



# BEECH HILL NEWS



Friday 13th December



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

**SCAN TO REGISTER**

<https://tinyurl.com/yy7mj2zt>

**Venue:**  
Beech Hill School  
Mount Pleasant Avenue  
HX1 5TN

**10am - 2pm**  
23rd Dec til 26th Dec 2024

Places are available for children aged 5 to 16 yrs old, who are entitled to benefits related free school meals

**LIKE, SUBSCRIBE & SHARE!**

#HAF2024 @educationgovuk

HEALTHY HOLIDAYS CALDERDALE

Calderdale Council COMMUNITY FOUNDATION FOR CALDERDALE Department for Education

Email Contact - 51stpellon.haf@gmail.com

## Healthy Holidays 51st Pellon Scouts Winter Camp

LIMITED SPACES  
A WEEK OF ACTION PACKED ADVENTURE

Award winning 51st Pellon Scouts will again be running the Healthy Holidays camp this year. It is for children aged between 5-16 years old who are entitled to benefits related free school meals.

To apply, please follow the link below:

[Apply here](#)

We encourage you to share this with everyone to maximise the benefit!

## Cross Country

Following on from last week's Calderdale Cross Country competition, we have some fantastic news to share...

A large group of children from across KS2 have qualified for the West Yorkshire finals. These will take place in the new year in Leeds!

Once again, we would like to thank any parents that came and supported their children last week at Old Brods and those children who have qualified for the West Yorkshire finals will be informed before the holidays.



## Class Christmas Parties

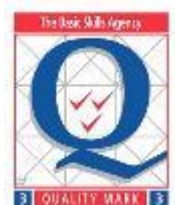


Class Christmas parties will be happening in school next week.

Children are invited to come into school in non-uniform on their party day. See dates below:

Monday 16th - Reception  
Tuesday 17th - Years 1 & 2  
Wednesday 18th - Years 3, 4 & 5  
Thursday 19th - Nursery  
Friday 20th - Year 6

Beech Hill School  
Mount Pleasant Avenue  
Halifax  
HX1 5TN  
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## TT Rockstars Most Correct Answers

Year 2 - Azaan M (Canada)

Year 3 - Muhammad E (Mexico)

Year 4 - Zarina A (South Africa)

Year 5 - Adam P (Denmark)

Year 6 - Eric P (Egypt)

**Class with the fastest average speed per question**

Singapore (0.91 seconds)

## Attendance Update

(02.12.2024 - 06.12.2024)

| Group            | % Attend    |
|------------------|-------------|
| Halifax 1        | 99.6        |
| Halifax 2        | 95.2        |
| Halifax 3        | 85.2        |
| Northern Ireland | 80.0        |
| Wales            | 94.3        |
| Scotland         | 94.7        |
| Switzerland      | 76.7        |
| Jordan           | 80.7        |
| Canada           | 82.7        |
| Mexico           | 94.8        |
| Morocco          | 81.8        |
| South Africa     | 93.1        |
| Australia        | 90.6        |
| France           | 96.6        |
| Singapore        | 89.3        |
| Denmark          | 90.3        |
| Tanzania         | 97.5        |
| Egypt            | 93.9        |
| <b>Totals</b>    | <b>89.8</b> |

Well done to Halifax 1 for achieving the highest attendance last week.

## Christmas Jumper Workshop

Thank you to all of our families who attended the Christmas jumper workshops this week. They showed us how creative our children and parents can be! It was great to see the wonderful designs coming together and the sewing to make them complete. It was lovely to see so many of the finished jumpers being modelled by children in school today on our Christmas jumper day.

Make sure to look out for the next Family Learning events to take part in with your children.



"Respect yourself and others will respect you."

## Music for the Many - Songs from Home Project

On Monday morning we had a group of parents taking part in the Music for the Many Event - 'Songs from Home' project, hosted by Daniel and Dickon.

The parents had a lovely time talking about their favourite songs and artists from their homelands. Some parents also sang their favourite song.

It was such a lovely atmosphere and was thoroughly enjoyed by the parents. Please look out on Seesaw for future dates.



## Orchestra Performance

Some members of our current Music for the Many school orchestra performed with former members (who are now in year 7) at Dean Clough on Tuesday evening this week. This was followed by a wonderful performance by the Halifax Chamber Choir.

A representative of the Halifax Chamber Choir emailed school saying they were delighted that our children had joined them for the Christmas Celebration which was much appreciated and enjoyed by all. £300 was raised on the night which has been split equally between Music for the Many and Beech Hill School.



