

Update from Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back, and I hope you had a restful half term. As we begin this new term, I wanted to share some important updates and a very special highlight from the end of the last half term.

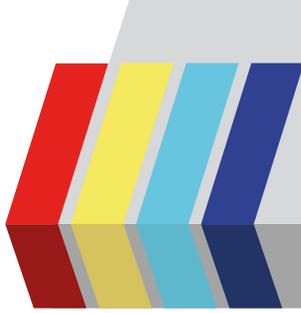
A Remarkable Visit From Our Sister School in Shanghai

On 14th January 2026, we were honoured to host our sister school, Tianshan Primary School No1, who travelled all the way from Shanghai to spend the day with us. Their pupils treated us to a wonderful musical performance, and our very own Ivy Genz also performed beautifully—representing our school with confidence, pride, and exceptional talent.

Our visitors were genuinely surprised to learn that we are a state school rather than a private arts specialist school, and they commented on how impressed they were by our children's creativity, discipline, and the quality of their work. They shared how warmly they were welcomed, and it truly was a celebration of global learning, culture, and friendship.

We were also privileged to welcome Councillor Kangethe and Councillor Donna Lumsden to join us for this special occasion. You would have been proud of your children—their behaviour, hospitality, and enthusiasm were exemplary.

We hope to continue strengthening this partnership and are exploring arrangements for some of our talented mathematicians to visit Shanghai in the future—an exciting opportunity that would be truly life-changing.



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Parking and Safety Around the School

I would also like to address the ongoing concerns regarding unsafe or obstructive parking during drop-off and pick-up times. Complaints from our neighbours have now been formally escalated, and we kindly remind all families to park considerately and within legal restrictions. The local authority has already received photographic evidence of unsafe parking, and further action may be taken where necessary.

Most importantly, we must ensure that our children can cross the road safely and that the area around the school remains safe and accessible for everyone.

Thank you, as always, for your cooperation, understanding, and continued commitment to keeping our children safe.

We look forward to another positive half-term.

Warm regards,

Miss Whittington

Headteachers Award

1DM Zakhar Tustanivskyy

1LH Halle Adebisi

1ZA Genevive Okpe

2FT Harry Dauda

2LS Blessing Olohunbemi

2NH Ibrahim Basit

3SS Amos Soka

3SY Haytham Saleem

3WA Elijah Oti

4FW Caren Aghedo

4OO Marius- Florian Ionita

4PJ David Aladesuru

5AW Sienna Lewis

5CR Erik Sargsyan

5KS Ayub Wadud

6DC Beqa Zaalishvili

6EW Zina Duru

6RT Riyah Rahman

Sport Edson Metzger

RHH Sofia Burdeina

RLE Parmarth Parmarth

RON Amelia Rozee

NAD Viktoria Trukh

NAM Ayzal Siddiqui

NPM Ayub Sadiq

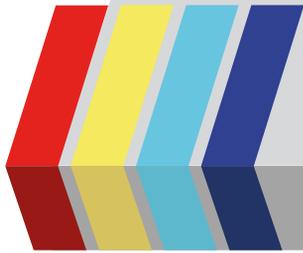
Apollo Noah Hamadzipi

Atlantis Sapphire Muhammed

AQ Sya Ali

Art Michael Akinwumi Yiyi





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Updates from class

Year 6 - This term, Year 6 pupils have enjoyed a range of exciting, hands-on learning experiences. They took part in a fascinating fish workshop with experts from Billingsgate Fish Market, where they learned about different species and developed their food preparation skills.

In Design and Technology, the children designed and constructed their own playground structures, focusing on stability, safety, and thoughtful engineering. Alongside this, they have been developing their writing skills by creating detailed non-chronological reports about Greek mythological creatures of their choice, combining research with creativity.

Well done, Year 6, for your hard work and enthusiasm!

