



# BEECH HILL NEWS



Friday 2nd February

## School Council Learning Walk

Members of the School Council met to discuss what they should see when they visited lessons across the school from nursery up to year 6.

They came up with a checklist with support from Mrs Creighton and then were put into small teams. They walked around the school with their clipboards and ticked off all the amazing things that they saw in lessons such as collaborative learning, fun and engaging activities and adults asking questions to their class to deepen their learning. The School Council took their roles seriously and enjoyed visiting the classes.

Once the learning walk had finished, they met with Mr Hoyle and Mrs Creighton to debrief. We are going to put together a report from their findings and this will be shared amongst staff and will be put in the newsletter too.

Well done to everyone involved.



Beech Hill School  
Mount Pleasant Avenue  
Halifax  
HX1 5TN  
Tel: 01422 345004

Website: [www.beechhillschool.co.uk](http://www.beechhillschool.co.uk)  
Email: [admin@beechhillschool.co.uk](mailto:admin@beechhillschool.co.uk)



## Attendance (22nd to 26th January)




Please may I remind parents/carers, if your child is absent from school please contact the school office on 01422 345004 before 9.00am on each day of their absence, informing us of the reason for their absence.

Can I take this opportunity to remind our year 6 parents that your child/children will be taking their SATS tests a few months from now. It is extremely important that your child arrives at school both promptly and daily to make the very most of their learning. Please help and support your child with their learning by ensuring they are in school every day.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Farhat Hussain

Attendance Officer

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

Group	% Attend
USA3	86.0
USA4	91.1
USA5	88.3
Wales	90.7
Northern Ireland	98.5
Switzerland	98.3
Nigeria	93.1
Canada	98.2
Jordan	83.4
Mexico	96.6
Morocco	97.9
South Africa	86.5
Australia	96.7
Denmark	93.1
Singapore	94.7
France	93.5
Tanzania	96.1
Egypt	97.4
Totals	93.5

## Year 2's Family of Learning Trust Project

Groups of children in year 2 from Dean Field, Shirley Manor, Heptonstall and Beech Hill came together to work with our artist in resident, Mr Tony Bullock, for a creative afternoon.

Their task was to create a canvas with the Family of Learning Trust logo as their background with illustrations in the style of Axel Scheffler. The children used a range of mediums to draw their illustrations and then used paint to bring it to life.



The children all worked together collaboratively and it was lovely to see them making new friends. Their final products will be displayed in their school for all to see.

Well done to everyone involved and a big thanks goes to Tony Bullock for his hard work.



## Congratulations

Congratulations to Miss Hoodlass who has successfully completed the National Professional Qualification for Leading Literacy.

Well done on this achievement!





## House Points

The following children have received their **bronze** award for achieving **50** house points:

Arslaan B  
Mazeeda G  
Moeen S  
Sahara I  
Eisa B  
Nafisa A  
Noor F  
Humaira K  
Rayyan B  
Sai P

Sohan K  
Sulaiman S  
Zoya Y  
Pamela H  
Areeba B  
Maseerah M  
Muhammad R  
Pepina K  
Ashar A  
Janvika J S

The following children have received their **silver** award for achieving **100** house points:

Hasnain M  
Mouhamadoul A  
Ameeq S  
Sumayah N  
Aliza M  
Amaima W

Justin O  
Usman B  
Fajr-Noor W  
Harris Ur-R  
Raqeeb H  
Mohammed A

The following children have received their **gold** award for achieving **200** house points:

Musa I  
Abdul M  
Amina A

## TT Rockstars Most Improved Accuracy

Year 2 - Donatello N (Switzerland)

Year 3 - Hasanain S (Jordan)

Year 4 - Vanessa R (Australia)

Year 5 - Abdallah A (Denmark)

Year 6 - Andrea K (Egypt)



**Class with the highest average speed per question**

**Denmark**

## **QUOTE OF THE WEEK**

"Our greatest glory is not in never failing but in rising every time we fail."

## Fire Service Visit

We were extremely pleased to welcome Halifax Green Watch from West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue on Thursday.

They provided Y5 and Y6 with vital information about home fire safety and water safety whilst our reception children were able to explore the fire engine and ask lots of questions!

The fire crew demonstrated to all the children how smoke alarms work and explained how important they are in our homes - please check them regularly to make sure they are working.

