



Dear Parents/Carers

After a very dark and wet start to a Monday morning, there is nothing better than pulling together this newsletter that celebrates everything that is amazing about our wonderful school! We all have a role to play in making sure we can be the best that we can be, and I thank you all for the role you play.

Our children continue to shine in all aspects of school life. As you will read on the pages that follow, so many children have taken on a leadership role this year. A special shout out to **Mrs Doogan and our Travel Ambassadors** for achieving TfL **GOLD** as a result of all of their hard work last year.



Attached to the email with the newsletter is some information about a **logo design** competition. I am proud to have been part of setting up a community focused group with other schools called **Cross Borough Alliance**. We need some help to come up with a logo to use when we advertise events! Why not have a go and see if you can win £100 for our school?

Marie Ziane (Headteacher)

Have a great half term break. We look forward to seeing children and families again on Monday 3rd November.

Centenary Highlights

Becontree Primary School turned 100 at the end of September! To commemorate this historic event, we organised several activities, events and school trips. Every year group learned about a different decade/s since the opening of the school and what it would have been like for a pupil at Becontree during this time. The school corridors and classrooms looked amazing, decorated in bunting children had created, as well as displays of art and work produced. In art workshops, children created collages representing the different decades; these will be developed into a legacy display in our school playground. We had a Centenary Park Run that included all children in school. Every child was given a centenary water bottle for completing the run.

On Friday 26th September, we had a community event after school. Children learnt songs and dances from their decades and performed these to the school community. Several former pupils and staff, including the previous head teacher, Steve Peacock, also joined us for this event. Councillor, Jane Jones, Cabinet Member for Children's Social Care and Disabilities in Barking and Dagenham, joined the festivities. She also officially opened the new school library.



Centenary – Still to Come

Every child was asked to contribute something they are proud of, to put into a time capsule. These will be buried in the school playground over the next few weeks waiting for Becontree children of the future to find them and learn about the past!



All children were also asked to draw a self-portrait that was used to create year group tea towels. These will be a lovely memory of our centenary celebrations and will be offered to families to purchase over the next few days.





School Improvement Plan 2025-26

At Becontree Primary School, we believe that ALL children have learning, well-being and safeguarding needs; these principles underpin our exemplary inclusive practices throughout the school.



This year, we have a focus on further developing:

Behaviour, Relationships and Learning

We are focusing on ensuring that we continue to develop positive relationships with our children. This includes if something goes wrong, that we ensure we 'repair' the relationship by using restorative questions.

These questions allow children to reflect on their behaviour and to see how it has impacted not only on their own behaviour or learning but also their peers as well.

We use the restorative 5 questions

- What happened?
- What were you thinking/feeling at the time?
- How did this make others feel?
- Who has been affected?
- What should we do to put things right?



Meeting the needs of ALL children

We are continuing to develop and refine our adaptive teaching strategies, including targeting support where it is needed. We are also looking at ways we can make changes to classroom environments to ensure we meet the needs of all children.

Some new resources and equipment have been bought to support some children to access learning and make better progress. This includes online programmes such as Lexia and Reading + to help children make progress in reading.

We have also started the third phase of our Ark Maths Mastery curriculum. Part of the training will focus on inclusive learning and ensuring that lessons are adapted to allow all children to make progress.



We are also looking at different ways to support children who are just below the age-related expectations to ensure that even more children achieve national expectations by the end of Year 6.



EYFS

Nursery have been learning about themselves and their families. They decorated paper plates to create their faces, which are now displayed in the nursery corridor.

The children in **reception** had lots of fun on an autumn walk. They looked for signs of autumn and collected plenty of leaves, sticks and conkers to explore in class.



The ARP

The children in the ARP have been cooking. They really enjoyed making Weetabix cakes and eating them!

Zen Den

The children in the Zen Den have been learning about themselves and their families. They have created beautiful artwork using mixed media and adding their best qualities.



