

Bradford Grammar School

Cooper Beech by Hajra



Appearance

Leaves: Beautiful deep purple or coppery-red leaves, especially in spring and early summer. In autumn, the leaves turn a rich golden brown.

Bark: Smooth, grey bark.

Shape: Often grown into a stunning, dome-shaped tree with dense foliage.

Flowers: Small, yellow-green flowers appear in late spring, but they are not very noticeable.

Fruits: Produces small nuts called "beech mast" in prickly husks — wildlife love them!

Common Name: Copper Beech

Scientific Name: *Fagus sylvatica*

Atropurpurea Group

Origin: Native to Europe — particularly widespread across southern England and other parts of Europe.

Height: Can grow up to 30–40 metres tall (around 100–130 feet).

Spread: A mature copper beech can spread its branches just as wide!

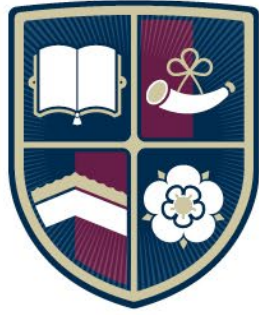
Special Facts:

Lifespan: Copper beeches can live for 150–200 years, sometimes even longer!

Medicinal Uses: In the past, beech leaves were used in poultices to treat swellings. Beech tar was used to treat skin conditions.

Wildlife Friendly: The tree provides food and shelter for lots of animals, birds, and insects. Beech nuts are a favourite food for squirrels and mice.

Symbolism: In folklore, beech trees symbolise wisdom, knowledge, and patience.



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Prunus x subhirtella 'Autumnalis'

By Yashvi



Genus: Prunus
Species: Subhirtella

Flowering period: October to late April

Origins: Japanese (hence its name: 'Jugatsu-zakura', which means 'Cherry of the 10th month' or 'Cherry of October')

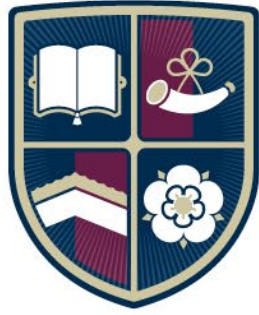
Characteristics: Toothed leaves, bronze-green spring foliage, yellow/orange autumn foliage, white/light pink flowers, horizontal lenticels (breathing pores) on grey-brown bark, flowers are sometimes followed by very bitter small fruit, which are loved by birds.

Why do they flower in winter?

These trees were carefully cultivated to flower throughout the gloomy, cold winter months to cheer people up.

They are hardy trees which are robust enough to withstand the harsh English winter weather.

Because they don't cast much shade, they are easy to underplant with other plants, so they don't take up much space in a garden.



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Acer Capillipes Red Snake-Bark Maple

By Rufus



It is a small, ornamental, deciduous tree native to the high elevation of Japan typically reaching 10-15m tall.

The species name "Capillipes" comes from Latin meaning "Slender-footed" which relates to the thin stalks on its flowers and fruits.

In spring, small greenish-white flowers bloom in drooping racemes. These are followed by winged samaras (seeds).

It is well known for its dramatic stripped bark and bright autumn foliage which turns from green to shades of red, orange and yellow.

The Red Snake-Bark Maple enjoys cool, temperate climates and well-drained slightly acidic soil.

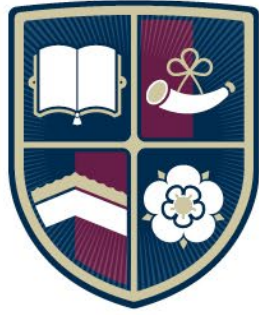
It was first introduced to the West by Charles Sargent in 1892.

In 1975 the RHS awarded the Acer Capillipes an Award of Garden Merit.

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Support the 1662 Campaign for Assisted Places



Each year, BGS invests an average of **£900,000** into our **Assisted Places Programme**, supporting around **10%** of our student community.

The generosity of Old Bradfordians, parents, staff, and friends of the school plays a vital role in enabling us to continue offering life-changing educational opportunities to talented young people who would not otherwise be able to attend BGS.

There are several ways you can support the continuation of this important work. One meaningful option is to **purchase a tree to be planted on the BGS campus**. The £500 donation for each tree goes directly towards the Assisted Places Programme, contributing to the fund that helps transform lives and strengthen our wider community.

If you would like to discuss any aspect of giving, please contact us at **development@bradfordgrammar.com** or call **01274 553710**. If your call is not answered immediately, please leave a message with your name and number and a member of the team will return your call as soon as possible.