



BEECH HILL NEWS

Friday 17th October



A huge thank you to everyone that brought items in for the Harvest Festival.

The school council worked hard yesterday afternoon to box everything up ready for the Halifax Community Fridge to collect it and take to the mosque. Members of the school council will visit the mosque to help serve the community and see the amazing work that the volunteers at the Community Fridge do to support our community.

YOUNGMINDS

**Hello
Yellow**
FRIDAY 10 OCT

THANK
YOU

A huge thank you to everyone who brought in donations last Friday that will go towards Young Minds. Young Minds are a local charity supporting young people with their mental health.

The children took part in a range of fun activities which included origami, painting and collage making. We will display the children's work in school to remind them of being kind and positive.

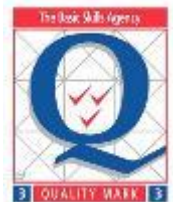
We raised a fantastic total of **£387.44**. This money will help young people get the help that they need to support their mental health and wellbeing.

We really appreciate your support.



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

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



GB Athlete Day

On Friday 24th October, we have the privilege of welcoming the GB athlete Sean Gaffney to Beech Hill School.

Sean will be leading a fun fitness circuit for the pupils, inspiring the next generation of athletes. Your child will be receiving a sponsorship form this week and any money will go towards Great Athletes. If your sponsorship reaches certain milestones, you will be rewarded with prizes.



There will be an online sponsorship form too if you would like to donate online.

<https://sportal.greatathletes.org/events/102592/promo>

Wednesday Afterschool Club Announcement

Due to all Wednesday after school clubs accessing the playground or Forest School area, we need to adapt the collection of children to ensure their safety.

The main gates, from Mount Pleasant Avenue, will open at 3.50pm so that parents can make their way into school grounds past the reception classrooms. The gates to the main playground will remain locked until 4pm which means that parents will wait in the reception playground area.

A member of staff, who is outside with the Wednesday clubs, will open the playground gates at 4pm for you to collect your children.

The safety of your children is our main priority, so we ask for your support and patience whilst staff are dismissing from the playground.

Thank you for your continued support.



Message Regarding Personal Belongings

Please note that children must not bring the following items into school:

- Notepaper and pens
- Large bags
- Unnecessary items attached to bags, such as dolls/large keyrings

Our lockers are not big enough to accommodate such items and if they are too full, often break the doors.

Children only need to bring the following items to school:

- Reading book
- Reading record
- Homework
- Coat
- PE kit
- Water bottle
- Lunch box if applicable



Partnership for the Inclusion of Neurodiversity in Schools (PINS) Project News

Following on from our coffee morning on Friday 3rd October, a number of staff in school have attended training on 'Masking in Schools'.

Staff looked at what masking is, what it might look like and why it takes place. As a school, we are committed to ensuring we create an inclusive environment for the children. Staff are really excited to be a part of such a fantastic project.

We will keep you updated on our PINS journey!



House Points

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

Evaa R
Haya M
Husnaa Z
Roman S
Aizah A
Hadi S
Muhammad A
Alizah B
Joseph K
Ismail M
Vivaan M
Areeba N
Inas R



Well done everyone.
Keep up the hard work!

Beech Hill School

"In early years, children get off to a flying start to their education. They benefit from caring relationships with staff. They enjoy school"

Ofsted 2025



"They are happy and well cared for."
Ofsted 2019 -
Outstanding Early Years

"Learning Without Limits"



We invite you to come along to our
RECEPTION OPEN EVENING

On Tuesday 18th November 2025

Please arrive at either 4pm or 5pm

Parents are invited to have a look around the school and meet the Co-Headteachers, Early Years Lead and other staff.

Please contact the school office if you would like any further information

01422 345004 or email: admin@beechhillschool.co.uk



**WEST YORKSHIRE
POLICE**

Calderdale District

Calderdale HQ,
Halifax Police Station
Richmond Close
Halifax
HX1 5TW

Email: calderdale.npt@westyorkshire.police.uk
Website: www.westyorkshire.police.uk

10th October 2025

Dear Parent/Guardian

RE: Firework Safety and Legal Responsibilities

I hope this letter finds you in good health.