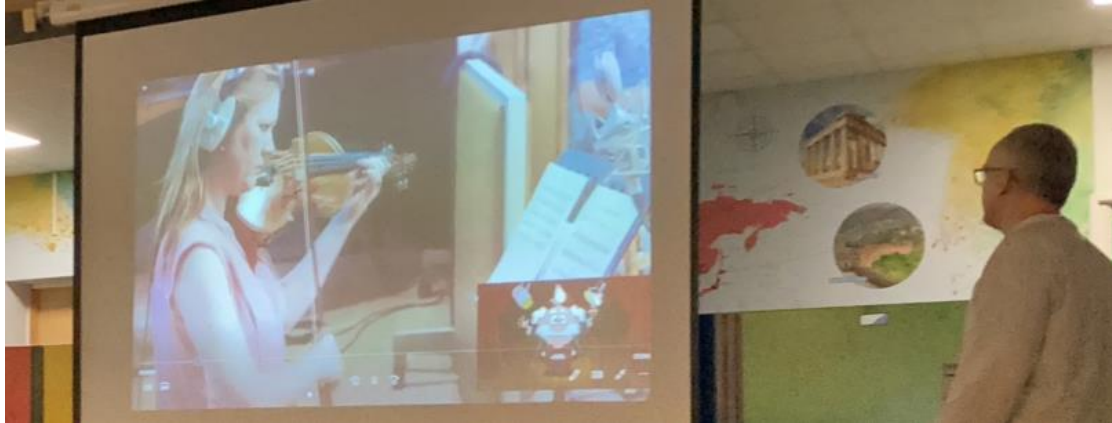


## Little People Big Noise Project

The Little People Big Noise project began in year four on Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> January!

The children worked with Greg Boardman from Three Stone Media to generate ideas for a 6 minute animated film. The children will be working with Lucy Harrower over the next term to compose, practise and perform the soundtrack for the film.

On the 10th of June, they will be performing their piece at the Victoria Theatre with the British Chamber Orchestra!



## Clement Court

On Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> January, some of the children in year 5 visited Clement Court.

This was a lovely opportunity for them to meet the residents, share stories and read together. The children all took their reading books and another book that they thought the residents might be interested in. The residents thoroughly enjoyed listening to the children read and commented on their super expression and how fluently they read.



As always, the children were fantastic ambassadors for Beech Hill School and there were many comments about how polite and well-mannered the children are!

A lovely afternoon for all!

Calling all young people

Free holiday activities and food sessions

**HALF TERM FUN**

12 February to 16 February 2024

Join #HealthyHolidaysCalderdale for a variety of activities during February Half Term!

HEALTHY HOLIDAYS CALDERDALE

Calderdale Council

ACTIVE CALDERDALE

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

**HALF TERM FUN**

This is your chance to take part in free, fun activities during the half term holidays! Scan the QR code to find out what activities are available to book.

Whether it's abseiling or caving, drama or dance there is something for everyone.

Calderdale Council are providing free activities for young people eligible for free school meals aged 5-16.

Calderdale's Healthy Holidays Half Terms provides enriching activities, delicious nutritious meals, and a chance for young people to meet new friends in a safe & fun environment, during the school holidays.

Find out what's on and book your place at: [www.calderdale.gov.uk/healthyholidays](http://www.calderdale.gov.uk/healthyholidays)

Calling all 5-16s on Free School Meals - Book your place now!



## Year 3 Parent Lunches

This week we have welcomed parents from year 3 to enjoy lunch with their children on Tuesday and Thursday.

The children enjoyed having lunch with their family and there was a lovely atmosphere in the hall.

Thank you to all the parents who attended.

Keep an eye out on the newsletter and Seesaw for information about more parent lunches that will be happening this academic year.



## Dinner Menu w/c Monday 5th February

2	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Hot Meal Option	Chicken Nuggets 5	Homemade Chicken Curry 3	Full English Breakfast  Sausage 5 or Quorn Sausage 5  Omelette 10, 12 Potato Puffs	Roast Chicken Dinner Yorkshire Puddings 5, 10, 12 Gravy	Pizza 5, 10
	Fishcakes 2, 5	Naan Bread 5		Homemade Cheese and Onion Pie 5, 10, 12	Ravioli 5
Vege Nuggets 5	Homemade Onion Bhajis Samosas 5 Savoury Rice	Beans Tomatoes	Roast Potatoes Broccoli Cauliflower	Chips Beans	
Curly Fries 5 Beans Veg Sticks	Ziggy Fries Mixed Veg		Jacket Potatoes with various fillings Salad Bar Selection of Sandwiches/Subs/Wraps		
Dessert	American Pancakes 5, 10, 12	Treacle Sponge 5, 10, 12 Custard 10	Iced Cake 5, 10, 12	Choc Orange Sponge 5, 10, 12 Custard 10	Assorted Fresh Baking 5, 10, 12
	Chocolate Swirls 10	Crispy Buns 4, 5, 10	Jelly	Assorted Biscuits 5, 10, 12	Chocolate Ice Cream 10

