



BEECH HILL NEWS



Friday 9th February



Parents' Evening

Please note that there will be an online parents' evening on Tuesday 5th March and face-to-face appointments on Wednesday 6th March.

Bookings will go live during the week commencing 19th February. We look forward to sharing updates on children's progress with you at this time.

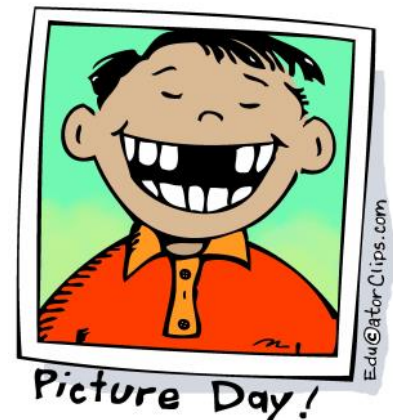
School Photographs

The photographers are coming in to school on Thursday 14th March to do whole school photographs.

Singles and sibling photographs (including morning nursery) will be taken during school time. Afternoon nursery children need to come in at 9am to have their photographs taken and will then return home before coming back for their normal afternoon session.

If extended families would like to have their photos taken with the children, they will need to come to the school office at 8.00am. Photos for extended families need to be booked via the Beech Hill booking system.

The booking system will go live on Friday 9th February at 9.00am.



Year 4 Parent Lunches

On Tuesday 20th February and Thursday 22nd February we will be inviting parents to come and have lunch with their children. This was very successful with reception and lower school, and we are sure we will have the same success in year 4!

We will be asking parents to sign up and book a slot via Parent Pay.

It will be £1 per person and limited to 2 adults per child and no other children allowed.

Each day will be limited to 30 places and on a first come first served basis.

The booking system is open now until 4pm Monday 19th February. If you have problems booking your space, please speak to the school office.



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

Website: www.beechhillschool.co.uk
Email: admin@beechhillschool.co.uk



Attendance (29th January to 2nd February)

To support your child with their learning I have listed some attendance and punctuality tips below:

- Get book bags and clothes ready the night before to speed up the morning routine.
- Make sure your child is in bed at a reasonable time.
- Speak to us about breakfast club if you are struggling to get your children here on time.
- Let your child's teacher know if you or they are having problems getting up for school.
- Make routine appointments, e.g. dentist, during the holidays or after school.
- Plan all holidays/leave of absences during term time holidays.

If you would like to discuss your child's attendance please ring the office on 01422 345004.

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

Group	% Attend
USA3	82.0
USA4	87.8
USA5	75.8
Wales	90.3
Northern Ireland	94.5
Switzerland	91.3
Nigeria	88.0
Canada	90.6
Jordan	95.2
Mexico	97.7
Morocco	97.2
South Africa	97.0
Australia	93.9
Denmark	88.8
Singapore	76.0
France	90.0
Tanzania	94.8
Egypt	93.5
Totals	91.2



TT Rockstars Most Improved Accuracy

Year 2 - Aliza M (Switzerland)

Year 3 - Adam A (Mexico)

Year 4 - Kiara S (Australia)

Year 5 - Yani S (Denmark)

Class with the highest average correct answers per person
Denmark

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 LEVELLING UP








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 Tracy Brabin Mayor of West Yorkshire

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★ FREE NUMERACY COURSES ★

-  For adults aged 19+ who do not have a maths qualification at Level 2 or GCSE grade 4/C
-  Short and medium courses, available on weekdays and weekends at various times, from January 2024
-  Fun, interactive and engaging courses to help you progress in life and work
-  Informal and supportive sessions in small groups
-  Delivered by our Numeracy Specialist Tutor
-  Meet new people, make friends, boost your confidence and enhance your wellbeing
-  Enjoy FREE refreshments too!

For further information or to enrol
 team.calderdaleacademy@outlook.com

Home is where the start is

Communication counts

An online family festival of fun and learning
THURSDAY 22 - SATURDAY 24 FEBRUARY 2024

- * Fun music classes with Boogie Mites
- * Makaton signing taster sessions
- * Communication and language sessions

.... and much more!

Home is where the start is:
 Communication counts.

An online festival of fun and learning for the whole family!

The three-day event will run from Thursday 22 Feb to Saturday 24 Feb 2024 and you can book to attend as many or as few sessions as you like.

During this fun family event, which will take place via Zoom and is aimed at parents and carers of under-fives, we will share information and advice about how you can support children's learning and development at home through lots of exciting sessions for you and your children.

This year's event will focus on how you can support your child's communication and language development and will include sessions on bilingualism, Makaton and music, movement, rhythm and rhyme... and much, much more!