As we approach the Bonfire season, I want to take a moment to discuss an important matter that concerns the safety and well-being of your children. Fireworks, although thrilling, can pose serious risks when handled irresponsibly or without proper supervision. It is crucial for you, as parents and guardians, to ensure your children's safety and prevent them from misusing fireworks.

The primary legislation governing fireworks is the Fireworks Regulations Act 2004, which restricts the sale, possession, and use of fireworks, especially among individuals under the age of 18. It is essential that you familiarise yourselves with these laws and regulations to uphold your responsibilities as parents and guardians.

Here are some key points to consider:

1. **Age Restrictions:** Under UK law, it is illegal for anyone under the age of 18 to possess category 2 and 3 fireworks in public places. Retailers are also prohibited from selling category 2 and 3 fireworks to individuals under this age limit.
2. **Responsible Supervision:** If your child is under 18 and wishes to enjoy fireworks, please ensure that they are always under the supervision of a responsible adult. Fireworks should never be left in the hands of children or teenagers.
3. **Noise and Nuisance:** Fireworks should not be used in a manner that causes distress to others or constitutes a nuisance. Misuse can lead to noise complaints and potential legal consequences.
4. **Legal Consequences:** The police take firework-related offences seriously. Robust action will be taken against anyone found committing offences such as underage possession, antisocial behaviour, or misuse of fireworks.

This Bonfire season let's work together to ensure children enjoy fireworks safely and responsibly. By doing so, we can help prevent accidents, protect our communities from unnecessary disturbances, and avoid any legal repercussions.

If you have any questions or concerns about firework safety or UK legislation, please visit the West Yorkshire Police website - www.westyorkshire.police.uk

Wishing you and your family a safe and enjoyable Bonfire season.

Sincerely,

Inspector 5238 James Graham
Halifax Neighbourhood Policing Team
Calderdale

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

s



Set 2

Reading

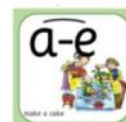
igh



Set 3

Reading

a_e



Attendance Update

(Mon 6th Oct to Fri 10th Oct)

Group	% Attend
Halifax 1	96.6
Halifax 2	100.0
Halifax 3	95.7
Northern Ireland	96.8
Wales	100.0
Scotland	93.1
Switzerland	99.0
France	97.0
Denmark	98.1
Mexico	98.1
Canada	98.1
South Africa	100.0
Nigeria	99.3
Egypt	94.3
Japan	94.0
Singapore	93.6
China	93.4
New Zealand	98.7
Australia	94.4
Totals	96.6

If you wish to discuss your child's attendance, please contact Mrs Farhat Hussain, Attendance Officer on 01422 345004

OPAL Golden Welly Awards



Last week's Golden Welly winners were:

Lower School

Holly O for sharing her last piece of chalk.

Nella Z for making sure her friend was happy.

Upper school

Ayaan N for being a good friend to someone new to the pitch.

Innayah J for taking a new child to a first aider and reassuring the upset child.





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

Year 4

Adam S (Nigeria)
Sarah D (South Africa)

The class with the highest average of correct answers per person were:

Egypt (2,204)

Keep up the good work. Well done!



"Honesty doesn't always pay, but dishonesty always costs."

Secondary School Admissions - September 2026

If your child was born between 1st September 2014 and 31st August 2015, then they will be due to start secondary school in September 2026.

You can apply online until Friday 31st October 2025.

To apply and for more information about the admissions process, please follow the link below:

[Apply Online](#)

Online
Admissions
Secondary School 2026

Year 1 Parent Lunches

This week, our year 1 children were thrilled to welcome their parents into school for a special lunchtime visit.

The excitement was buzzing as the children proudly showed their adults where they sit and what they eat each day. Many couldn't stop talking about how lovely it was to share their lunchtime routine and enjoy a meal together at school.

It was a joyful experience for everyone involved!





Free holiday activities and food sessions

HALF TERM FUN

27th Oct - 31st Oct 2025

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

Calderdale Vision | Calderdale Council | Calderdale Healthy Holidays

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.

Find out what's on and book your place at healthyholidays.calderdale.gov.uk

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

In school holidays, children and young people can access holiday clubs through our Healthy Holidays Calderdale programme

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.

