



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

## Thursday 11th July 2024

Hello everyone, hope you've all had a good week.

### **Bikeability Brilliance!**

This week we have had the Bikeability team in to work with our EYFS and year 6 children. As you can see from the pictures everyone has had a 'wheelie' good time!

### **Promotional video**

We are looking forward to the making of our promotional video on Monday, please see the separate email that has come out today regards this.

### **End of Year results and reports.**

On Friday next week we will be sending our EYFS reports out to parents. In addition we will be sending home end of year data reports for all pupils, this will include the phonics screening check, multiplication tests and end of KS2 SATS results.

If you wish to talk to your child's class teacher with regards to these, please feel free to do so on Monday or Tuesday of the following week.

Thanks everyone, look forward to seeing you all next week for our final full week at school this academic year!

Mr Arnold and the Beechwood Team.

## **Diary Dates to Remember**

### Friday 12th July

**Class Swaps  
New Starters Visit (AM)**

### Tuesday 16th July

**Summer Fayre 3.30-5.00pm**

### Weds 17th July

**Yr6 Leavers assembly –1.30PM  
for parents**

### Thursday 18th July

**Rec/Nursery Joint Assembly  
2.50pm**

### Thursday 18th July

**Yr 6 Leavers Disco 4.30pm-  
6.30pm**

### Tuesday 23rd July

**Last Day of Term**

### Tues 3rd & Wed 4th September

**NON PUPIL DAY**

### Thursday 5th September

**First Day back for pupils**



## Class Swaps

Letters went home last week informing you of your child's new Class and Teacher in September 2024.

On the morning of Friday 12th July, please drop your child off at their new POD, where they will spend part of the morning in their new classroom with their new teacher.

Please collect your child from their current pod door as 12.50pm as usual.



## Dinner and Breakfast Accounts

Please ensure that your dinner and breakfast club accounts are cleared before the end of term. This is important before the school breaks up for the summer term.

Any Year 6 children with credit on their accounts will be refunded before the end of term.

Thank you.

**PLEASE NOTE..**

## Euros 2024

The children enjoyed their "Euros 2024 Celebration Lunch" on Wednesday booked by our fantastic CaterEd Team. Thank you!



DISCOVERY MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST IS HIRING A SITE SUPERVISOR

ARE YOU:

- PLEASANT, PATIENT AND HAVE A HELPFUL PERSONALITY
- ABLE TO COMMUNICATE WITH A RANGE OF PEOPLE
- CONFIDENT TO WORK ON YOUR OWN INITIATIVE AND AS PART OF A TEAM
- RELIABLE AND TRUSTWORTHY
- FLEXIBLE IN YOUR APPROACH TO WORKING ARRANGEMENTS
- WILLING TO UNDERTAKE TRAINING AS APPROPRIATE

APPLY TODAY!

01752 706361

31 Rockfield Avenue,  
Southway, Plymouth, PL6 4DX  
info@discoverymat.co.uk



Visit our Linktree for more information!



## School Games Gold Mark Award

We are very excited to announce that for a second year running we have achieved the School Games Gold Mark Award for the 2023/24 academic year.

The School Games Mark is a Government-led award scheme to reward schools for their commitment to the development of competition across their school, and we are delighted to have been recognised for our success.

We are extremely proud of our pupils for their dedication to all aspects of school sport, including our fantastic Sports Ambassadors who made our competitions possible. As part of our application, we were asked to fulfil criteria in the areas of participation, competition, workforce and clubs, and we are pleased that the hard work of everyone at our school has been rewarded this year.

A special thank you to the following people who have supported the delivery of PE this year:

Miss Matthews (PE Coordinator)  
Plymouth School Sports Partnership  
Plymouth Argyle  
Plymouth Albion  
Miss B's Martial Arts  
Devon Cricket



## 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](http://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](http://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.

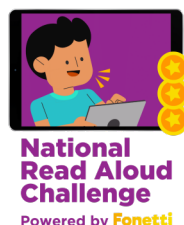
Please sign your child up by using the link below  
(link also on our Facebook page)

<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 **19th 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 **5th 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 **5th July 2024**.  
Please contact the school office if you require  
any assistance. Thank you.



## Free School Meals



You may be entitled to apply for Free School Meals for  
your child/ren if you receive Universal Credit, Income  
Support, Income Based JobSeekers Allowance, Income  
Related Element of Employment and Support  
Allowance, Guaranteed Credit element of Pension  
Credit or Child Tax Credit (without Working Tax Credit)  
with an annual income of £16,190 or less.

