



# BEECHWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL

## newsletter

20th December 2024

## MERRY CHRISTMAS EVERYONE!

*What a busy term we have had! It has been full of learning and laughter as the children settled back into school life. Our new reception class joined the Beechwood Family and the children have soon become vital parts of our school community- their Year 6 buddies certainly think so! We've enjoyed trips out, visitors to school and had some fun dressing up.*

*Now it's time for everyone to have a well deserved rest- children and staff included! Please enjoy the Christmas break.*

*Merry Christmas to you all, from the Beechwood Staff!*

## CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCES

*We are incredibly proud of the children for their amazing Christmas performances.*

*It's quite nervewracking in front of so many adults, but the children sang their hearts out.*

*Well done everyone!*

## IMPORTANT DATES

**Monday 6th January**

Children return to school

**Friday 7th Feb**

PTA Sleepover

## JUST REMEMBER...

*I know that at this time of year there is a pressure to create a perfect, magical Christmas and sometimes this means stress for yourselves; but I am writing to tell you a secret.*

*I am writing to tell you that every January, when your child comes back to school, they tell us about the Christmas holidays. They tell us about the days when everyone stayed indoors all day and watched TV. They tell us about the walk in the freezing cold and having a McDonalds treat. They tell us about staying with family, about snuggles on the sofa watching Christmas movies. They tell us how they went to the park and slipped on the ice, how you played board games and argued over Monopoly. The children tell us about how they visited a friend's house and stayed up until 3am (they always exaggerate) on New Year's Eve. They tell us how they loved staying in their pyjamas all day and how they went on a trip another day. They mention their gifts, but for them, Christmas is you, your love and your time.*

**You** are their favourite thing.



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At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [nationalcollege.com](http://nationalcollege.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

### Top Tips for SETTING UP PARENTAL CONTROLS ON NEW DEVICES

In children's eagerness to start enjoying new digital gadgets immediately, it can be easy to overlook setting up the type of parental controls that can help to protect them online. If you don't sort those out from the very start, it can be an uphill battle – technologically and psychologically – to impose such controls later. Here's our rundown of what to look for when setting up the various internet-enabled devices that might be lurking under the tree at this time of year.

#### IPHONE

If your child's lucky enough to be getting their own iPhone, parental controls can help avoid issues like screen addiction and unsuitable content. Go into the settings and scroll down to "Screen Time". From here you can customise important settings including time limits on using the device, communication restrictions and content blockers. You can also lock your changes behind a passcode.

#### ANDROID

With Android devices, Google's Family Link app is your friend. You'll need a Google account – and a separate one for your child, which you should use when first setting up the device. Then, in Family Link on your own device, select "Add Child" and enter their account details. This lets you specify limits on daily usage, restrict certain apps, block particular content and more.

#### PLAYSTATION

You can prep for a PlayStation before it's even unwrapped. At [my.account.sony.com](http://my.account.sony.com), create an account, then go to Account Management > Family Management > Add Family Member to set up your child's account, which you'll use to sign in on the console. You can restrict the age ratings of the games they can play and who they can talk to. On the PS5, you can make exceptions for any games you think are acceptable despite their high age rating.

#### IPAD

iPad parental controls are identical to those on iPhones. However, if you've got a shared family iPad and want to ensure your children aren't seeing anything age-inappropriate after you hand them the device, there's a feature called Guided Access (under Settings > Accessibility > Guided Access). With this switched on, young ones can only use the app that's currently open.

#### XBOX

The Xbox Family Settings app helps you manage which games your child can play (and when). You'll need to set up the console with your own account and then add a child profile. Make sure your account's password protected, so your child can't alter your choices later. You'll be walked through the functions at setup, but you can also reach them manually via Settings > Account > Family Settings.

#### NINTENDO SWITCH

Download the Nintendo Switch Parental Controls app on your phone, and you'll be shown how to link it to the console. Once that's done, you can limit how long your child can play each day, decide what age ratings are permitted and more. You'll also get weekly updates on how often they've used the device. These controls are accessible through the console itself, but the app is usually easier.