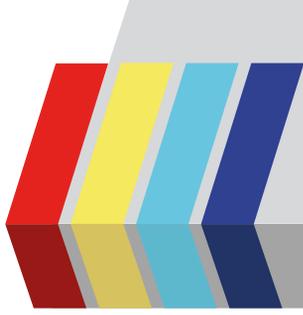
Year 5 - In literacy we have been studying *The Boy in The Striped Pyjamas*. This story follows a boy, Bruno, as his family relocates to Poland during the Second World War. They have written a letter, as Bruno, to his friend back in Berlin. We will continue with this text after half term with an exciting project!

We were welcomed by members of the Dagenham Jamme Masjid. It was a wonderful experience that greatly enriched the children's understanding of Islam.

During Design and Technology week, we designed and made pop-up books, using storytelling and mechanics to bring their ideas to life. The children worked hard, showing great teamwork and problem-solving skills.

Classics for All visited us and commented how knowledgeable the children were in Latin. They commented on how polite our children were and how enthusiastic they were regarding Latin. Hopefully, photographs will be sent to us soon and we can share them with you.





Updates from class

Year 4 - The children, as usual, have had a very productive half term with children continuing to develop their mathematical skills, deepening their understanding of multiplication. In Literacy, the children explored the features of a playscript and wrote their own scene based on the play, 'Bill's New Frock'. They also developed their oracy skills, through performance and drama.

In geography, we explored the impact that water can have on their surroundings. We observed our playground for the possible issues relating to water. Children then made decisions about the best choice of surfaces for a children's playground, later going on to design their own.

As part of our DT topic, the children designed their own pneumatic toys. They were able to create a toy suitable for a five-year-old child, adding a pneumatic system to create movement. The children were delighted with their final products.

Year 3 – Y3 continued to develop their multiplication and division skills with the 3x, 4x and 8x times tables, and they explored the story 'My Shadow is Pink' in literacy and used the narrative as a stimulus to develop an inner monologue based on the character's feelings and experiences.

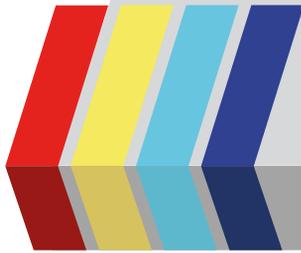
In RE, they learned about Judaism, and in their science lessons, they expanded on their knowledge of rocks and minerals and transitioned into fossils, and later began studying different forces and how they can affect things. In geography, they have begun to develop map skills and comparative knowledge of other countries such as Ghana as they develop an understanding of different settlements, while in history, they have learned about the Bronze Age and Iron Age.

In DT, they have developed some computer coding and programming skills for their proposed wearable technology products.

Year 2 - The children have been working incredibly hard across the curriculum. In English, they have been learning to write non-chronological reports, exploring the key features such as headings, subheadings, factual language and technical vocabulary. They conducted their own research on sharks and used their findings to create informative reports.

In maths, the children have completed their unit on addition and subtraction and are now applying and extending their understanding through their new learning on money. In history, the children have been learning about the Great Fire of London, exploring this significant event through storytelling and drama to deepen their understanding.

In science, they have been investigating how the properties of materials influence their use in different products, carrying out a range of experiments and exploring materials around the school grounds to reason about their suitability for different purposes.



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Updates from class

Year 1 - As we reached the end of the spring half term in Year 1, we explored the properties and uses of materials in science, carrying out experiments to test materials, including whether they were waterproof.

In geography, we learned about the oceans and continents of the world and located them on a map, which supported our literacy work on Africa. In history, we studied aviation and famous aviators, and even watched a glider fly across the classroom. In RE, we learned about Sikhism, focusing on the 5 Ks and important Gurus. In P.E., we developed our running, jumping and throwing skills, and in gymnastics we created sequences including forward rolls and log rolls.

