



BEECH HILL NEWS



Friday 28th November

Football Tournament

Last week a group of KS2 girls took part in the annual Adam Heslop Football Tournament which was hosted by Halifax Town FC.

With virtually a novice team competing, it was destined to be a tough but interesting day ahead. We opened the tournament with a promising 2-2 draw with Mareme scoring both our goals. However, the next couple of games were very testing with them ending in a few defeats. With morale quite low, we were determined to carry on and just enjoy each game as they came. On we went, carried by Mareme's goals and Zainab's brilliance in the net to find ourselves in the quarter-finals! Unfortunately, this would be the end of our phenomenal journey, with eventual champions, Copley Primary School defeating us.



Nevertheless, a fantastic experience enjoyed by everyone involved - well done to you all!

Cross Country Competition

Last week, children across KS2 competed in the Calderdale Cross Country Finals which were held at the Old Brodleians Rugby Club. A total of 29 pupils had qualified from the HX1 Finals and were now poised to compete in a much bigger and challenging event. In the past, we've usually encountered wintry weather and that trend was set to continue with everyone needing to brave the cold muddy conditions. Determined to do well, every child ran their race with sheer determination and courage, completing their respective event without giving in. Although we are awaiting the official results, we are confident that some of our children will qualify to go on and compete in the West Yorkshire Grand Finals which are due to take place early in the new year.



Well done to all our runners and thank you to those parents and guardians who came out and supported the children.

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Email: admin@beechhillschool.co.uk



Year 5 Author visit - Saviour Pirotta

This week, year 5 had the opportunity to meet the author of our English text, 'The Golden Horsemen of Baghdad'. Saviour Pirotta 'zoomed' in live and wow, what an experience! Shirley Manor and Dean Field School also joined us.

We had a Q&A where children asked some amazing questions about the book and his experience as an author. He spoke with us about what inspired him, why he loves writing historical fiction and we even got some exclusive stories about his school life. We thoroughly enjoyed it.

He was such an interesting person with some lovely life advice for the children, 'always be yourself and never give up'.



OPAL Golden Welly Awards



Last week's Golden Welly winners were:

Lower School

Ella T for making up a new game and asking other children to join in.

Haya N for helping another child tidy up during play

Upper school

Umair A & Raees H for helping a child who had fallen putting their bike away.



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

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

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

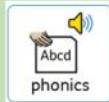
Offers of school places will be made on 16 April 2026.

Calderdale
Council

peace
begins with
tolerance
and
respect
for everyone

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.



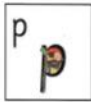
Word Time

mad	at
dad	sad
mat	sat



Set 1 Reading

p



Set 2 Reading

or



Set 3 Reading

are



House Points

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

Eesa H
Sarmad M
Moeen S
Muneebah K



Well done. Keep up the hard work!

House Points

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

Arslaan B
Mahira A
Adam S



Well done. Keep up the hard work!



The following children have received their TT Rockstars Gone Green Certificates:

Year 4

Mehak K

The class with the highest daily minutes per active player, over the last 7 days were:

Nigeria (7min 45sec)

Keep up the good work. Well done!

National Framework for Penalty Notices



A Fixed Penalty Notice is an alternative to prosecution under s444, Education Act 1996. Enabling parents to discharge potential liability for conviction for failing to secure regular attendance during a specific period, by paying a penalty.

Five Consecutive days of term time leave, or more.

Penalty Notice Fines will be issued for Term Time Leave of 5 or more consecutive days. Inset training days are school days and can be included in the 5 or more consecutive days where there was intent to be absent for term time leave.

Unauthorised absence, irregular attendance.

Penalty Notice Fines will be considered when there has been 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10 week period.

Per Parent, Per Child

Penalty Notice Fines will be issued to each parent, for each child that was absent.

For example: Three siblings absent for term time leave (5 or more days consecutive absence), would result in each parent receiving 3 separate fines.

First offence

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for term time leave or irregular attendance the amount will be:

£160 per parent, per child paid within 28 days.

Reduced to £80 per parent, per child, if paid within 21 days of issue.

Full payment is required, there are no part payments accepted and no repayment plan options available.

Second Offence (within 3 years)

The second time a Penalty Notice is issued for term time leave or irregular attendance the amount will be:

£160 per parent, per child paid within 28 days.

There is no reduced early repayment offer for a second offence.