Year 1

The children celebrated the centenary by creating a collage using words and images from the 2000s. In science, they explored the weather using the wind toys they made in class.



Year 2

Year 2 started the year with a trip to Valence House Museum as part of the centenary celebrations. In science, they went off on a hunt for things that were alive and not alive.

Year 3

Year 3 have had a fantastic start to this term! In English, they have been reading Emanuel's Dream, the inspiring true story of Emanuel Oforu Yeboah. In science, they have been exploring the wonderful world of plants! They carried out a colourful experiment using food dye and celery to see how water travels through the veins in leaves and stems.



Year 4

Year 4 have enjoyed their history lessons this term and found it interesting to learn about changes in children's lives from Tudor times to the Victorian's to the present day. They have also started a DT unit where they are going to design and make a marble run.

Year 5

Year 5 enjoyed learning about the 1940s and 1950s as part of the centenary. They learnt to play some playground games from these time periods.



Year 6

Year 6 kick started the year creating soft toys. They used techniques such as appliqué and blanket stitch.





Pupil Leadership 2025-26

Our children continue to play a huge part in the day to day running and development of our school. I am very pleased to introduce you to the members of each leadership group for 2025/26. We have two new teams that we hope to establish this year, and the **Reading Champions** will continue to keep you updated via their own newsletter.

Becontree School Council

We are proud to announce the newly elected School Councillors in each class from Year 2 to Year 6.

This year, the School Council will focus on making positive changes within our school and addressing important social issues, such as food inequality and obesity. We look forward to seeing the fantastic work they will do!



Congratulations to these Year 6 children who have been selected as this year's **Prefects**. They are already proving themselves to be a valuable part of the Becontree community by carrying out a range of roles from supporting younger children at playtimes, helping at lunch, collecting paper for recycling and some even come in before school to help teachers set up for the day.



A huge congratulations to our newly elected **Playground Leaders** from Year 5. They will ensure that our playground equipment is well respected during playtimes and lunchtimes and that our children's playtime needs are fully met with exciting new ideas.





Pupil Leadership 2025-26

Becontree Maths Ambassadors

MATHS AMBASSADOR

I am pleased to announce that we have 6 new maths ambassadors. They will be running a lunchtime maths club for year 3 pupils, helping teachers prepare maths resources, helping in assemblies and towards the end of the year, helping in year 2 classrooms.



Becontree Digital Leaders

DIGITAL LEADER

Our amazing Digital Leaders help keep the school's technology running smoothly. They charge and look after devices, tidy the computing suite and check equipment. We're excited to welcome two new Year 3 recruits, A.J. and Mikael and a new Year 4 recruit, Karim; they are already doing a fantastic job!



Congratulations to our newly elected Eco Councillors in each class from Reception to Year 6. This year, the Eco Committee will be raising awareness about important environmental issues and eco-friendly practises within the school.



Becontree Primary School
ECO COMMITTEE



A huge congratulations to our **Travel Ambassadors** on achieving the TfL **GOLD** Award for our school! This is an amazing achievement - Our first **GOLD** award as a school!

I can't wait to see what they do next!

TfL Explorers Travel Ambassadors





Parent and Community Partnerships

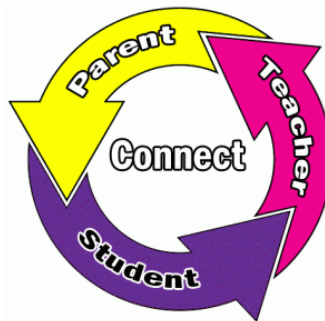
CONNECT – COMMUNICATE – COLLABORATE



Monday 20th – Thursday 23rd October 2025

Hoping our families who have celebrated Diwali this week, had a very special day.
May the Festival of Light bring peace and happiness to your families.

Thank you for joining us at the Parent/Teacher Consultation Evenings on
Tuesday 21st and Thursday 23rd October



Ali (5P) has successfully completed Stage 5 in swimming and is now working on Stage 6. This was a challenging step to take but Ali persevered until he achieved it!
Well done, Ali!





