

Our Year 5 and Year 6 pupils have been exploring the local area as part of their Geography units of work, extending their learning beyond the classroom and developing their understanding of our local environment.

We recently welcomed a small group of visitors to the school for a review of Maths provision across the school. The visit was very positive and provided us with some valuable 'even better ifs' to consider for our ongoing curriculum development.

As part of our external monitoring, we were also visited by our School Improvement Partner who met with Miss Sheen and Mrs Carney to discuss English and Maths. These conversations were positive and highly productive and helpful in supporting our continuous school improvement journey.

Please can I ask that you take time to read the newsletter below as it not only contains reminders, but new information too.

I hope that the children have a well-earned break and we look forward to welcoming them back on Monday 3rd November.

Mrs Hadley

Message from the Governors

I am Carly, and the school's safeguarding governor. I have extensive professional experience that I bring to the safeguarding governor role, and I have recently met with Mrs Hadley, who is the school's DSL (designated safeguarding lead), and completed a review of the school's safeguarding practices. This is something that I do termly.

Already this term, the wider governing body and I have monitored the school's approach to safeguarding by:

- **Annual Safeguarding Audit:** The governing body has thoroughly reviewed the annual audit that is submitted to the Local Authority
- **Detailed Policy Review:** Policies and procedures have been reviewed and discussed
- **Training Verification:** Safeguarding training for staff has been confirmed as current and comprehensive
- **Proactive Approach:** We have carefully explored the school's responses to safeguarding concerns and reporting arrangements
- **Online Safety:** The school approach to digital/online safety has been shared and reviewed.

The monitoring undertaken so far evidence that the school prioritise the safety and wellbeing of every pupil at Beaconside. The robust systems in place ensure that safeguarding remains at the heart of everything they do.

Staffing Updates

I am delighted to share some good news with you. Mrs Tolley and her husband are expecting their first child early next year. I'm sure you all will join me in congratulating them both.

We are also saying goodbye to Mrs Burrows who has been supporting us with the school finances since Mrs Trelfer left in April. Mrs Bennet, the Office Manager, will be amalgamating the finance role with her existing duties and a new admin assistant has been appointed to increase capacity in the office. Mrs Martin will be working in the office from 8.30am - 1.00pm everyday and Mrs Nolan 12.00pm - 4.30pm. Please note, when clubs are NOT happening, the school office does close at 3.30pm.

Movie Night

Thank you for your support with 'Movie Night'. It was a great success and raised over £600. This money will be going towards special projects, many of which have been requested by the pupils. You can read more about a few of them below.

Fundraising

Your support with our fundraising efforts is always appreciated and in times of reducing school budgets and rising costs, it is needed more than ever.

To further enhance our outdoor area, pupils have requested a garden/allotment area, a sandpit and a bike/scooter store so they can travel to school on wheels.

Along with a grant from Public Health, the money raised by you will be completing these projects over the next two half-terms. We will share more information with you as these projects are completed.

Harvest Festival - Donations

Many thanks for your kind donations of food as part of our Harvest Festival. This has been collected by a local food bank and will make a difference to families across the area.

Break Time Snacks

Please can I remind parents that break time snack should only be fruit or a healthy snack. There is an increase in sweets and chocolates which are not permitted.

The school 'Food Policy' can be found on the school website for further information:

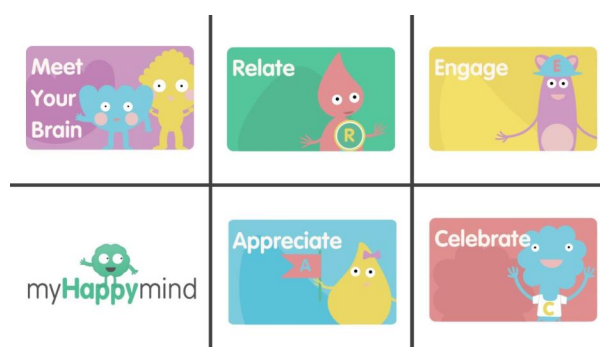
<https://www.beaconside.co.uk/policies>.

