BETHAM NEWS

Issue 8: 19th October 2026

Faith, hope, and love; these three things will last forever, and the greatest of these is love.
1 Corinthians 13:13

Harvest: thankfulness, generosity and hope

Next week, our Collective Worship focuses on Harvest. We will explore why Christians celebrate Harvest, giving thanks to God for the food we enjoy and the many people who help produce it. Through Bible stories and reflection, they will consider the importance of kindness, generosity and sharing with those in need. The week will also include an opportunity to discover how Harvest is celebrated around the world, exploring traditions such as Pongal, Chuseok and Sukkot. A key message throughout the week will be the importance of gratitude, caring for God's creation, avoiding food waste and making a positive difference through small acts of kindness.

Caroline Chamberlain, Headteacher

Our school vision

Faith, hope, and love; these three things will last forever, and the greatest of these is love.
1 Corinthians 13:13

With God's love at the heart of all we do, we celebrate the unique gifts of every individual. Rooted in Christian hope, pupils grow academically and in their faith, equipped to live full and happy lives and care for the people and the world around them.

Our vision means you should show each other love. If you show love, you will get it back.
Hope: Have hope in God and things are possible
Compassion: Give love to others, including the ones who are less fortunate
Endurance: Never give up
Forgiveness: Forgive them; it does not matter what they did
Trust: Have trust in God
Thankfulness: Be thankful for all that you have

Shekinah, 5MO (Member of The Children's Parliament)

This year for Black History Month, we are studying Great Explorers.

Rhiane Fatinikun

Rhiane Fatinikun was born in 1987 and grew up in Worsley, Manchester. As a child, she enjoyed being active and took part in netball, rounders and cross-country, but this changed when she grew older and began working in an office as a civil servant. Rhiane later rediscovered her love of the outdoors and, in 2019, founded Black Girls Hike in Manchester. She wanted to create a welcoming and empowering space for Black women to enjoy hiking, explore nature and experience the benefits of being outdoors. The group has grown and inspired people as far away as Colombia and Ghana. Rhiane has received several awards for her work, including Campaigner of the Year at the Great Outdoors Awards in 2020 and a Geographical Award in 2022. She has also appeared on programmes including BBC's Countryfile and Great British Railway Journeys and written a book, Finding Your Feet, about hiking and adventuring. Rhiane encourages people to try something new and believes that an adventure can begin simply by stepping outside your front door.

Holy Communion

If your child is in our Junior Department and has been admitted to Holy Communion in your church and you would like him/her to receive communion at our school Masses, please contact our school office.
Please confirm that your child has been admitted to Holy Communion, and include the name of the church where he/she receives it.

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Attendance and Punctuality

Every week, the Attendance and Punctuality trophies are presented during Collective Worship. Our winners last week were: Attendance – RKS and 3EA Punctuality – Nursery and 5AI

Week beginning 12th October							
Nursery		**RKS**		**RSA**			
Attendance	Lates	Attendance	Lates	Attendance	Lates		
92.0%	2 – 1.7%	**98.9%**	7 – 5.2%	91.1%	7 – 5.2%		
1MS		**1RD**		**2RJ**		**2SP**	
Attendance	Lates	Attendance	Lates	Attendance	Lates	Attendance	Lates
95.7%	6 – 4.0%	98.0%	3 – 2.0%	98.5%	4 – 3.6%	94.3%	5 – 4.8%
3EA		**3EH**		**4AH**		**4JN**	
Attendance	Lates	Attendance	Lates	Attendance	Lates	Attendance	Lates
100%	6 – 4.4%	97.3%	9 – 6.7%	98.3%	4 – 2.7%	95.3%	8 – 5.3%
5AI		**5MO**		**6AD**		**6AG**	
Attendance	Lates	Attendance	Lates	Attendance	Lates	Attendance	Lates
93.3%	1 – 0.8%	97.5%	7 – 5.8%	99.0%	6 – 4.0%	95.2%	4 – 3.0%

School is where your child learns the skills they will use for the rest of their life, and every single day matters. When children are here and ready to start, they get to join in with their friends, participate fully in lessons, and build the confidence that comes from keeping up with their class. Regular attendance helps parents and carers feel like active, informed partners in their child's education – and it gives your child the best possible chance to reach their full potential.

Social media

Follow us and help spread the word! Keep up with all the latest news, celebrations and special moments from across Edward Betham by following us on Facebook, Instagram and X. Every like, comment and share really does make a difference. By engaging with our posts, you help us celebrate our pupils' achievements, showcase the fantastic things happening across our school and reach more families and members of our wider community.
It only takes a moment to like or share a post – but it helps us shine a spotlight on the very best of Edward Betham. Thank you for your support!

