



BEECH HILL NEWS

Friday 3rd February 2023



Collecting and Dropping Off Safely

We are no longer closing the road at the top of Mount Pleasant Avenue, therefore please take extra care when crossing the road and ensure you use the footpaths on Mount Pleasant Avenue as it is likely there will be more cars about. Please do not let children use the road as a footpath as this is highly dangerous. We would still ask parents **not** to park on Mount Pleasant Avenue for drop off and pickups as this makes the situation worse and then causes danger to the children. It is particularly important not to block pavements or park on yellow lines and do not use the entrance to our school as a turning circle. Please also be considerate towards local residents when making a decision about where to park.

We would also like to remind you that once you have collected your child from their class teacher, they are your responsibility - please ensure you keep your child with you, particularly keeping hold of younger children. The playground and surrounding areas are very busy at this time so keeping hold of your children's hands is the best way to ensure you know they are with you and safe.

Thank you for your continued support.

Group	% Attendance
USA 3	89.4
USA 4	93.3
USA 5	93.9
Wales	95.9
Scotland	94.1
Northern Ireland	93
Switzerland	93.3
Canada	94.6
Morocco	95.4
Jordan	98.4
Mexico	95.4
South Africa	97.6
Australia	94.2
France	97.7
China	93.1
Denmark	96.9
Tanzania	96.7
Egypt	96
Totals	95.1

Attendance Update

Congratulations and a huge well done to Jordan, South Africa, France, Denmark, Tanzania and Egypt for achieving the highest attendance. It's great to see six of our classes have an attendance equal to or above the national average.

Sadly, as a school we did not achieve our target, which is 96%.

I must reiterate the importance of all pupils attending school promptly and regularly. Where pupils attendance begins to drop below the national average, a referral will be made to the Education Welfare Officer, also known as an EWO.

As a school we aim to provide the very best for our pupils and can only achieve this with parent/carer support.

Thank you

Mrs Farhat Hussain
Attendance Officer

	Poor attendance, I am very concerned.
	Below expectations, I am worried.
	Best chance of success, well done.



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Healthy School

TT Rockstars Weekly Winners

Year 2 - Zarina Akhter (Morocco)

Year 3 - Mohammed Kafeel (Mexico)

Year 4 - Abdul Aziz Al-Anazi (Australia)

Year 5 - William Obhielo (China)

Year 6 - Khadijah Rahman (Tanzania)

Overall Winner - Abdul Aziz Al-Anazi (Australia)

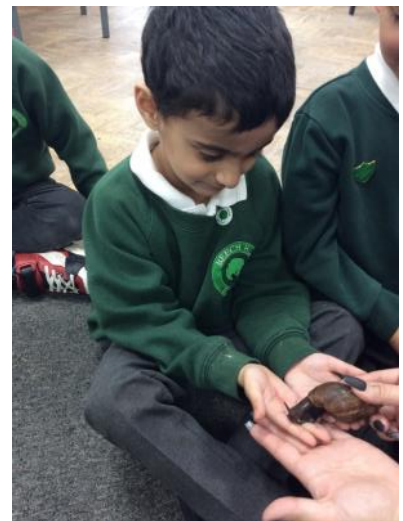


ZooLab Visit to Reception

Last week ZooLab came to visit Beech Hill School!

They brought a range of African animals to meet the children. The children were so excited and learnt many facts about the animals and their habitats. They could describe how the animals looked and felt during the session.

Thank you ZooLab!



House Points

These children have all been awarded a **silver** certificate for receiving **100** House Points.

Ismail Ali

Well done. Keep up the hard work!

Thank You

Thank you to Carpet Mill on Pellon Lane who have kindly donated two brand new rugs for our nursery reading area.

The children have loved accessing the more comfortable area this week.



Reading Books

Please follow the guidance for looking after your reading book so that they have a long life and other children are able to enjoy them too!



Thank you for your continued support.

Right of the week

This week we are looking at article 13 which means you have the right to find out things and share what you think with others, by talking, drawing, writing or in any other way unless it harms or offends other people.



