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www.beaverroad.org.uk



@BeaverRoad\_Pri

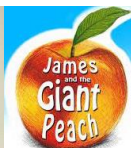
# BEAVER ROAD M20

**Beaver Road Primary School**  
Beaver Road  
Didsbury  
Manchester  
M20 6SX

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have enjoyed a fantastic start to the half term celebrating world book day last week. Thank you for helping your children participate in the most fun way. The creativity and individuality of the costumes to represent such a variety of book characters has been incredible! Mrs Jones also never fails to surprise us with her imaginative and stand out style. 😊



The children have loved many reading opportunities already this week and we are delighted that so many of you have supported the book swap initiative. This month we will continue our celebration and promotion of a love of reading across the school. If you have not already signed up to our secret reader event taking place during the week beginning 14<sup>th</sup> March, it is not late. Please send an email to [volunteers@brps.net](mailto:volunteers@brps.net) to

register your interest. Please clearly title your email with your child's name and the date you are available.



## Diary dates and events

All class year group information and details of events continue to be sent to you through your child's year group staff team. These are also made available on our website and school app <https://www.beaverroad.org.uk/events>

Please see below a few whole school dates and events this half term. The dates for the school year are also available on our school website and app. These are updated regularly each half term, so please do continue to check the website and app for updates.

Whole school event dates this half term include....

- Monday 7<sup>th</sup> March – Parents/Carers Evening
- Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> March – International Women's Day
- Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> March – Parents/Carers Evening
- Friday 11<sup>th</sup> March – Toy sale at the First School for Ukraine – 3.20pm onwards
- Week beginning 14<sup>th</sup> March – STEM week and Secret Reader week
- Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March – Comic Relief – wear/dress up in red and donate
- Week beginning 21<sup>st</sup> March – Book Fair at the First School
- Week beginning 28<sup>th</sup> March – Book Fair at the Junior School



M20 Learning Trust  
Excellence Collaboration Respect



- Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> March – Manchester Pupil Parliament at Junior School
- Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April – School Closes at the end of the day for the Easter holiday break
- **Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2022 – Children return to school**

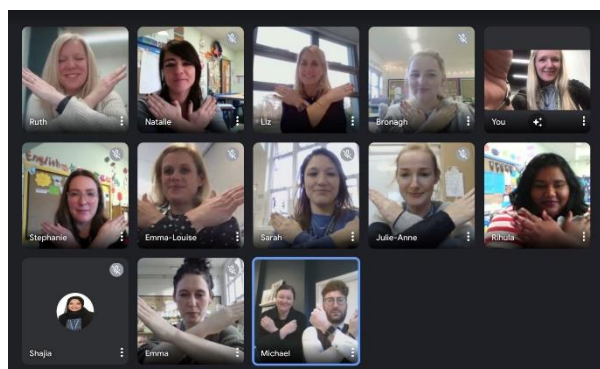


As we support Comic Relief on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March, we invite the children to attend school dressed up in red and to give a donation towards this great charity. Thank you in advance!



### International Women's Day – Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> March

This year's theme, #BreakTheBias, calls us to make a stand against gender bias, discrimination and stereotyping. To represent this idea in a powerful way for our whole school



community, BR staff are striking the 'BreakTheBias pose' to show unity on this point. A photographic installation will soon be unveiled at both First School and Juniors with the very real intention to inspire solidarity and provoke conversation. As a collective symbolic moment, there will be an opportunity for all children and adults to make that same pose, together during our Tuesday whole-school assembly, and through class-based exploration, IWD will be illuminated throughout the day.

### Ukraine Crisis – Toy sale fundraising event on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> March

Toy Sale fundraiser to support children and families in Ukraine:

The Rights Champs would like to invite you all to our toy sale fundraiser. We would like to make some money to help people in a country called Ukraine. To share your love and support, please join us on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> March from 3:20pm onwards at the main entrance of First School.



Thank you, from Meme Clarke (class 2T) on behalf of all the Rights Champs

### STEM Week message from Miss Duffy and Mr Smart

We will be celebrating STEM in school on the week commencing the 14<sup>th</sup> of March. STEM stands for science, technology, engineering, and mathematics skills. Each Year group will be taking on a hands-on STEM project that will be completed over several days. Students will learn how to manage their time and break larger projects into smaller steps. The focus on logical thought processes and problem-solving will support children to develop [mental habits that will help them succeed in any field](#) and support them in becoming the next generation of innovators. In addition to this, we will also be inviting STEM ambassadors and parents to share their job roles with our children to highlight the amazing job opportunities there are in the STEM industry for all genders.



### STEM Fair – Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March at the Junior School from 1.00 - 2.40pm

We are really looking forward to our STEM fair which will take place in the Junior hall. Children in Years 4 to 6 will have first-hand experience of speaking to some of our Beaver Road community STEM experts and understanding the relevance of science, technology, engineering and maths in the world today. Amongst our volunteers, who we are grateful to have, are those from the medical, engineering and design professions. Children will get to experience a little of each volunteer's expertise and career with plenty of time for questions



and discussion in small groups. A big thank you to the parents who have volunteered. We look forward to having you! If any other parents have expertise in any of the subjects mentioned above and wish to share some knowledge with us - then please feel free to get in touch with Mr Smart for more details.