Book your free sessions today at [Festival of Fun and Learning](#)

Dinner Menu w/c Monday 19th February

1	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Hot Meal Option	Chicken Goujons 1, 3, 4, 5, 10	Homemade Meat & Potato Pie 5, 10, 12 Or Chicken Tikka Wraps 5, 12	Battered Fish 2, 5	Homemade Mexican Chicken Enchiladas 5, 10 Or Shredded Chicken 5	Pizza 5, 10
	Loaded Potato Skins 10	Quorn Sausages 5 Gravy	Homemade Vegetable Curry Rice	Mac 'n' Cheese Croquettes 5, 10	Spinach & Ricotta Tortellini 3, 4, 5, 10, 12
Vegetables	Potato Cubes 5 Beans	Roast Potatoes Broccoli Mixed Veg	Chips Mushy Peas Sweetcorn	Potato Wedges Peas Carrots	Curly Fries 5 Beans
Served Daily	Jacket Potatoes with various fillings Salad Bar Selection of Sandwiches Allergies for the daily items available on request				
Dessert	American Pancakes 5, 10, 12	Jam Sponge 5, 10, 12 Custard	Cheesecake 4, 5, 10	Choc Chip Sponge 5, 10, 12 Custard 10	Assorted Fresh Baking 5, 10, 12
	Strawberry Ice Cream 10	Angel Delight 10	Assorted Biscuits 5, 10, 12	Jelly	Chocolate Ice Cream 10

If you require an allergy list please email 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 apps which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit nationalcollege.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about MONKEY

Also known as Monkey Cool, this platform aims to fill the gap left by Omegle (which has now shut down) by placing users in random video chats with strangers. Participants use their mobile number and Snapchat username to connect to the service, where they can make matches, message other people and join group chats. The mobile version has been removed from the App Store due to safety concerns, but iPhone owners can still access the site via their web browser. The app remains available on Google Play, where its listing claims that Monkey has more than 30 million users worldwide.

AGE RESTRICTION
17+

(although the lack of age verification means that someone younger could easily log in with a fake date of birth)

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

The app claims to use AI to detect sexual content or activity that violates its policies, along with having a 24/7 moderation team. However, reports in the media continue to indicate that explicit content remains commonplace on Monkey (including sexually graphic or violent material) and is therefore accessible to anybody who uses the app – including those aged under 18.

UNDER 18

CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

The obvious risk in accepting random video chat partners is that users cannot know what or who they will see on their next connection. Talking to strangers is, of course, potentially dangerous – especially for children who might be persuaded to meet up with these people offline. The app lets users find each other by location, increasing the chances of a child being matched with a stranger from their local area.

?

IN-APP SPENDING

While Monkey is free to download, it nevertheless offers in-app purchases promising to unlock access to premium features. For example, users who wish to make use of 'Knock Knock chat' (Monkey's text-based messaging option), rather than the app's Chatroulette-style random video calling feature, will need to pay to be able to do so.



INTRUSIONS ON PRIVACY

According to Monkey's privacy policy, personal information (such as name, profile picture and date of birth), user-contributed content (any photos, texts, videos and screenshots shared) and each user's browser and IP address are collected. That is a considerable amount of data for Monkey to gather on its users – and all of this information is shared with third parties.



Advice for Parents & Carers

DISCUSS THE DANGERS

Even if you're comfortable with your child using Monkey, it's still important to talk about the potential dangers. It's crucial, for instance, that young people recognise the risks that stem from video chatting with strangers; that they understand not to share identifying information (like their street or school name); and that they know what to do if they are exposed to inappropriate content.



RESTRICT IN-APP PURCHASING

If your child is accessing Monkey via an Android device, you can prevent them from making in-app purchases through the device's settings. If you do allow your child to use the site, we'd recommend that you enable this feature: young people have been known to spend significant amounts of money in their desire to unlock more features in apps such as this.



REPORT INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Monkey states in the safety section of its site that "people are given the power" and that, to a large extent, Monkey is "self-governing." If a user is exposed to sexually explicit or inappropriate content on the platform, they can select the 'police' emoji in the top right corner of their screen to submit a report for Monkey's moderation team to review.



SPOT THE SIGNS

If you're concerned that your child is spending too much time on Monkey – or that they may have been exposed to inappropriate or distressing content – it's important to watch for potential indications that they've been affected emotionally. They could be unusually irritable or unable to concentrate, for example, or failing to complete their homework or even to eat regular meals.



Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



The National College

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#WakeUpWednesday

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