



BEECH HILL NEWS

Friday 9th January



Beech Hill School

"Learning Without Limits"

If you have any concerns regarding your child's educational needs please speak to the class teacher in the first instance or make an appointment to speak to them with the year group SENDCo.



Miss Walker is the SENDCo for Years 3, 4, 5 and 6.



Miss Waddington is the SENDCo for EYFS, Years 1 and 2.

Please click on the link below to find out more about the amount of support available to children, young people and their families with special educational needs and/or disabilities in Calderdale.

[Click here for Calderdale's Local Offer](#)



SEND Newsletter Spring 1 2026

At Beech Hill we have teamed up with family voice Calderdale and are proudly taking part in the Partnership for Inclusion of Neurodiversity in Schools project (PINS project).

So far we have:

- Hosted a SEND coffee morning in October
- Hosted a workshop on neurodiversity and cultural barriers in December
- Staff have accessed training on masking and relationships challenges for the neurodiverse
- Completed school audits to ensure we have the correct support in place for the children

There is still lots more planned for the PINS project and we look forward to providing more updates soon!



[Click here to find out more about family voice Calderdale](#)

Focus4SEN

A free support group supported by Focus4hope.

The aim of Focus4SEN is to provide a safe space for parents to vocalise their worries, frustrations and troubles. It is a non-judgemental, caring group where information, advice and guidance can be shared.

[Click here to find out more.](#)



Useful Links:

[Family Voice Calderdale](#)

[Calderdale Local Offer](#)

[Focus 4 SEN](#)

Happy New Year

Happy New Year to all our families. We hope you have all enjoyed the break and that those celebrating had a wonderful festive time.

We would like to welcome Miss Quddus to the Beech Hill staffing team. Miss Quddus will be working as a teaching assistant in Reception.



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.

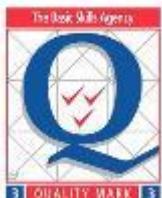


Quote of the week



"I may not be there yet but I am closer than I was yesterday."

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



Beech Hill Values

At Beech Hill, we focus on 8 different core values throughout the year. These values are something that we feel our pupils need to learn and demonstrate, in all aspects of life.

Each half term, we reward children for demonstrating excellence in a particular value. We encourage you to help your children to demonstrate these values at home and in the wider community.

We also invite you to let us know ways that your children have demonstrated the different values.

Please see below for each half term's focus value.

Honesty

Tolerance and Respect

Determination and Perseverance

Appreciation

Friendship

Kindness



This half term's value is:

Determination and Perseverance

Less Screen Time, More Play Time - 50 Things to Do Before You're Five!

In today's digital world, screens are everywhere. Too much screen time is having a detrimental effect on young children's development. There is a campaign that is **raising awareness of the screen time crisis** and its impact on **child development**. They are **encouraging parents** of young children to put down both theirs and their children's screens and **play more!**



The '**Less Screen Time, More Play Time**' focuses on reducing screen time for children under five by encouraging parents to engage in play. **50 Things to Do Before You're Five** is an ideal tool designed to promote practical suggestions for screen-free playful activities such as, puddle jumping, blowing bubbles and sharing stories. These low or no cost ideas are **perfect for families** to enjoy together at home or in their local community!

Join the movement #LessScreenTimeMorePlayTime

<https://calderdale.50thingstodo.org/app/os#!/welcome>

People's Park junior parkrun, Halifax

here every Sunday at 9am



The Course

Three laps of the park (2km), on tarmac paths, starting and finishing at the bottom of the steps in front of the Crossley Pavilion.

The course is 2000m (2km) long and is run entirely on permanent paths.

Some sections of the course may accumulate mud, leaves and puddles after rain and become slippy.

The course will be marshalled so that juniors will be in sight of a marshal at all times.

First aid equipment and a defibrillator are at hand at all times.

People's Park junior parkrun started in October 2022.



What is junior parkrun?

junior parkrun is a free, weekly, timed 2km run, which takes place every Sunday morning at 9am* and is organised by local volunteers, for 4-14 year olds.

Scan here for your free parkrun barcode



* Subject to change due to adverse weather conditions, maintenance or any aspect that could potentially be unsafe.

For more details please visit www.parkrun.org.uk/peoplesparkhalifax-juniors or email: peoplesparkhalifaxjuniors@parkrun.com



In association with



Dinner Menu from Monday 12th January

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.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

ESSENTIAL ONLINE SAFETY

Children and young people use the internet every day to learn, play, and connect, but the online world is not always safe. For adults, it can be hard to keep up with the risks, including harmful content, cyberbullying and scams. These 10 tips provide clear and practical advice to support safer and healthier digital habits, helping young people to make informed, secure choices when using technology.

