



Rockfield Avenue, Southway, Plymouth, PL6 6DX
Tel : 01752 706360
Email : beechwood.office@discoverymat.co.uk
Website : www.beechwood-primary.co.uk

Tuesday 23rd July 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

I can't believe that I am writing to you for the final time this academic year, the year has flown by. I firstly would like to say a huge thank you for all your support, positivity and approachability over the course of this year. I have thoroughly enjoyed my first year at Beechwood Primary and am already looking forward to continuing to lead the Brilliant Beechwood team here in September, continuing to ensure that we offer your children the best possible education and extra-curricular opportunities.

The Beechwood Team and I really hope that you all have a safe and sunny summertime and we look forward to seeing you all back at Beechwood on **Thursday 5th September**.

Reception and Nursery Class Assembly

We were treated to a fantastic class assembly last week from our reception and nursery classes. We heard all about their recent trip to the aquarium, with children telling us some amazing sea creature facts as well as singing a super sea shanty. We were also treated to some cracking counting skills from the children too. Well done to all our super EYFS pupils and their teaching team!

Year 6 Leavers

Last week, our year 6 pupils produced a fantastic show: Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory. The children gave a dress rehearsal performance to all pupils on Wednesday morning which was very well received by the children and the staff. Following this, Year 6 performed to their parents, relatives and friends on Wednesday afternoon. The show was amazing, and every child did themselves, their families and Beechwood Primary proud. Well done to you all and a HUGE thank you to the year 6 team for working so hard to pull such a great show together. **Good bye and good luck to all our year 6 pupils as they embark on the next part of their educational career, everyone one at Beechwood wishes you all the very best!**

Hello and Goodbye

As is often the case at the end of an academic year we need to say goodbye to some members of our Beechwood family.

Mrs Blakeston and Mrs Field, and Mrs Gooding - Although Mrs Blakeston, Mrs Field and Mrs Gooding are leaving Beechwood at the end of the academic year they are staying within the Discovery Trust. Mrs Blakeston will be teaching at Oakwood and Mrs Gooding will be at Weston Mill. Thank you to you all for all you've done for our pupils and staff team this year.

Miss Pindard - Miss Pindard is not only leaving Beechwood but is leaving the country! She has been successful in securing a teaching contract in Qatar and we wish her all the best in her exciting adventure. Please come back to Beechwood to tell us all about your experiences when you eventually return to the UK. Goodbye and good luck Miss Pindard.

Mrs Reed - Mrs Reed is leaving Beechwood at the end of this academic year to work in another primary school in the city. A huge thank you to Mrs Reed for everything she has done for our pupils and staff this year at Beechwood and across the Trust for the past 2 years, you will be missed.

AND WE WELCOME:

Mrs Gruszka - Mrs Gruszka will be rejoining Beechwood from Oakwood, having taught here a number of years ago. She will be teaching alongside Mrs Carroll in Vivaldi class. Welcome back Mrs Gruszka.

Diary Dates to Remember

Tuesday 23rd July
Last Day of Term

Tues 3rd & Wed 4th September
NON PUPIL DAY

Thursday 5th September
First Day back for pupils

Year 2 - Learning to Weave

Year 2 have been learning how to weave. We studied baskets, fabrics and boxes that had used the weaving techniques. We made some baskets using paper strips as well as a bowl using wool. It took a lot of concentration. We are pleased with what we have made.



P.T.F.A. SUMMER FAYRE

We would like to say a massive thank you to our wonderful PTFA and everyone who was involved in the planning and being part of Beechwood's summer fayre. It was a great event, lots of positives comments and possibly the longest running raffle in school history thanks to the generosity of our pupils, parents and members of our school community. It really was the gift that kept on giving!

The PTFA confirmed that a massive £712.30 was raised, which is brilliant! It was lovely to see so many parents, friends and relatives at this event.

Thanks again everyone, another example of the whole Beechwood team working together for the benefit of our pupils, parents and school community.



Secondary Admission Information

Is your child currently in Year 5?
Please see below admission information
from Plymouth City Council



OFFICIAL: SENSITIVE

IS YOUR CHILD DUE TO START SECONDARY SCHOOL IN
SEPTEMBER 2025?

