



# BEECH HILL NEWS

Friday 5th December



## Year 2 Residential - Nell Bank

Last week, 20 brave year 2 children embarked on their first ever residential. The children packed their bags and sleeping bags and set off from Beech Hill School to Nell Bank in Ilkley, where they met 17 more children from Dean Field School who are also part of our Trust.

They quickly made friends by playing some circle games such as 'across the circle'. After lunch, they explored the woodland area and took part in a minibeast hunt and a habitat trail. Before it got dark, the children got chance to play on the amazing adventure playground. They climbed up to the top of the climbing frames, crawled through the tunnels and made their way down the tunnel slide - even the staff got involved too. It was then time for tea, where the children had pizza, sausages, beans and chocolate cake for pudding. Once tea was over, we embarked on a moonlight walk around the site to see if we could hear any of the wildlife that live at Nell Bank. Before they knew it, it was bed time and they were so excited about trying out their new beds. They put their pyjamas on, brushed their teeth and then it was time for a bedtime story or two. The next morning, they learned all about their new English text 'Owl Babies' and went on a hunt for owls and made them a nest. The children enjoyed the experience and have said the following:

*"I loved meeting a new friend from Dean Field and I look forward to seeing them again."* Jawwaad A

*"I loved making a nest for the owl babies!"* Jannah F

*"Residential is the best thing ever!"* Faseeha N

The children's behaviour was exemplary and they were role models for the school. A huge well done to all the year 2 children who went on the visit.



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## Overgate Elf Dash

On **Friday 12th December** pupils and teachers will be taking part in the "Overgate Elf Dash". On this day, we will be encouraging children to come in their festive jumpers and run around the school in order to raise money for the charity.

Overgate Hospice is an independent and local charity with a mission to ensure that their patients, and those close to them, live with the best possible quality of life.



This week, all children will have brought home a sponsor sheet so please support your child and sponsor them to raise money for this amazing charity. Your child needs to bring the sponsor sheet and any money raised (in the money bag provided) back to school by Monday 15th December.



### Starting School September 2026

#### How to apply for a school place

Children born between 1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022 are due to start primary school in September 2026.

To apply for a school place you must **apply online by 15 January 2026** at [www.calderdale.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.calderdale.gov.uk/admissions)

For advice and guidance regarding the application process please contact 01422 392617, option 1, and a Customer First Advisor will be able to assist you.

If you would like a leaflet about applying for a primary school place please contact your preferred school and register your child's name. The leaflet will then be distributed by the primary school at the end of November 2025.

Information relating to Admission to Primary School 2026, including oversubscription criteria, is available at [www.calderdale.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.calderdale.gov.uk/admissions)

**The application process opens on 18 November 2025 and the close date is 15 January 2026**

Offers of school places will be made on 16 April 2026.

Calderdale  
Council

UK Health  
Security  
Agency

NHS

## Should I keep my child off school?

### Yes

Until...

Chickenpox	at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over
Diarhoea and Vomiting	48 hours after their last episode
Cold and Flu-like illness (including COVID-19)	they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend. Follow the national guidance if they've tested positive for COVID-19.
Impetigo	their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics
Measles	4 days after the rash first appeared
Mumps	5 days after the swelling started
Scabies	they've had their first treatment
Scarlet Fever	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics
Whooping Cough	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics

### No

but make sure you let their school or nursery know about...

Hand, foot and mouth	Glandular fever
Head lice	Tonsillitis
Threadworms	Stapped cheek



SCAN ME

**Advice and guidance**  
To find out more, search for health protection in schools or scan the QR code or visit <https://qrcr.de/minfec>



## Phonics Corner

**Read Write Inc.**  
Phonics



Can you read the sounds and words at home?  
Scan the QR codes to watch the interactive videos. Your teacher will tell you the correct sound to focus on, if you are unsure.

## Fred Games

Give children extra practice to learn to blend orally.



## Word Time

mad	at
dad	sad
mat	sat



### Set 1 Reading

g



### Set 2 Reading

air



### Set 3 Reading

ur



## OPAL Golden Welly Awards



Last week's Golden Welly winners were:

### Lower School

**Reggie R** - he stayed in for an extra 5 minutes to help tidy away all the Lego and also supported Y1 children by building a house.

**Azaan A** - he picked up all the hula hoops during lunchtime so that they were safely out of the way.

### Upper School

**Abdul R** - he showed good sportsmanship and helped his friend off the floor when he had fallen over.

**Arwaa H** - for being kind by helping children put their helmets on.



## Stars in Our Schools

Last Friday, we celebrated Stars in Our Schools.