#### WINDOWS 11 PCS

On Windows 11, account management is key. Set up the device with your own account as the admin. Then go to Settings > Accounts > Family and Other Users and create your child's account (if you've already done this on a previous PC, just log in with those details). Microsoft Family Safety (either the app or the site) then lets you control screen time, what content children can view and more.

#### CHROMEBOOKS

Chromebooks' parental controls are managed via the Family Link app. Unlike an Android device, however, you need set up the Chromebook with your own account first, then add your child's. Go to Settings > People > Add Person and input your child's Google account details (or create a new account). Your child can then log in, and you can monitor what they're up to via Family Link.

#### MACS

Like iPhones, parental controls for Macs are managed via the Screen Time settings. Again, the crux here is to set yourself up as the administrator before adding any child accounts. In the settings, look for Users & Groups to create your child's account, then – while on their profile – use the screen time options to place any boundaries around apps, usage and who your child can communicate with (and vice versa).

#### SMART TVS

Smart TVs typically have their own individual parental controls. One of the most popular brands is Samsung – and on their TVs, you can control the content available to your child. In the Settings menu, under "Broadcasting", you can lock channels and restrict content by its age rating. Even this isn't foolproof, however: some apps (like YouTube) might still let children access unsuitable material.

#### Meet Our Expert

Barry Collins is a technology journalist and editor with more than 20 years' experience of working for titles such as the *Starline Times*, *Whistle*, *PC Pro* and *Computer Weekly*. He's appeared regularly as a tech pundit on television and radio, including on BBC Newsnight, Radio 5 Live and the ITV News at Ten. He has two children and writes regularly on the subject of internet safety.



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# BEECHWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL

## newsletter



At The National College, our *WakeUpWednesday* guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit [nationalcollege.com](https://nationalcollege.com).

### 10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators SAFETY OVER THE FESTIVE SEASON

The holiday season, marked by Christmas and New Year, brings joy and togetherness but also presents unique safety challenges for children, families and educators. From busy holiday shopping, travelling and family gatherings to managing digital activity during school breaks, staying safe during this period requires heightened awareness. This guide offers practical tips to help families and educators maintain a more secure and fulfilling festive period.

#### 1 MONITOR DIGITAL ACTIVITY

Children spend more time online during school holidays, increasing exposure to potential dangers such as cyberbullying, inappropriate content and online predators. Balancing screen time, avoiding harmful websites and ensuring children engage positively online can be difficult without proper monitoring tools. Set clear boundaries, encourage open discussions about online safety and use parental controls to manage content exposure and screen time effectively. Regular check-ins and positive reinforcement around digital habits encourage safe online behaviour.

#### 2 PRACTICE FIRE SAFETY PROTOCOLS

The incidence of house fires increases during Christmas due to greater use of candles, cookers and electrical decorations. Open flames, electrical overloads and the need for quick response plans can make fire safety challenging. Ensure smoke detectors are operational, keep fire extinguishers on hand and teach children how to respond in case of a fire emergency. Avoid leaving cooking unattended and use fire-safe candles to prevent mishaps.

#### 3 CREATE TRAVEL SAFETY PLANS

More families tend to travel during the holidays, resulting in busier roads, increased traffic accidents and weather-related hazards. Weather conditions, road rage, fatigue and busy airports can all compromise travel safety. Pack emergency kits and adhere to traffic laws. Plan routes in advance and allow extra travel time to avoid rushing and mitigate risks on busy roads.

#### 4 BEWARE OF ALLERGIES

Holiday meals often involve many foods that may contain allergens. Cross contamination, unclear labelling and lack of allergy-friendly options can lead to severe reactions. Communicate any allergy needs to hosts, provide safe food alternatives and carry necessary medications like antihistamines or Epipens. Teaching children how to advocate for themselves and recognise dangerous foods also contributes to safer celebrations.

