expressed to me by local residents about parking/waiting to pick up/drop off at the start and end of the day. The concern is that driveways are being blocked and access to homes is becoming difficult. I very much appreciate that from a Beechwood parental perspective it may be the case that you are only there for a short period of time, your vehicle is attended and you would move quickly if necessary, but in an effort to be supportive to those who live in close proximity to our school, I ask that you follow the advice I gave earlier this academic year – ie arrange a drop off/collection point in neighbouring roads, away from the school entrance, off Long Readings Lane and not obstructing a drive way.



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

Thank you for your support with this and I hope you all have a good weekend and an excellent week ahead.

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light grey background. The signature reads "Kathleen M Higgins" in a cursive, flowing script.

Kathleen M Higgins
Executive Headteacher

Year 7 - Director of Studies – Mr Walker

Learning

Year 7 have worked well this week and I have enjoyed talking with them about their learning so far. For example, I was impressed with their knowledge about Atoms and Science and enjoyed watching a class concentrate so well in Music when learning about time signatures and note length.

We all want to make sure that Year 7 are challenged and showing us their best work. To help with this, I will be meeting with different groups of students each week during Tutor Time to discuss what they have completed in their books and their learning. Tutors are also going to be regularly looking at examples of best work and exercise books so we can all get a much closer look at what is being learnt and how we can further support your child. All books seen will have a Gold sticker and our initials, which will also let you know that we have discussed the work.

Awards

Well done to students in 7KSA and 7LCH for winning the Attendance and Achievement Point cups this week-I hope you all got my usual text to let you know this good news.

Curriculum

This week, PE have shared what is being taught this term:

‘What a great start to the year for our new look PE curriculum. It has been a pleasure working with all pupils so far this term and it has been really good to see pupils’ enthusiasm and resilience whilst taking part in Athletics across a number of different disciplines so far this year. Pupils have had the opportunity to develop techniques and try to beat school records during each lesson. Long may this motivation towards developing an all-round, lifelong, love for activity continue.

As we move forward, new activities will be introduced after half term which will follow government guidelines.

It's great to see so many in the Beechwood PE kit, if you still require kit please follow the link on the school website or click the following link: <https://shop.agamesports.co.uk/collections/beechwood-school>

Thank you for your interest and support’.

Year 8 - Director of Studies – Miss Feehan

Year 8 News

Year 8 Leaders

Next week Year 8 students will have the opportunity to apply to be Year 8 Leaders – the representatives for their form. This will give 2 students from each Form the chance to get involved in the planning of events and activities for their year group, represent the views of their form and help decide on the rewards for their year group.

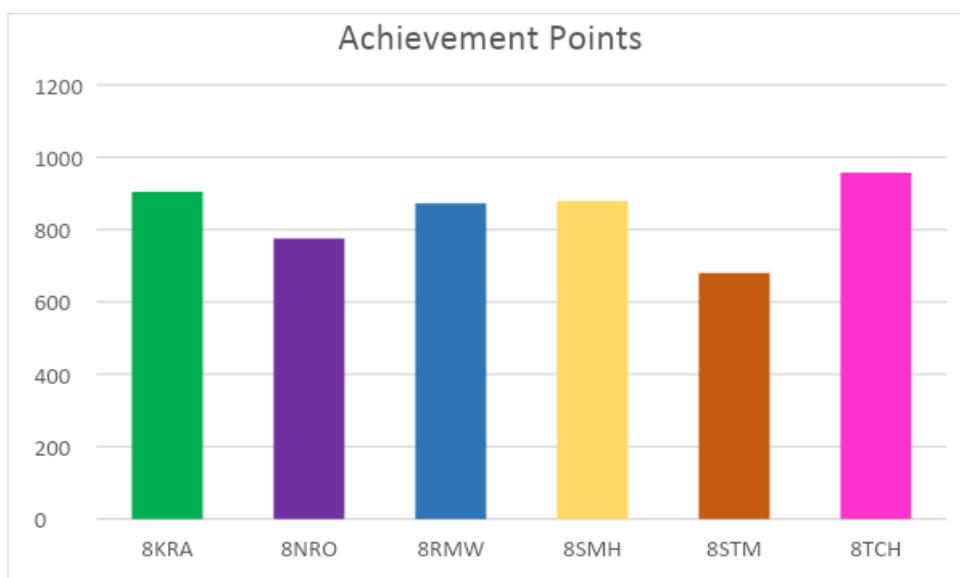
Star of the Week

This week's **Star of the Week** is **Harri Bryant 8SMH**. He has amassed an incredible 71 achievement points. Well done Harri.