At Beech Hill we promote the freedom of speech and children are encouraged to share their thoughts freely in lessons, assemblies or around school. Specifically, in our Jigsaw lessons (PSHE) we create a safe space for children to discuss their worries or problems. Children listen to each other and we help to resolve any problems. Furthermore, children have a number of familiar adults that they can speak to if they have anything on their mind. These adults include class teachers, support staff, learning mentors and dinner ladies. Further up in school, children have debates on various topics where they can share their thoughts openly and freely. At Beech Hill we have our elected School Council who meet regularly to discuss whole school topics to help make the school a better place.



Town Hall Visit

Last week the Beach Hill and Dean Field Upper School Rights Respecting Councillors and the Head Boy and Head Girls were invited to the Town Hall in Halifax by the Mayor of Halifax! They had the privilege of touring the Mayor's Parlour, offices and the Council chambers. The children took part in passing a mock law with the mayor and got the chance to try on her special robes. The children were able to ask questions, spend time with the mayor and consort and were inspired about politics.

'I really liked the history of the building and looking at all the architecture.' Ayaan, Deputy Head Boy

'My favourite part was when we made a fake law in the chambers room. There was even a vote between the monkeys and the tigers. Monkeys won!' Sharvesh, Head Boy

'I really liked Victoria Hall and I think that it was inspiring to see so much history. It was interesting seeing all the previous mayors and what they had done for Halifax.' Laukya, Head Girl

'I loved going in the Mayor's parlour and looking at all the old fashioned, expensive ornaments!' Khadijah, School Councillor.



"Failure will never overtake me if my determination to succeed is strong enough."

Dinostar Hull

The children in year 3 had a fantastic workshop with Dinostar Hull on Tuesday. They were joined by the year 3 children from Dean Field School.

They handled replica fossils of many prehistoric creatures, made fossil rubbings, made their own cast fossil and measured out the actual size of dinosaurs on the school playground. Their behaviour was exemplary!

The children learnt lots and most importantly had fun.





Parent Workshop

On Monday afternoon, Calderdale Family Learning were in school to run a workshop for year 2 children and their parents. It was lovely to see them working together to create their own version of life cycles! They all had a lovely afternoon combining art and science to create some lovely pieces of work.

Many thanks to the parents who attended



Dinner Menu w/c Monday 6th February

 <h3>School Meals Menu - Week 2</h3> 					
2	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Hot Meal Option	Southern Fried Chicken Strips (1, 5) Fresh Coleslaw (12)	Homemade Spagetti Bolognaise 5, 10	Battered Fish 2, 5	Homemade Chicken Curry (3, 8) Naan Bread (5)	Assorted Pizzas 5, 8, 10
	Quorn Dippers 5	Mac 'n' Cheese Croquettes 5, 10	Homemade Cheese and Onion Pie 5, 10, 12	Samosas (5) Homemade Onion Bhajis (10, 12) Savoury Rice	Homemade Cheese and Broccoli Pasta 5, 10, 12
Vegetables	Skin-on Fries Beans Sweetcorn	Roast Potatoes Mixed Veg Peas	Chips Mushy Peas Sweetcorn	Wedges (8) Broccoli Peas	Ziggy Fries Beans
Served Daily	Jacket Potatoes with various fillings (Homemade Chicken Tikka, Bolognaise and Chilli. Tuna, Cheese, Beans) Salad Bar Selection of Sandwiches/Subs/Wraps Allergies for the daily items available on request				
Dessert	Chocolate Doughnuts 4, 5, 10, 12, 14	Chocolate Sponge 5, 10, 12 Custard 5, 10 Strawberry Swirls 10	Cupcakes 5, 10, 12 Assorted Biscuits 5, 10, 12	Bakewell Tart (5, 10, 12) Custard (8, 10) Jelly	Assorted Fresh Baking 5, 10, 12 Chocolate Ice Cream 10

If you require an allergy list please email kitchen@beechhillschool.co.uk

In school next week, we will be spending some time looking closely at online safety and exploring issues which matter to children.

Safer Internet Day 2023 will take place on the 7th of February 2023, with celebrations and learning based around the theme 'Want to talk about it? Making space for conversations about life online'. Our learning will be on different days throughout the week for different classes.

In the UK, we are celebrating by putting children and young people's voices at the heart of the day and encouraging them to shape the online safety support that they receive. That is why we are asking parents, carers, teachers, government, policymakers, and the wider online safety industry to take time to listen to children and young people and make positive change together.