#### 5 PREVENT THE SPREAD OF ILLNESS

Cold weather and seasonal socialising can increase the spread of viruses like flu and COVID-19. Crowded gatherings, schools out of session and frequent travel can lead to higher infection risks. Emphasise hygiene, encourage vaccination, disinfect surfaces and isolate symptomatic individuals. Communication with children about proper hygiene practices is essential to reduce the spread of illness.

#### 6 STAY VIGILANT ON THE ROAD

Increased holiday traffic heightens the risk of accidents for both drivers and pedestrians. Distracted driving, pedestrian safety and inclement weather can complicate road safety. Encourage pedestrian safety practices, avoid distracted driving and never drive under the influence.

#### 7 MAINTAIN SAFE DECORATIONS

Festive decorations such as Christmas lights and candles can pose electrical, fire and choking hazards if mismanaged. Frayed wires, topping Christmas trees, small ornaments and open flames can be difficult to control, especially in busy households with children. Inspect and maintain decorations, secure Christmas trees, place fragile or small items out of reach and ensure candles are never left unattended. Testing smoke alarms and using flame-retardant decorations can significantly reduce risks.

#### 8 SET BOUNDARIES FOR GIFTS

Some toys and gadgets can present choking, sharp-edge or safety risks, particularly for young children. Ensuring that gifts meet safety standards and are age appropriate can be complex with so many options available. Inspect all toys carefully and ensure any tech devices have parental controls. Setting expectations around safe gift use and discarding packaging that poses a risk also helps to prevent accidents.

#### 9 ADDRESS STRESS & FATIGUE

Holiday pressures can lead to burnout, which affects both physical and mental health. Overpacked schedules and a lack of downtime can cause stress and fatigue, leading to accidents or poor decision making. Incorporate rest, maintain regular routines and seek support to reduce stress. Encourage activities that promote relaxation to create a healthier, happier holiday experience for everyone.

#### 10 DRINK RESPONSIBLY

Alcohol is commonly present at holiday events, raising concerns about safety and supervision. Excessive alcohol consumption can lead to accidents, impaired judgment and lack of supervision for children. Designate responsible adults, limit consumption and provide transportation alternatives for guests. Teaching moderation and modelling responsible behaviour in front of children ensures that celebrations remain positive and secure.

#### Meet Our Expert

James Whelan is a chartered health and safety consultant with 10 years of experience in promoting family and community safety. Specialising in risk assessment and preventative strategies, he has worked with educational institutions, public health agencies and community groups to deliver safety education and training.



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Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/safety-over-the-festive-season>

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## 12 Top Tips for Children and Young People to Enjoy a TECH-FREE CHRISTMAS

The Christmas holidays are tailor made for families to enjoy relaxed quality time in each other's company – but with distractions like pinging phone notifications, the lure of games consoles and online Boxing Day sales, that can be more difficult than it sounds. Staying off our phones, laptops and tablets, however, can really help us to appreciate the things that genuinely matter at this special time of year. Follow our 12 top tips for a tech-free festive season ... Yule be glad you did! Merry Christmas!

### CHRISTMAS CRAFTING

Get out the paper, glue and scissors and have a go at hand-making cards or gift tags. You could also create your own decorations to add a uniquely personal touch to the Christmas tree.

### NATURE QUEST

Try a scavenger hunt in the garden or your local park. Challenge yourself and your family to find natural treasures that are symbolic of this time of year – like holly or pinecones, say.

### CAROL KARAOKE

Sing your hearts out with a Christmas carol karaoke night. Pick out your favourite tunes and enjoy a musical celebration with family and friends.

### WANDER DOWN MEMORY LANE

How about making a scrapbook filled with your favourite memories from Christmases gone by? Unleash your creativity while you enjoy reliving those magical holiday moments.

### TRY REFLECTIVE JOURNALLING

Jot down your thoughts, feelings and reflections on the holiday in a notebook or diary – you could also list some of your main goals for the new year.

### WRAP IT UP

Take time to get inventive with some luxurious gift wrapping. Break out the wrapping paper, ribbons and bows to make parcelling up those presents into a creative adventure.

