Dear Parent and Student,

I am delighted that we have some reports on recent student activity to share with you this week. Mrs Matthews, as our Director of Careers’, Information, Advice and Guidance has ensured that our young people have had an opportunity to engage in some vital work preparing for their futures. Some photographs as well as brief reports are shared below.

The Slough Aspire Careers Event – Mrs Matthews Reports
The students had a great opportunity to hear about career pathways available to them post-16 and to meet employers and educational establishments. Following a presentation from Learning to Work on the various routes into employment and talks from employees at BT, NatWest, Cisco, Morgan Shanley and an entrepreneur, students got to visit the numerous stands and talk to staff to find out what qualifications they need to work in their chosen sector in the future. A number of the exhibits were interactive, informative and the students enjoyed talking part in the activities. Many walked away with a collection of leaflets, pens and sweets.

The student feedback was that they were very happy for the opportunity to help them decide upon their subject choices and potential career options.
Student feedback:
“The STEM challenge was fun and beneficial to our learning. It was a challenging experience and provided me with more confidence having to present and speak in front of students I had never spoken to before.”
“Great fun as the activity included skills such as teamwork, designing, finance and positive thinking”

“The bridge project was fun and I think it helps with teamworking activities”.

“Fun, teamwork needed, got to present in front of everyone, mentally challenging”. 
Sports' Report
In addition to this, we have had a lot of sporting activity and the PE Department are pleased to be able to share the following:

Year 7
Monday January 28th Beechwood V Khalsa - won 5-3
Monday 11th February Beechwood V Langley Academy - lost 5-4

Year 8
Monday 4th February @ Beechwood V Khals - won 8-3
Wednesday 6th February Beechwood V Lynch Hill - lost 3-1

Year 9
Thursday January 31st Beechwood V Lynch Hill - won 7-1
Monday 11th February @ Langley Academy - won 5-3

Year 10
Thursday 24th January Beechwood V Windsor Boys’ School - lost 5-1

Even when victory has not been secured, match reports show great effort, determination and character.

Well done to all!

Maths Field Trip
A number of our Key Stage 3 students ventured to Winchester on Wednesday as part of their Maths enrichment and extension programme. This was a Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths experience and the reports back were excellent. The members of staff report the following.

On Wednesday, a group of Year 7 and Year 8 students went to the Winchester Science Centre. They met with many professionals in careers revolving around Science and Maths. They also explored the science centre, trying many experiments and inventions. Students watched a planetarium show about our new developments in space and learned more about the solar system. Our students were fantastic and so involved in everything the centre had to offer! We look forward to going back again soon!

Reminders
It is good to have so much positivity and to have the prospect of building further on this next term. As we prepare for next term, I ask for parental support in ensuring that students return to us on Monday 25 February in full school uniform. I know that some purchases are going to be made over the holiday. See below our school uniform list which will assist in making sure that the right items are bought. It is also worth noting the following with regards to uniform expectations and requirements.

- No hoodies or sweatshirts may be worn. They may not be worn travelling to or from school either and should not be brought into school as a consequence. Sweatshirts/hoodies will be confiscated if seen in the new half-term.
- No trainers are to be worn except in PE lessons and when sporting activities are being engaged in at break and lunchtimes. At all other times, including travelling to and from school, sensible black school shoes must be worn.
- Students are not permitted to wear false and coloured nails and jewellery must be kept to that described in our uniform policy. No nose piercings or multiple piercings in ears must be evident.
- Our female students must wear skirts and trousers in line with the uniform policy. Short lycra skirts and tight lycra trousers are absolutely not permissible.
School Uniform and PE Kit:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Uniform (Girls and Boys):</th>
<th>PE Kit:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Black blazer with school logo</td>
<td>Royal blue T-shirt embroidered with school logo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional - V-neck purple jumper with school logo</td>
<td>Royal blue shorts embroidered with school logo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White Blouse/Shirt, buttoned to neck</td>
<td>Royal blue socks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Tie</td>
<td>Trainers/boots</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black Business Trousers with plain black belt</td>
<td>Gum Shield</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>(no patch pockets, stretch fabric or logos)</em></td>
<td>Optional – tracksuit in school colours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black Knee length skirt</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>(not stretch fabric and no logos)</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nails of an acceptable length with NO nail varnish</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black shoes of a leather type (not boots or trainers)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Socks – White or Black</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PE:
Full P.E. kit is expected at all times. If a student is injured or unwell, P.E. kit will still be required as the student will be outside with the class for the lesson due to health and safety/supervision reasons. Should a student be unable to bring in the correct P.E kit, they should bring in a temporary alternative (preferably blue) with a note to explain the reason for this.

Jewellery/Appearance:
Students may wear one small ring, one pair of small stud earrings worn in the regular position i.e. one stud in each ear lobe, and a watch.
Facial/body piercings are not acceptable.
We will not accept students with visible tattoos.
Hair colouring should be natural and of one colour.
Nail varnish of any colour is not permitted. Students wearing nail varnish will be asked to remove it at Student Services.

We always seek to reward our young people for adhering to the community rules and expectations. In fairness then, and as the rules apply to all, those young people who repeatedly infringe expectations will receive disciplinary consequences in line with our Behaviour Policy. I trust that this will not be necessary. Respect for self and others is the cornerstone of our ‘Be Beechwood’ values and our expectations in terms of conduct and adherence to school rules. Requirements such as those relating to uniform reflect our goal of ensuring these values are realised.

The next thing I would like to highlight is a reminder to our families who are EU nationals in light of the forthcoming exit of Britain from the European Union. We hope this proves helpful.