It may seem a long way ahead but now is the time to start thinking about your child moving from primary school onto secondary school. If your child was born between **1 September 2013 and 31 August 2014**, you will be eligible to apply for a secondary school place.

Information about applying for a place and the individual secondary schools will be on our website from **Tuesday 3 September 2024** at www.plymouth.gov.uk/schooladmissions. From here, you can apply online for school places and read the guide for parents which contains the links to the individual school's admission policies and forms.

Applying online is quick and easy - all you need is an email address. Once you have applied, we will let you know which school your child has been allocated on **Monday 3 March 2025**.

You can apply for a school place via the Citizen's Portal by visiting our website at: www.plymouth.gov.uk/schooladmissions. The deadline to apply is the **31 October 2024**.

Remember:

- All Plymouth's 18 secondary schools hold 'open events' for families to visit the school and speak to staff. Please refer to the individual school's websites for dates and further information.
- Some schools give priority to with exceptional medical or social need and will ask for submission of a Supplementary Information Form (SIF) as proof.
- If you are applying for a place at a faith school on faith grounds, you must also fill out a Supplementary Information Form (SIF), which you can obtain from the school.
- Some schools give priority to children of members of staff and will ask for submission of a Supplementary Information Form (SIF) as proof.
- Please read the admission policy for each school carefully.
- If you are applying for a place at a girl's grammar school, you must register to take the 11-plus examination through the school's website. The closing date for registering is 31 August 2024 at 12 noon. Please refer to the individual school's website.
- For the boy's grammar school please refer to the school's website. The closing date for registering is 31 August 2024.

National Read Aloud Challenge

Beechwood have signed up for the
Read Aloud Challenge this summer holiday.

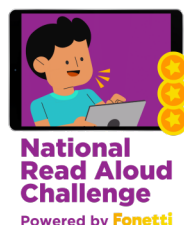
Please sign your child up by using the link below
(link also on our Facebook page)

<https://www.readaloudchallenge.co.uk/join/3MSW-C4UO-O6CA>

This will allow all children to have access to 100s of
online books from now until the end of August to read
on their devices.

Children can read their stories out loud and the app will
support their reading.

It also includes games, competitions and prizes



School Trip Payment Reminder

Year 4 (current Year 3) - Nethercott Farm

Please return your completed trip letter to the
school office as soon as possible and pay the
deposit of £100 deposit by **23rd July 2024**.
Please contact the school office if you require
any assistance. Thank you.

Year 5 (current Year 4) - Reach Outdoors

Please return your completed trip letter to the
school office as soon as possible and pay the
deposit of £50 deposit by **23rd July 2024**.
Please contact the school office if you require
any assistance. Thank you.

Year 6 (current Year 5) - London Trip

Please return your completed trip letter to the
school office as soon as possible and pay the
deposit of £100 deposit by **23rd July 2024**.
Please contact the school office if you require
any assistance. Thank you.



Walking Home Permission

From September 2024 only pupils in Year 4
upwards will be able to have walking home
permission. In the interests of safety, pupils in
year 3 will not have walking home permission
and will need to be collected from their Pod
doors at the end of the day.

If your child currently has walking home per-
mission this will be honoured next year. Please
inform the school office
(beechwood.desk@discoverymat.co.uk) of any
changes you wish to make.

Thank you for your continued support.

Dinner and Breakfast Accounts

Please ensure your dinner and breakfast club
accounts are cleared before the school break. Any
Year 6 children with credit on their accounts will be
refunded before the end of term. Thank you.

**PLEASE
NOTE..**

YEAR 6 PRODUCTION

Last week was an extremely busy week for the Year 6's.

The Year 6 Show – Willy Wonka & The Chocolate factory was amazing and all the children did themselves proud.



YEAR 6 LEAVERS DISCO

The Year 6 children have enjoyed an amazing end of year disco. The theme was Beach and the children thoroughly enjoyed dancing, singing and taking lots of pictures making amazing memories. Thank you to our amazing PTFA for organising this event.