## Reception Winter Performance

This week reception had their Winter performance. The children were so confident, enthusiastic and sang and danced the whole way through! It was lovely to see how many parents came to watch; thank you all for being so punctual and arriving on time so that we could in fact start the performance earlier than planned! A huge well done to all of the children.



# Christmas Trail

Join us this December at the Piece Hall for some festive fun!

**Christmas Trail £3.50 (includes a prize bag)**

**Face painting £2.50**

**Bauble and badge making £1**

**Free Christmas crafting in the Learning Studio**

**Weekends leading up to Christmas:**  
**7th, 8th, 14th 15th, 21st and 22nd**  
**The Piece Hall, Blackledge, HX1 1RE**

## Holiday Activities & Food programme (HAF)

**PARK LANE ACADEMY**

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2024 9am – 1pm  
 Monday 30<sup>th</sup> December 2024 9am – 3pm  
 Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2025 9am – 3pm

At Park Lane Academy, Halifax, HX3 9LG

**Who is it for?**  
 This programme is for children aged between 5-13. They can attend as many sessions as they wish, whether one day or all 3 days! If your child is eligible for free school meals they can attend for free! If you child is not eligible for free school meals don't worry, everyone can attend! If you email [haf@parklane.spacademies.org](mailto:haf@parklane.spacademies.org) you can book which days for £20 per day.

**What activities will they do?**  
 NEW FOR WINTER – ARCHERY TAG, INDOOR KURLING, PICKLEBALL and DARTS!  
 A fun filled week of both sport, including nerf battles, football, trampolining, dodgeball, tchoukball, tag rugby, hockey, ultimate frisbee, table tennis, and other activities. Other activities include Arts and crafts, science workshops, quizzes, bingo plenty of free time to make new friends, and will learn more about healthy eating.

**What clothing/footwear will be required?**  
 Both indoor and outdoor clothing is required with suitable sports shoes for both indoor and astro surface.

**Is lunch provided?**  
 Yes, a healthy hot meal is provided every day, as well as snacks, desserts and water.

**What ability level?**  
 All abilities are welcome although an interest in sport is recommended. There will also be lots of other fun activities available throughout the camp.

**Please ensure your child's name is on their drink bottle and clothing.**  
 If you require any further information then please contact Daniel

01422 362 215  
[haf@parklane.spacademies.org](mailto:haf@parklane.spacademies.org)

## Dinner Menu w/c Monday 16th December

| 1               | Monday  | Tuesday                                   | Wednesday  | Thursday  | Friday                                       |
|-----------------|---|---|--|---|--|
| Hot Meal Option | Battered Chicken Steak<br>1, 3, 4, 5, 10  | Homemade Chicken Pulao Rice<br>4          | Cod & Parsley Fishcakes 2<br>Parsley Sauce 5, 10 | Homemade Mexican Chicken Enchiladas<br>5, 10<br>Peri-Peri Shredded Chicken 4, 5 | Pizza<br>5, 10                               |
|                 | Cheese & Onion Rolls<br>3, 5, 10, 12  | Homemade Vegan Meatball Curry 4<br>Rice   | Homemade Vegan Spaghetti Bolognese<br>4, 5       | Spicy Bean Burgers<br>5   | Spinach & Ricotta Ravioli<br>3, 4, 5, 10, 12 |
| Vegetables      | Potato Wedges<br>Spaghetti 5  | Ziggy Fries<br>Broccoli<br>Sweetcorn      | Chips<br>Peas<br>Carrots                         | Potato Smiles<br>Sweetcorn<br>Cauliflower                                       | Potato Cubes 5<br>Beans<br>Mixed Veg         |
| Served Daily    | Jacket Potatoes with various fillings<br>Salad Bar<br>Selection of Sandwiches<br>Allergies for the daily items available on request |   |  |   |  |
| Dessert         | Jam Doughnuts<br>4, 5, 10, 12, 14   | Treacle Sponge<br>5, 10, 12<br>Custard 10 | Carrot Cake<br>5, 10, 12                         | Choc Chip Sponge<br>5, 10, 12<br>Custard 10                                     | Assorted Fresh Baking<br>5, 10, 12           |
|                 | Assorted Biscuits<br>5, 10, 12  | Angel Delight 10                          | Crispy Buns<br>5, 10                             | Jelly   | Strawberry Ice Cream<br>10                   |

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

# National Online Safety - Weekly Information

All 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 SAFETY OVER THE FESTIVE SEASON

The holiday season, marked by Christmas and New Year, brings joy and togetherness but also presents unique safety challenges for children, families and educators. From busy holiday shopping, traveling and family gatherings to managing digital activity during school breaks, staying safe during this period requires heightened awareness. This guide offers practical tips to help families and educators maintain a more secure and fulfilling festive period.