Settled and pre-settled status for EU citizens and their families
Following media coverage on the matter of EU nationals and the need for them to apply for settlement status once the UK leaves the EU, we wanted to share with our families the guidance that has been issued. Please find below some helpful information should this apply to you and your family.

- If you are a EU citizen, you and your family will be able to apply to the EU Settlement Scheme to continue living in the UK after 30 June 2021. If your application is successful, you will get either settled or pre-settled status.
- You do not need to apply if:
  - You are an Irish citizen – your family members from outside either the UK or Ireland will still need to apply.
  - You have indefinite leave to enter the UK.
You have indefinite leave to remain in the UK.
- If you have lived in the UK for less than five years – continuous residence – then you will only get pre-settled status and you will have to apply later for settled status.
- The EU Settlement Scheme will open fully by 30 March 2019. You may be able to apply now if you meet the criteria. The deadline for applying will be 30 June 2021. When you choose to apply may depend on your circumstances. Should the UK leave the EU without a deal the deadline for applying will be 31 December 2020.
- On the 21 January, the PM announced that there would be no fee payable when the scheme opens fully on 30 March 2019. Any applications made prior to this date incur a fee of £65 which will be refunded once the scheme opens fully. So, in real terms – if you apply after the 30 March 2019 you should not be asked for a fee anymore.
- The application is completed online.

Full guidance has been issued by the Government on this subject and is available on their website. You can access this by visiting https://www.gov.uk/settled-status-eu-citizens-families

Another reminder relates to Attendance at School

Why is good attendance and punctuality important?
Education lays the vital foundations of a child’s life. Regular and punctual attendance at school is key to both academic and social development, which in turn will improve the life chances of children and young people. Please support us, in supporting our young people, by ensuring that wherever possible absence is only taken when absolutely necessary.

What does 90% attendance mean?
- 90% attendance = ½ school day missed every week!
- One school year at 90% attendance = 4 weeks of learning missed!
- Over 5 school years of school = ½ school year missed!

- All children and young people nationally whose school attendance is 90% or below are considered to be persistent absentees.

There is a link between attendance and achievement and therefore it is very important that your child attends school every day unless there are exceptional circumstances.

To conclude, after half-term there are some terms dates for your diaries.

Dates for your Diary:
Week beginning 25 February – ‘Pause’ lessons in preparation for the PPEs
28 February 2019 - Year 7 - Parent Teacher Consultation Evening - 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm
4 March 2019 - Parent Partnership Event Mental Health Talk and Wellbeing – 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm
Week beginning 4 March 2019 - Year 11 and 13 - PPEs
Week beginning 11 March 2019 - Year 11 and 13 - PPEs
Week beginning 18 March - Year 7 - Rushall Farm Fieldwork
More will be shared in the new half-term but I know it is always helpful to have reminders and a considerable period of advance notice.

Very best wishes for a really good half-term and the new half term that lies ahead.

Kathleen M Higgins  
Executive Headteacher

---

**Word of the Week**

**Melancholy**  
*(noun/adjective)*

*mel-uhn-kol-ee*

**Definition:**
- a gloomy state of mind, especially when habitual or prolonged; depression (noun)
- sad, gloomy or depressed (adj)

**Usage:**
- His perceived failures had led to him suffering from melancholy.
- Coldplay have scored great success with melancholy hits like *Yellow* and *Shiver*.

**Synonyms**
- sadness
- despondency
- dispirited
- dejection
- blue
- dismal

**Etymology**
From the Greek, *melas* meaning black and *kholē* meaning bile.
**DEFINITION** Triangle:
A shape with 3 straight sides.
**EXAMPLE:** “A triangle is the simplest polygon.”

**DEFINITION** Triangular:
Something that is triangular is in the shape of a triangle.
**Example:** “The base of the pyramid had three sides so it was a triangular pyramid.”

**ROOT:** From the Latin “triangulum” meaning 3 cornered

---

What area is shown on this map?
The Bermuda **Triangle**

Why has it become famous, or rather notorious?
Because more than 50 ships and 20 airplanes are said to have mysteriously disappeared in it.

The area has a **triangular** shape.
What type of instruments are these?
Percussion instruments

One of the smallest and simplest is the triangle.

Listen here:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jh-UVK52RY

What type of triangles are these?
Isosceles triangles

What special properties do they have?
2 equal sides and 2 equal angles.
What 3D shapes are shown here?

**Triangular prisms**

**What is this?**

The net of a **triangular** prism

How many faces does it have?

5 faces, 2 triangles and 3 rectangles

---

What 3D shapes are shown here?

**Triangular pyramids**

**How many faces does a triangular pyramid have?**

4

---

Watch a triangular pyramid spin and explode here:

[https://3dwarehouse.sketchup.com/warehouse/v1.0/publiccontent/565052e3-142d-4d79-8884-90de0fd731d1](https://3dwarehouse.sketchup.com/warehouse/v1.0/publiccontent/565052e3-142d-4d79-8884-90de0fd731d1)
Why are triangular structures used in building bridges?

They give a bridge strength and stability. Triangles evenly distribute weight without changing their proportions whereas when force is applied to a rectangle it flattens out.

Before triangles were used in bridges, they were weak and could not be very big.

A three-legged stool is more stable than one with four legs.

Some other things that use a triangular base for stability are:
A tripod for a camera.
A tripod used by a surveyors.
A music stand.
What type of numbers are shown here?

The triangular numbers.

How would you work out the next triangular number in this sequence?
Add 5 dots on the bottom to get 15 dots altogether.

The **triangular** numbers are built by adding the next **natural number**:

What is another name for the **natural numbers**?

The **counting numbers**.