Changes to the Law on Attendance

Discovery Multi Academy Trust
Beechwood Primary Academy,
Rockfield Avenue, Southway, Plymouth
PL6 6DX
T: 01752 706361
E: info@discoverymat.co.uk

Chief Executive Officer: Mrs Alison Nettleship
Chair of the Board: Mrs Julia Guy



Friday 5th July 2024

Dear Parent/Carers,

Re: Important Changes to the law regarding attendance

Many of you may already be aware that certain changes will come into place in August of this year regarding attendance, which means that the way attendance is managed by the Local Authority is changing.

Attached to this letter is a letter from Plymouth City Council which clearly shows the new processes and how this affects you as a parent/carer.

As a Trust we are committed to working with you, and your families, to support attendance in school in the best way that we can and this relies on good communication and openness. It will be even more important moving forward that this is the case, in order to ensure that as few of our families as possible are affected by these changes.

The Trust's new Attendance Policy will be available on our school websites by the end of term. This includes the new 'S2 Absence Request Form', which is also attached. This should be used for all absence requests from the 1st September 2024.

Yours sincerely,

Alison Nettleship
Trust CEO

Enc. S2 Absence Request Form
Letter from Plymouth City Council – Education Participation and Skills

Discovery Multi Academy Trust. Registered address: Beechwood Primary Academy, Rockfield Avenue, Southway PL6 6DX. A charitable company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales. Company Number: 10264819

Please see information on attendance which was emailed out to parents/carers last Friday.

A copy of the new absence request form can be found on our school website or a hard copy can be collected from the school reception.

"THIS MORNING, HE HAD A RUNNY NOSE... BUT LOOK AT HIM NOW!"

MOMENTS MATTER, ATTENDANCE COUNTS.

HM Government
Head to the NHS website to find out more.

OFFICIAL



Education, Participation and Skills
Inclusion, Attendance & Welfare Service
Plymouth City Council
Ballard House
West Hoe Road
Plymouth PL1 3BJ

T 01752 307405
E penaltynoticeofficer@plymouth.gov.uk
www.plymouth.gov.uk

Please ask for: Duty Access & Attendance Officer

Date

Dear Parents and Carers

IMPORTANT CHANGES TO THE LAW REGARDING PENALTY NOTICES FOR UNAUTHORISED ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

A new National Framework for Penalty Notices for school absence, including unauthorised holiday absence, is being introduced following changes to the law. These new Government regulations will come into effect from 19 August 2024 and we wanted to bring this to your attention now, as it will affect when penalty notices are issued in Plymouth.

What are the changes?

1. There will be a new national threshold of 10 unauthorised sessions for any reason (equivalent to 5 school days) within a rolling 10 school week period for when a penalty notice must be considered.
2. The new rules mean you will no longer be able to take your child out of school for one week's holiday without a penalty notice being issued.
3. There will be an increase in the penalty fine from £60 to £80 if paid in 21 days. If the fine is not paid by the first 21 days, it will rise to £160 if paid within 28 days of being issued.
4. If a second penalty fine is issued to the same parent for the same child within a 3-year rolling period, the fine will automatically rise to £160 with no option to pay the lower rate of £80.
5. If a parent then commits a third offence in a 3-year rolling period, the local authority will need to consider other enforcement options available to them.

Please see FAQs below with more information about how the new rules may affect you.

We would like to thank parents and carers for their support in making sure that children do not miss any valuable learning time.

Yours sincerely

Continued overleaf

OFFICIAL

Isabelle Morgan
Service Manager for Inclusion & Welfare

FAQs

If I have been issued with a penalty notice before 19th August 2024, will this be counted if I am issued with another penalty notice from September onwards?
No, the new limits come into effect from 19 August 2024.

If I have already booked a holiday for next year, could I receive a penalty fine at the new higher rate?

Yes, if the absence has not been authorised by the Head Teacher of your child's school. Remember, only a Head Teacher can agree whether an absence can be authorised in exceptional circumstances.

Who can be issued with a penalty notice?

- Each parent can receive a fine for each child who has had unauthorised absence from school.
- In education law, anyone who lives with a child and who has day-to-day care of the child is also considered to be a parent whether they are the biological parent or not. For example, this will include step-parents and partners.

Do the new rules only apply to holidays during term time?