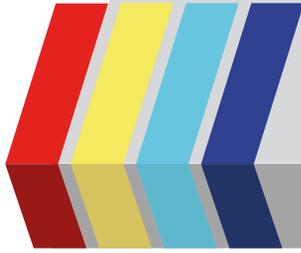
In literacy, we wrote fact files about African mammals using our research skills. In maths, we worked on place value and number lines using practical activities. We finished the term with an exciting DT week, where we designed, made and evaluated our own colourful puppets.



Reception – Reception have had a wonderful start to the spring term. The children have been learning all about ocean creatures and life under the sea through stories, activities and discussions. A very exciting highlight was our trip to the London Aquarium, where the children were fascinated by the sea life they saw.

This term, we have also been learning about oceans and our local rivers, focusing on pollution and how we can help to keep our environment clean and safe. In DT, the children had a fantastic time designing and creating their own sea creatures using junk modelling, showing great creativity and teamwork.





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Updates from class

Nursery – This half term in Nursery we have been exploring our exciting topic “Transport”, which has inspired lots of imaginative play and hands-on learning. The children have loved role-playing journeys using trains, planes and cars, creating their own adventures through play. We have shared and enjoyed stories such as The Journey Home from Grandpa, We’re Going on a Bear Hunt and Whatever Next, acting them out together and learning how to retell familiar stories with confidence.

The children have been developing their early writing skills through mark making, drawing bears and moons using curvy lines and anti-clockwise circles. In maths, we have been learning to subitise up to 3 and to understand simple prepositions such as on, under and behind. We also compared old and new vehicles, discussing what is the same and what is different, and talked about different modes of transport and what a journey is.

We have been very busy building our physical skills too! The children have practised pedalling and balancing on bikes, as well as kicking and throwing balls. Fine motor skills have been developing through learning to use scissors safely and holding tools using fingers rather than fists. In creative activities, we explored colour mixing, texture rubbings and made our own vehicles using junk modelling, learning that plastic is a good material for boats because it is waterproof and floats.

We also began our Forest School sessions, where the children had great fun exploring the outdoors and learning about the life cycle of a leaf. It has been a fantastic half term full of curiosity, creativity and teamwork – well done Nursery!



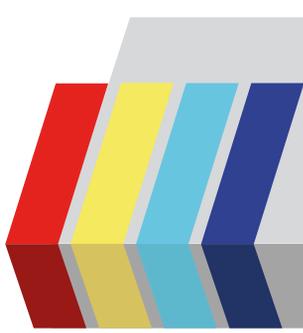
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Parent Information

NEW! Early Morning Breakfast Club – Starting 23rd February 2026

We are delighted to announce that our new **Early Morning Breakfast Club** will launch on **Monday 23rd February 2026**.

The club will run each weekday from **7:00am to 8:30am** and will cost **£10.00 per pupil, per session**. Initially, this provision will be available to pupils aged **6 years and above**.

Please see below link to register interest [Early Morning Breakfast Club – Fill in form](#)

Parent First Aid Workshop – 30th April 2026

We are delighted to offer parents and carers the opportunity to take part in a **Basic First Aid Workshop**, delivered by a qualified paramedic here at **Beam County Primary School**. This informative session will equip you with essential lifesaving skills and the confidence to respond effectively in an emergency.

Places are limited, so we encourage you to register your interest as soon as possible using the link [First Aid Workshop for Parents - April 2026 – Fill in form](#)

SCHOOL UNIFORM –

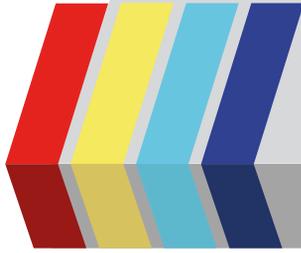
Uniform is available to buy on ParentPay (please ensure your child's name is clearly marked on all items including water bottles, coats).

Pre-Loved Uniform is available to buy from school office from 50p an item.