Thank you for your support with this.

'myHappymind'

We are really pleased with the launch of 'myHappymind' and the pupils are really engaging with the programme. If you haven't downloaded the app, please do so as the resources, particularly the 'happy breathing' videos are useful to help regulate the children at home and support any worries they might have.

We will be looking at offering a parent information session at some point during Autumn 2.



Halloween Safety

Halloween can be an exciting time of year for children, dressing up and going out after dark. But, whilst Halloween is supposed to be spooky there are some horrors that families will want to avoid.

So, here are some top tips for a safe Halloween that you can remember for all the right reasons.

Be careful what you wear when you're out to scare

Some fancy dress costumes are highly flammable so they can ignite almost instantly and burn fast.

-  Try to buy from a reputable store or website. Cheap costumes may not meet UK safety standards.
-  Look for a costume with a UKCA or CE mark
-  Look for a label that says: "This garment has undergone additional safety testing for flammability"
-  Remind children to stay well away from naked flames and other heat sources



@ChildAccidentPreventionTrust
@capt_charity capt.org.uk

Office for Product Safety & Standards

Sports Clubs

Letters have been sent out regarding clubs for Autumn 2. They begin on Monday 3rd November.

Menu of Sports Clubs at Beaconside: Autumn Term 2

<p>Monday — Dance with Phoebe Time: 3.30-4.00pm Year Groups: Yr1,2,3,4</p> <p>Dance encourages creativity, rhythm, and coordination while building self-confidence and social skills. It also enhances flexibility, strength, and endurance in a fun, energetic environment.</p>	<p>Tuesday — Yoga with Mrs Waterhouse Time: 8.45-9am Year Groups: Yr1,2,3,4,5,6</p> <p>Yoga helps children develop balance, flexibility, and concentration while fostering self-reflection and emotional regulation. It promotes relaxation and focuses on posture, supporting both mental and physical well-being.</p>
<p>Tuesday — Athletics with Excel in Sport Time: 3.20-4.00pm Year Groups: Yr3,4,5,6</p> <p>Athletics improve physical fitness, coordination, and teamwork through various running, jumping, and throwing activities while developing resilience and determination.</p>	<p>Tuesday — Netball with Mrs Waterhouse Time: 12.12-1.00pm Year Group: 5</p> <p>Netball encourages teamwork, communication, and strategic thinking. It also enhances focus and hand-eye coordination. It teaches valuable social skills and helps improve agility and reaction time.</p>
<p>Wednesday — Tennis with Excel in Sport Time: 12.12-1.00pm Year Groups: Yr5</p> <p>Tennis improves hand-eye coordination, balance, and agility, while promoting focus and discipline. The sport builds physical fitness, endurance, and social skills through both individual and team play.</p>	<p>Wednesday — Gymnastics with Dromagrove Gymnastics Time: 3.20-4.00pm Year Groups: Yr3,4,5,6</p> <p>Gymnastics develop strength, flexibility, and coordination, while also boosting confidence and body awareness. It supports mental focus and encourages perseverance, making it ideal for building a strong foundation.</p>
<p>Thursday — Football with Excel in Sport Time: 12.12-1.00pm Year Groups: Yr5,6,4,5,6</p> <p>Football enhances teamwork, communication, and leadership skills, while promoting fitness and agility. It helps children build resilience, problem-solving skills, and teamwork.</p>	<p>Thursday — Golf with Excel in Sport Time: 3.20-4.00pm Year Group: Yr1,2,3,4</p> <p>Golf teaches patience, concentration, and precision, while also improving coordination and motor skills. It offers a unique combination of physical activity and mental focus.</p>

Curriculum at Beaconside

If you would like to find out more about what your child is learning each term, have a look at the termly curriculum newsletter. [Autumn 2025 Curriculum Newsletter](#)

The website also has a page for each subject area where you can discover more. Take a look... <https://www.beaconside.co.uk/curriculum/>

School Money: On-line Payment System

We continue to be a cashless school. This will allow you to pay for everything from school trips, clubs and swimming to Nursery fees, hot dinners, non-uniform day donations and other fundraising activities. If you are having any difficulties making payments, contact the school office.

