

Newsletter

October 2025

Update from Headteacher

Dear Parent/Carers,

It's certainly been a busy half-term which has gone in the blink of an eye!

It's been wonderful to see both our returning families and those joining us for the first time. We were also delighted that Beam County Primary School has been recognised as **Outstanding** in Behaviour and Attitudes, Personal Development, Leadership and Management, and Early Years!

Inspectors described Beam as *"a highly inclusive school where pupils thrive"* and praised our *"nurturing and caring approach"* which ensures every child feels *"secure and safe."*

Pupils were commended for being *"happy, respectful and polite,"* and parents were described as *"overwhelmingly positive about the support their children receive."* Ofsted noted that our pupils *"achieve exceptionally well, including in national assessments,"* and that they benefit from *"meaningful educational experiences that broaden their horizons."*

While our SATs results are exceptional and among the **highest** locally (well above national averages), Ofsted judged the Quality of Education as *Good*. This is because in a few recently updated subjects, the consistency of teaching and checking pupils' understanding is still being refined. Inspectors recognised that the school is already taking action to address this.

Overall, the report reflects the excellence, ambition and care that define Beam Primary – a school where, in Ofsted's words, ***"pupils flourish both academically and personally."***

A New Year of Learning

Our dedicated staff continue to work hard to prepare an engaging and inspiring curriculum for all our pupils this academic year. Whether through academic subjects, creative arts, or physical education, we aim to provide a well-rounded experience that nurtures a love for learning.

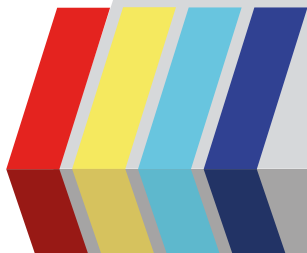
We are committed to fostering an environment where each child feels valued, safe, and encouraged to reach their full potential.

Concerns and Complaints Procedure:

We understand that, from time to time, parents may have concerns or issues they wish to address. Our school is committed to fixing these matters quickly and fairly. Should you have any concerns regarding your child's education, welfare, or any other aspect of school life, we encourage you to follow our concerns and complaints procedure outlined below:

1. In the first instance, please raise your concern with your child's class teacher. They will be happy to discuss your concerns and work with you to find a resolution.
2. If the issue remains unresolved, or if you feel uncomfortable discussing it with the class teacher, please complete a concern form: <https://forms.office.com/e/aHNLnBTvgM>





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The appropriate member of staff will contact you and listen to your concerns, and work with you to address them.

If you remain dissatisfied after following steps 1 and 2, you may escalate your concern to the Headteacher for an informal meeting. The Headteacher will look into the matter thoroughly and give you a formal response.

Important Dates and Information

As we get back into the swing of things, please look on our school website, and you are also able to use Google Translate.

- Important Office information, including the calendar, letters and term information: <https://www.beamcountyprimaryschool.org/virtual-office/>
- Your child's class information: <https://www.beamcountyprimaryschool.org/learning-and-teaching/year-group-content/>
- School uniform: <https://www.beamcountyprimaryschool.org/parents/uniform/>

We also have pre-loved uniforms available for purchase in the front office, which are heavily discounted.

Free School Meals

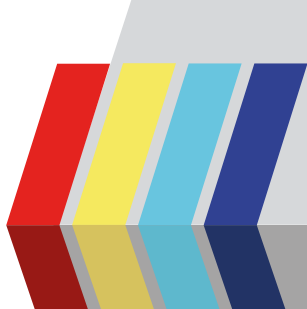
I'd like to remind all eligible families to consider applying for Free School Meals for their children, even if your child already receives a hot meal each day. When you register your child for FSM, you not only secure the entitlement (and the associated **20% reduction on all school trips** here at the school), you also help your family and the school community.

For your family, being registered means less worry about meal-costs: children with access to nutritious meals come to school ready to learn and are less likely to miss days due to hunger or related health issues.