Year 8 Achievement Points – Leader Board

8TCH still have the most achievement points this week with KRA and SMH following closely behind. Well done 8TCH.



Year 9 - Director of Studies – Mrs McEvoy

Well done to the many students who are following the expectations regarding the one-way system and the wearing of face masks. Please can this be supported at home by ensuring masks are packed for each day, with a spare where possible. It is vital to keeping everyone in our school community safe, given the current situation. Physical contact should be discouraged for this same reason. There are many students who have had excellent attendance and are continuing to earn achievement points - keep up the good work with this!!

Year 10 - Director of Studies – Miss Irvine

We have some fundraising going on across the school in the coming weeks to help alleviate hunger in Slough over the Christmas period and beyond. More information will come home in a letter to the whole school but I wanted to get Year 10 started on the first drive, and one I know this Year group has had huge success with in the past. One of the fundraising activities will be a food drive. Students are asked to bring in items of food that we can donate, before Christmas, to the Slough Food bank. Please see below for details on the type of food

that can be brought in. Students will be able to bring in food up until the last week of school this half term, so please donate what you can. The Year 10 Leaders will go around in the morning during AM registration and collect up any donations. We will have prizes for the form who donates the most! Thank you so much in advance for getting behind these fundraising events in these difficult times.



Year 11 - Director of Studies – Ms Hallett

This week during year 11 PSHCE time, we looked at Life after Year 11 and what action students needed to start taking. Students were advised about how to put together a CV and where they can search for guidance and support on careers and future study.

Please find below some useful websites students were advised about with during this session:

<https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/> - This website offers information, advice and guidance to help make decisions on learning, training and work. Students can complete skills health check which highlights their key skills that can be used when applying for future jobs.

<https://careercompanion.cv-creator.com/> - This website will help students create a CV as students enter information via a template and the CV is generated through either a PDF or Word Document.

<https://www.gov.uk/become-apprentice> - This website offers students information about apprenticeships, what they are, the different levels of apprenticeships and how to apply.

Mr Johnson, Head of Business - Message to Year 11 Business students

All Business students in Year 11 have been provided with a "Knowledge Book". This is intended to support their understanding of key language and definitions which are the building blocks of the course. We are expecting all students to complete 2 pages of the booklet, twice a week or following their lesson. I would be grateful if you could encourage them to do this regularly in addition to keeping up with the news, business related news and current events, which they can often draw upon during exams.

Thank you for your support.

Ms Delliou – Head of ICT

Cyber Discovery News

I am pleased to see on the progress board our Beechwood cybersist students having fun competing in the CyberStart Game, training their brain to think like a cyber sleuth and boosting their computer science skills. If crushing through the challenges wasn't enough, there is now even more to compete for.

All students who have registered for this year of the programme and have completed at least one challenge in level 6 of the HQ base, by the 14th December, will gain access to SANS Foundations in the CyberStart Essentials stage.

The SANS Foundations course is an amazing opportunity for our students to gain FREE access to a course worth over £3,000.

It is a programme used by professionals in the field to prepare for industry and access to the course is to reward those students who have shown the determination and ability to progress through the challenges in CyberStart Game.

Qualification for the CyberStart Essentials stage closes on 14th December with access opening on 18th December.

Stay ahead of the game and keep up the good work Beechwood Computer Scientists!!!

Mrs Matthews – Head of Enterprise Learning and IAG

Supporting your child in their next steps:

Helping your child begin their career journey - eBook to sign up to and download

<https://successatschool.us3.list-manage.com/track/click?u=2c038531b25876a2c7c9cf8b1&id=a8dc92ad36&e=e32f8068ff>

Also Berkshire's latest Labour Market Information (LMI)

https://www.adviza.org.uk/uploads/files/BERKSHIRE_monthly_report_October_2020.pdf

Be Word Savvy - Part of the New Disciplinary Literacy Strategy

This week the word is **revolutionary**: prefix 're' meaning 'again or back' and suffix 'tion' meaning act, process or result and suffix 'ary' meaning connected to.

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 9 November
2020



prefix

re

again or back



suffix
tion

act, process or result



suffix
ary

connected to



Example Word

[re] revolu tion ary

again
or back

from
revolve
meaning
change/
move in
a circle

act,
process
or result

connected
to

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



revolutionary
**adjective-new or
introducing radical
change; noun-a person
fighting to bring about
change**

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?