



**Wellbeing at Work**  
Bronze Award

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## Friday 15th December

Well, I can't believe that the Autumn term has been and nearly now gone. This past week has seen the children (and adults) enjoying some Christmas related activities alongside some excellent learning opportunities in each and every classroom!

### A cracking Christmas Lunch!

On Tuesday we held our Christmas Lunch in the hall with music, crackers, and where the staff served the children at the tables, everyone had a great time. Thanks to our amazing kitchen staff who prepared all the food and decorated the hall so wonderfully.



### Santa swoops into Beechwood!

Also on Tuesday, we had surprise visitor. Santa Claus took time out of his busy schedule to pop in to say hello to the children and deliver an early Christmas gift. A huge thank you to our PTFA for managing to get hold of Santa and ensuring he found his way to Beechwood Primary.



### Trust Carol Concert

It was a pleasure to see children from Beechwood Primary collaborate so effectively with pupils from Oakwood and Weston Mill (our fellow Discovery Trust schools) in a Christmas carol extravaganza. Thank you to the parents and friends that attended. Mrs Nettleship, myself and all those that attended were very impressed by the wonderful singing and poetry.

Well done everyone, and special thanks to Miss Pumphrey who helped make this event such a success.

## **Diary Dates to Rem**

**Monday 18th December**  
**Christmas parties PM -**  
**Nursery, years 2-6**

**TUESDAY 19th DECEMBER**  
**School closes for Christmas**  
**Class Parties- Reception**  
**& Year 1**

**Wed 20th Dec - Tues 2nd Jan**  
**Christmas Holiday Break**

**Weds 3rd January 2024**  
**Return to school**

**Tues 9th Jan ,Weds 10th Jan**  
**2024**  
**Reception ,Years 1,2,3 and 4**  
**Parents Evening**  
**( book via e schools)**

**Weds 10th ,Thurs 11th January**  
**Years 5 and 6 Parents Evening**  
**( book via eschools)**

**Mon 12th - Mon 19th February**  
**Half Term**

**Fri 29th March – Fri 12th April**  
**Easter Holidays**

**MONDAY 6TH MAY-**  
**MAY DAY BANK HOLIDAY**

**Mon 27th May – Fri 31st May**  
**HALF TERM**



### **It's a Nativity**

What a show, we were treated to earlier today. It was wonderful to see so many parents, grandparents and friends come and join us for this special occasion.

The Early Years children did Beechwood, their families and themselves proud, what a performance. All the children sang beautifully, remembered all their words and were always in the right place at the right time, amazing!

Well done to all the children and staff for creating and producing such a magical time for us all.



### **A wonderful winter fayre**

The PTFA would like to thank all the children and parents who attended the winter market. We made a grand total of £507.55p. We would also like to thank the staff and children for holding their own stalls/games in the classrooms. We appreciate all your hard work.

We hope the children enjoyed their visit from Santa and the M&M theatre production earlier this term. Thank you for your continued support, have a lovely Christmas time from you PTFA.



All at Beechwood would also like to express our thanks and gratitude to all members of the PTFA who give their time so readily to support our school and raise funds to give all our pupils access to further opportunities. Thank you all for your hard work.

## **Saying goodbye to Miss Durber and Mrs Armstrong**

As the parents of Dina Asher Smooth class will already be aware, we are saying goodbye to Miss Durber at the end of the term. She is beginning her new adventure in Poole, where she can be closer to family. Goodbye and good luck Miss Durber, thank you for all you have done for everyone at Beechwood Primary, you will be greatly missed! Please come back and visit us!

We also are sadly saying a fond farewell to Mrs Armstrong. Mrs Armstrong has been our family support worker at Beechwood for the past couple of years and in that time has supported many parents and pupils. She is looking forward to spending more time with her husband and family and we wish her all the best. Thank you Mrs Armstrong for everything you've done for the Beechwood Primary community, you are always welcome here at Beechwood.

## **Parents' Evening - January 2024**

At the start of next term, parents and carers will have the opportunity to meet with their child's class teacher to discuss how they are doing in school both socially and academically.

There will be an opportunity to ask questions and to look at your child's books.

Parents' Evening will take place on the following days:

### **Reception, Year 1 ,2,3,and 4**

Tuesday 9th January 2024 and Wednesday 10th January 2024

### **Year 5 and 6**

Wednesday 10th January 2024 and Thursday 11th January 2024

Please book your appointment via E-Schools. The booking window will open on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January at 1pm.

If you need any help with this, please contact the school office.

## **Rocksteady Concert**

Key stage 2 children, staff and the parents of our Rocksteady band members were treated to a stunning performance on Thursday morning. All the children performed brilliantly, playing electric guitars, drums and keyboards, with some children singing too. It was fantastic to see the collaboration between all the children, this ensured that they produced some truly memorable performances. Well done everyone.

If your child is keen to become a Rocksteady band member look out for the flyer that the children have taken home this week.



## **Church visit**

On Thursday this week, all pupils from Year 1 to Year 6 visited our local church where they took part in a Christmas service, singing carols and thinking about what Christmas means to them. Huge thanks to Reverend Gerda for conducting the day. The children were exceptionally well behaved and the school.







