



BEECH HILL NEWS

Friday 10th July



Parent Welcome Meetings

Teachers will deliver presentations to pass on key information and year group expectations on the following days in the autumn term.

They will all begin at 8.45am - no need to book; please turn up on the day. They will take place in the main school hall and the slides will be shared on Seesaw after the meetings.

- Wednesday 2nd September - Years 1 and 2
- Thursday 3rd September - Years 3 and 4
- Tuesday 8th September - Year 5
- Wednesday 9th September - Year 6
- Tuesday 15th September - Reception
- Thursday 24th September - Nursery



There will be an additional Nursery welcome meeting at 2.30pm on Thursday 24th September.

Year 2 Beach Trip

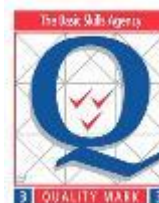
On Tuesday, year 2 were very lucky to be able to visit St Anne's beach for a day full of fun and excitement. The children behaved exceptionally and kept safe at all times. Activities included playing in the sand, making sandcastles and even burying each other (and teachers!) in the sand! Children created memories to last with eating ice cream, relaxing on the beach and were very grateful for the opportunity to go.

A huge thank you to all staff who attended and helped to make it so memorable. Well done everyone!



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Mount Pleasant Avenue
Halifax
HX1 5TN
Tel: 01422 345004

Website: www.beechhillschool.co.uk
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House Points

The following children have received their **gold** award for achieving **200** house points:

Hana H

House Points

The following children have received their **platinum** award for achieving **300** house points:

Eshaal A
Alizah B
Sarah D
Ali K

Izyan R
Liyah S
Humairah S

House Points

The following children have received their **diamond** award for achieving **400** house points:

Areeba N
Joseph K
Benyamin BA
Alina A
Vivaan M

OPAL Golden Welly Awards

Last week's Golden Welly winners were:

Lower School



Hashim - for always helping out during social circle time at playtimes.

Faseeha - for being a good friend when helping someone on the trim trail.



Attendance Update

(from 29.06.2026 to 03.07.2026)

Class	%
Halifax 1	98%
Halifax 2	92%
Halifax 3	98.82%
Northern Ireland	98%
Scotland	95.38%
Wales	95.2%
France	97.42%
Switzerland	99.03%
Canada	97%
Mexico	98.62%
Egypt	98.57%
Nigeria	99.26%
South Africa	96.3%
China	99.33%
Japan	98.67%
Singapore	92.07%
Australia	97.93%
New Zealand	97.33%
Total	97.4%



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National Year of Reading 2026



BEECH HILL SCHOOL

Mount Pleasant Avenue
Halifax
HX1 5TN

Tel: 01422 345004



19th June 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are writing to share some very welcomed news. From September 2026, the Government will introduce substantial changes to Free School Meals. Under the new national criteria, **all families in receipt of Universal Credit will qualify for free school meals**, regardless of earning levels. This means that more students will become eligible.

From September 2026, all children can get free school meals, if:

- they attend an eligible school;
- and their household gets Universal Credit.

There will be two types of free school meals based on benefits:

- **Targeted** - This is the same as now.

It applies to pupils from households on Universal Credit with annual earnings of £7,400 or less. As well as free meals, these pupils will still bring pupil premium and other disadvantage funding to their school.

- **Expanded** - This is a new category.

It is for pupils whose households get Universal Credit, but earn more than £7,400 a year. These pupils will be entitled to free school meals only.

Please do not miss out on support that you may be entitled to for your child. You can apply at [Calderdale Council Free School Meals Portal](#). You will need your national insurance number.

If your child is in either Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 they are entitled to **Universal Infant Free School Meals** – **this has not changed**. However, you may also be entitled to either the Targeted or Expanded FSM.

If you have any questions, or would like help with your application, please contact the school office.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs S Bowling and Mrs S Cockcroft
Co-Headteachers

Please follow the link below to apply:

<https://new.calderdale.gov.uk/benefits/free-school-meals>

Weekly Online Safety Information

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 APP & PLAY STORES

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Since the introduction of Apple's App Store and Google's Play Store, an estimated two million apps have been made available on each. Ofcom's 2025 media use and attitudes report states that more than half of children aged between 3 and 7 use apps or sites to communicate with each other, and, by the ages of 10 to 12, 45% of children are playing games on their mobile phones. This guide will help you ensure that children use the app stores and their content safely.

MALICIOUS APPS WITH MALWARE

Although Google and Apple must approve the apps on their official stores, inappropriate content sometimes slips through the net. For example, in 2025, the security company Kaspersky found that multiple iOS and Android apps contained screen-reading software, primed to look for passwords and stealing crypto-wallet recovery phrases captured in screenshots.

