

BEECHES

GREEN PAGES

Issue 5

8th October 2021

DIWALI

Beeches' Diwali celebration plans are in full swing. This year, we have lots of exciting activities, during the week beginning 1st November, that include: the creating and painting of Divas; making of decorations for class; and a surprise workshop being led by Miss Parmar on Friday 5th November. Children can come to school in traditional or party clothes and cultural dress is encouraged.

TIMES TABLES

Your child will be tested on their times tables every week. We ask that you support your child in learning their times tables at least four times a week by encouraging them to practise them but also by testing them on their times tables knowledge and the related division facts. The government states that children should know all their times tables, up to x12, by the end of Year 4. The children sit a government test on their times tables knowledge at the end of Year 4. By knowing their times tables, the children can access other areas of the maths curriculum with more ease and confidence. We thank you in advance for your support with this. There will be a prompt sheet being sent home for you and your child to keep. Please get in touch if you have any questions.

PROFESSOR MCGINTY

On Thursday, Professor McGinty joined us for the second time this term, this time visiting Year 5. Thank you very much to all the parents and carers for your contributions that enabled this to happen. Frankie in 5CS writes:

Today we had a visit from Professor McGinty, he talked to us about Ancient Greece. He has a very funny personality and made History come alive. My favourite part was when he told us about how they made the wine with sweaty feet! But there were lots of funny moments and interesting facts.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH AND ANTI-RACISM UPDATE

Yesterday, we sent home a letter about our plans for Black History Month and an update on our anti-racism strategy. There has been a lot going on behind the scenes! If you missed the letter, you can see it here: <https://www.beechesjnr.bham.sch.uk/news-and-letters/letters>

YEAR 5 AND 6 CHILDREN COMING TO SCHOOL

Many of our Year 5 and Year 6 children now come to school in the morning and leave at the end of the day without a parent or carer with them. This is at your discretion, and once you feel they are ready for this, we will generally support your decision as your child transitions towards independence. However, please note that you are responsible for the behaviour of your child until we let them in from 8.45am and from 3.20pm onwards when we let them go, regardless of whether you are with them or not. There have been very few problems so far this year and our older children are generally behaving appropriately. However, we have noticed a few children loitering around the school gate and not making their way straight up to school. We have also seen some children on the infant playground. We have reminded them that they must come straight up to school and unless they have younger siblings they are dropping off or collecting, they have no business on the infant playground and must stay away. We would be grateful if you would reinforce this message with your child. Thank you.

KEEPING CHILDREN IN AT BREAK

We have had some queries since the start of term regarding our stance on keeping children in at playtime and lunchtime to complete their work. We have very high expectations of our children, right from the moment they join us in Year 3, and we do expect them to do the best they can in all their lessons. If a member of staff feels that a child could have produced a higher quality or quantity of work, they may ask the child to stay in for part of their break to make the necessary improvements. However, we are keen to balance this with their need for fresh air and a "brain break", so we will usually make sure they aren't kept in to do their work for more than five minutes of their morning break and ten minutes of their lunch break.

BEECHES BOOK REQUEST SERVICE

You all know by now how important reading is and how much we want to encourage the children to read a wide range of books. To encourage them even further, we are happy to launch Beeches Book Request Service! If your child has a specific book they would like to read, find the title and author online and bring this to Mr Ali. We will endeavour to get the book they want to read. We will first try to find it in our stock of books and if not, budget permitting, we will buy it. The book they want should be available to purchase online. Please note that books must be suitable for primary school and not include any inappropriate themes or language.

HARVEST COLLECTION

Thank you for your generous contributions to our harvest collection. These were collected on Monday and will be distributed to people who need them.

DIARY DATES

Tue 19 Oct & Wed 20 Oct *Parents' Evenings*
Mon 25 Oct - Fri 29 Oct *Half Term - School Closed*
Mon 8 Nov *Year 5 Diwali assembly*
Tue 9 Nov *Photographer in school*

BEECHES BRILLIANT READERS

Year 3: Ayaat (3AL) Year 4: Lacey-Rae B (4KP)
Year 5: Jake (5CS) Year 6: Shuaib (6LA)

TEAM POINTS THIS WEEK

1	Team Lewis (Blue)	744
2	Team Cadbury (Red)	743
3	Team Malala (Yellow)	685
4	Team Zephaniah (Green)	603

PUPIL OF THE WEEK

3AL: Alizah	4AP: Kai	5CL: Sam	6IS: Ellie
3AP: Charlie	4KP: Ayana	5CS: Sofia	6KA: Kieran
3SP: Ellis	4RW: Freya	5SM: Vinay	6LA: Zayaan

Beeches Junior School Tel: (0121) 272 5888
Beeches Road, E-mail: enquiry@beechesjnr.bham.sch.uk
Birmingham Website: www.beechesjnr.bham.sch.uk
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