If you require an allergy list please email [kitchen@beechhillschool.co.uk](mailto:kitchen@beechhillschool.co.uk)



# National Online Safety - Weekly Information

At 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 is needed. This guide focuses on one of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [nationalcollege.com](https://nationalcollege.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

## What Parents & Carers Need to Know about PERSUASIVE DESIGN ONLINE

'Persuasive design' refers to the techniques that companies employ to influence our thoughts and behaviours when we're on the internet. These approaches can be spotted on websites, in apps and even as part of some video games. Persuasive design means that this content has been deliberately presented in a way that's intended to encourage you to spend your time or money (or both). These methods often prove highly effective at keeping people engaged and invested for longer than we might expect.

### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

#### POTENTIAL ADDICTION

In the digital world, persuasive design can make certain activities more addictive and harder to walk away from: some people may begin to feel anxious or irritated without access to their device or their favourite app, for example. It can also often leave users feeling isolated, as – if they spend most of their time on social media – they may start to find it difficult to talk to other people in real life.

#### MENTAL HEALTH CONCERNS

Scrolling online or gaming without regular breaks is proven to be harmful to our mental health. The constant bombardment of news stories (many of them negative), images and influencers' posts can create sensations of unease, uncertainty and FOMO (fear of missing out). Young people can get so immersed in this environment that they become less likely to spot misleading posts.

#### PROLONGED SCROLLING

Social media can draw any of us – regardless of age – into a continuous pattern of refreshing our screen, following posts and links down rabbit holes or reading countless comments made by others. This aimless scrolling can eat up time which could have been spent on more productive activities. It could also lead younger users into areas of the online world which aren't age appropriate.

#### SENSORY OVERLOAD

Repetitively scrolling, clicking on links or playing games can create an unending stream of new information and visual stimuli. Put it this way: social media isn't exactly renowned as a carefree, chilled-out environment. Such overstimulation can become too much for young people to handle, resulting in sensory overload and causing them to feel stressed, overwhelmed and exhausted.

#### COSTLY ADDITIONS

Video games sometimes display offers for downloadable content or loot boxes which can be bought with real money. While these 'microtransactions' temptingly promise to improve a player's gaming experience, most of the time they are money sinks. Young people in particular, excited by the chance of enhancing their game, could spend quite a sizeable sum very quickly indeed.

#### PHYSICAL CONSEQUENCES

Hours spent sitting and scrolling means far less time moving around and getting exercise: hardly ideal for a young person's physical health. Additionally, prolonged exposure to the light given off by a phone's screen can lead to eye fatigue and discomfort, especially if viewing it in the dark. Extended phone use before bed can also impact on sleep quality, affecting mood and energy levels over the following days.

# KEEP SCROLLING

# WIN TO WIN

27 new posts

## Advice for Parents & Carers

#### ESTABLISH LIMITS

Talk to your child about setting some time limits on how long they can use their phone, tablet or console in the evenings or at weekends – or perhaps how often they can go on a specific app, game or website. You could also decide to involve the whole family in creating this shared screen time agreement, making things fair (and healthier) for everyone.



#### ENCOURAGE MINDFULNESS

Acknowledging any addiction is key in overcoming it – and compulsive scrolling is no different. If anything mentioned in this guide sounds familiar, it could help to have an honest, open chat with your child about how much time they spend online. Get them to think about how often they scroll through social media aimlessly or habitually open it up whenever they have a spare moment.



#### NIX NOTIFICATIONS

Stop knee-jerk responses at the source by turning off push notifications and alerts. Whether it's a gaming notification or a social media update, these not-so-gentle reminders are designed to catch our attention and lure us back to our device. Switching them off – or even deleting any particularly intrusive apps – can help prevent your child from being reeled back into the online world.



#### MAKE A CHECKLIST

Considering a list of relevant questions can be an effective way of helping children figure out why they're scrolling on certain sites or consuming particular pieces of content. A checklist can prompt young people to ask themselves if they're learning anything or benefiting from this activity – or if they're wasting their time. Taking a step back can sometimes help us to see things more clearly.



### Meet Our Expert

Rebecca Jennings has more than 20 years' experience in the field of relationships, sex and health education (RSHE). As well as delivering workshops and training for young people, parents and schools, she is also a subject matter expert on RSHE for the Department of Education.



The National College

NOS National Online Safety  
#WakeUpWednesday



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