### WALK IN A WINTER WONDERLAND

Delight in the great outdoors with some gentle walks over the holiday. The family can all wrap up warm as you add to your step count and savour the crisp winter air together.

### BE A SEASONAL CHEF

Get the whole family working together in the kitchen for some Christmas cooking. Choose a recipe and whip up a festive feast that all of you can enjoy.

### ENJOY A CHRISTMAS STORY

Christmas is a perfect time for sparkling stories. Get cosy and lose yourself in a brilliant book, from Dickens to Dr Seuss or a more modern favourite by Chris van Allsburg or Tom Fletcher.

### SNOWY SCULPTURES

If we're fortunate enough to get a white Christmas this year, make the most of the opportunity by having a family snowman-building competition!

### GAMES NIGHT GALA

Dive into some old-school fun with a tech-free games night. Classic board games and card games have stood the test of time for a reason!

### GOODWILL TO ALL

You and your family could spend a day volunteering – perhaps at a food bank or helping a local charity. After all, kindness and thinking of others are part of what Christmas is all about.

### Meet Our Expert

Minds Ahead design and deliver the UK's only specialist postgraduate mental health qualifications. They also provide training and support to education organisations and local authorities – empowering school leaders and staff with the knowledge and tools to shape their settings into inclusive communities where the mental health of pupils and personnel is prioritised.



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#WakeUpWednesday

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Recently, we have noticed a significant increase in the number of vehicles parking in an unsafe manner during drop-off and pick-up times and some local residents have made us aware that their drives were blocked during the Bonanza. We understand that the school's location may pose challenges when it comes to finding suitable parking spots. However, we kindly ask that you remain mindful and considerate of others when parking your vehicles.

### TACKLING ILLEGAL PARKING

Parking illegally or inconsiderately can create significant problems for other road users and pedestrians, particularly those with push chairs or using mobility scooters.

**Parking enforcement**  
In Cheshire East, Cheshire West and Chester, and Warrington

The enforcement of yellow lines, time-limited parking and other parking restrictions in Cheshire is entirely the responsibility of the local authorities and their parking enforcement teams.

**Report online:**

<b>Cheshire East Council</b> <a href="http://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk">www.cheshireeast.gov.uk</a>
<b>Cheshire West and Chester Council</b> <a href="http://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk">www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk</a>
<b>Warrington Borough Council</b> <a href="http://www.warrington.gov.uk">www.warrington.gov.uk</a>

**In Halton (Widnes and Runcorn)**  
The enforcement of yellow lines, time-limited parking and other parking restrictions in Halton is the responsibility Cheshire Police. To report this please phone 101.

**Obstruction**  
A vehicle causing an obstruction is one which has been parked and left unattended in such a way that it is considered to be a hazard to pedestrians or other road users. For example, a car parked on a bend in the road. This also includes blocking free passage to pedestrians and blocking access to private or public property.

If you need to contact the police because a vehicle is causing a safety hazard or an obstruction on a public road, please contact Cheshire Police on the non-emergency number, 101.

**Do not report illegal parking via social media.**

**All road users need to be aware of and adhere to parking restrictions:**

- No parking on bends
- No parking on zigzag lines
- Do not obstruct a resident's driveway
- Do not park on double lines
- Do not park on 'time-limited' single lines
- Do not cause an obstruction



[www.cheshire.police.uk/priorities](http://www.cheshire.police.uk/priorities)

Sign up to [cheshirepolicealert.co.uk](http://cheshirepolicealert.co.uk)

Follow us on twitter: @CheshirePolice

Facebook.com/Cheshirepolice





# BEECHWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL



The menu provided by Orian is below- there is a three week menu. When the allergen menu comes through, we will share this. School meal prices will increase from January to around £3.20. EYFS and KS1 remain on universal free school meals.



