

# NEWSLETTER

## BEACON ACADEMY



### Principal's Message

Welcome to February's newsletter. It has been an action packed month with some wonderful learning taking place across the academy, with enrichment activities and extra-curricular clubs being well attended. We are delighted to be able to expand our Leadership Team and grow our Pastoral care to help the school in its journey to provide the best education for our pupils.



### Student Leadership Team

Last week, the student leadership team enjoyed a breakfast with Ms Sneyd. This was an opportunity for pupils to discuss important matters to support the school. Items discussed were reducing the cost of the Prom ticket, supporting wellbeing sessions and being good role models to younger pupils.

# ONLINE PARENTAL WORKSHOPS

Beacon Academy has recently started a subscription called **FACE** which offers online parent talks. These are free to Beacon's parents and carers. The Parent Talks can be found on the PARENT webpage:

<https://www.facefamilyadvice.co.uk/supportforparents>

At the payment stage of booking, add the code BA290125 where it says ADD PROMO CODE. This will drop the price from £24 to £0.

Current sessions include: Anxiety-based School Avoidance, Facing Defiance, Understanding Anger, Supporting Healthy Sleep and many others. Please see attachment for the upcoming sessions.



## New Build Update

On track for Sept 2025

## AMAZING ENVIRONMENTS

As you will have seen, the new build is well underway and remains on track for opening in September 2025. Academy staff, Wellspring Trust and designers are in design mode to ensure we have amazing learning environments.

We want our environment to be truly inspirational to the pupils, staff and community. We want it to be a space that ignites curiosity, promotes engagement and echoes our inclusive ethos.

As well as the design, we start to turn our attention to how pupils will engage in learning, and how teachers can continue to meet the needs of all pupils. Technology will play a key role but also having fantastic resources like the 3G football pitch.

# ENRICHMENT

Our enrichment activities are designed to foster the development of essential life skills. These activities focus on three key areas: values, decision-making, and social interactions.

We explore the values that guide our behaviour, such as ethics, morality, and trustworthiness, helping participants understand their importance and application in everyday life.

We also work on honing decision-making skills, teaching effective strategies for making sound choices.

Finally, we focus on improving social interaction skills, empowering individuals to build strong and positive relationships with family, peers, and the broader community.

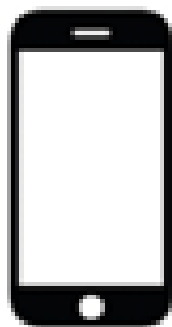


## MOBILE PHONES

**Mobile Phone Policy:** Mobile phone use is permitted only during break and lunch times, and only when students are outside the main school building.

**Focus on Learning:** We are committed to creating an engaging learning environment and supporting teachers in meeting the needs of all pupils. This includes considering not just the design of learning spaces, but also how students learn and how we can promote responsible technology use.

**Benefits of Reduced Screen Time:** We encourage students to be mindful of their screen time and recognise the many benefits of limiting it, including improved focus, better sleep, and increased social interaction.



## PAPER SOCIETY – MATHS INTERVENTION

Year 10 and 11 students are invited to join Mrs. Roberts in M1 every Tuesday lunchtime for extra exam practice. Past papers are provided, along with biscuits! Year 11 students can also use this time to complete their weekly half-paper homework assignment.

# BEACON MENU

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA		Spring 2016				
		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week One	Monday	Spring 2016	Spring 2016	Spring 2016	Spring 2016	Spring 2016
	Tuesday	Spring 2016	Spring 2016	Spring 2016	Spring 2016	Spring 2016
	Wednesday	Spring 2016	Spring 2016	Spring 2016	Spring 2016	Spring 2016
	Thursday	Spring 2016	Spring 2016	Spring 2016	Spring 2016	Spring 2016
Week Two	Monday	Spring 2016	Spring 2016	Spring 2016	Spring 2016	Spring 2016
	Tuesday	Spring 2016	Spring 2016	Spring 2016	Spring 2016	Spring 2016
	Wednesday	Spring 2016	Spring 2016	Spring 2016	Spring 2016	Spring 2016
	Thursday	Spring 2016	Spring 2016	Spring 2016	Spring 2016	Spring 2016
Week Three	Monday	Spring 2016	Spring 2016	Spring 2016	Spring 2016	Spring 2016
	Tuesday	Spring 2016	Spring 2016	Spring 2016	Spring 2016	Spring 2016
	Wednesday	Spring 2016	Spring 2016	Spring 2016	Spring 2016	Spring 2016
	Thursday	Spring 2016	Spring 2016	Spring 2016	Spring 2016	Spring 2016

**Advisors:**

For more information on the Spring 2016 semester, please visit the University of North Carolina website at [www.uncc.edu](http://www.uncc.edu).