Harvest

We will celebrate Harvest and God's goodness to us at our Infant Harvest Mass (Years 1 and 2) on **Friday, 9:10am** in Holy Cross New Church. 2RJ are leading worship.

As with all school masses, filming and photography are not permitted. Thank you for your cooperation.

Family and friends joining us for these acts of worship are requested not to stand around the sides of the church, but to use allocated seating and keep all aisles and fire exits clear.

We are collecting items for Ealing Foodbank; **thank you** for your generosity. If any of our families would benefit from a Harvest offering, please ask them to contact Miss Chamberlain in confidence.

The earth yields its crops. May God, our God, bless us!
Psalm 67:6

EALING FOODBANK'S SHOPPING LIST: OCTOBER

Vegetarian Mains (veggie chili, premade dhal, veggie curry, etc) Chunky Soups Cereals
Tinned Sardines Tinned Fruit

Thank you! Keep up to date with Ealing Foodbank on Facebook, Instagram and X. If you don't shop in person, but would still like to donate, you can use GiveToday.

What is my child learning at school?

Our curriculum maps are available on our website.

Prayer Group
Coffee Morning

(Free refreshments)

Edward Betham Church of England Primary School

8.30 – 10.00am

Upcoming Dates:

- Thursday 5th November
- Thursday 3rd December
- Thursday 7th January
- Thursday 4th February
- Thursday 4th March
- Thursday 15th April
- Thursday 6th May
- Thursday 10th June
- Thursday 1st July

All are welcome.

We are living in difficult times.

Prayer requests for:

Sickness | Housing | Employment | Finance | Children's wellbeing | Education

Wear Red Day

A huge *thank you* to everyone who took part in Wear Red Day on Friday, in support of Show Racism the Red Card. It was wonderful to see so much red around school as pupils and staff joined together to take a stand against racism and show the importance of respect and equality. Thanks to the generosity of our school community, we raised a fantastic **£290** for the charity!
Thank you to all our families for your kind donations and support in helping us raise awareness of this important cause.

Remembrance

We will mark Remembrance Day and take time to remember and pray for those who have lost their lives in conflict at our Junior Mass on **Friday 6th November** (9:10am, Holy Cross New Church). Pupils from Year 6 will be leading worship.

As with all school masses, filming and photography are not permitted. Thank you for your cooperation.

Family and friends joining us for these acts of worship are requested not to stand around the sides of the church, but to use allocated seating and keep all aisles and fire exits clear.

Edward Betham MPs make their voices heard in Parliament!

On Thursday, our Edward Betham Children's MPs took part in the Sir David Amess Children's Parliament, marking an exciting milestone in their parliamentary journey! Having been the first Children's MPs to be elected back in March, our pupils had the wonderful opportunity to take part in a debate considering the motion: "That the Children's Parliament has considered how schools can better hear and respond to the voices of children with disabilities".
The event gave our young parliamentarians the chance to champion inclusion, share their ideas and consider how every child's voice can help shape a better school experience. We are very proud of our MPs for representing our school and helping to show that young voices really can make a difference!

Our Attendance policy: A guide for families

At Edward Betham, we expect the highest attendance and punctuality from all pupils. Good attendance is fundamental to a successful school experience, and we recognise that poor attendance impacts on progress.

Every day at school counts. Missing lessons and days of school can significantly affect your child's learning, progress and wellbeing. We want every child to reach their full potential, and excellent attendance is key to achieving this.

Registers are taken at:

- Morning: 8:30am (Nursery), 8:45am (Reception-Year 6)
- Afternoon: 12:30pm (Nursery), 1:00pm (Reception), 1:15pm (Years 3-6), 1:30pm (Years 1-2)

Pupils arriving after the register has closed will be marked as having an unauthorised absence for that session.

If your child is absent, you must:

- Telephone the school before 9:00am on the first day of absence (020 8578 8928, option 1)
- Provide a specific reason for the absence (saying your child is 'sick' or 'unwell' is not enough information)
- Contact the school each day of absence (unless the illness is prolonged, e.g. chicken pox)
- Let us know when your child is expected to return to school

For medical or dental appointments, please provide a copy of the appointment text/card/letter to the school office. We encourage you to make appointments outside school hours wherever possible.

Attendance thresholds (for the whole school year)

Attendance	Days absent	Description	Attendance	Days absent	Description
98-100%	4 or fewer	**Excellent**	92-93%	13½ - 15½ days	Low
97%	5 - 6 days	Good	90-91%	17 - 19 days	Exceptionally Low
96%	7 – 7½ days	Satisfactory	Under 90%	20 days or more	Persistent Absentee
94-95%	9½ - 11½ days	Below Satisfactory			

Pupils who arrive late three or more times in a fortnight will be contacted by our School Administrator for Attendance. If lateness continues, you will be invited into school to discuss the reasons and find solutions. Each week, we present Punctuality Trophies to the classes with the best punctuality records.