## Beechwood Primary School WEEK 1

	CHOICE 1	CHOICE 2	CHOICE 3	SOMETHING SWEET
Monday	Cheese & Tomato Pizza served with Hand Cut Potato Wedges and Seasonal Veg	Pasta with Homemade Tomato Sauce served with Garlic Bread and Seasonal Veg	Jacket Potato filled with Cheese, Tuna, Cheese & Beans or Beans served with Mixed Salad	Belgian Waffles with Whipped Cream <i>NEW</i> or Smoothy Style Yoghurt or Fresh Fruit
Tuesday	Homemade Pasta Bolognese served with Garlic Bread and Seasonal Veg <i>IMPROVED</i>	Salmon Goujons served with Potato Wedges and Seasonal Veg	Jacket Potato filled with Cheese, Tuna, Cheese & Beans or Beans served with Mixed Salad	Homemade Double Chocolate Chip Cookie or Smoothy Style Yoghurt or Fresh Fruit
Wednesday	Home Roasted Chicken Dinner & Yorkshire Pudding served with Homemade Roasted Potatoes, Seasonal Veg and Gravy	Homemade Cheddar Cheese & Bean Puff served with Homemade Roasted Potatoes and Seasonal Veg	Assorted Wraps filled with Ham, Cheese or Tuna served with Crunchy Nachos	Homemade Shortbread or Smoothy Style Yoghurt or Fresh Fruit
Thursday	Fresh Pork Sausage served with Creamed Potato and Baked Beans	Vegetable Sausage served with Creamed Potato and Baked Beans	Jacket Potato filled with Cheese, Tuna, Cheese & Beans or Beans served with Mixed Salad	Homemade Victoria Sponge Bun <i>NEW</i> or Smoothy Style Yoghurt or Fresh Fruit
Friday	Fish Fingers served with Skinny Fries, Seasonal Veg and Tomato Ketchup	Cheesy Pasta Bake served with Garlic Bread and Seasonal Veg	Jacket Potato filled with Cheese, Tuna, Cheese & Beans or Beans served with Mixed Salad	Chocolate Mousse <i>NEW</i> or Smoothy Style Yoghurt or Fresh Fruit

Available daily fresh fruit or salad.

Autumn 2024

If you have any questions about food [allergens](#) please speak to the kitchen team who will be happy to help.



# BEECHWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL

## newsletter



### Beechwood Primary School WEEK 2

	CHOICE 1	CHOICE 2	CHOICE 3	SOMETHING SWEET
Monday	Pepperoni Pizza served with Herby Potatoes and Baked Beans	Veggie Nuggets served with Herby Potatoes and Baked Beans	Jacket Potato filled with Cheese, Tuna, Cheese & Beans or Beans served with Mixed Salad	Homemade Chocolate Crunch or Smoothy Style Yoghurt or Fresh Fruit
Tuesday	Beef Burger topped with Cheese in a Soft Bun served with Homemade Wedges, Seasonal Veg and Ketchup	Veggie Grill Burger in a Bun served with Homemade Wedges, Seasonal Veg and Ketchup	Jacket Potato filled with Cheese, Tuna, Cheese & Beans or Beans served with Mixed Salad	Strawberry Fruit Smoothie or Smoothy Style Yoghurt or Fresh Fruit
Wednesday	Roast Beef & Yorkshire Pudding served with Homemade Roasted Potatoes, Seasonal Veg and Gravy	Cauliflower Cheese Baked Yorkshire Pudding served with Homemade Roasted Potatoes, Seasonal Veg and Gravy <b>NEW</b>	Assorted Wraps filled with Ham, Cheese or Tuna served with Crunchy Nachos	Frozen Yoghurt or Smoothy Style Yoghurt or Fresh Fruit
Thursday	BBQ Chicken Melt Baguette with Nachos served with Seasonal Veg <b>NEW</b>	BBQ Quorn Melt Baguette with Nachos served with Seasonal Veg <b>NEW</b>	Jacket Potato filled with Cheese, Tuna, Cheese & Beans or Beans served with Mixed Salad	Hot Jam & Coconut Sponge and Custard or Smoothy Style Yoghurt or Fresh Fruit
Friday	Fish Fingers served with Skinny Fries and Baked Beans	Roasted Vegetable Pasta with Homemade Tomato Sauce served with Peas	Jacket Potato filled with Cheese, Tuna, Cheese & Beans or Beans served with Mixed Salad	Homemade Jammy Dodger or Smoothy Style Yoghurt or Fresh Fruit

Available daily fresh fruit or salad.