For full information please see website on Link below – [Uniform - Beam County Primary School - Creating a Lifelong Love of Learning](#)

Please be reminded copy of any letters sent home can be found on our website, link below, [Letters Home - Beam County Primary School - Creating a Lifelong Love of Learning](#)





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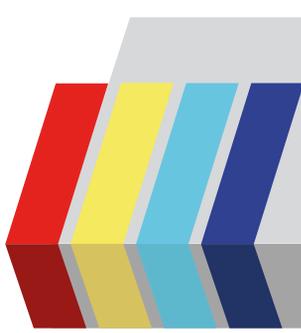
Sports Events

AQ class finish 2nd in the Barking & Dagenham Ten Pin Bowling competition (SEND).

Well done to AQ class who finished 2nd in the Borough ten pin bowling competition this half term. They were winning up until the last ball bowled and made a huge improvement from last years 10th place finish.

Thanks to everyone who supported the team attending this event. For more news about Beam PE & Sport, please look out for the next edition of the PE Newsletter - Beam me up Scotty! Which we aim to email out each half term.





SENCO

Parent Coffee Mornings – Engagement and Next Steps

This year, we have invested considerable time in organising a range of parent coffee mornings led by specialist professionals, including Speech and Language Therapists and other experts. These sessions have covered key areas such as communication development, toilet training, sensory needs and oral health, with the aim of providing accessible, practical advice directly to families.

We would like to thank the parents who have attended and contributed so positively. However, attendance overall has been very low. As these sessions require significant planning, coordination with external professionals and staff time, it is important that they are well attended in order to remain viable. We are keen to understand whether there are barriers to participation, such as timing or format, and would welcome your feedback. Without sufficient engagement, it may not be possible to continue offering these sessions in their current form.

Requests for ADHD Referrals

We understand that many families are seeking information about ADHD and other neurodevelopmental differences. Social media and increased public awareness have helped parents to feel more informed and confident in advocating for their children, which we welcome.

However, referrals for ADHD assessment require clear evidence that a child is experiencing significant and persistent difficulties across more than one setting — including school. As part of any referral, schools are required to provide detailed observations and evidence of impact on learning, attention, behaviour and daily functioning.

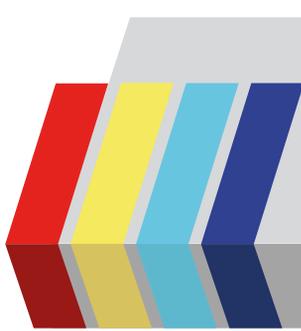
If a child is not presenting with these difficulties in school, we are unable to provide supporting evidence for a referral. Referrals made without evidence from both home and school are very likely to be declined by medical professionals. We recognise that some children may present differently in different environments. If parents have concerns, we encourage them to:

- Share specific examples of behaviours at home
- Work with us to monitor patterns over time
- Discuss strategies that can support their child's needs, regardless of diagnosis

Our priority is always to support children based on their needs, whether or not a diagnosis is in place. A diagnosis is not required for us to make reasonable adjustments in school where they are needed.

If you have concerns about your child, please speak to your child's class teacher in the first instance.





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Wellbeing

You might know of him as STEEL from TV's Gladiators - You might know him as ZACK George.

We now know him as a friend of Beam County Primary School and we are excited to announce we have signed up to ZACTIV which means our families can use the - **Zactiv Family App**



Beam Families can sign up for FREE to the Zactiv Family App

PARENT WORKOUT PLANS / TRAINING PROGRAMMES

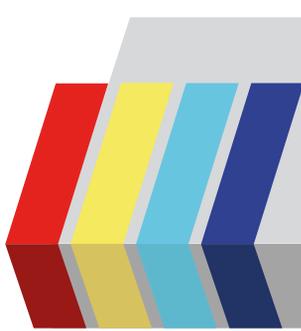
FAMILY WORKOUTS

MEAL PLANNING / HEALTHY RECIPES

And it really is FREE to Beam Families as part of our schools ZACTIV subscription

<https://family.zactiv.co.uk/register?school=beam-county-primary-school>





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Ready, Respectful, Safe

At Beam, we expect and encourage good behaviour and self-discipline from all pupils to cultivate an environment that promotes emotional development, effective learning and high standards. Through visible consistency, we are restorative in our approach, using a range of methods and strategies to maintain positive relationships. Our three simplified core rules: Ready, Respectful, Safe, ensure that we are consistent in our approach.

