



# BEARWOOD NEWS

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2024

Dear Families

We have had another lovely week at Bearwood. The sunshine has been an added bonus.

Thank you to families who have already started to send in donations for our Harvest Festival. We are again collecting for the Wokingham Food Bank. Please see further in this newsletter for the list of items requested. Our Harvest Festival assembly will take place this Thursday for children only, so please can we have the donations in by then.

The children from Year One to Year Six experienced a special treat this week. Andy from Little Musketeers came and spoke about the before school club. Some children were asked to come and demonstrate, and were very excited to do so. You can find out about the clubs on offer this term here: [Bearwood Primary School - Extra-Curricular Clubs \(bearwood-pri.wokingham.sch.uk\)](http://bearwood-pri.wokingham.sch.uk) Click on the link on the bottom of the website page. If you do want to sign up for one of the clubs, you must do so by the end of today.

This morning, we had our first fire drill for the year. The children were excellent, calmly and swiftly vacating the building.

Next week Friday at 9am, we will have a prospective parents' tour of the school. If you know anyone in this area who is looking for a school place for their child, do let them know.

Best wishes

Funmi Alder

**Headteacher**

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Value for the term –

Respect

**If they respect you,  
respect them.  
If they disrespect you,  
still respect them.  
Do not allow the actions  
of others to decrease your  
good manners, because  
you represent yourself,  
not others.**

## Message from Mrs Christine Jeater, the Chair of Governors

As Chair of Governors, I frequently visit Bearwood and walk round all classrooms. I came in last Wednesday and found that all classes were working well, children were focused and engaged and there was a sense of calm in the classrooms. The teaching and learning environment was excellent. I have been walking round the classrooms for years and this was the best visit overall. Following on from a great Ofsted Report and outstanding SATs results we are set for a good year in school.

We are planning to hold another parent forum prior to Christmas and I would urge as many of you to come as possible. We want to hear your views and share and discuss our future plans for the school.



### Start of Day

The official start to the school day is **8:45am**. Thank you to all families who ensure their children are in school on time. In order to enable a smooth start to the day, we operate a soft-start. This means children can come into school from 8:35 to 8:45am. For health and safety reasons, we are not able to have families wait on the KS2 playground at the start of the day, because the car-park is in use until 8:30am. Our KS2 children therefore enter via the KS2 gate between 8:35 and 8:45am. We understand some of our KS2 families have expressed concern about the congestion at the KS2 gate at 8:35am. We strongly recommend to our families that you utilise this 10-minute margin to select the best time for your child, helping to ensure there is not too much congestion at the gate.

Thank you for your support and understanding with this.





# BEARWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL

## Why Bearwood?

Bearwood Primary School is a dynamic, exciting learning community with dedicated, passionate staff committed to ensuring the absolute best for all our children.



## Our Foundation Stage

At Bearwood Primary our foundation stage caters for children age 3-5 with an emphasis on learning through play and exploration.

**Come and see what makes us different! Contact the school office to book a place on our upcoming open days and tours!**



Tuesday 26th Nov—1.30pm

Wednesday 27th Nov—9.30am

Thursday 28th Nov—5pm

Saturday 30th Nov—10am-12pm  
Drop in session



Bearwood Primary School  
Bearwood Road  
Wokingham  
RG41 5BB

0118 978 4628  
[admin@bearwood-pri.wokingham.sch.uk](mailto:admin@bearwood-pri.wokingham.sch.uk)





***“Children get off to a strong start in the early years. This is because there are high expectations for their learning and behaviour from the beginning of their school life.”***

***Ofsted***

***“We do so much fun learning, I love when I play and learn with all of my friends”***

***Reception Child***



***“Children had high levels of co-regulation, sharing and working alongside other children”***

***LA Advisor***

**Are you looking for a Reception Class place for 2025?**

**Is your child turning 3 and you're looking for a nursery place?**

**Contact Bearwood Primary School now to come to one of our tours or open days!**





# Office Notices

## Growth Mindset Awards

Reception – Tivishi + Jonah  
Fox – Wayne  
Beaver – Wilf  
Red Kite – Olivia  
Red Squirrel – Robyn  
Dormouse – Mollie  
Badger – Jack  
Otter – Jessica  
Grey Wolf - Eliana