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



HALLOWEEN TRAIL

THE
PIECE
HALL

TRAIL SPONSORED BY FLOCKITT & BROOM. TRICK OR TREAT SWEETS PROVIDED BY AL'S EMPORIUM



11AM - 2.30PM

£3.50 PER CHILD

MONDAY 27 OCTOBER TO FRIDAY 31 OCTOBER

Take off on the terrifying trail at our visitor centre. Upon finishing the frightful fun, feast upon your prize, 'witch' you will claim at our spooky learning studio.

Here you will find a host of hair-raising free Halloween crafts.

Freaky face paint and ghostly glitter tattoos come with additional charges.

thepiecehall.co.uk

Dinner Menu from Monday 20th October

If you require an allergy list please email 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.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about MEMES

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Memes may look like simple jokes, but, for many teenagers, they form a shared cultural language. Quickly created and reworked, they spread across social media platforms as images with text or short videos. Nearly eight in ten teenagers share memes (79%, YPulse), making them part of daily life. While memes encourage creativity and participation, they can also spread misinformation or reinforce harmful stereotypes.

SPREADING MISINFORMATION

While memes help to communicate complex topics, they can also spread misinformation. Memes may sometimes include content presenting false facts or biased viewpoints, especially around health, politics, or current events and, as they're designed to be shared quickly, young people may not question their accuracy.

EXPOSURE TO INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Memes are widely circulated, and not always age-appropriate, meaning young people may encounter explicit language, sexual content, or graphic imagery, even without searching for it. As memes spread fast on platforms like Instagram, TikTok, or WhatsApp, it's nearly impossible to filter them completely.

MASKED MESSAGES

Some memes are designed to be confusing or layered with hidden meanings, making them hard for parents, and, sometimes, other young people to understand. Online groups often create these memes to look like inside jokes, but they can sometimes conceal offensive, harmful, or misleading content.

HIDDEN HARMS & LOSING SENSITIVITY

When serious topics like violence, racism, or mental health are turned into jokes, children and young people may become less sensitive to these issues over time. While a funny meme may seem light-hearted, it can carry messages that belittle certain groups, encourage risky behaviour, or mock personal struggles. Repeated exposure through memes can make harmful behaviour seem normal or less important. Over time, this can blur their understanding of what is funny versus what is discriminatory, harmful, or damaging to themselves and others.

PERMANENT DIGITAL FOOTPRINT

Unlike spoken jokes, memes leave a trail. Created or shared memes can resurface later and be misunderstood, even if intended as harmless. Once online, memes may be copied, saved, or spread beyond a young person's control – digital actions can follow them into their future, shaping how they are perceived by peers, teachers, or even employers long after the original meme has been shared.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ENCOURAGE OPEN CONVERSATIONS

Talk regularly with young people and try to understand their online world – discuss what they find funny about the memes, and why. By listening without judgement, you build trust, making it easier for them to come to you if they see something harmful. Open conversations also help children and teens think critically about the messages behind memes rather than simply accepting them at face value.

MODEL HEALTHY BOUNDARIES

Show children and teens positive online behaviours, such as taking breaks from screens, avoiding late-night scrolling, and engaging in offline activities. Setting clear routines around screen time at home can help to reinforce healthy boundaries and reduce the risks of overuse. By modelling balanced technology use, adults can help children and young people see that digital entertainment, including memes, should be just one part of life.

TEACH DIGITAL LITERACY

Help children and young people learn to question where information comes from and whether it's reliable – developing media literacy skills prepares young people to understand and navigate through their future online lives. Show them how memes can sometimes exaggerate or misrepresent facts for laughs, and encourage them to check credible sources when memes claim to present truth.

FOSTER EMPATHY ONLINE

Remind children and young people that memes should never come at someone else's expense. Encourage them to think about how a meme might make another person feel before sharing or creating it. Highlight examples of positive memes that celebrate creativity without hurting others. Fostering empathy, respect, and kindness in digital spaces will help them become more aware of promoting a safer, more supportive online culture.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Cristina Moreno-Almeida is a Senior Lecturer in Digital Culture at Queen Mary University of London. She specialises in memes, online networks, and youth culture, examining how digital spaces shape identity and everyday life.



See full reference list on our website



The National College

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