Help guides can be found in the Letters to parents section of the school website:

<https://www.beaconside.co.uk/whole-school/>.

Safeguarding

Are you concerned about a child or a family? If the answer is yes, you can:

- Make a factual written record of your concern (date, concern, your name) and share with the designated safeguard leads (Mrs Hadley, Mrs Jinks or Mrs Williams). This can then be logged officially.
- Contact NSPCC, a free anonymous/ confidential 24-hour helpline: 0808 800 5000
- Contact Worcestershire Children First Family Front door: 01905 822666

[Worcestershire Children's Social Care](#)

Primary and Secondary 2026 Admissions

Don't forget to apply for a Reception place before 15th January 2026 and a Year 7 place by 31st October 2025. You apply to the Local Authority that you pay your council tax to.

Worcestershire: [Worcestershire Admissions](#)

Birmingham: [Birmingham Admissions](#)



Starting School in September 2026?

- If you live in Worcestershire
and
- Your child was born between
1st September 2021 and 31st August 2022.

You need to apply for a school place by **15th January 2026**.

For more information and to apply, visit:

www.worcestershire.gov.uk/schooladmissions

Visit your local library to use a computer and apply for free. Or call us on **01905 822 700**.

Find out more online:
www.worcestershire.gov.uk/schooladmissions



Transferring to High/Secondary School in September 2026?

- If you live in Worcestershire
and
- Your child is in their final year at Primary School.

You need to apply for a school place by **31st October 2025**.

For more information and to apply, visit:

www.worcestershire.gov.uk/schooladmissions

Visit your local library to use a computer and apply for free. Or call us on **01905 822 700**.

Find out more online:
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We will be holding a series of tours during the school day for admissions to Nursery & Reception - September 2026 to experience a typical morning at Beaconside. Each tour will last approximately 1 hour, and limited to 12 adults, per tour. Children are welcome to attend.

For safeguarding purposes, we ask that you book a slot on-line:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/beaconside-primary-and-nursery-school-sep-2026-admission-school-tours-tickets-1634500046639?aff=oddtcreator> and ensure

that **every** adult attending books a separate ticket. This will ensure we have the full details of every adult on site. Tickets are **not** required for children.




**Beaconside Primary
& Nursery School**

**Reception & Nursery
2026 September Starters**

Tours are available on the following dates (9.30 am):
September 25th, October 9th, 13th & 22nd, November 4th, 12th, 18th & 26th.
There will be no tours available in December.
Booking is essential: [CLICK HERE](#)

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Further information about the school can be found on the school website and the school prospectus can be found here: [CLICK HERE](#)

Please note the school is set over several levels so is not accessible with a pushchair; babies/toddlers will need to be carried. A safe indoor storage area will be available.



**BEACONSIDE
LEARNING VALUES**



www.beaconside.co.uk

Walking Home/Mobile Phones

A reminder that the use of mobile phones by pupils is not permitted in school. If you feel that your child needs to bring their phone into school as they are walking home alone, then an on-line form must be completed. This has already been sent to Year 6 parents and a copy is on the website: [Walking Home/Mobile Phone Consent Form](#) Any phones found in bags etc or in school, without written permission, will be confiscated and parents will be asked to come to school to collect.

Attendance & Punctuality

We have highlighted in the past the national and school focus on improving attendance. Our attendance rates are still cause for concern and this year improving attendance is one of the priorities on our School Development Plan.