## Sports Star Awards

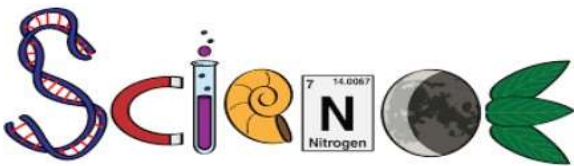
Fox – Max  
Beaver – Ellis  
Red Kite – Rhys  
Red Squirrel – Anaya  
Dormouse – Chris  
Badger – Noah  
Otter – Milo + Bobby  
Grey Wolf – Summer + Jake



### This week's winners of TTRS 'Battle of the Bands'

*LKS2 Winners – Dormouse 280 points*

*UKS2 Winners – Grey Wolf 404 points*



### Scientist of the week!

**LKS2 – Charlotte**

**UKS2 – Waleed**



### Performers of the week!

Our very first performers for the academic year were Isla-Rose and Olivia. They sang Diamonds by Rhiana as a duet and they remembered every word!

Well done, you were amazing!

They chose the song because they felt inspired by our Bearwood's Got Talent contest which occurred at the end of the school year.

# IMPORTANT dates to remember

- Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> September – Harvest Festival Assembly
- Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September – 9am – Prospective Parents' tour
- Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October – School Photographer – individual photos
- Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October – 9am – Prospective Parents' Tour
- Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October – 3:45 to 6:15pm – Parents' Evening
- Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October – BHM Assembly
- Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October – 4:30 to 7pm – Parents' Evening
- Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October – International Attire Day
- Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October to Friday 1<sup>st</sup> November – Autumn half-term
- Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November - INSET
- Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November – Children Return
- Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November – Remembrance Assembly
- W/C 11<sup>th</sup> November – Anti-Bullying Week
- 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> November – Year Six Bikeability
- Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> November – 9am – Reception Parents' Phonics & Reading Workshop
- Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> November – Diwali Assembly
- Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November – Children in Need
- W/C 18<sup>th</sup> November – Maths Week
- Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> November – 1:30pm – Prospective Reception Parents' Afternoon
- Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> November – 9:30am – Prospective Reception Parents' Morning
- Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> November – 5pm – Prospective Reception Parents' Evening
- Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November – 9am – Prospective Parents' Tour
- Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November – 10am to 12pm – Prospective Reception Parents' Open Morning drop-in
- Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December – EYFS Nativity play to parents **(Date Change)**
- Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December – Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas lunch
- Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December – 9am – Prospective Parents' Tour
- Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December – 9:30am – KS1 Christmas Play to Parents
- Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December – 2pm – KS1 Christmas Play to Parents
- Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December – pm – Class Christmas Parties
- Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December - attendance medals assembly
- Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December – last day of Autumn term – 2pm finish
- Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January – INSET
- Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January – children return
- Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January – 9am – Year One parents phonics workshop

## Weekly Updates!

For pictures and information on what each class has been doing this week or enrichment activities that have taken place please click on the year group below or visit the school gallery.

EYFS

KS1

LKS2

UKS2



School success starts  
with attendance

## Weekly Attendance

Brown Bears – 94.2%

Fox – 94.65%

Beaver – 97.04%

Red Kite – 97.62%

Red Squirrel – 96.62%

Dormouse – 99.63% Winner!

Badger – 96.3%

Otter – 97.41%

Grey Wolf – 92.22%



Please ensure you call or email **each day** your child is absent.

**We spend a lot of time calling parents that have not called in to report an absence. Please ensure you report an absence before 9am.**

# Free School Meals



## Are you entitled?

Free school meals and extra funding for your child's education

Across the UK more than 10 per cent of pupils who are eligible for free school meals do not register to get them.

We want to make sure 100 per cent of our pupils claim when they can in Wokingham Borough.

Importantly, it also means schools can get additional funding to support pupils.

To qualify, your child must be in school and you must be receiving one of the following benefits:

- [Income support](#)
- Income based [Job Seekers Allowance](#)
- Income related [Employment and Support Allowance](#)
- [NASS support](#)
- Guarantee element of [State Pension](#)
- [Child Tax Credit](#), provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190
- [Working Tax Credit](#) for the four weeks after employment ends
- [Universal Credit](#), provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400

If this applies to you but your child isn't registered for free school meals, complete a form and return it to your child school.

[Download the form and apply for Free School Meals](#) on Wokingham Borough Council's website.





A great big **THANK YOU** to Mr Washington for the donation of tyres for our Fox Class outdoor area, we are going to use them to plant mini gardens to beautify the area.



### Children's Roles and Responsibilities

A huge well done to all of the children who applied for this year's roles and responsibilities at Bearwood. We had over 100 applicants which is fantastic! Congratulations to those who were successfully appointed. Miss Parry looks forward to training you up for your new posts! A big thank you also goes to parents and carers who generously took the time to support their children with their application forms and sent them in.