UNOFFICIAL COPYCAT APPS

Both official app stores contain copycat apps – often games – designed to look like popular rivals, mimicking their branding, layout and logos. While these will usually just offer a poor experience packed with ads as a quick money-making exercise, they're also more likely to be vessels for malware than the products they're counterfeiting.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

As the App Store and Play Store are for all ages, there's a lot of content available that's inappropriate for children. Examples include apps that have references to alcohol, drugs, sex, violence or gambling. In general, these are sensibly age-rated, but social media sites such as YouTube and TikTok, which both have an App Store age rating of 12+, can be gateways to adult material.

PREDATORY IN-APP PURCHASES

App-making is a business, and most creators have found that 'freemium' software is the way to make money. That means the app will be free initially but will either require the user to watch ads or rely on them making in-app purchases. Some 'free' apps can be predatory, and there are plenty of examples reported where parents have racked up huge bills on behalf of their children's app activity.

ADDICTIVE BY DESIGN

Phone addiction is fast becoming recognised as a real concern, and apps are a big part of this. Freemium apps have a real incentive to keep children checking in every day in order to generate more ad views or secure extra in-app purchases. This can interfere with schoolwork and other offline hobbies.

SIDLOADED BANNED APPS

'Sideloading' – the more complicated practice of installing applications on a device from sources other than the official app stores – bypasses Google's and Apple's security procedures; however, it is possible for tech-savvy users. This opens up huge risks – not just apps that would be forbidden by Apple and Google, but pirate ones packed with malware too.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ACTIVATE PARENTAL CONTROLS FOR APPS

Both Google and Apple have apps that can give adults greater control over children's phone activity. 'Screen Time' (iPhone) and 'Family Link' (Android) have a range of features, such as letting you set age-related restrictions on the app stores, require permission to download an app, set daily time limits on specific apps, and control real-world spending.

DO YOUR RESEARCH

If children ask permission to download an app, do your due diligence and research it. Read the app summary and search the internet for reviews and discussions to establish its legitimacy, safety and appropriateness – if it doesn't seem to be appropriate, look for safer alternatives instead.

LOOK BEYOND THE REVIEWS

App store reviews are helpful, but they are easily gamed, and some unscrupulous developers will pay for quick reviews to give their work perceived legitimacy. Take more than a cursory glance at listings by digging out the one- and two-star reviews and looking closely at the developer – for example, if they've published a lot of unrelated apps, that's a red flag.

TALK TO YOUR CHILD

Talk to children and make sure they're aware that apps can be risky. As part of a wider talk about internet literacy, ensure they don't download apps outside of the official channels, nor grant apps permission to access their camera, microphone, or photos without a good reason. Make sure they understand that in-game currency costs real-world money.

Meet Our Expert

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



#WakeUpWednesday

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JOIN THE **FUN** THIS SUMMER AND ENJOY A HEALTHY HOLIDAY!

Healthy Holidays Calderdale returns July 2026 for a Summer of Fun!



The Healthy Holidays Calderdale Programme returns this Summer with thousands of places available for young people to access during the 2026 school holidays.

A diverse programme of activities will be available with something new for all. From performing arts, wheelchair basketball, rap workshops, cook clubs, bushcraft, bikeability, canoeing and so much more, young people will be kept entertained this Summer. Everyone attending will receive a healthy and nutritious meal.

Places are free for school aged children Reception to Year 11 who are eligible for benefits related free school meals. There may also be sessions for fee-paying children who are not eligible for free school meals.

Places will be available to book from mid June 2026.



"The program has been a fantastic support for our family. It has provided my children with nutritious meals and healthy activities that keep them active and social during the break"
Parent of children attending Healthy Holidays Programme

"It has been great to have both children attend and actually enjoy it. They have wanted to come back every day and have engaged in some great activities. As a single parent it has been beneficial to me to have the time to get things done."
Parent of children attending Healthy Holidays Programme



You will need to create an account on our central booking system Eequ if this is your first time booking through our new system. There are also fee-paying places available for those not in receipt of benefits-related free school meals.

To book scan the QR code or visit: eequ.org/healthyholidayscalderdale



Facebook: @HealthyHolidaysCalderdale

Twitter: @HAFCalderdale

Website: www.calderdale.gov.uk/v2/residents/community-and-living/healthy-holidays-calderdale

Email: healthyholidays@calderdale.gov.uk

Call: 01422 288001

No Internet? Visit a local Calderdale Library and they will support you in registering your children onto available activities.