For the school, every child registered for FSM means additional funding through the Pupil Premium (which allows us to invest in extra staff, small-group support, enriching trips and resources.)

In short: you register → your child gets the benefit of reduced trip costs and meals → the school gets extra support to maintain and enhance quality. If you think you may be eligible, please contact the school office or apply via <http://www.lbbd.gov.uk/free-school-meals-pupil-premium>





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Keeping in Touch

Communication between home and school is essential for your child's success. If you have any questions, concerns, or updates regarding your child, please do not hesitate to reach out to speak to your child's teacher after school, email: office@beam.bardaglea.org.uk or phone the school office on 020 8270 4700. We encourage regular dialogue and are always here to support you and your child in any way we can.

Extra-curricular activities

There are a vast number of extracurricular opportunities available to pupils. This information will be made available:

<https://www.beamcountyprimaryschool.org/virtual-office/clubs-and-activities/>

The timetable is currently being updated. **You will receive an email advising when that club is open for availability.** Please remember that places are based on a first-come, first-served basis. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff who volunteer their time to provide extracurricular opportunities for our pupils.

Looking Forward

The start of a new school year is always a time of great anticipation and possibility. We look forward to working with you and your children as we embark on another fantastic year at Beam County Primary School. Thank you for your ongoing support and partnership.

We wish you all a fantastic start to the academic year!

Warm regards,

Miss Whittington

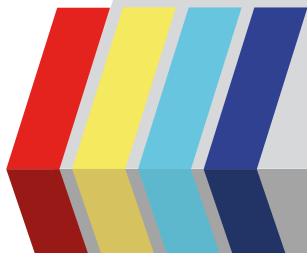
Headteacher's Awards

1DM Alexa Basheva
1LH Vicky Ivanova
1ZA Viraj Katnapally
2FT Rehan Saleem
2LS Emily Iordache
2NH Axshaya Vijayaruban
3SS Zainab Ayorinde
3SY Muhammad Essa Kiani
3WA Melissa Gheorghe
Music Dorothy Ekhosuehi

4FW Ayla Kaya
4OO Hana Philpot
4PJ Nazeem Okunade
5AW Samir Hussain
5CR Nana Baah
5KS Akshita Rentala
6DC Maleeha McLeod
6EW Esther Ladipo
6RT Zita Duru
Sport Jasmine Newland

RHH Muhammad-Azaan Hussain
RLE Maya Abbasoglu
RON Azaiah Ajao
NAD Elizabeth Tustanivska
NAM Muhammad Orhan Chaudhary
NPM Jawadul Hoque
Apollo Rudi-Rai Blake
Atlantis Reggie Fairweather Walton
AQ Hussain Syed
Art Arthur Jackson





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Updates from class -

Year 6 – Year 6 pupils embarked on their yearly adventure to Hay-on-Wye as they visited Trewern Activity Centre for the week in early September. During their stay, pupils made lifelong memories as they went canoeing, gorge walking and caving whilst also exploring the locality. Year 6 staff and pupils thoroughly enjoyed the trip.

Across our curriculum we have been classifying living organisms in science, including exploring fungi by exploring the growth of mould over time on bread left in different conditions. In history, pupils have been learning about Crime and Punishment over time starting from the Saxon era. After half-term, we will continue with this thematic study.

Pupils have also been learning how faith can be represented through the arts in RE and we have been exploring how lines of latitude and longitude help us to locate places in the world.



Year 5 – This half term, Year 5 have been busy. In literacy, we have immersed ourselves into the world of Shakespeare. We have studied The Scottish Play (Macbeth) and developed our skills as playwrights.

World War 2 has been the focus in history. We have looked at the roles of people and factories in Dagenham and how they contributed to the war effort.

Design Technology was a fun week. We researched, designed and made our own Doodlers. We added an electrical circuit to them so they would "doodle" over paper to create designs. We are looking forward to an exciting second half term.