### 1 MONITOR DIGITAL ACTIVITY

Children spend more time online during school holidays, increasing exposure to potential dangers such as cyberbullying, inappropriate content and online predators. Balancing screen time, avoiding harmful websites and ensuring children engage positively online can be difficult without proper monitoring tools. Set clear boundaries, encourage open discussions about online safety and use parental controls to manage content exposure and screen time effectively. Regular check-ins and positive reinforcement around digital habits encourage safe online behaviour.

### 2 PRACTICE FIRE SAFETY PROTOCOLS

The incidence of house fires increases during Christmas due to greater use of candles, heaters and electrical decorations. Open flames, electrical overloads and the need for quick response plans can make fire safety challenging. Ensure smoke detectors are operational, keep fire extinguishers on hand and teach children how to respond in case of a fire emergency. Avoid leaving cooking unattended and use fire-safe candles to prevent mishaps.

### 3 CREATE TRAVEL SAFETY PLANS

More families tend to travel during the holidays, resulting in busier roads, increased traffic accidents and weather-related hazards. Weather conditions, road rage, fatigue and busy airports can all compromise travel safety. Pack emergency kits and adhere to seatbelt laws. Plan routes in advance and allow extra travel time to avoid rushing and mitigate risks on busy roads.

### 4 BEWARE OF ALLERGIES

Holiday meals often involve many foods that may contain allergens. Cross contamination, unclear labeling and lack of allergy-friendly options can lead to severe reactions. Communicate any allergy needs to hosts, provide safe food alternatives and carry necessary medications like antihistamines or EpiPens. Teaching children how to advocate for themselves and recognise dangerous foods also contributes to safer celebrations.

### 5 PREVENT THE SPREAD OF ILLNESS

Cold weather and seasonal socialising can increase the spread of viruses like flu and COVID-19. Crowded gatherings, schools out of session and frequent travel can lead to high infection risks. Emphasise hygiene, encourage vaccination, disinfect surfaces and isolate symptomatic individuals. Communication with children about proper hygiene practices is essential to reduce the spread of illness.

### 6 STAY VIGILANT ON THE ROAD

Increased holiday traffic heightens the risk of accidents for both drivers and pedestrians. Distracted driving, pedestrian safety and inclement weather can complicate road safety. Encourage pedestrian safety practices, avoid distracted driving and never drive under the influence.

### 7 MAINTAIN SAFE DECORATIONS

Festive decorations such as Christmas lights and candles can pose electrical, fire and choking hazards if mismanaged. Frayed wires, toppling Christmas trees, small ornaments and open flames can be difficult to control, especially in busy households with children. Inspect and maintain decorations, secure Christmas trees, place fragile or small items out of reach and ensure candles are never left unattended. Testing smoke alarms and using flame-resistant decorations can significantly reduce risks.

### 8 SET BOUNDARIES FOR GIFTS

Some toys and gadgets can present choking, sharp-edge or safety risks, particularly for young children. Ensuring that gifts meet safety standards and are age-appropriate can be complex with so many options available. Inspect all toys carefully and ensure any tech devices have parental controls. Setting expectations around safe gift use and discarding packaging that poses a risk also helps to prevent accidents.

### 9 ADDRESS STRESS & FATIGUE

Holiday pressures can lead to burnout, which affects both physical and mental health. Overpacked schedules and a lack of downtime can cause stress and fatigue, leading to accidents or poor decision making. Incorporate rest, maintain regular routines and seek support to reduce stress. Encourage activities that promote relaxation to create a healthier, happier holiday experience for everyone.

### 10 DRINK RESPONSIBLY

Alcohol is commonly present at holiday events, raising concerns about safety and supervision. Excessive alcohol consumption can lead to accidents, impaired judgment and lack of supervision for children. Designate responsible adults, limit consumption and provide transportation alternatives for guests. Teaching moderation and modelling responsible behaviour in front of children ensures that celebrations remain positive and secure.

### Meet Our Expert

James Whelan is a chartered health and safety consultant with 10 years of experience in promoting family and community safety. Specialising in risk assessment and preventative strategies, he has worked with educational institutions, public health agencies and community groups to deliver safety education and training.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/safety-over-the-festive-season>

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