Dinner Menu from Monday 13th July

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

3	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Hot Meal Option	Southern Fried Chicken Goujons	Homemade Chicken & Sweetcorn Pie	Jumbo Fish Fingers	Homemade Mexican Chicken	Burger in a Bun
	Vegan Meatballs in Tomato Sauce	Vege Sausages	Homemade Cheese & Onion Pie	Homemade Mediterranean Halloumi Traybake	Tomato Pasta
Vegetables	Wedges Mixed Veg Cauliflower	Mashed Potato Peas Carrots	Chips Mushy Peas Sweetcorn	Wholemeal Pitta Carrots Green Beans	Chips Peas Sweetcorn
Served Daily	Jacket Potatoes with various fillings (Tuna Mayo, Beans, Cheese) Selection of Wraps & Sandwiches Salad Bar Fresh Fruit, Yoghurts & Fruit Cocktail				
Dessert	Chocolate Arctic Roll	Homemade Iced Cake	Homemade Chocolate Sponge Custard	Fresh Fruit Selection	Homemade Cookie & Chocolate Milkshake
	Sweet Waffles	Choobs	Raspberry Jelly	Assorted Ice Cream	Cornflake Buns



Values Awards

Kindness



Pellon Lane - Ummeh S for always demonstrating kind behaviour to others. She takes on a caring role with her cousin at nursery and is always looking out for and helping him.

Halifax 1 - Joanna T for always treating others with kindness - she plays fairly, includes everyone, takes turns and speaks to people with respect, understanding that other people have feelings.

Halifax 2- Ayaan A for trying so hard to be kind, both with the adults and his friends in class. He has been using kind words and kind hands and it has been lovely to see.

Halifax 3 - Adam T for always being kind and caring towards his friends. He includes others in play, offers help when it is needed and shows consideration for those around him

Northern Ireland - Keyaan H for being so kind to all his friends in class Northern Ireland as well as the teachers. He is always the first to offer his help with jobs and gives a helping hand to all. He didn't start the year at Beech Hill but it feels like he has been here forever.

Scotland - Yahya N for being such a kind and thoughtful person to everyone in the class. If anyone needs any help he is always one of the first to offer it; he includes everyone in his games and offers support to them if they are sad. He shows kindness through the small everyday consistent actions that makes a huge difference in the classroom!

Wales - Shanzay A for always showing and spreading kindness whatever she does and wherever she is. Shanzay is always kind to her peers and friends. She used kind words and always starts the day with a kind infectious smile. If anyone is feeling down or upset, she comforts and consoles them by her warm, kind and friendly personality.

Denmark - Nella Z for always showing kindness to everyone and being kind whatever she is doing. Nella is always polite too and gives a friendly good morning and shows her manners to her peers and adults. If anyone is feeling upset, she comforts them immediately and tries to make them feel better.

France - Hashim A for making all the new members of year 2 this year feel welcomed and making them feel settled at Beech Hill School. He makes sure everyone in his class always has a friend to play with and greets us all with a wonderful 'good morning' each day. He is empathetic as he understands and shares the feelings of others and shows compassion to everyone by always stepping in to help others.

Switzerland - Zoha Z for being a kind and thoughtful friend to everyone. She consistently demonstrates kindness in her words and actions and always shows care and consideration towards others. Zoha is a wonderful role model who helps make our school a happy and welcoming place.

Canada - Yahya H for always showing kindness to his peers by helping them with work when they are stuck and involving them in his games in the playground. He shows kindness to the adults in the class by offering to do jobs and help with things and by trying hard with his work.

Mexico - Sara P for showing kindness every day by thinking about others and helping when she can. She is always ready to help others, include classmates in games and offer support to anyone who is feeling upset. Her caring attitude helps her friends feel happy, valued and confident, making the classroom a welcoming place for everyone.

Egypt - Anika Jeyarajan for showing our kindness value to every single member of the class. Anika is always on hand to help others and show them some kindness when they need it most.

Nigeria - Eesa H for being an incredibly kind friend to many in class. He shows kindness to all his classmates and adults in school. He makes sure to include many people in games and discussions on the playground and will work with his friends to try and solve minor issues maturely if they arise.

Nigeria - Amelia N for being a role model to all in class Nigeria and always showing kindness in every interaction she has with adults and classmates. She embodies many of our Beech Hill Values!



Values Awards

Kindness



South Africa - Liyah S for consistently showing kindness, empathy and inclusivity towards everyone in South Africa.

China - Umayah S for taking another child under her wing and ensuring she feels included.

Japan - Ayaan N for always showing kindness to adults and his peers alike. He celebrates everyone's successes and is consistently patient, forgiving and caring. He is the epitome of a true friend.

Singapore - Ruthviik R for showing empathy and understanding towards his friends.

Australia - Rania A for treating everyone with respect and kindness showing a maturity beyond her years.

New Zealand - Vanisa H for being so kind and thoughtful, always. She is a lovely friend and always looks out for people who might need a little extra kindness.

New Zealand - Arwaa H for being a fantastic friend. She always shows kindness to all children and adults alike. She celebrates the achievements of others.