Language and Communication Corner



Using **gestures** with your words helps children understand better. For example, if you say, "come here" while moving your hands towards your body, you are showing and telling the child what you are asking them to do.

Use your **whole body to create a visual** of what you are trying to say. Use the gesture with your words. If you say 'kick' you can make a kicking motion and if you say 'no' shake your head.

As much as possible, when you are sharing information with your child, giving instructions or explaining something, use gestures in your conversation.

Language of the Term

Language of the term is **Romanian**
This language is mainly spoken in Moldova and Romania.



However, there are communities who also speak this language in Ukraine, Serbia and Hungary.

Key phrases that children are using this term are:

Good morning: **Buna Dimineata**

Good afternoon: **Buna Ziua**

Exploring AI in Education

This year, we are exploring different Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools with a view to using them in school next year. AI has the potential to make learning more personalised, helping each child work at their own pace and cater to different learning styles. It can also help reduce administrative tasks for teachers, giving them more time to focus on supporting pupils and creating engaging lessons.

AI tools can enhance student engagement by providing interactive learning experiences and immediate feedback, making learning more exciting and accessible. They can also help identify children who might benefit from extra support, allowing teachers to provide targeted interventions early on. We are excited to see how these technologies could help make teaching and learning even more effective and enjoyable for everyone in our school community!



Rights Respecting School Award

Knowing about their rights to an education is really important for children to learn, so this term we have been focussing on Article 28 of the UNCRC states that **'Every child has the right to an education. Discipline in schools must respect children's dignity and their rights.'**

Children have been learning about our new behaviour and learning systems and procedures and how these allows them to learn in lessons.





Change4Change Team

Our Change4Change team have continued with their fundraising activities this term. Thank you for your support by visiting their stall at our Community Centenary Celebration.

They raised another **£57.90** at this event, bringing their grand total to **£513.56**.

They are currently planning a Christmas themed fundraiser, following which, we will send the money to Save the Children.



Our Special Lunch Day at the Movies

We hope all children enjoyed our special lunch. The lucky winners, chosen at random, have won a free ticket to our next Becontree Movie Night on Monday 8th December. Bring along a friend to sit with you in our special front row seats and receive a special treat.

Adam 1A, Simrat 2G, John 2D,
Cristian 3B, Ayaan N 3D, Keisi 4P,
Shana 4LH, Stefania 5L, Inaaya A 6R and Zaynab 6G



Tickets can be collected from Monday 24th November

Polite Reminders

Are you missing out?

The majority of our parents are already using Eduspot, our messaging app (formerly known as Xpressions). Not accessing this yet? Sign up for FREE to get information direct to your mobile! Keep in the loop with newsletters, clubs, trips, events, photo day and more! Please contact the school office if you need any help setting this up.



Is your child getting the best from school dinners?

Ordering school meals from home is quick and easy with SchoolGrid. Order 1 week or 3 months – all from the comfort of your armchair and your child will have their meals booked ahead every day.

WHAT'S NEXT?



On Friday 14th November, we will be supporting **Children in Need**. They raise money for disadvantaged children and young people across the UK. Children will be invited to wear non-uniform, including pyjamas, something spotty or super hero related.



We have many Christmas themed activities and events coming up in December.

- The Naughty Elves visiting**
from 1st December
- Christmas Movie Nights**
8th December
- Pantomime Performances**
9th December
- Orchestral Performance for Year 3 – 6**
11th December
- Reindeer Run for EYFS, Year 1 and 2, Zenden and ARP**
15th December
- Christmas Performances/Singalongs**
16th and 17th December
- Christmas Fete**
17th December
- Christmas Jumper Day**
18th December
- Christmas Dinner Day**
18th December
- Christmas Parties**
19th December
- Last School Day**
19th December
Finish at 2.15 p.m.

Remember to check out the **Themes and Events Overview** for other activities next term.