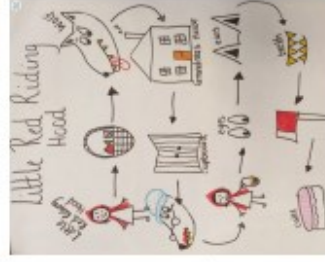
## Reception 'Woodland Explorers'

Autumn 2 Term Summary



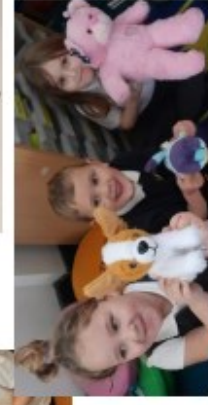
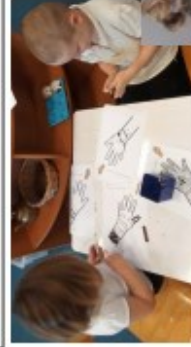
We love getting outside to build dens and make obstacle courses. We even reenact the story of 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt'.

We have learnt about different celebrations including bonfire night, Diwali and Christmas. We learnt about why and how people celebrate and what traditions there are. During Diwali families will pray, bake sweets, make candles, and decorate their homes. At Christmas time we send cards, decorate trees, light candles, sing songs and eat a roast dinner.



We talked about different animals that live in the woods and their habitats. Some of our highlights include:

- A very wet, but fun walk to the woods where we hunted for minibeasts, trees, plants and animals.
- Teddy bears picnic and hot chocolate.
- Learning and retelling the story of 'Little Red Riding Hood' and then creating our own story maps.
- Joining in with the story of 'The Gruffalo' and then drawing and describing our own scary monsters.
- Weather role play area where we could pretend to be weather presenters and make our own forecasts.



My sound

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ockubfeih  
r jv ywzqx

We have continued to become more confident using our set 1 sounds to read, write and form words on magnetic boards. We have also learnt about rhyming and found objects and pictures that rhyme.



We have been very busy in maths:

- Learning about the shapes: circle, triangle, square and rectangles.
- Substituting numbers to 5
- Learning about the composition of numbers to 5 (eg 3 can be made up of 2 and 1)
- Comparing 2 amounts using the language 'more than' and 'fewer than'
- Using objects to represent up to 5
- Saying when there is an equal amount, too many or not enough.

DISCOVERY





## BEECHWOOD CELEBRATION OF LEARNING

In DT we have really enjoyed designing and making our own rain gauges. It was tricky cutting the plastic bottle but we did it! We've had plenty of rain to collect and measure which has been good.



In Computing we have created our own seasonal pictures using 'Paint'. They looked beautiful!

We also completed the Hour of Code and discovered lots about Steve Jobs (Founder of Apple)



In Science we have been learning about the seasons, exploring how the weather changes in Autumn and Winter.

We enjoyed an Autumnal walk to spot signs of Autumn. There were many leaves that had fallen from the trees!



Autumn Term 2 ~ 2023-2024

Year 1 ~ Usain Bolt and Laura Muir Classes

### Weather Watchers

What is the weather like where we live?

This term the Year 1 children have enjoyed learning all about the weather. We have been incredibly busy as musicians, designers, writers, readers, mathematicians and even scientists!



We have been busy writing instructions for making a smoothie. The best bit was following the instructions to make our own. They tasted delicious!

We have also been perfect poets, writing seasonal poetry by exploring use of our senses.



Bolt and Muir classes have enjoyed other special events this term... Children in Need Day, Remembrance Day and our visit from an author to name a few!



In Maths we have been working hard on our number facts to 10, adding and subtracting numbers and solving problems.

We have also explored 2D and 3D shapes.

### Year 2 British Bridge



Final Destination: To build bridges with their parents and test their strength.

This half term in Year 2 the children have been learning about bridges. In Science the children have been exploring materials and their properties thinking carefully which materials are suited best for a specific task. Discussing which materials would best suit a bridge and why. In Design and Technology the children have been exploring different joining techniques and the different types of bridges. The children designed and made their own bridges. With some help from their parents!







## PSHE

During Anti-bullying week, we looked at kind/unkind actions and created our own posters against anti-bullying in school.



## Computing

We have been looking at staying safe online. We created boxes and put in things we shouldn't share online.

## Maths

We have been looking at our 2,4- and 8-times tables. We have looked at commutative law and solved word problems.

## Reading



We have read the book 'Pebble in my Pocket' and created their own volcanic pictures using tissue paper.

## Our learning journey

## Master of Disaster

## Big Question: Why do natural disasters happen?

## Year 3

## Science



"This has been my favourite topic so far!"

Exploring the different layers of soil was a highlight – especially when the children could eat it after!

## DT



Year 3 have been exploring building structures and built their own structures out of spaghetti and marshmallows.

"I really enjoyed learning about different natural disasters."

## English

We have been studying non-fiction texts and learnt all about the different natural disasters. We wrote a couple of diary entries about being in an earthquake and a flood. Then written a newspaper report about a wildfire on Dartmoor before moving on to write an information text about volcanoes.