If you have any questions about food [allergens](#) please speak to the kitchen team who will be happy to help.



# BEECHWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL

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### Beechwood Primary School WEEK 3

	CHOICE 1	CHOICE 2	CHOICE 3	SOMETHING SWEET
Monday	Cheese & Tomato Pizza served with 1/2 Jacket Potato and Seasonal Veg	Vegetarian Pasta Bolognese served with Garlic Bread and Seasonal Veg <i>IMPROVED</i>	Jacket Potato filled with Cheese, Tuna, Cheese & Beans or Beans served with Mixed Salad	Strawberry Ice Cream Sponge Roll  or Smoothy Style Yoghurt or Fresh Fruit
Tuesday	Crispy Chicken Burger in a Bun served with Crispy Potato Wedges and Baked Beans	Roasted Vegetable Wrap served with Crispy Potato Wedges and Mixed Salad	Jacket Potato filled with Cheese, Tuna, Cheese & Beans or Beans served with Mixed Salad	Rice Crispy Cake  or Smoothy Style Yoghurt or Fresh Fruit
Wednesday	Sliced Ham & Yorkshire Pudding served with Herby Potatoes and Seasonal Veg	Homemade Mac 'n' Cheese served with Herby Potatoes and Seasonal Veg <i>NEW</i>	Assorted Wraps filled with Ham, Cheese or Tuna served with Crunchy Nachos	Iced Sprinkle Cupcake  or Smoothy Style Yoghurt or Fresh Fruit
Thursday	Chicken Korma served with Rice, Naan Bread and Seasonal Veg	Roasted Vegetable Burrito served with Nachos and Mixed Salad	Jacket Potato filled with Cheese, Tuna, Cheese & Beans or Beans served with Mixed Salad	American Pancakes with Berries <i>NEW</i> or Smoothy Style Yoghurt or Fresh Fruit
Friday	Fish Fingers served with Skinny Fries, Seasonal Veg and Tomato Ketchup	Vegetarian Chili served with Steamed Rice and Seasonal Veg	Jacket Potato filled with Cheese, Tuna, Cheese & Beans or Beans served with Mixed Salad	Homemade Lemon Drizzle Cake <i>IMPROVED</i> or Smoothy Style Yoghurt or Fresh Fruit

Available daily fresh fruit or salad.

If you have any questions about food allergens please speak to the kitchen team who will be happy to help.





# BEECHWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL

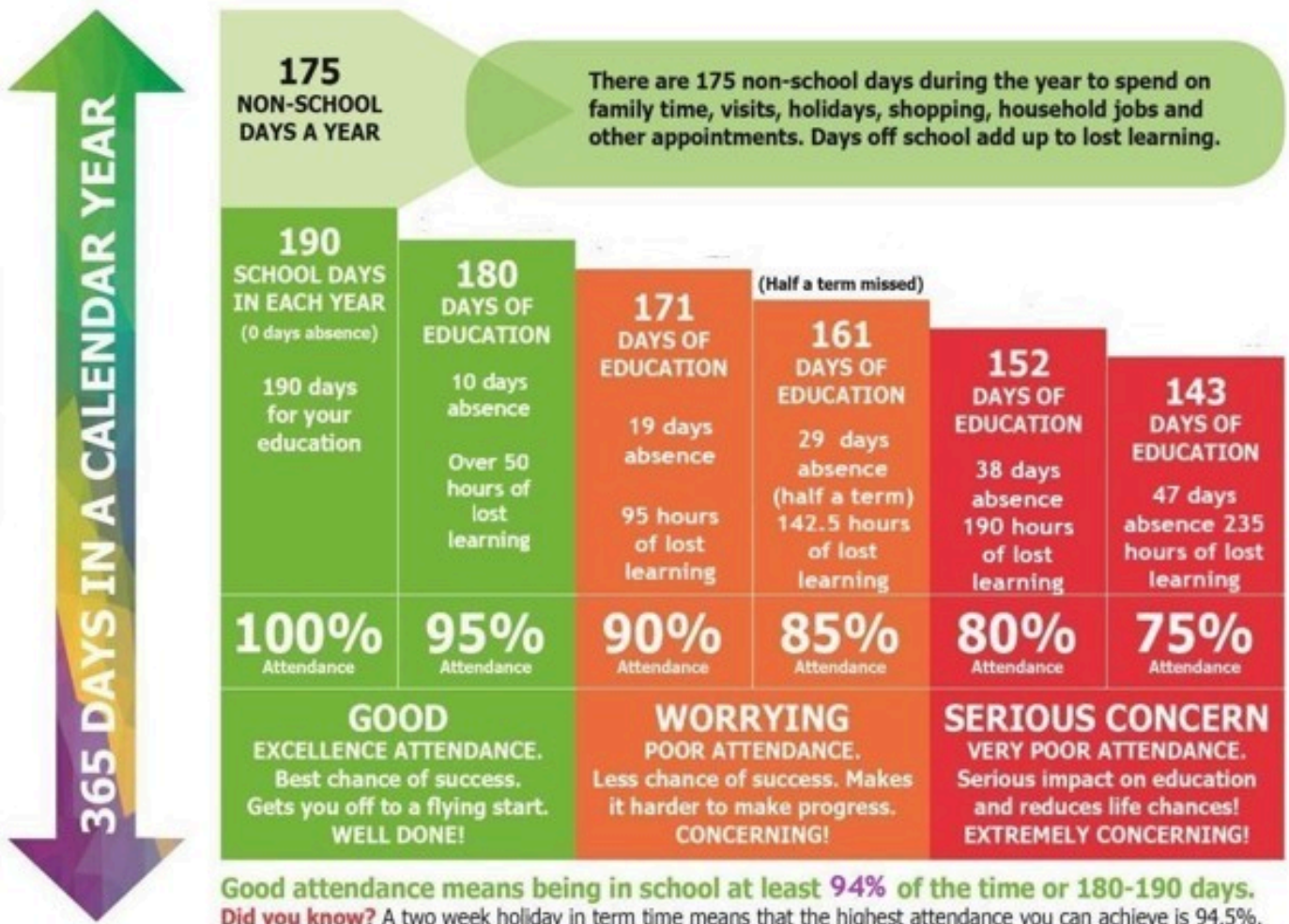


## ATTENDANCE

Following on from the latest information shared with parents and carers regarding attendance, this image highlights the importance of every minute in school.

### EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS

Don't miss out on the education you deserve.





# BEECHWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL



HALTON HEALTH IMPROVEMENT

## Fit 4 Life Bite Size Sessions



START WELL

Join us for our online parent/carer workshops:

### SLEEP & SCREENS

Are you struggling to get your child off their screen? Is this impacting their sleep? In this session, we explore how children can become addicted to their screens. We'll delve into the science of how this affects their sleep and what happens to the brain when screen time is overused and sleep is poor. This workshop will equip you with new skills to manage sleep and screen time, leaving you confident in setting boundaries with your child.

### FUSSY EATING & SNACKING

Does your child refuse to try new foods? Are you finding it a challenge to introduce variety into their diet? In this session, we explain how neurodiversity may impact a child's acceptance of new foods. We'll share strategies to broaden your child's preferences and offer tried and tested tips from other parents, helping you combat the challenges of a fussy eater.

### PHYSICAL ACTIVITY & SUGAR

Has the COVID-19 pandemic affected how active your child is? Are you concerned about their sugar intake but unsure where to start? Lockdown significantly impacted young people's activity levels. Using children's perspectives, we will share why they struggle to stay active and what you can do as a family to support them. We also explore the science behind sugar and its effects on the body. This workshop will help you understand why children struggle with physical activity and provide you with the confidence to get them moving again.