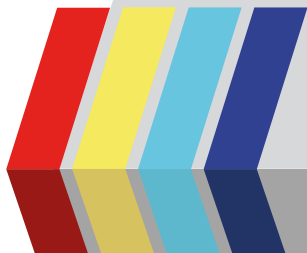
BEAM WEBSITE



BEAM TWITTER



BEAM YOUTUBE



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Updates from class-

Year 4 – In literacy, pupils have been crafting descriptive writing based on *The Iron Man*, using a range of literary devices to bring their ideas to life. In maths, they explored place value up to a thousand in depth and are now moving on to addition and subtraction.

In history, pupils investigated how Dagenham has changed over time, analysing primary and secondary sources to make inferences like real historians. In geography, they explored migration, discussing why people move and how it shapes communities. In science, pupils examined different changes of state, conducting experiments and drawing conclusions just like real scientists.

Year 3 – During Autumn 1, the Year 3 children have continued to develop their addition and subtraction knowledge by reinforcing their existing understanding of place value and basic number bonds. They have also explored reading the story 'Tell Me a Dragon' in literacy and used then used their writing and grammar skills to innovate a character description of their own dragons using their own imaginations.

In RE, we are currently covering how the teachings of Jesus and Buddha can be applied to modern day. In Geography, they have begun to develop map skills and to learn about rivers and their importance to human development and settlements. In history, they have begun to learn about life during the Stone Age.

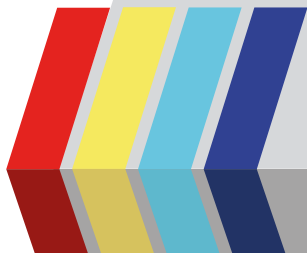
In DT, they have continued to develop some basic food preparation skills such as cutting and peeling, and then applied these skills to develop their own fruit-based tarts using seasonal foods grown in the UK. In P.E., they have begun to develop their understanding of rugby.

Year 2 – In literacy, we dived into the magical world of Zog! The children learned how to make their writing sparkle by using sentence openers, verbs, and adverbs to bring their stories to life. We've loved seeing their creativity and confidence grow with every page they write!

In maths, they became number experts — exploring place value, mastering number bonds to 10, and discovering what's one greater and one less.

This term, our brilliant children have been busy designing and building their very own chairs! From sketching creative ideas to following their plans step by step, they've shown amazing imagination, teamwork, and determination.





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Updates from class-

Year 1 – We have had a very busy and exciting start to the academic year 1 this half term! We have been learning about our body and senses in science, participating in experiments that have tested our taste, sight, touch, hearing and smell! We know that signals are sent from our body parts to our brain to tell us what we can see, feel, hear, taste and smell.

In history, we have been comparing Victorian schooling to schooling we experience today in the modern world. We had our Victorian Day where a teacher from the past demonstrated how strict school rules were and how boys and girls were separated. We handled artefacts from the past such as the cane, backboard and finger stocks!

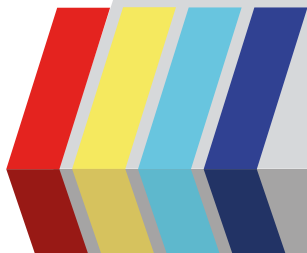
In geography, we have been learning about our school and how it serves our local community. We went on a walk to the local postbox to post a letter to the school to learn about how important addresses are in locating a place and our letter arrived two days later! We walked around the school to identify physical and human features and to find which areas of the school are busier than others and why.

In RE we have been learning about Christianity and the importance of belonging to a group. We have explored why a Christening is important to Christians and what happens during the ceremony. In DT, we designed, made and evaluated fruit smoothies, they were delicious!

In literacy, we continue to build our knowledge of using our phonics to support our reading and spelling to aid writing sentences independently. Texts we have explored is Oi Frog! and Goldilocks and the Three Bears.

In maths, we have been learning place value of numbers to 10 and how to write numerals correctly. We are just starting to learn addition and subtraction and the strategies we can use to partition and combine. The children have settled well into the routines of Year 1 and we wish them a restful half term.