We have reviewed our policies/procedures and approaches to managing absences and will be sharing more information with you next week regarding this.

In the meantime...

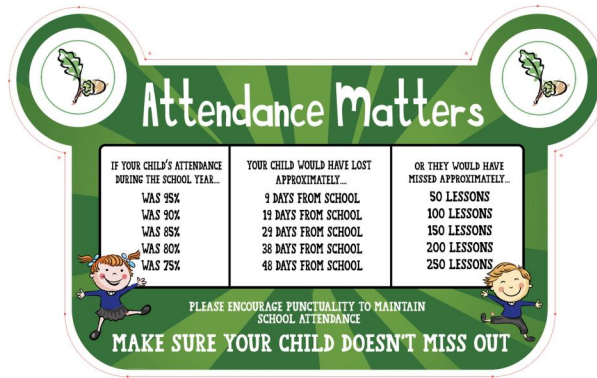
Punctuality – please remember that the school day starts at 8.50am at which point the gates close. Whilst I might still be at the gate to let your child through, the external doors into school get shut at 8.50am and all adults are in class ready for the first lesson. Lesson 1 starts at 8.55am and is always maths across the school. This means that if your child is 10 minutes late every day, they are missing almost an hour of maths a week. The first part of lessons is also crucial as it is often the part where teachers are explaining the task ahead.

Attendance – improving attendance continues to be a national focus for schools and something we are striving to improve. 96% attendance is regarded as the benchmark for good attendance; 90% and below would see a child labelled as a persistent absentee and a cause for concern, and anything in between deemed as need for improvement.

With this in mind, please consider the following:

- if your child is ill, and not well enough for school, you must contact school (phone, email or app message) and state the nature of the illness not just that they are unwell; we have to record details of the absence/illness on day 1
- holidays during term time should be avoided and will not be authorised
- if medical appointments have to take place during school time, then confirmation of the appointment is required; this can be a screenshot/photograph of the letter or message confirming the appointment

Mr Stone is the attendance lead in school and is happy to discuss any concerns/difficulties you might have with attendance or punctuality. Please contact the school office to make an appointment.



Home/School Communication

Emails – This is our main form of communication. The newsletter will be emailed out to the email addresses you provide. Please ensure that these are kept up to date with the school office to ensure you receive all correspondence. ALL letters will be posted on the school website under the whole school or individual class page. Paper copies of any letter are available from the school office, upon request. If you are aware that you are not receiving emails, please contact the office asap so this can be rectified.

Google Forms – We use Google Forms to collect and collate responses from parents as an alternative to sending home paper copies of letters that require a slip to be returned to school. This will not only save a considerable amount of money on paper and photocopying costs but will also be kinder to the environment and more convenient for you.

Messages via the Scholarpack App - Messages will also be sent, including handy reminders, as well as allowing you to send messages regarding attendance and update personal details. Download the app today, add your link-up code and you'll be ready to go. Further guidance can be obtained from the school office. If you change your phone number or device, you will require a new link-up code.

Website – The website contains a host of information ranging from copies of letters, school organisation and useful information for parents, details of the curriculum and photographs, on class pages, of children's learning. It also hosts the school calendar, which you can sync to your mobile phones and the notice board which allows messages such as school closures to be posted. Please take time to look through the website and become familiar with it.

Uniform

School Uniform

- Navy jumper, sweatshirt or cardigan (logo optional).
- Grey skirt, shorts or trousers

- Years 3 - 6 white shirt with school tie
- Years N, R 1 & 2 white polo shirt
- Blue & white check dress (in warmer months)
- Black school shoes
- Wellies - break/lunchtime play

PE Kit

Pupils wear their PE kit to school on the days that they have PE.