No, it applies to all unauthorised absence from school including holidays. Unauthorised absence includes other absence that has not been agreed such as truancy, arriving late after the register has closed and failing to provide reasons for absence.

How do I request for my child to have leave granted during term time?

You must submit an Absence Request form at least 20 days before the proposed absence. It will be for your child's Head Teacher to make a decision as to whether there are exceptional circumstances that will allow them to grant the time off. Do not assume that the absence will be granted until you have received confirmation from the school.

Do the 10 sessions of unauthorised absence have to be taken all at the same time before a penalty fine is issued?

No, a penalty fine can be issued for any combination of absences over a 10-week rolling period. They can be consecutive or non-consecutive and can span over two terms.

What happens if I am issued with a penalty fine and I don't pay it?

Unauthorised absence from school is an offence under s444 of the Education Act 1996. A penalty fine is an opportunity for you to settle out of court. If you don't take this opportunity, you can be prosecuted for the offence of failing to ensure your child's regular attendance.

What should I do if I am worried about my child's attendance?

In the first instance you should contact your child's school and ask for advice on how they can support you to improve the situation. You can also contact the Inclusion, Attendance and Welfare Team

For more information please contact the Inclusion Attendance and Welfare Team on 01752 307405 between 3pm and 4.30pm, Monday to Friday.



BEECHWOOD FAMILY SUPPORT TEAM

DISCOVERY



Miss Sam Roscoe

First Contact to signpost parents

Foodbank

Courses for Parents / Carers

PTFA Contact



Mr C Randall
Assistant Head of School

Deputy Designated Beechwood Academy Lead for Safeguarding

Safeguarding

Behaviour

Family Crisis

Service Families



Mrs Natasha Jackson
INCO

SEND Support

SEND and behaviour-support for parents

School Nurse Referrals

DLA Applications

GP letters



Mr P Arnold
Senior Head of School

Designated Beechwood Academy Lead for Safeguarding

Family Support



Mrs S Rama-Dominguez
Assistant Head of School

Deputy Designated Beechwood Academy Lead for Safeguarding

Safeguarding

Education and Curriculum

Family Support



Mrs Teresa Pinhey

Community Support

School Life

Parents Question & Answer

Local Issues

Coffee Mornings

You can contact us by emailing beechwood.desk@discoverymat.co.uk and we will direct your enquiry accordingly.

Email Addresses to Remember

Year 6 - Mo Farah - k.giles@discoverymat.co.uk

Year 6 - Sky Brown - k.rust@discoverymat.co.uk

Year 5 - Nicola Adams - c.pumphrey@discoverymat.co.uk

Year 5 - Dina Asha-Smith - k.matthews@discoverymat.co.uk

Year 4 - Ben Ainslie - d.poole@discoverymat.co.uk

Year 4 - Ellie Simmonds - j.tumilty@discoverymat.co.uk

Year 3 - Max Whitlock - c.townsend@discoverymat.co.uk

Year 3 - Charlotte Dujardin - i.watson@discoverymat.co.uk or l.field@discoverymat.co.uk

Year 2 - Kelly Holmes - c.mccarthy@discoverymat.co.uk

Year 1 - Laura Muir - s.pindard@discoverymat.co.uk

Year 1 - Usain Bolt - m.abbott@discoverymat.co.uk or a.blakeston@discoverymat.co.uk

Rec - Jill Scott - k.gardner@discoverymat.co.uk

Rec - Tom Daley - s.reed@discoverymat.co.uk or j.gooding@discoverymat.co.uk

Keeping in Touch

Can we please remind parents that the vast majority of contact between school and parents is done by telephone or email. Please could you ensure that we are kept updated with your current contact details to enable us to keep in touch with you when needed.

Parent Pay

Please activate your parent pay account as this allows us to send Newsletters, trip letters and other important information that we may need to convey to you. Please contact the school office if you need assistance.

Facebook and Website

Please follow us on our Facebook page at Beechwood Primary Academy. Please refer to our school website for latest news and calendar dates.