Stars in Our Schools is an annual celebration organised by the UNISON trade union to recognise and thank school support staff. The event highlights the vital work of staff like teaching assistants, office staff, cleaners and kitchen staff who help children learn and keep schools running smoothly.

We decorated the staff room and provided a range of breakfast items for all support staff to enjoy, while having an extended break in the morning.

Thank you to all our amazing support staff for making Beech Hill the fantastic school that it is!



**Jamia Madni Mosque Halifax,**  
117-131 Gibbet Street, HX1 5LE

**Halifax Community Fridge**

Open 7 days a week  
365 days a year  
11-12.30pm

# ONE FRIDGE ONE MILLION ITEMS

**SUPPORTING THE TOWN THROUGH COVID-19 AND THE COST-OF-LIVING CRISIS**

#HalifaxCommunityFridge

3,000 meals as part of our yearly Ramadan Food Box - reaching needy families struggling to break their fast

£30,000 in local Zakah money given directly to needy families in Calderdale

76 women benefitting from our ongoing sanitary package campaign

320 winter coats given to local people, helping keep our community warm, as part of our Winter Coat Campaign

1000's of free books helping increase literacy as part of our Little Free Library project

24 monthly Big Mosque Street Cleans helping promote a cleaner area

ALL INSPIRED BY THE WORDS OF THE PROPHET OF ISLAM

"O MANKIND, SPREAD PEACE AND FEED PEOPLE"

**#MoreThanJustAFridge**

**Morrisons**

**Halifax Community Fridge**

# PACKAGE FOR SANDY

IF YOU ARE STRUGGLING OR IN NEED OF **SANITARY PRODUCTS**, PLEASE GET IN TOUCH.

YOU WILL BE GIVEN A **FREE DISCREET PACKAGE** WITH WHAT YOU NEED, NO QUESTIONS ASKED.

اگر آپ کو مشکلات کا سامنا ہے یا سینیٹری مصنوعات کی ضرورت ہے، تو براہ کرم رابطہ کریں۔  
آپ کو ایک مفت پیکیج دیا جائے گا جس کی آپ کو ضرورت ہے، کوئی سوال نہیں پوچھا جائے گا۔

\* إذا كنت تعاني من عدم توفر أو تحتاجين إلى أي منتجات صحية نسائية ، يرجى التواصل معنا .  
سوف تحصلين على كل ما تحتاجينه من المنتجات الصحية مجاناً و بسرية تامة دون طرح أي أسئلة عليكى .

**ASK FOR SANDY: 07724929259**

فقط للنساء فقط (FEMALES ONLY) صرف خواتين

## Dinner Menu from Monday 8th December

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

2	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Hot Meal Option	Chicken Goujons 5	Homemade Lasagne 5, 10 Shredded Chicken 4, 5	Fish Fingers 2, 5	Homemade Chicken Curry Rice	Pizza 5, 10
	Tomato Pasta 5, 10	Vege Nuggets 5	Homemade Cauliflower & Broccoli Cheese 5, 10	Quorn Dippers 5	Homemade Cheese & Onion Pie 5, 10, 12
Vegetables	Chips Beans Peas	g/f Waffle Fries Broccoli Mixed Veg	Chips Peas Sweetcorn	g/f Wedges Broccoli Carrots	Chips Beans Sweetcorn
Served Daily	Jacket Potatoes with various fillings Salad Bar Selection of Sandwiches Allergies for the daily items available on request				
Dessert	Jam Doughnuts 4, 5, 10, 14	Jam Sponge 5, 10, 12 Custard 10	Cupcakes 5, 10, 12	Treacle Sponge 5, 10, 12 Custard 10	Assorted Fresh Baking 5, 10, 12
	Ice Cream Cake 4, 5, 10, 12	Jelly	Assorted Biscuits 5, 10, 12	Angel Delight 10	Ice Cream 10



# Weekly Online Safety Update

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit [nationalcollege.com](https://nationalcollege.com).

## 10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators ELECTRICAL SAFETY AND DEVICES

Electrical safety is a vital topic for parents and educators, especially with the growing use of devices like smartphones, laptops, and power banks. Electrical fires are a major risk and are the cause of many deaths and injuries each year. There are reportedly nearly 20,000 accidental fires of electrical origin each year in the UK. This guide offers practical advice to help families and schools prevent electrical hazards, and promote safety when using everyday devices.

### 1 CHECK FOR OVERHEATING

Devices such as laptops, tablets, and smartphones can overheat if used for long periods or when charging. Ensure that children don't use devices on soft surfaces like beds or sofas, which can block ventilation. If a device becomes unusually hot, turn it off and unplug it. Overheating can lead to fire hazards if left unchecked.