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Updates from class-

Reception – Our Reception pupils have settled in beautifully and are thriving across all areas of learning! In phonics, they're excited to explore new phonemes and graphemes each day. Maths lessons have introduced subitising, sorting, shape recognition, patterns and also learning about size and mass. In science, children are discovering the human body, learning about organs and the skeleton.

DT has been deliciously fun—chopping fruits and vegetables to prepare soup from a recipe. PE sessions are helping them follow instructions and change independently. Literacy is expanding their vocabulary with words like *community* and *complexion*, while reinforcing that everyone is welcome and our differences are something to celebrate!

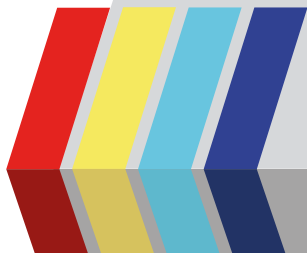


Nursery – Our nursery children have had a fantastic start to the year and have settled in wonderfully! They are already making new friends and learning how to play and share together. Everyone has been getting to know the rules and routines of the nursery, and it's been lovely to see how confidently the children are finding their way around and helping one another.

We've been enjoying lots of nursery rhymes and exploring rhyming words, which has been great fun and is helping to develop early language skills. The children have also been practising their tidy-up skills and taking pride in looking after their classroom.

Independence is growing too — many children are learning to use the toilet by themselves and are very proud of their achievements. Storytime continues to be a favourite part of the day, with everyone listening carefully and talking about their favourite characters.

We've also been getting creative with playdough, rolling, squashing, and shaping to make all sorts of wonderful creations. It's been a busy, happy start to nursery life, and we can't wait to see what the children will explore and learn next!



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Sports Update

KIN BALL ARRIVES AT BEAM!!!! – Thanks to the continuation of the government sport premium fund received by all Primary school in the UK, we continue to develop our playing areas, facilities, and equipment to maximise the opportunities for the children to be active. Our change for life club have recently had the opportunity to start playing Kin Ball which is a fast-paced game involving 3 teams trying to keep the ball off the floor! As well as the indoor balls we have an outdoor one which we hope to use on the field in the Summer months (watch this space!!!).



Parent Events

Lifeline Coffee Morning – Each month Lifeline Projects host a coffee morning here at Beam. A wonderful opportunity to enjoy a cup of tea or coffee and chat about the joys and challenges of raising children in today's world

Reception Maths information Morning – Reception Parents were welcomed into school for a session with Mrs. Neale to provide information to share an overview of the expectations for maths in Reception

Afterschool Paid Provision - Sun Beam

Here at Beam we offer a thriving paid After School Provision, known as 'SUNBEAM'.

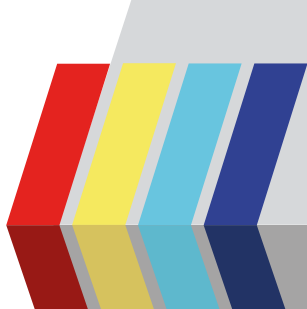
Between hours of **3:15pm to 6:00pm**

Children are supervised at all times by Club staff until they are collected by their parents or carers. All staff are employed by the school have been subject to DBS (Criminal Record) checks. We are proud to hold Food Safety and Hygiene Certification, and all appropriate checks are regularly carried out to maintain high standards.