### Lost Property

We still have a lot of coats in lost property from last term. If they are not claimed by Monday they will be donated to charity. Can we also remind families to name all items, this will make it a lot easier to get lost items back to your child.

**Thank you**



### Lunch Debts

All lunches must be paid for in advance. Please ensure all lunch debts are cleared. **Thank you**

# Little Sips BIG ADVENTURES

Dear parent/guardian,

As you may be aware your child's school has a milk scheme, administered by Cool Milk. Mid-morning milk provides a much-needed nutritional boost and keeps children hydrated between breakfast and lunch. Children receive free milk until the age of 5. After that, they can continue to reap the benefits of fresh mid-morning milk at a subsidised\* cost.

If you'd like to opt in and have not already done so, simply register your child at [www.coolmilk.com/register](http://www.coolmilk.com/register). Your child(ren) will continue to receive free milk whilst under the age of 5 and Cool Milk will get in touch with further information by email shortly before their 5<sup>th</sup> birthday.

For children who are already over 5, it's not too late – our scheme is flexible! As well as being able to register and make payment straight away, you can join and cancel the scheme at any time. We offer yearly, termly and half termly payment periods and a recurring payment option to give you one less thing to remember.

If you already have an online Cool Milk account for a sibling, you can manage your account, make payment and add extra children by logging in at [www.coolmilk.com/parents](http://www.coolmilk.com/parents).

Should you have any questions or need any help, send us a message at [www.coolmilk.com/contact](http://www.coolmilk.com/contact) or give us a call on the number listed below – we're here to help!

Kind regards,

*Cool Milk*

☎: 0800 321 3248

🌐: [www.coolmilk.com](http://www.coolmilk.com)



SCAN TO REGISTER

*\*Milk for under-5s is fully funded by DHSC via the Nursery Milk Scheme. Milk for over-5s is subsidised by Defra via the School Milk Scheme.*





**Citizens Advice will be at:  
Bearwood Primary School**

**Thursday 7th November  
between 2pm and 3:30pm**

**with our Mobile Advice Unit.  
Providing free, confidential  
advice, information and support.**





Guide  
Dogs



# Family Fun Day

Saturday 21 September 2024  
12-4pm

Free entry!

- Pet dog show with celebrity judge
- Food and drink
- Children's activities
- Guide dog demonstration
- Stalls with local crafts and more



Hillfields, Reading Road,  
Burghfield Common, RG7 3YG



Free parking at The Willink School  
with a shuttle bus

Scan for  
more info



The Guide Dogs for the Blind Association is a registered charity in England and Wales (2199417), Scotland (SC028897) and Isle of Man (2204), 0164

Sponsored by

croudacehomes



# flu: 5 reasons to vaccinate your child



## 1. Protect your child

The vaccine will help protect your child against flu and serious complications such as bronchitis and pneumonia

## 2. Protect you, your family and friends

Vaccinating your child will help protect more vulnerable friends and family

## 3. No injection needed

The nasal spray is painless and easy to have

## 4. It's better than having flu

The nasal spray helps protect against flu, has been given to millions of children worldwide and has an excellent safety record

## 5. Avoid costs

If your child gets flu, you may have to take time off work or arrange alternative childcare

Most children have the nasal spray vaccine which is the preferred vaccine. A vaccine injection is also available which does not contain gelatine from pigs (porcine gelatine).

For more information visit  
[www.nhs.uk/child-flu](http://www.nhs.uk/child-flu)





**Funtastic Kids**

# October Half Term Holiday Camps!

Childcare from £3 an hour

**Open across Berkshire**

**Monday 28th October - Friday 1st November\***

*\*Dates and activities may vary according to location.*

What's on offer:

**Autumn themed timetables:** Woodland Wonderland, Bonfire Bonanza & Spooky Spectacular

**Creative activities:** arts & crafts, drama, science & baking!

**Energetic sports:** archery, new age kurling, badminton, dance & more!

“The providers are passionate about delivering high-quality childcare, which meets the needs of all children at their clubs.”

– Ofsted, Falkland Holiday Camp, August 2024



**Ages 4 - 13  
Ofsted Registered  
Sibling Discount**



[funtastickids.co.uk](http://funtastickids.co.uk)

[bookings@funtastickids.co.uk](mailto:bookings@funtastickids.co.uk)

07715643413 / 01189799253