1 START EARLY CONVERSATIONS

Begin talking about online behaviour from the moment children start using devices. Use age-appropriate language and revisit topics regularly, making it clear they can speak to you about anything that upsets or confuses them. Keeping these chats open helps build trust, so children are more likely to come to you when needed.

2 PROMOTE SAFER SHARING

Children can overshare without understanding the risks. Remind them that photos, locations, or messages can be copied or shared beyond their intended audience. Explain how even private messages or group chats can be saved and/or misused. Talk about what is appropriate to post, message, and who it's safe to share with.

3 ENCOURAGE DIGITAL BALANCE

Many apps and games are designed to keep users engaged through rewards, likes, or constant updates. These features can make it hard for children to switch off. Talk openly about how these systems work and help children recognise when it's time to take a break. Building in tech-free routines supports a healthier balance and awareness of their screen time.

4 CREATE A SAFE SPACE FOR CONCERN

When children come to you with a concern, respond with interest and care, rather than alarm. Keeping your reaction measured helps them feel safe and supported. This doesn't mean ignoring serious issues; it means showing that you're there to help. When children trust that they can speak openly, they're more likely to feel supported through unpleasant online experiences, and to ask for help in future.

5 STAY INFORMED AND CURRENT

With emerging technologies like AI moving and changing so quickly, it's important to stay updated on how children are using new platforms, apps and games. Ask them to show you what they use and let them take the lead as you explore together. This opens up valuable conversations and helps you stay ahead of emerging risks and trends.

6 TEACH CRITICAL THINKING

Talk to children about how to recognise unreliable information or scams online. With AI-generated videos, photos, and stories becoming harder to spot, help children question what they see and encourage them to look for evidence, check sources, and ask questions. These skills will help them avoid risks, make smart choices, and develop healthy habits for the future.

7 SET CLEAR BOUNDARIES

Involve children in conversations about device usage so they feel included. Agree on digital rules such as screen-time limits, age-appropriate apps, and no devices in bedrooms overnight. Use parental controls to block or filter harmful content and explain that rules are there to protect and support them, not to spoil their fun.

8 LEAD BY EXAMPLE

Children often copy the behaviour of adults around them. Show them what balanced, respectful, and mindful use of technology looks like, such as avoiding scrolling during family time and speaking kindly in messages. If you expect certain behaviour from them online, make sure your own habits reflect the same standards.

9 EXPLORE PRIVACY SETTINGS TOGETHER

Show children how to use privacy tools on apps, games, and websites. Teach them to use strong passwords, block or report others in response to problems, and avoid sharing personal details. Explore settings together so they feel confident and in control, and explain that these features are there to help them stay safe online.

10 KNOW WHERE TO GET HELP

Familiarise yourself with tools and organisations that support online safety. The National College offers online safety guides and webinars which provide tips on staying safe. Websites like Report Harmful Content and CEOP can be used to report when something goes wrong. Show children how to report or block users, and where to go if they feel unsafe. Make sure they know that asking for help is always the right thing to do, and be prepared to support them.

Meet Our Expert

Home to the world's largest CPD library for educators, The National College has transformed the way education establishments go about developing their workforces and managing compliance. Our three memberships help all phases and types of setting raise standards, save time, reduce risk, and build a culture of improvement.

See full reference list on our website

#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

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Gold Book Nominations



Halifax 1 - Omar A A for trying really hard in lessons and for making good choices.

Northern Ireland - Faizan A for having a really positive start back at school after the holidays and showing massive improvement.

Scotland - Ruqaiyah T for getting stuck in with her performance in music and creating a fantastic voice for Mr Wolf.

Wales - Brian N for coming back to school with a fantastic attitude to his learning. He has put 110% effort in to all his lessons, showing willing and being eager to learn! Miss Gledhill and Mrs Zubair are very proud of him.

Denmark - Noor F for being a spectacular member of class Denmark and being a joy to teach.

Switzerland - Jawwaad A for his brilliant attitude to learning and always trying his best.

Canada - Keyaan I for coming back to school with a mature attitude, showing positive behaviour and working hard in all lessons!

Mexico - Ahmed I for a brilliant still life picture in art.

Egypt - Daniel G for a positive start to the new term and for asking some great questions in geography this week about Antarctica.

Nigeria - Lola R for showing increased resilience in all her learning this week.

South Africa - Mehak K for a fantastic start to the new term! She has been working hard in all subjects and is always eager to help others.

China - Darwn S for how much he has progressed, his increasing independence and his want to learn.

Australia - Rania A for being an always child. She is so hardworking and conscientious in every way. She is an absolute pleasure to teach.

New Zealand - Mohammed A for an improved attitude to learning this week.