We celebrate excellent attendance through:

- Weekly Attendance Trophies for the class with the best attendance
- A monthly Attendance Award
- Termly attendance certificates for individual pupils
- Weekly attendance data shared in the school newsletter

Leave of absence during term time will only be granted in exceptional circumstances. Family holidays and weddings are not exceptional circumstances and will not be authorised.
If you believe there are exceptional circumstances, you must complete a term-time leave of absence form two weeks before the intended date of travel. 'Exceptional circumstances' are defined as rare, significant, unavoidable and short. Unauthorised absence may result in a Fixed Penalty Notice fine.

If your child is experiencing barriers to attendance due to illness, additional needs, or other challenges, we are here to help. Please contact Miss Clark (our School Administrator for Attendance) or Miss Chamberlain via the office.
We can arrange meetings to discuss support strategies, which may include flexible arrangements, therapeutic support, or connections with external agencies.

Fixed Penalty Notices

The school, Local Authority or police can issue penalty notices for unauthorised absence where a pupil has ten sessions of unauthorised absence in a rolling period of ten school weeks.
1st penalty notice: £80 if paid within 21 days, or £160 within 28 days 2nd penalty notice: £160 if paid within 28 days
3rd instance: Alternative legal action will be taken

What you can do

- Ensure your child attends school every day and on time
- Make medical and dental appointments outside school hours where possible
- Keep the school informed of any circumstances affecting attendance
- Provide more than one emergency contact number and keep details up to date
- Work in partnership with us to address any attendance concerns

For more information, the full Attendance Policy is available on our school website or from the school office.
Above all, we believe that working together in partnership is the best way to ensure every child achieves excellent attendance and reaches their full potential.

Children Missing Education

If your child is leaving the school (other than at the end of Year 6), please inform the school office and provide:

- Date of move
- New address (or at least the town you are moving to)
- New school and start date
- Reason for moving

This helps us safeguard your child and fulfil our legal responsibilities.

Flu vaccinations

The Ealing Immunisation Team will be visiting our school on Friday 23rd October and Wednesday 11th November to offer the annual flu vaccination to children in Reception-Year 6. The flu vaccine helps protect children against flu and potential complications, including bronchitis and pneumonia. Parents and carers should have received an email from Vaccinations in School with instructions on how to give or refuse consent online.

Action Required: All parents and carers must complete the consent form, even if they do not wish their child to receive the vaccination. Please use this link to submit your response: Flu Vaccination – Give or Refuse Consent.

If you are unable to complete the form online, please contact the immunisation team on 020 8150 1215 or email ealing@v-uk.co.uk. Please note that consent cannot be submitted directly to the school.

Ealing Mini Mile

A huge **well done** to three of our Year 6 pupils who took part in the Ealing Mini Mile on Saturday 26th September. They trained incredibly hard and showed fantastic determination, teamwork and sporting spirit. We are very proud of their achievement. Congratulations to all three!

Questions of the week

?? What makes you feel proud?

?? Is it more fun to work on your own or as part of a team?

Help name Horsenden Hill's baby beavers!

Exciting news! Some adorable baby beavers have arrived at Horsenden Hill, and London children are being invited to help choose their names. This is a fantastic opportunity for our Edward Betham pupils to get creative and help name some very special new members of our local wildlife community. Can you think of the perfect beaver names? Why not have a go and enter the competition? Let's see if an Edward Betham pupil can come up with a winning name!

Have you missed a letter?

Letters/emails sent week beginning 12th October

OPAL donations
Badminton festival: 16.10.26 (selected pupils)
Phonics workshop: 09.11.26
Selective eaters workshop: 17.11.26
EBFA Coffee Morning: 15.10.26
A message to our school community
Outing to the Roald Dahl Museum: Year 4
Total Tacticians (Breakfast Athletics Club): places available
Great Ormond Street Hospital Race for the Kids
EBFA Chair, Treasurer and Secretary roles: could it be you?
Coram Beanstalk's Bookfest: 22.10.26 (selected pupils)
Infant Mass: 23.10.26 – helpers needed
Isabel Hospice collection
Staffing in 5MO
Applying for high school: Year 6

Don't forget…

School finishes at **3:15pm** on Friday for the half term break (**3:30pm** for Nursery). We return to school on **Monday 2nd November**. Our school office will close at 3:45pm on Friday and reopen at 8:30am on 2nd November; emails will not be read or responded to during the holidays. We hope you have an enjoyable week.

Edward Betham Care Club

Breakfast Club - 7:30-8:45am After School Club - 3:20-6:00pm 07458 007831 careclub@edwardbetham.ealing.sch.uk