You will find our updated Behaviour Policy here: <https://beamcountyprimaryschool.org/policies>

We aim to provide an inclusive, calm, quiet atmosphere in the school and encourage children to move around responsibly. Our expectations of the children can only be realised through the cooperation and support between home and school. Should any difficulties be encountered, we invite parents to work with us to resolve them. Positive behaviour is a collective responsibility within the school. This extends beyond the individual classroom to cover every child and every area of the school and playground.

Attendance

Medical appointments

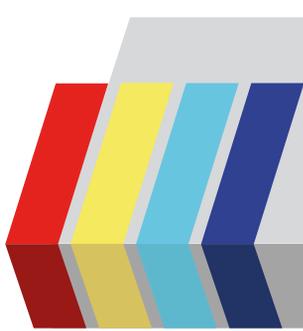
Parents will be expected to make medical or dental appointments outside of school hours wherever possible. Where this is not possible, a copy of the appointment letter or text must be shown to the school office.

Punctuality

School starts at 8:30 and gates shut at 8:40 prompt.

Arriving late disrupts the class and children's learning. Arriving 5 minutes late every day adds up to over 3 learning days lost each year





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Parent Support Advisors

If you need any support during the holidays please contact the LBBB Family Navigators:
Community Navigators

https://ourhubsbd.london/community-navigators/?utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=

Little Recyclers

Last Collection raised £44.55 towards School Funds !!!!

Please continue to help us raise funds for our school and at the same time protect the environment by donating unwanted clothes and other items such as paired shoes/jewellery/bags/belts etc.

Little Recyclers Clothing Bank is on site here at Beam County Primary School, situated to the left of the school office, opposite our breakfast club\after school entrance.

Should you have any pre-loved school uniform that you wish to donate, please continue to send in to our school office.



Upcoming Dates

Every Thursday (26th Feb to 26th Mar) – Y3 Swimming Lessons
Tuesday 3rd March – Rec – Y6 World Book Day/Author Visit
Thursday 5th March – NURSERY World Book Day
Friday 20th March – Y1 Alien Day
Thursday 7th May– SCHOOL CLOSED – Polling Day



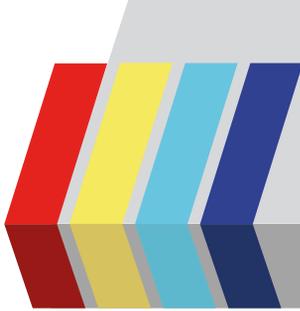
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School Catering

REMINDER: Parents are now required to pre-select meals in advance using our online system, **ParentPay**. (Please note: NO payment is needed to order school dinners). If you are unable to access ParentPay please contact the front office in order to obtain the login details The link below explains how to select a meal for your child using ParentPay.

<https://parent-support.parentpaygroup.com/hc/en-gb/articles/6265244826257--VIDEO-How-to-book-a-meal>

The 3 week menu's are now available for you on the schools website.

We have reviewed our safe practices as we move over to new, delicious menus in addition to a different way of ordering school lunches. Lanyards are to be worn in the lunch hall for children with allergies to indicate allergens that children are to avoid. Those with a health care plan (HCP) are wearing their lanyard daily, they have been fantastic with independently putting on their lanyard and then returning it when they have finished their lunch. We are in the process of contacting all parents with children with an allergy logged on our system to ascertain if a lanyard is needed.

MENU WEEK 1 - WHEN WE RETURN TO SCHOOL ON MONDAY 23rd February 2026

Contact Information

IMPORTANT - If you have changed any contact or address details please inform the school by email at office@beam.bardaglea.org.uk

Term Dates

Monday 23rd February 2026 – Friday 27th March 2026