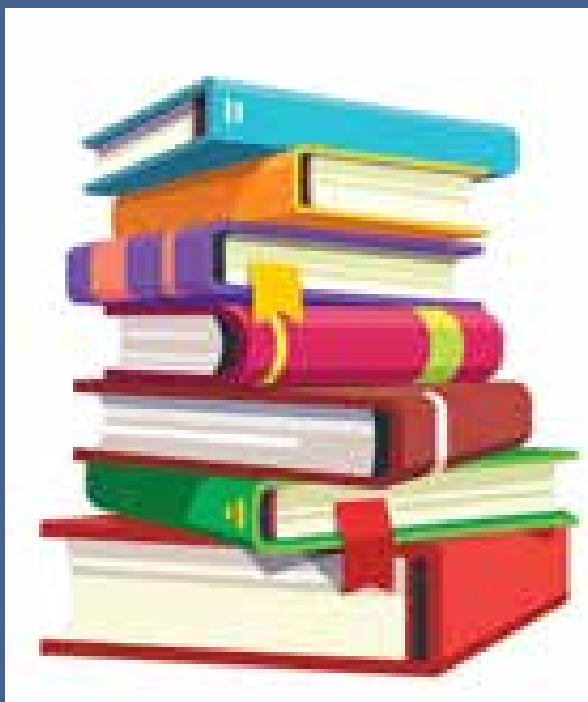


We're delighted share our Spring menu which has been a resounding success!

The positive pupil voice has been instrumental in shaping our menus, and we're proud to offer a range of delicious and nutritious options that students truly enjoy

Please see the attachment to view out new menu!

## READING UPDATE



Accelerated Reader is now active for KS3 A band and all Year 10 students. Students have completed the Star Reading assessment in their English lessons to determine their reading age.

Looking ahead, we're focusing on creating an inspiring learning environment for pupils, staff, and the wider community.

Our goal is a space that ignites curiosity, promotes engagement, and reflects our inclusive ethos. This includes not only the design of the space but also how students will engage in learning and how teachers can continue to meet the diverse needs of all pupils.



## U13 Girls National Cup - John Whitgift V Beacon Academy

Our U13s girls football team bravely entered the National Cup on Wednesday, marking a significant milestone for Beacon Academy. Although they lost 4-1 to John Whitgift Academy due to some outstanding goalkeeping, the team showcased exceptional teamwork, resilience, and individual skill throughout the match. We are extremely proud of their performance and dedication.

## New Age Kurling

The academy was well-represented by several students last week at the New Age Kurling SEN event, where they displayed exemplary behaviour and remained engaged throughout. Well done to all students who were involved.



## Table Tennis Club

The popularity of our after-school table tennis club is soaring! This week, we welcomed 20 enthusiastic players



## Beacon Challenge

How far can we row?

## ROWING SUCCESS

Five days of hard work, every student has helped push our community challenge to an incredible 794,311m (794.3KM)! The engagement and effort in this challenge is shown in the distance achieved... more than Dock Tower to Eiffel Tower!

Individual achievements:

8a - Class that totalled the furthest distance in one lesson - 75,211m

Natasha Allan Year 11 - 'Furthest Female' in one lesson (without a break) - 7,513m

Alfie Bryant Year 11 - 'Furthest Male' in one lesson (without a break) - 8,524m

Mr Bawn for winning the staff 2-minute rowing challenge with 654m

Get ready to unleash your inner eco-hero! Our school's brand new Eco Club has officially launched during Friday's Period 5 Enrichment, and it's time to get excited about making a real difference to our school and local area!

Students have already been buzzing with brilliant ideas on how we can all do our bit to look after the environment. From reducing waste to boosting biodiversity, we're ready to take on some awesome projects that will have a positive impact on the world around us.

Here's a sneak peek at what's in store:

**Sunflower Growing Competition:** Let's see who can grow the tallest, brightest sunflower! Get your green thumbs ready for some friendly competition and a splash of colour around our school.

**No Waste Lunchbox Project:** Say goodbye to single-use plastics and hello to sustainable lunchtimes! We'll be sharing tips and tricks on how to pack a waste-free lunch that's good for you and the planet.

And that's not all! We'll also be exploring other exciting initiatives like recycling drives, nature walks, and maybe even creating our own school garden.

Please speak to Mr Leak or Mr Babatunde if you would like to be part of this exciting Club,

## GEOGRAPHY PROJECT – COUNTRY OF CHOICE

The recent geography project, where students could choose their 'country of choice', was a great success, with many outstanding pieces of work submitted. Well done to all students!