AGES 11-18
YOUTH WELLBEING WALKS
SUMMER 2024

TUES 30 JULY
WALK TO PLYMPTON CASTLE, PICNIC AND GAMES ON THE GREEN 2-4 PM
Meeting at Rees Wellbeing Hub, Mudgeway, Plympton, PL7 2PS

WED 31 JULY
TRAIL WALK AROUND THE BARBICAN AND ICE CREAM ON THE HOE 2-4 PM
Meeting at Nomony Family Hub, 27 St John's Road, PL4 0PA

WEDS 7 AUG
TAMAR BRIDGE WALKING TRAIL 2-4 PM
Meeting at The Barn Family Hub, XI Hill Crescent, PL5 1EJ

TUES 13 AUG
WALKING TRAIL IN WHITLEIGH WOODS 2-4 PM
Meeting at Fourgreens Family Hub, 15 Whitleigh Green, PL5 4DD

Please call/text to book
Carin: 07775 545929 or
JESS: 07522619076

MORE INFO

YOUTH EVENTS AGE 11-18 SUMMER 2024

JUL 30 WELLBEING WALK FROM REESWELLBEING HUB 2-4PM

JUL 31 TRAIL WALK FROM NOMONY FAMILY HUB 2-4PM

AUG 6 BBQ FOURWOODS FAMILY HUB 2-4PM

AUG 7 TAMAR BRIDGE WALKING TRAIL @ THE BARN FAMILY HUB 2-4PM

TO BOOK OR FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT
CARIN ON 07775 545929 OR
JESS ON 07522619076

YOUTH EVENTS AGE 11-18 SUMMER 2024

AUG 9 YOUTH MEET AND GAMES @ CENTRAL PARK 12-4PM

AUG 13 TRAIL WALK FROM FOURGREENS FAMILY HUB 2-4PM

AUG 14 ARTS CRAFTS AND PAMPER SESSION @ REES FAMILY HUB 2-4PM

AUG 20 SELF CARE AND PAMPER SESSION @ THE BARN FAMILY HUB 2-4PM

TO BOOK OR FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT
CARIN ON 07775 545929 OR
JESS ON 07522619076

YOUTH EVENTS AGE 11-18 SUMMER 2024

AUG 21 SELF CARE AND PAMPER SESSION @ FOURGREENS FAMILY HUB 2-4PM

AUG 27 YOUTH MEET AND GAMES @ MOUNT EDGEcombe - MEET @ CRENTYL FERRY 11-3PM

FOR BOOKINGS AND MORE INFORMATION CONTACT
CARIN ON 07775 545929 OR
JESS ON 07522619076



Children and Young People's Neurodiversity Wellbeing Team

A confidential, free advice line available to all children, young people and their families who are on the Neurodiversity Pathway within Plymouth.

What we offer

Advice and support including:

- Sleep
- Diet
- Anxiety
- School difficulties
- Friendships
- Positive support strategies

Contact us

Please call 01752 435404
Monday to Friday
9 - 11am and 2 - 4pm



Please complete our questionnaire using the QR code provided.

We support people to lead independent, healthy lives



Young people and parent/carers come and see us at **Starbucks** for mental health wellbeing tips and advice. We have our stand available 10am to 12pm in **Drake Circus** on the **1st and 15th August** and at **Coypool 8th and 22nd August**. We would love to chat whilst you grab your favourite beverage.



Fun, Fit and Mentally Healthy sessions. Do you love to dance? Are you able to recognise you feel good when you move more? We are hosting **4 sessions** of **Dance practice with a performance for parents** at the end for primary age children whilst parents spend time in our conversation café discussing all things mentally healthy from young people. We have **4 sessions** available with **20 spaces** on each.

Please click on the session links below to book spaces

- [Session 1](#)
- [Session 2](#)
- [Session 3](#)
- [Session 4](#)

Virtual parent workshops— [Adolescent brain](#) and [Anxiety](#).
Please click on the title to follow the links to join up.



Join an exciting **eco therapy** group at **Pool Farm** which we are supporting alongside Tom the CAMHS Ecotherapy Lead. This is a group where young people will need to be able to attend a **weekly session**. Theme is based around change and transition. Young people **aged 11—15**. We have 5 spaces available on a Monday throughout the Holidays and 3 spaces on a Tuesday throughout the holidays.