## Computing



We started learning how to code on Scratch.



"Coding is epic!! SO much fun"



"Stop, you are invading my personal space"



## Year 4 Autumn 2

The have enjoyed singing about oceans, the water cycle and, songs in French.



The children have used key vocabulary in English, Science, PHSE, Geography, RE and French. They have deepened their knowledge, understanding and skills with poetry and performance using songs, instruments and role-play.



Recognise  
Empathise  
Speak kindly  
Protect  
Encourage  
Celebrate  
Together-ness

In PHSE the children are learning about personal boundaries, confidentiality and respect.



The children enjoyed making coloured water to investigate evaporation.

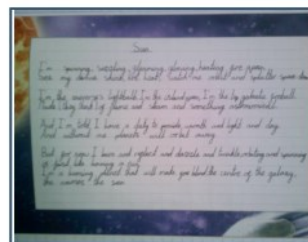
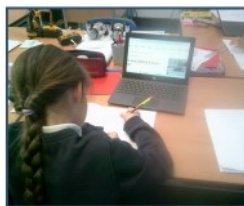


"Drops appear On the side of your glass when water turns from a liquid to a gas... Meowwww!!"





We loved completing a DT Day all about the Mars Rover. We designed our own Mars Rover, after investigating the previous ones that have been sent into space. We even explored real robots to determine the ways they can be controlled before looking into computer programs.



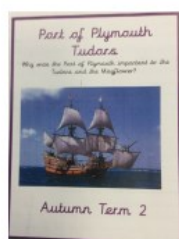
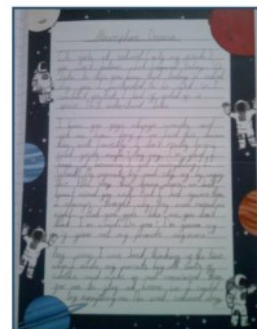
In English, we wrote our own space poetry exploring how rhyming can enhance our poetry.

We also wrote our own character flaw narrative!



## Celebration of Learning Year 5

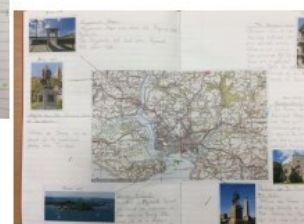
This term Year 5 have explored space! We have learnt about all of the planets in our solar system and how they orbit the sun. We've even investigated space exploration!



Year 6

Autumn Term 2 - The Tudors

Year 6 have been learning all about the history of The Tudors, Henry VIII, his wives, The English Reformation and the War of the Roses. More importantly they have been looking at the Mayflower and its importance to the city of Plymouth.





## WORKSHOP

**Do you need some help and support to understand your child's needs and behaviour?**

Join us in a free 2 hour workshop

How to understand and support my child's communication- January 18<sup>th</sup> 9.30-11.30

How to use visual resources to support my child's communication- January 25<sup>th</sup> 9.30-11.30

How to understand and support my child's behaviour- February 1<sup>st</sup> 9.30-11.30

How to use visual resources to support my child's behaviour- February 8<sup>th</sup> 9.30-11.30

How to understand and support my child's social skills and play- February 22<sup>nd</sup> 9.30-11.30

How to use rewards and incentives with my child with SEND- February 29<sup>th</sup> 9.30-11.30

Running face to face  
Register NOW!

[Workshops - Plymouth Information Advice and Support for SEND.  
\(plymouthias.org.uk\)](https://plymouthias.org.uk)



# KIDS XMAS CAMP

## BEECHWOOD PRIMARY ACADEMY



### COURSE DATES

20TH DEC - 22ND DEC 2023

AGES: 5-13 YEARS

TIMES: 9:00AM - 3:00PM

FREE LUNCH  
PROVIDED

**FREE** for  
children on  
**FREE** school  
meals

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

BOOK ONLINE AND USE CODE XMASHAF23  
@ [WWW.PRO-COACHING.CO.UK](http://WWW.PRO-COACHING.CO.UK)





Creative? Have good ideas? Want to make a difference?

# We need you!



## COME JOIN THE TEAM

Beechwood PTFA is a really friendly group that meets about once a month to organise fun events at the school. All the money raised goes back into giving our children extra opportunities and resources.

To find out more please email:  
[beechwoodptfa@gmail.com](mailto:beechwoodptfa@gmail.com)

### 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** - [a.durber@discoverymat.co.uk](mailto:a.durber@discoverymat.co.uk) or [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 - Cody Everson** - [c.mccarthy@discoverymat.co.uk](mailto:c.mccarthy@discoverymat.co.uk)

**Year 2 - Kelly Holmes** - [s.reed@discoverymat.co.uk](mailto:s.reed@discoverymat.co.uk) or [a.carroll@discoverymat.co.uk](mailto:a.carroll@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** - [h.waite@discoverymat.co.uk](mailto:h.waite@discoverymat.co.uk) or [s.reed@discoverymat.co.uk](mailto:s.reed@discoverymat.co.uk)