We would urge parents who may be eligible for Free  
School Meals for the children to contact the school  
office for a form as soon as possible. This is very  
important, even if your child does not wish to take up the  
free meal. The register of FSM entitlement affects our  
overall school budget and we may be missing out on  
funding as a result.

Please do not confuse this with Universal Free School  
Meal entitlement for children in Years Reception to Year  
Two.

## Lost Property



We have quite a lot of lost property in school.  
Please feel free to pop in and have a look to see if  
anything belongs to your child. All lost property will  
be available each Thursday with Tea with Teresa.

# 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 5<sup>th</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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](mailto:penaltynoticeofficer@plymouth.gov.uk)  
[www.plymouth.gov.uk](http://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 19<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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](mailto:k.giles@discoverymat.co.uk)

**Year 6 - Sky Brown** - [k.rust@discoverymat.co.uk](mailto:k.rust@discoverymat.co.uk)

**Year 5 - Nicola Adams** - [c.pumphrey@discoverymat.co.uk](mailto:c.pumphrey@discoverymat.co.uk)

**Year 5 - Dina Asha-Smith** - [k.matthews@discoverymat.co.uk](mailto:k.matthews@discoverymat.co.uk)

**Year 4 - Ben Ainslie** - [d.poole@discoverymat.co.uk](mailto:d.poole@discoverymat.co.uk)

**Year 4 - Ellie Simmonds** - [j.tumilty@discoverymat.co.uk](mailto:j.tumilty@discoverymat.co.uk)

**Year 3 - Max Whitlock** - [c.townsend@discoverymat.co.uk](mailto:c.townsend@discoverymat.co.uk)

**Year 3 - Charlotte Dujardin** - [i.watson@discoverymat.co.uk](mailto:i.watson@discoverymat.co.uk) or [l.field@discoverymat.co.uk](mailto:l.field@discoverymat.co.uk)

**Year 2 - Kelly Holmes** - [c.mccarthy@discoverymat.co.uk](mailto:c.mccarthy@discoverymat.co.uk)

**Year 1 - Laura Muir** - [s.pindard@discoverymat.co.uk](mailto:s.pindard@discoverymat.co.uk)

**Year 1 - Usain Bolt** - [m.abbott@discoverymat.co.uk](mailto:m.abbott@discoverymat.co.uk) or [a.blakeston@discoverymat.co.uk](mailto:a.blakeston@discoverymat.co.uk)

**Rec - Jill Scott** - [k.gardner@discoverymat.co.uk](mailto:k.gardner@discoverymat.co.uk)

**Rec - Tom Daley** - [s.reed@discoverymat.co.uk](mailto:s.reed@discoverymat.co.uk) or [j.gooding@discoverymat.co.uk](mailto: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**

**AGES 11-18**  
**YOUTH EVENTS** 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

**AGES 11-18**  
**YOUTH EVENTS** 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

**AGES 11-18**  
**YOUTH EVENTS** SUMMER 2024

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

**AUG 27** YOUTH MEET AND GAMES @ MOUNT EDGEcombe - MEET @ CRENYLL 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](#)

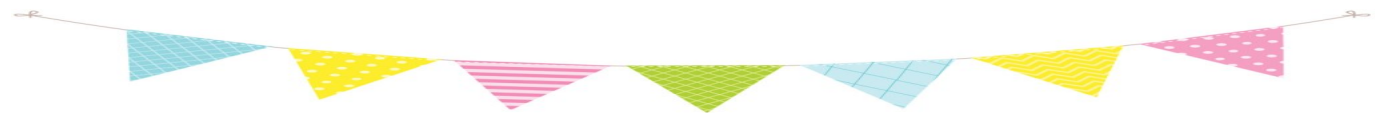
Virtual parent workshops— [Adolescent brain](#) and [Anxiety](#).  
Please click on the title to follow the links to join up.



Join an exciting **eco therapy** group at **Poole 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](mailto:Livewell.MHST@nhs.net)

More information can be found on the MHST Padlet <https://padlet.com/LivewellMHST/mental-health-support-team-livewell-southwest-p757lv4obv5uzd1>



**Raffle**

## P.T.F.A. Summer Fayre

Tuesday 16th July  
3.30 to 5.00pm

**Ice Cream**

**Stalls**



**We look forward to seeing you there!**

**Refreshments**

**Plymouth Parrots**