Please email Livewell.MHST@nhs.net



More information can be found on the MHST

Padlet <https://padlet.com/LivewellMHST/mental-health-support-team-livewell-southwest-p757lv4obv5uzd1>





**KIDS
SUMMER
CAMP**



**CELEBRATING
23
YEARS
OF PRO-COACHING**

**PLAISTOW
HILL PRIMARY
SCHOOL**



FULLY FUNDED
for those on benefit related free school meals!



COURSE DATES

29TH JULY - 1ST AUG 2024
5TH AUG - 8TH AUG 2024
12TH AUG - 15TH AUG 2024
19TH AUG - 22ND AUG 2024

Times: 9am - 3pm | Lunch and nutritional snack included
 Age: 5-13 Years

Our Multi-Activity Sports & Art courses offer the opportunity to enjoy a fun packed day full of sports, activities and games!



Book online and use the code **SUMHAF24** at www.pro-coaching.co.uk or scan the QR code

Plymouth Arts Cinema presents...

SUMMER HOLIDAY CINEMA

TICKETS £4






The little Mermaid (PG) 31 July, 11am & 7 Aug, 2.30pm

Inside Out 2 (U) 7 Aug, 11am & 21 Aug, 2.30pm

Marcel The Shell With Shoes On (PG) 31 July, 2.30pm & 14 Aug, 11am

The NeverEnding Story (U) 14 Aug, 2.30pm & 21 Aug, 11am

Workshops, activities and talks - details & prices on website
 Relaxed, accessible and neurodiverse friendly environment
 Cinema snacks and hot and cold drinks at the bar
 Award-winning local independent cinema!





At Arts University Plymouth, Tavistock Place, PL4 8AT
info@plymouthartscinema.org | www.plymouthartscinema.org | 01752 206114







TERM DATES 2024/25



Teaching days (statutory)	190
Professional development days	5
Occasional days	5
Sub-total	200
School holidays	52
Bank holidays	8
Saturdays and Sundays	105
Total	365

Term	Start	End	Days
1	03-Sep-24	25-Oct-24	39
2	04-Nov-24	20-Dec-24	35
3	06-Jan-25	14-Feb-25	30
4	24-Feb-25	04-Apr-25	30
5	22-Apr-25	23-May-25	23
6	02-Jun-25	23-Jul-25	38
Total			195

	SEPTEMBER				
Monday	2	9	16	23	30
Tuesday	3	10	17	24	
Wednesday	4	11	18	25	
Thursday	5	12	19	26	
Friday	6	13	20	27	

	OCTOBER				
	7	14	21	28	
1	8	15	22	29	
2	9	16	23	30	
3	10	17	24	31	
4	11	18	25		

	NOVEMBER				
	4	11	18	25	
	5	12	19	26	
	6	13	20	27	
	7	14	21	28	
1	8	15	22	29	

	DECEMBER				
2	9	16	23	30	
3	10	17	24	31	
4	11	18	25		
5	12	19	26		
6	13	20	27		

	JANUARY				
Monday		6	13	20	27
Tuesday		7	14	21	28
Wednesday	1	8	15	22	29
Thursday	2	9	16	23	30
Friday	3	10	17	24	31

	FEBRUARY				
3	10	17	24		
4	11	18	25		
5	12	19	26		
6	13	20	27		
7	14	21	28		

	MARCH				
3	10	17	24	31	
4	11	18	25		
5	12	19	26		
6	13	20	27		
7	14	21	28		

	APRIL				
	7	14	21	28	
1	8	15	22	29	
2	9	16	23	30	
3	10	17	24		
4	11	18	25		

	MAY				
Monday		5	12	19	26
Tuesday		6	13	20	27
Wednesday		7	14	21	28
Thursday	1	8	15	22	29
Friday	2	9	16	23	30

	JUNE				
2	9	16	23	30	
3	10	17	24		
4	11	18	25		
5	12	19	26		
6	13	20	27		

	JULY				
	7	14	21	28	
1	8	15	22	29	
2	9	16	23	30	
3	10	17	24	31	
4	11	18	25		

	AUGUST				
	4	11	18	25	
	5	12	19	26	
	6	13	20	27	
	7	14	21	28	
1	8	15	22	29	