### 2 INSTALL RESIDUAL CURRENT DEVICES

Ensure that homes and schools are equipped with Residual Current Devices (RCDs). These devices cut off the power if an electrical fault occurs, preventing electric shocks and reducing the risk of fires. RCDs should be tested regularly to ensure they are working properly. More information about RCDs is available from Electrical Safety First.

### 3 AVOID OVERLOADING SOCKETS

Plugging too many devices into one socket can overload the electrical system and cause a fire. In schools and homes, ensure extension leads are not overloaded and never 'daisy chain' multiple extension cords together. Educate children on the dangers of connecting too many devices to a single outlet.

### 4 POWER BANKS: SAFE USE

Power banks are a handy way to charge devices, but they can also pose a risk if misused. Ensure power banks are of high quality and comply with UK safety standards. Teach children never to leave power banks charging unattended, and to avoid placing them under pillows or bedding where they may overheat.

### 5 REGULAR DEVICE INSPECTIONS

Regularly check devices for signs of wear and tear. Frayed charging cables, cracked device casings, or devices that are slow to charge may indicate electrical problems. If any issues are noticed, stop using the device until it can be repaired or replaced by a qualified technician. This proactive approach helps prevent fires caused by faulty devices.

### 6 UNPLUG DEVICES WHEN NOT IN USE

Encourage children and pupils to unplug devices when not in use, particularly overnight. Devices left plugged in unnecessarily can overheat or become fire hazards, especially if left charging unattended for long periods. Simple habits like unplugging can prevent serious incidents.

### 7 USE GENUINE CHARGERS

Always use chargers supplied by the manufacturer or from a reputable retailer. Faulty or counterfeit chargers can cause devices to overheat, short-circuit, or even catch fire. Teach children the importance of avoiding poor-quality chargers, and regularly inspect charging cables for signs of wear or damage. More tips on safe charging can be found at Electrical Safety First.

### 8 WATER & ELECTRICITY DON'T MIX

Teach children that water and electricity are a dangerous combination. Devices should never be used near sinks, bathtubs, or swimming pools. Parents and educators should ensure that any electrical appliances near water sources have proper waterproof casings and are plugged into RCD-protected outlets.

### 9 KEEP DEVICES VENTILATED

Devices need proper ventilation to avoid overheating. Avoid stacking items on top of plugged-in devices like laptops or gaming consoles, and make sure there is enough space around devices to allow for airflow. Proper ventilation helps prevent dangerous heat build-up, reducing the risk of fires.

### 10 SUPERVISE YOUNG CHILDREN

Younger children may not understand the dangers of electricity, so it's important to supervise them when they are using devices. Keep electrical cords out of reach and always remind children never to put objects into electrical outlets.

### Meet Our Expert

James Whelan is an experienced health and safety expert who is a Chartered Member of the Institution of Occupational Safety and Health. He provides services to educational settings as well as many other industries to help them maintain a safe working environment.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

See full reference list on our website

X @wake\_up\_weds

f /www.thenationalcollege

ig @wake.up.wednesday

yt @wake.up.weds

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# Gold Book Nominations



**Pellon Lane** - Mizaan M for doing so well starting his potty training this week! He has tried so hard to develop his confidence and independence. We are so proud of him.

**Halifax 1** - Muhammad Z for trying really hard this week in maths and showing good understanding of the composition of number.

**Halifax 2** - Khadija R for super phonics work over the last fortnight.

**Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales** - for their amazing work this week, even with all the changes to routine. Miss Lunn is really appreciative of all their help throughout the week.

**Denmark** - Ismail J for doing amazingly well in his assessments this week.

**France** - Ayaan A for trying hard in his assessments this week.

**Switzerland** - Zayyan M for persevering and trying really hard in his phonics assessment.

**Canada** - Mohammed A for working really hard in assessment week and having fantastic scores in every test he completed!

**Mexico** - Airah-Noor A for her hard work and determination during assessment week. A huge well done!

**Egypt** - The whole class for their impeccable behaviour on our trip to Cliffe Castle. Well done!

**Nigeria** - Moeen S for impressing me with his effort and attitude to all his assessments this week.

**South Africa** - Vivaan M for always working hard and trying his best. This has reflected in his assessment score this term. You can always rely on Vivaan to put his hand up and answer questions in class.

**China** - Laken J for his brilliant start to Beech Hill.

**Japan** - Ayaan A for his enthusiasm, beautiful voice and great dance moves in our music lessons about The Blues!

**Singapore** - Yusuf R for his impeccable manners. Yusuf is one of the politest children I have ever taught.

**New Zealand** - Amina A for fantastic effort in all lessons this week.