These workshops are for parents and carers. Choose from the following sessions:

45 Minute - Online Workshop

Fussy Eating & Snacks	Sleep & Screens	Physical Activity & Sugar
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To see available dates & to book your place please scan the QR Code, or visit -> [book a workshop on Eventbrite](#)

Alternatively, you can email [HIT@halton.gov.uk](mailto:HIT@halton.gov.uk)



For more information call the team on:

0300 029 0029

or visit [www.haltonhealthimprovement.co.uk](http://www.haltonhealthimprovement.co.uk)



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BEECHWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL

newsletter



# Beechwood Christmas house light show

Starts on

## December 1st

Every evening 5pm till 7:30pm  
until December 26th

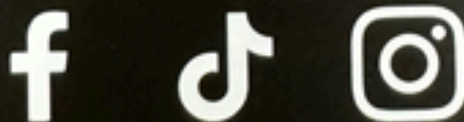
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Raising money for  
Halton Haven



Help us reach our £500 target!

Make a donation with **JustGiving**



@beechwoodchristmashouse



# BEECHWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL



## TERM TIME HOLIDAYS

We have seen an increase in applications for Term Time holidays. As you will have read in letters sent by Mrs Kidd last accademic year, the laws around this have changed and become much tighter. I appreciate the difficulties, yet unless there is an exceptional reason, we are not allowed to authorise holidays and fines have to be issued.



### Should I keep my child off school?

#### Yes

##### Until...

Chickenpox	at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over
Diarrhoea and Vomiting	48 hours after their last episode
Cold and Flu-like illness (including COVID-19)	they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend. Follow the national guidance if they've tested positive for COVID-19.
Impetigo	their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics
Measles	4 days after the rash first appeared
Mumps	5 days after the swelling started
Scabies	they've had their first treatment
Scarlet Fever	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics
Whooping Cough	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics

#### No

but make sure you let their school or nursery know about...

Hand, foot and mouth	Glandular fever
Head lice	Tonsillitis
Threadworms	Slapped cheek



SCAN ME

#### Advice and guidance

To find out more, search for health protection in schools or scan the QR code or visit <https://qrco.de/minfec>.



## 7 Top Tips to Support Reading at Home

Shared reading is a great way to develop children's language and communication and to boost their reading skills. Regular reading routines can offer lots of opportunities for learning during school closures.

- 1 Concentrate on reading quality (it isn't all about reading lots!)



Don't worry too much about the 'what' and 'how' of reading each day. Books are great—but leaflets, comics, recipes and instructions on a webpage can all be great too. Following a recipe to make some cupcakes is valuable reading. Be on the lookout for reading, wherever it is!

- 2 Ask your child lots of questions



All reading matters. Shared reading is about 'reading with', not just 'reading to' (even for older children). So, ask lots of 'Wh' questions, such as Who? What? When? Where? Why? Try them when talking about books: for example, 'what do you think Harry is feeling?'

- 3 Ask your child to make predictions about what they have read



If it is a book, look at the front cover—or the last chapter—and talk about what might happen next. Look for clues in the book and be a reading detective! For example, 'can you see the bear on the front cover? Where do you think he will go?'

- 4 Ask your child to summarise what they have read



When you've finished reading, talk about what happened. Acting out the things that happened in the story or describing the big idea of a chapter is really fun and maximises learning. For example, 'can you remember all the things that happened on the bear hunt?'

- 5 Ask your child to write about what they have read



Write, or draw pictures, from anything you've read! Big writing and pictures are even more fun. For example, use an old roll of wallpaper to make a treasure map with clues from the stories you've read together.

- 6 Read and discuss reading with friends or family



Make books a part of the family. Encourage your child to share them with a relative or friend, over a video call. Laugh about them when you are making meals together. For example, 'I hope the tiger doesn't come to tea today!'

- 7 Maintain the motivation to read



Talk about the joy of reading whenever you can. Your child is on an amazing journey to becoming a reader. Put them in the driving seat and have fun on the way! For example, 'choose your favourite story for bedtime tonight.'