This year we are hoping to answer the following questions:

- What issues really matter to children and young people?
- What changes do they want to see?
- How can we all work together to advocate for them moving forward?

With your help, Safer Internet Day 2023 can be a springboard for conversations that shape how we talk about and respond to online issues, not just for one day, but throughout the whole year.

SUPPORTING



www.saferinternetday.org



All National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it's needed. This guide focuses on one of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

Tips for Encouraging Open Discussions about DIGITAL LIVES

The online world is an entirely familiar and commonplace part of life for today's children and young people, far more so than for previous generations. There are many positives to children being able to access online materials, so it's important not to demonise the internet, games and apps, and limit the content of their positive aspects. At the same time, we do have a responsibility to educate children about the hazards they may encounter online (just as we would about real-world dangers) so it's essential that we don't shy away from talking to them about the complex - and often sensitive - subject of what they do and what they see when they're online.

Here are some suggestions for kicking off conversations with your child about their digital life ...

MAKE YOUR INTEREST CLEAR

Showing enthusiasm when you broach the subject signals to your child that you're keen to learn about the positives of their online world. Most children enjoy educating adults and will happily chat about what they use the internet for, or what games and apps they're into and how these work. Asking to see their favourite games and apps in action could help you spot any aspects that may need your attention - such as chat functions which might require a settings adjustment to limit contact with strangers. Keep listening even if your child pauses for a long time; they could be considering how to phrase something sensitive, or they may be gauging your reaction.

BE OPEN AND HONEST, APPROPRIATE TO THEIR AGE

At various stages, children and young people become curious about puberty and how their body changes; about relationships; about how bodies are made; and about sexual health. If your child knows that they can discuss these sensitive subjects with you, they tend to be less likely to go looking online for answers - which can often provide them with misleading information and, in some cases, lead to them consuming harmful content. Don't worry if you don't immediately know the answers to their questions - just find out for yourself and go back to them once you have the facts.

REMINDE YOUR CHILD THEY CAN ALWAYS TALK TO YOU

In my role I work with many children and young people who admit being reluctant to tell a trusted adult about harmful content they've viewed online. In case it leads to having their device confiscated. Emphasise to your child that you're always there to listen and help; reassure them that if they do view harmful content, then they are not to blame - but talking about it openly will help. Children shouldn't be expected to be resistant against abuse or feel that it's their job to prevent it.

KEEP TALKING!

The most valuable advice we can give is to keep talking with your child about their digital lives. You could try using everyday situations to ask questions about their online experiences.

DISCUSS THAT NOT EVERYTHING WE SEE ONLINE IS REAL

Here, you could give examples from your own digital life or the online world around nearby - for example, those Instagram posts which show the perfect house; spotlessly clean, newer messier and immaculately decorated. Explain to your child that there are many other aspects of the online world which are also deliberately presented in an unrealistic way for effect - such as someone's relationship, their body, having perfect skin and so on.

TRY TO REMAIN CALM

As much as possible, try to stay calm even if your child tells you about an online experience that makes you feel angry or fearful. Our immediate emotions frequently influence the way we talk, so it's possible that your initial reaction as a parent or carer could cause a child from speaking openly about what they've seen. Give yourself time to consider the right approach, and perhaps speak with other family members or school staff while you are considering your next steps.

CREATE A 'FAMILY AGREEMENT'

Involving your whole household in coming up with a family agreement about device use can be immensely beneficial. You could discuss when (and for how long) it's OK to use phones, tablets, consoles and so on at home, what parental controls are for and why they're important; and why it's good to talk to each other about things we've seen or experienced online (both good and bad). Explaining your reasoning will help children to understand that, as trusted adults, we want to make sure they are well informed and kept safe. Allowing children to have their say when coming up with your family agreement also makes them far more likely to stick to it in the long term.

Meet Our Expert
Rebecca, Director of ASSE (Training Associates for Sex Education) has around 20 years experience delivering relationships and sex education and training to schools, colleges and other education providers. A published author on the subject, she also delivers the Department of Education on the staff-training element of the RSE curriculum.

NOS National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday

www.nationalonlinesafety.com @natonlinesafety /NationalOnlineSafety @nationalonlinesafety

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