Full payment is required, there are no part payments accepted and no repayment plan options available.

Third Offence and Any Further Offences (within 3 years)

The third time [or any further subsequent times] an offence is committed for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance a Fixed Penalty Notice will not be issued. The case will be presented to the Magistrates Court.

Magistrates' fines can be up to £2500 per parent, per child.

Cases proven within court may show on the parent's future DBS Certificate, as this is a criminal conviction – 'failure to safeguard a child's education'.

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

H 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**

Halifax Community Fridge now remained open for 900 consecutive days

Over 1 million items provided back to our community

Up to 90 families visit the fridge on a daily basis

400,000kg of CO2 emissions saved working alongside all the towns local supermarkets

500 warm meals provided as part of our ongoing weekly Jilani Kitchen



24 monthly Big Mosque Street Cleans helping promote a cleaner area



ALL INSPIRED BY THE WORDS OF
THE PROPHET OF ISLAM



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



£50,000 in local Zakah money given directly to needy families in Calderdale

76 women benefiting 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



"O MANKIND, SPREAD PEACE AND FEED PEOPLE"

#MoreThanJustAFridge



COMMUNI-TEA CUPPAS

FANCY SOME COMPANY?

As the temperature drops, let us extend a hand and a warm cuppa along with an open invitation to be part of our friendly faced community.

11AM-12.30PM
SUNDAY 17 DECEMBER
*Continues every Sunday thereafter in the winter months

**LOCATION: HALIFAX COMMUNITY FRIDGE
MADNI MOSQUE HALIFAX, 131 GIBBET STREET, HX1 5LE**

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: 07977667722

Dinner Menu from Monday 1st December

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

1	Monday	Tuesday	Christmas Dinner Day	Thursday	Friday
Hot Meal Option	Southern Fried Chicken Goujons 1, 5	Cod & Parsley Fishcakes 2	Roast Chicken Or Quorn Roast Fish Fingers Chicken Sausage Roast Potatoes Stuffing Baby Carrots Peas Gravy	Southern Fried Chicken Poppers 5, 8	Pizza 5, 10
	Cheese & Onion Rolls 3, 5, 10, 12	Quorn Burger 5, 10, 12 in a Bun 5		Mac n Cheese Croquettes 5, 10	Homemade Vegetable Biryani
Vegetables	g/f Potato Wedges Beans	Chips Sweetcorn Broccoli		Potato Puffs Sweetcorn Broccoli	Chips Beans Mixed Veg
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	Cheesecake 5, 10	Chocolate Orange Cupcakes 5, 10, 12	Cornflake Buns 4, 5, 10	Assorted Fresh Baking 5, 10, 12
	Assorted Ice Cream 10	Jelly	Christmas Biscuits 5, 10, 12 Ice Cream 10	Angel Delight 10	Assorted 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.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

TIKTOK

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Online videos are often associated with apps such as YouTube, but among teens, TikTok is king. The app provides a potentially addictive, never-ending stream of short clips tailored to users' interests based on their viewing habits. Around half of British children use TikTok, and while most content is benign, Ofcom considers it the app where young people are "most likely to encounter a potential harm".

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

(Certain features are restricted to over-18s only)

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

TikTok's Following Feed shows videos from known creators, while the default For You Feed serves endless clips based on viewing history. Most are harmless, but unsuitable content can still appear, and watching for long enough signals interest to the algorithm. Although TikTok bans illegal or inappropriate uploads, the volume of posts means some slip through, increasing the chance that children encounter age-inappropriate material before it is detected or removed.

BODY IMAGE AND DANGEROUS CHALLENGES

Ofcom reports that most online harms for girls involve body image, while boys more often see dangerous stunts. Both types appear frequently on TikTok and spread quickly through its engagement-driven algorithm. Harmful challenges have included the "blackout" trend, where users held their breath until passing out. Families filed lawsuits after children died linked to the trend, showing how extreme or risky content can rapidly reach young people and negatively influence them.

IN-APP SPENDING

TikTok is free, but children can still spend money. TikTok coins, costing £9.99 to £224.99, let users buy gifts for creators. TikTok Shop adds risk by allowing purchases from influencers or companies, sometimes leading to poor-quality items driven by persuasive marketing. A Canadian investigation found TikTok collected personal data from many children for targeting and advertising despite age limits, meaning young users may lose control over their personal information.

CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

Between 1.6 and 1.9 billion people use TikTok, meaning there's a high risk of unwanted attention from strangers. Accounts created by over-16s (or young people using a fake date of birth) are set to public view by default. This means that not only is someone's profile visible to everyone else on the app, it also suggests their videos to others and allows anyone to download or comment on them.

MISINFORMATION AND RADICALISATION

TikTok's short videos may appear lighthearted, but they can expose young people to harmful ideas. Misinformation is common, and Ofcom reports that nearly one third of 12-15-year-olds use TikTok as a news source, increasing the chance of seeing racist, misogynistic, extremist or conspiracy material. Even brief clips can influence impressionable users and shape their worldview, making discussions about critical thinking, propaganda and online influence especially important for parents and educators.

ADDICTIVE DESIGN

TikTok's fast-paced stream of eye-catching videos can be potentially addictive for young users. In 2024, UK children spent an average of 127 minutes per day on the platform, double the time recorded in 2020. Excessive use can disrupt sleep, increase irritability, and distract from healthier activities. Constantly skipping between short clips may also affect attention span, making it harder to focus on longer tasks such as homework or reading.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ENABLE FAMILY PAIRING

Family Pairing allows parents to link their TikTok account to their child's in order to manage settings remotely. Parents can then turn on Restricted Mode (reducing the chances of a child seeing inappropriate content), set screen time limits, make accounts private and manage whether their child can send messages – and if they can, to whom. Children cannot alter these settings without parental approval.

DISCUSS THE DANGERS

If a child wants to use TikTok and you're happy for them to do so, it's good practice to discuss the potential risks. Ensure they don't share any identifying personal information or respond to dangerous trends, and that they know to talk to a trusted adult if they're worried by interactions on the app. With more teens using TikTok for news, it's important to talk about misinformation and propaganda.

BLOCK IN-APP SPENDING

Parents can restrict in-app purchases on iPhone and Android devices to prevent accidental or impulsive TikTok spending. Young people can easily spend large amounts on TikTok coins or low-quality products promoted through TikTok Shop. If a disappointing purchase occurs, turn it into a discussion about influencer marketing and how online promotions can be misleading.

READ THE SIGNS

If you're concerned that a child is spending too much time on TikTok, or that they've been emotionally affected by something they've seen, it's important to know how to spot the signs. Increased irritability and a lack of concentration are potential red flags, as is failing to complete homework or skipping meals. Remember, the parental controls are there for a reason, and it's never too late to introduce limits.

Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for the likes of Wired, TechRadar, Tom's Guide, The Evening Standard and The New Statesman.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

See full reference list on our website



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/www.thenationalcollege



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Gold Book Nominations



Pellon Lane - Zidan A for working so hard this week to follow the rules and routines. He has been so kind to everyone in nursery!

Northern Ireland - Belasan A for being an always child every day at school and for using her manners with everyone!

Wales - Laraib G for taking extra care when writing to ensure that her ascenders and descenders letters are formed correctly.

Denmark - Hawraa A E for her great number line work in maths. She is a very determined girl who has tried very hard in maths this week.

France - Ayat O for creating some fantastic monoprints in Art in the style of Lynda Thomas.

Switzerland - Carmen K for settling well into Class Switzerland.

Switzerland - Muhammad H for a fantastic diary entry in English!

Canada - Aoun M for his improved behaviour this half term!

Mexico - Hadi C for his new love for reading and achieving at least 80% on his quizzes.

Egypt - Amaima W for writing a fantastic journal entry in the role of Marcy to detail her journey to Egypt.

Nigeria - Faryal S for her excellent work in all areas of her learning so far this year. She is a model student and I am grateful to have her in class Nigeria.

South Africa - Alina A for always trying her hardest during maths, even when she finds it difficult. This week, she has impressed us all with her work on multiplying 2 digit numbers showing that her determination has paid off!

China - Eesa A for his writing and fabulous vocabulary choices this week.

Japan - Nitika K for being an excellent role model, supporting peers with their writing and giving positive and constructive feedback.

Singapore - Sahasra M for her enthusiastic approach to writing a persuasive speech about why Jabir should be found innocent of his crimes. She has shown a big improvement in her writing.

Australia - Mouhamadou A for super understanding in maths and always trying his best in every lesson.

New Zealand - Charlie S for excellent contributions to lessons, especially in maths.

GREAT
WORK