If you would like to register your child for after school provision please complete the application on the link below

[Sunbeam After School Provision](#)





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Attendance

Parents fined for their child's absences from school

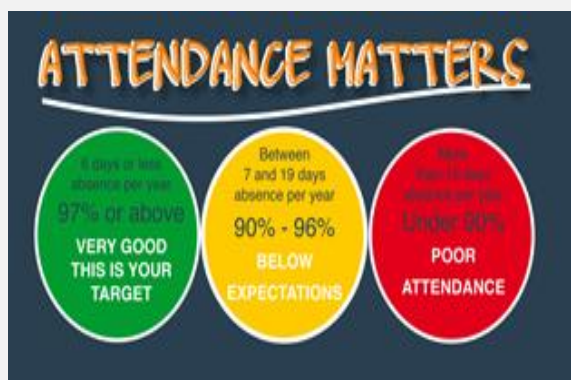
Headteachers can only grant an authorised term time absence in exceptional circumstances, which are defined as one-off events that are unavoidable, and may include some health reasons, close family bereavement, weddings, or funerals. If you require any further information or clarification, please do not hesitate to contact us.

The fine for taking a child out of school during term time has risen from £60 to £80 per child. If this fine is not paid in the first 21 days following the penalty notice, it will rise to £160.

There are 175 non-school days a year. That's plenty of time to go on visits, holidays, shopping and other appointments

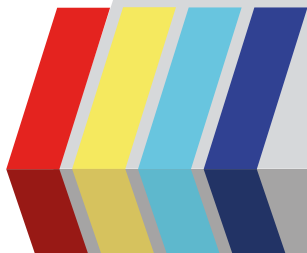
Missing school for non-urgent reasons adds up quickly and can affect your child's:

- Learning progress
- Friendships and social skills
- Confidence and emotional wellbeing



Upcoming Dates

- 3rd & 4th November – Y6 Forensic Day
- 4th November – Flu Vaccine Catch up sessions
- 10th November – 6RT Ben Kinsella Trust Trip
- 11th November – 6EW Ben Kinsella Trust Trip
- 12th November - SALT Parent Coffee Morning – With Guest Speaker
- 13th November – 6DC Ben Kinsella Trust Trip
- 20th November – School Nurse Drop In



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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.

Parent Support Advisor

Housing insecurity is still a major concern for so many families in our community. The fear of eviction can feel overwhelming and cause stress and anxiety. In these difficult times, strength for many families lie in support from friends and family and provide hope for one another. Lets all be aware and support in anyway that we can. Just a text or a phone call can make a big difference.

Lifeline Coffee Morning - Two very successful Coffee Morning were held in September and October where parents were able to share and exchange ideas on Mental Health. It was very well supported.

Lifeline offers training, volunteering and various support services for individuals and families. They also run programs for youth, crisis prevention for mental health, youth mentorship and family support programmes. To find out more <https://www.lifelineprojects.co.uk>

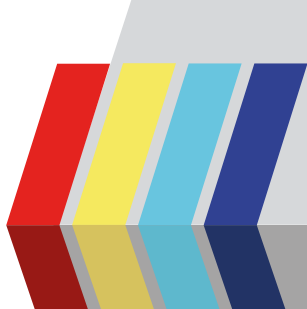
For half term activities please see the link below.

<https://www.lbbd.gov.uk/children-young-people-and-families/events-and-activities-children/free-holiday-activities>

Wishing you all a good half term whether your enjoying time at home with the children, heading off for a holiday, take the opportunity to slow down , relax a bit and connect with friends and family.

Diana Huskie
Parent Support Adviser





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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. Please note at the bottom of each menu is the week commencing dates

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.

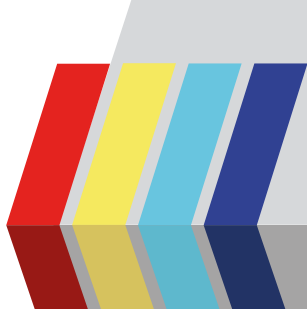
Contact Information

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 3rd November 2025 – Friday 19th December 2025





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Little Recyclers

Last Collection raised £55.80 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.



School Fundraising

Scholastic Book Fair – Thank you to all children and parents that supported our Beam Book Fair again this year. We raised just over £1800 – a fantastic effort! We hope all children enjoy the books that they selected and we will be redistributing funds raised into our reading areas across the school.

Jeans for Genes Day – Thank you to all that donated during Jeans for Genes Day this term we raised £230.25 for charity.