### Scholastic Book Fair



**First School: 21<sup>st</sup> March 2022 – 28<sup>th</sup> March 2022**  
**Junior School: 25<sup>th</sup> March 2022 – 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022**

Our annual much-anticipated Scholastic Book Fair makes its return to our school during our book month of March!

Parents and Carers will be able to order online or in person. Look out for more details on how to place orders, which will be circulated soon.

### Manchester's Pupil Parliament at Beaver Road Junior School led by Miss Silva

On Tuesday, 29th March, we will host Manchester's Pupil Parliament at Junior School. This collective is made up of Primary and Secondary schools from across our city who are Gold Rights Respecting Schools and are United in helping to amplify the Voice of all children and where necessary, affect change. We have chosen 'Our Year' and UNICEF's child friendly city programme as our inspiration for this event and we will work with our young colleagues to put together a design proposal. Our car-centric cities are a huge obstacle to safe and spontaneous play and we will begin the day by looking at this issue and unpicking what true play actually is. It promises to be a wonderful day and plenty to report back on!



### School Houses update from Mr Davenport

At the end of last term, massive congratulations were in order for House Phoenix at First School and House Griffin at Junior School. Children in these Houses had achieved the most shields for having the highest attendance and for earning the most House points over the term.

Heads of Houses for Phoenix and Griffin will soon be meeting to write a letter announcing their victory and inviting children to celebrate by coming in to school in their respective House

colours. You will now see the Griffin flag waving proudly over the Junior School and the Phoenix flag remains raised over the First School.

This is a wonderful achievement for the children and a showcase of all their hard work over the term and brilliant dedication to being in school on time and maintaining excellent attendance. We are delighted with the children of House Phoenix and Griffin and encourage all children to continue to work towards achieving shields to see their House's flag flying high over the school.



Unfortunately, we continue to receive complaints about how some parents and carers continue to drive and park in an unsafe manner around our school premises at the beginning and end of each day. Please ensure you park and stride to school every day and do not park illegally or inconsiderately. The residents of Moorland Road have also written to school recently to ask for our support in reminding parents and carers that their road is private and that use of their road at any time is unauthorised, as only residents or services have a right of access. We ask that you respect this and other residents who live local to our school sites.



## Road Safety

**COVID-19** Although COVID-19 remains a risk to us all, we continue to be experiencing fewer cases across our school community, which is positive. In light of the latest guidance from the government Covid-19 response 'living with Covid', we continue to be as vigilant as we can in reducing the spread of the virus. Please see attached to this newsletter a letter from David Regan, (Director of Public Health for Manchester) which supports us in following advice to ensure that:



- If your child is showing symptoms of coronavirus they stay at home, and you book a PCR test for them.
- If your child tests positive, they stay at home and isolate for the required period.

## E-Safety Top Tips from Miss Duffy

1. **Learn your way around** - Most devices have controls to ensure that kids can't access content you don't want them to. Make sure your "in-app" purchases are disabled to avoid nasty surprises. Check out the [Parent's Technology Guide at the UK Safer Internet Centre](#) for more help.
2. **E-Safety on Tablets** - Tablets are really popular with younger children, and the market has several which are geared specifically towards delivering child friendly content. When it comes to using them, start slowly: only download games and apps you have checked out carefully and steer them towards age targeted content such as [BBC iPlayer Kids](#) or [YouTubeKids](#). Sites like [www.net-aware.org.uk](#) and or [www.commonsensemedia.org](#) also provide useful advice.
3. **E-Safety on Mobile Phones/Smartphones** - If you have older children, the focus will probably be shifting from tablets to smaller and more portable mobile devices: phones. The old online safety messages about having your home computer in a communal place become defunct, because phones are literally mobile computers and can do pretty much the same stuff that traditional desktop PCs can. You can use tools like [Google Family Link](#) for Android devices, or [Screen Time](#) for Apple iOS devices, to set up controls around usage, but it's just as important, if not more so, to talk to kids about what they should and shouldn't be doing.



4. **Social Media Platforms** - Ofcom's research also shows that YouTube remains a firm favourite. Children between five and 15 are more likely to use YouTube than other on-demand services such as Netflix, or TV channels including the BBC and ITV. WhatsApp has also grown to join Facebook, Snapchat and Instagram as one of the top social media platforms used by children. We've produced checklists for Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat, Roblox and TikTok that you can download from this [social media checklists page](#). The checklists will help you to understand more about each platform, what information they use, and how to set privacy settings: they're a parent's social media survival guide!

If you have any further questions or queries about anything this half term, please do not hesitate to contact us via the school office.

Best wishes,



Mrs Liz Hardy  
Executive Headteacher



**Article 2** (non-discrimination): The Convention applies to every child without discrimination, whatever their ethnicity, gender, religion, language, abilities or any other status, whatever they think or say, whatever their family background.

**Article 12** (respect for the views of the child): Every child has the right to express their views, feelings and wishes in all matters affecting them, and to have their views considered and taken seriously. This right applies at all times, for example during immigration proceedings, housing decisions or the child's day-to-day home life.

**Article 13** (freedom of expression): Every child must be free to express their thoughts and opinions and to access all kinds of information, as long as it is within the law.