- White round neck t-shirt (logo optional)
- Navy sweatshirt (logo optional)
- Navy blue shorts, jogging bottoms or leggings
- Black pumps (indoor PE)
- Trainers (outdoor PE)

We also request that jewellery is restricted to a watch (not smart watch) and stud earrings and no nail polish/acrylic nails/make-up is worn. Smart watches (watches that do anything other than tell the time, are not permitted in school).

Dates for the Diary

We will add to these as the year progresses and please note that there are times that they are subject to change.

A copy has been emailed home and can also be found on the school website:

<https://www.beaconside.co.uk/whole-school>.

Beaconside Primary Nursery School

Dates 2025 - 2026					
September		October		November	
1st/2nd	School closed to pupils (training days)	Thu' 9th	Prospective Parents - school tour 2	Mon' 3rd	School open to pupils
Wed' 3rd	School open to pupils (R - Yr 6)	Fri' 10th	Harvest Assembly - donations appreciated	Tue' 4th	Prospective Parents - school tour 5
Thu 25th	Prospective Parents - school tour 1	Mon' 13th	Prospective Parents - school tour 3	Tue' 11th	Photographer (individual and in-school siblings)
24th & 25th	Meet the teacher	Wed' 22nd	Prospective Parents - school tour 4	Wed' 12th	Prospective Parents - school tour 6
		Wed' 22nd	Movie Night	Fri' 14th	Children in Need - own clothes day
		Thu' 23rd	Break up for half-term	Tue' 18th	Prospective Parents - school tour 7
		Fri' 24th	School closed to pupils - staff training	Wed' 26th	Prospective Parents - school tour 8
				Fri' 28th	Own clothes day - bottle/gift donations
December		January		February	
Mon' 1st	Christmas bauble competition begins	Mon' 5th	School open to pupils	Fri' 6th	Year 3 Class Assembly 9.15am
Fri' 5th	Own clothes day - bottle/chocolate donations	21st & 22nd	Teacher/parent pupil progress meeting	Fri' 13th	Year 4 Class Assembly 9.15am
Tue' 9th	EYFS (N & R) Christmas Nativity - 9.15am			Fri' 13th	Break up for half-term
Wed' 10th	Christmas Fayre			Mon' 23rd	School open to pupils
Thu' 11th	Pupil Christmas lunch				
Fri' 12th	KS1 (1 & 2) Christmas Nativity - 9.15am				
16th & 17th	Christmas Performances (Year 3 - 6)				
Thu' 18th	Christmas parties (non-uniform day)				
Fri' 19th	Term ends - Christmas jumper day				
March		April		May	
Wed' 11th	Photographer (class photos)	Mon' 13th	School open to pupils	Mon' 4th	Bank holiday
Fri' 13th	Reception Assembly 1	22nd & 23rd	Teacher/parent pupil progress meeting	Thu' 7th	Year 5 Class Assembly
Fri' 21st	Comic Relief - own clothes day			11th - 14th	Year 6 SATs week
Tue' 24th	EYFS (N & R) Easter Bonnet Parade - 9.15am			18th - 21st	Sports week - including sports days
Thu' 26th	KS1 (1 & 2) Easter Assembly - 9.15am			Thu' 21st	Break up for half-term
Fri' 27th	Term ends			Fri' 22nd	School closed to pupils - staff training
June		July			
Mon' 1st	School open to pupils	Fri' 3rd	Reports out		
1st - 26th	Year 6 writing assessment window	Wed' 8th	Nursery graduation - 9.15am		
1st - 12th	Year 4 multiplication tables check	Wed' 15th	Year 6 Leavers' Performance (pm) and event		
8th - 12th	Year 1 phonics screening week	Thu' 16th	Break the Rules day & after-school fundraiser		
15th - 17th	Year 6 residential visit	Fri' 17th	Term ends		
Wed' 17th	Reception 2026 parents information session - 5.00pm	Mon' 20th	School closed to pupils - staff training		
Fri' 19th	Reception Assembly 2				
Wed' 24th	Nursery 2026 parents information session - 5.00pm				