

Term 5 2023

HEAD'S MESSAGE

With spring firmly upon us, it is nice to end last term with the sun shining as opposed to the rain we started with. Term Five always means we bid adieu to our Year 11 and Year 13 students. They are now well underway with their public examinations and we wish them every success either in life beyond Beechwood, or look forward to welcoming back many Year 11 in September as members of our 6th Form community. The rest of the Senior School have also completed their End of Year exams, and we certainly hope they enjoyed the half term break.

For our Year 6 students, they are also embarking on their next chapter either at our own Senior School or elsewhere. Our staff are busy preparing transition events and activities for our incumbent Year 7.

This term is short but action packed, with sports days, activities week, leavers assemblies and Beechwood Day. The events afford us an opportunity to come together to celebrate achievements, learn outside the traditional classroom and engage in some healthy competition. It is always a privilege to observe our students in the extra-curricular activities and know we are helping them make lifelong memories.

From all of us here at Beechwood, we hope you had a peaceful and happy Half term break and look forward to the start of a new term. Mr Foster-Gandey

PTA News

Many thanks to everyone who contributes to the PTA. This term we funded the new retractable cricket nets, portable dance mats and a new sound system for the Auditorium which will be installed over the summer. Beechwood Day is our next big event. Please keep an eye on messages from your class reps regarding help needed on the day.

Please ensure any unwanted uniform is passed to the second hand shop. Help needed - We need a new Treasurer - please get in touch if you are interested or would like more information.

SAVE THE DATE The Beechwood Ball is booked for 20th April 2024 Many thanks Dan and the BPAC team.

STEM

Year 8 have continued their work on Python and produced some lovely coding. They wrote games such as 'Guess the number' and at some point, a game of 'Rock Paper Scissors'. Our Coding Club students have been working on a Raspberry Pi project too. Our Year 7 and 8 students took part in the Junior Maths Challenge with a number of students achieving Bronze and special mentions to Verity, Kosi and Jamal for achieving Silver. Jamal achieved best in school and Bailey, best in Year. Well done all!



Year 5 tested air resistance and have been combining Maths and ICT skills. Reception have been learning about life cycles and Year 4 have been looking a Physics unit on electrical circuits. Year 2 have been nurturing plants to see how they grow. Students from Year 4 and 5 travelled to Somerhill to take park in a Maths Challenge. Well done to all participants.



Humanities

A lot of Prep Humanities work this term has been focused around the Coronation. Students have also been immersed in a Roman Day and Year 4 were lucky enough to enhance their learning of the Mayans through some chocolate making. Year 1 completed some amazing castle building for their home project this term. Year 8 students have been learning about Hindu Gods and produced some lovely posters about one they chose. French students have been creating posters to develop their understanding of clothing vocabulary. In EAL lessons this term we have been learning about the Royal Family and the King's Coronation. Some of the students went to London and walked along the Royal Procession route to see in person the places they had learnt about. During exam week the short stay students completed a project on the History of Tunbridge Wells and enjoyed visiting the Pantiles.

















Performing Arts

Ater a lot of deliberation and research we are delighted to announce that the Senior Show for 2024 will be Oliver! Auditions coming after half term.

We are looking forward to the Prep performances of the Lion King next term. Rehearsals have been going well.

Year 11 performed their GCSE scripted exam this term after much preparation and hard work.

The Music Department have formed a new choir in the Seniors, made up of 14 of our best singers in Y9 and Y10. Their debut performance will be in our lunchtime concert on Thursday 15 June, in the Old Chapel, at 1.15pm. Details about this concert and the other performers will be sent out soon. You are all welcome to come and spend your Thursday lunchtime with us, listening to beautiful music.

The highlight in the Prep School this term was their Soiree. What an abudance of talent on display from ballet, to rock music, choirs, pianists, drummers, and much more, Such bravery and confidence shown by our young students, who are a huge credit to their Beechwood and visiting teachers. Well done all.



Creative Arts

From mark exploring mark making and crown making in Pre-School, creating animals from leaves and twigs in Key Stage One, Roman figures in Year 3, Rainforest inspired work in Year 4 and Oragami in Years 5 and 6 all the way to our incredible GCSE Art pieces. Textiles students made some tote bags using cut through embroidery, Our artists always impress with their creativity.







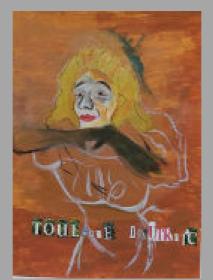


























Sports

Cricket season has well and truly started with students from Year 3-11 playing in matches. Our Cricket nets, purchased by the PTA have been invaluable in providing our students with hardball practice. Students are also working on their athletics ready for our Sports Days this term. Year 6 took part in lots of physical challenges in the PGL visit which was loved by all. A mixed Year 3-6 boy's football team did the school proud at the weekend in the West Kent SFA Primary Schools tournament. The team went unbeaten, against strong competition in the small school's group, all the way to the final. Unfortunately, the last game didn't go our way, with Beechwood losing 1-0 at the last hurdle. Mr Coakley and Mr Johnson, and indeed the whole school, should be super proud of the performance of the boys not only on the pitch but their commitment and sportsmanship throughout the day. Well done to all that contributed. You should all be very proud.







Extra Curricular

Learning beyond our traditional lessons is always important. The Prep students have benefited from biodiversity club and gardening since srping has arrived. The big lunch to celebrate the Coronation was a fantastic affair fit for a King,

In March, one of our Year Six teams came in first place in the Tunbridge Wells Junior Enterprise Challenge and was awarded a free dinner at Sankey's restaurant in Tunbridge Wells. Not only did Matthew, Sankey's founder and owner, give us a completely free meal for the whole team, but he also gave us a tour of the restaurant and a mini-chemistry and physics lesson in the cellar. The children were particularly impressed by Sankey's eco-friendly cooking methods and materials. The food was exciting, fresh, and mouthwatering; ! We are incredibly grateful for Matthew's generosity in supporting young entrepreneurship, staying with us throughout the evening, and chatting to the children about his experience as a restaurant owner. An enormous thank you, Matthew!

