



BEECH HILL NEWS



Friday 29th November

Football Tournament

Last Thursday, in freezing conditions, a group of ks2 boys took part in the annual Adam Heslop Community Football Tournament. The event was held at 3Gi Soccer and organised by FC Halifax Town.

The tournament started out in a round robin format followed by the knockout rounds. Our boys made an amazing start, beating one of the tournament favourites 1-0. As the games progressed, the team was becoming more of a unit and an extremely tough opponent for others. We finished as quarter finalists - our best finish yet in this particular competition.

A huge well done to the team - they carried one another game by game, encouraging each other throughout and ensuring they did themselves and the school community proud.



Eden Court

On Tuesday morning, a group of year 5 children visited Eden Court with Mrs Lee and Mrs Clark.

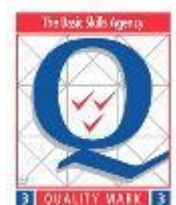
The children were invited to join in a singing session with the residents. The residents enjoyed meeting the children and having the opportunity to sing some of their favourite songs with new faces.

The children represented the school well and were extremely polite and friendly towards the residents.



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TT Rockstars Most Correct Answers



Year 2 - Abdussamad S (Canada)

Year 3 - Anika J (Mexico)

Year 4 - Zarina A (South Africa)

Year 5 - Ahil N (Denmark)

Year 6 - Sai P (Egypt)

Class with the highest % of active players

Tanzania

Attendance Update

(18.11.2024 - 22.11.2024)

Group	%Attend
Halifax 1	85.4
Halifax 2	92.2
Halifax 3	92.5
Northern Ireland	91.3
Wales	93.9
Scotland	97.8
Switzerland	96.7
Jordan	97.8
Canada	91.8
Mexico	92.6
Morocco	92.9
South Africa	97.5
Australia	95.5
France	96.4
Singapore	98.6
Denmark	93.8
Tanzania	89.4
Egypt	93.5
Totals	93.9

Well done to class Singapore for achieving the highest attendance last week.



"Respond intelligently, even to unintelligent treatment."

Year 3 Library Visit

The year 3 children had a wonderful morning visiting the Halifax Central Library. All of the children received their library cards which will enable them to start borrowing books with their families.

We listened to some stories and chose our own books from a range of fiction and non-fiction texts.

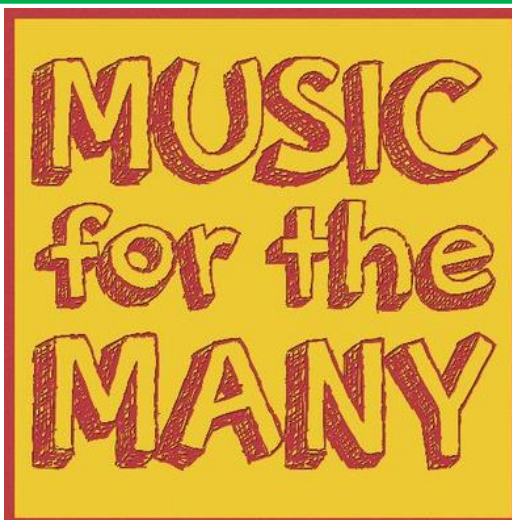
Thank you to the library for welcoming us!



Date For Your Diary

Daniel from Music for the Many (who teaches our school orchestra) has contacted us with the following information:

Music for the Many have received funding for some song-sharing sessions involving families from our school community. The project is called 'Songs from Home' and is funded with Culturedale money. The idea is to collect music from our families' various home cultures and languages and then arrange the songs for our orchestra to play and choirs to sing, etc.. Parents/carers/grandparents are all welcome to attend and younger children who are not yet at school can come along too.



The first session will take place on **Monday 9th December at 9am**. Daniel's letter has been shared on Seesaw - please use the online booking system to secure a free place at this event: <https://beechhill.schoolcloud.co.uk/>

Thank you in advance for your support - it would be lovely to see as many of you as possible at the session.



Dinner Menu w/c Monday 2nd December

1	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Hot Meal Option	Battered Chicken Steak 1, 3, 4, 5, 10	Homemade Chicken Pulao Rice 4	Cod & Parsley Fishcakes 2 Parsley Sauce 5, 10	Homemade Mexican Chicken Enchiladas 5, 10 Peri-Peri Shredded Chicken 4, 5	Pizza 5, 10
	Cheese & Onion Rolls 3, 5, 10, 12	Homemade Vegan Meatball Curry 4 Rice	Homemade Vegan Spaghetti Bolognese 4, 5	Spicy Bean Burgers 5	Spinach & Ricotta Ravioli 3, 4, 5, 10, 12
Vegetables	Potato Wedges Spaghetti 5	Ziggy Fries Broccoli Sweetcorn	Chips Peas Carrots	Potato Smiles Sweetcorn Cauliflower	Potato Cubes 5 Beans Mixed Veg
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, 12, 14	Treacle Sponge 5, 10, 12 Custard 10	Carrot Cake 5, 10, 12	Choc Chip Sponge 5, 10, 12 Custard 10	Assorted Fresh Baking 5, 10, 12
	Assorted Biscuits 5, 10, 12	Angel Delight 10	Crispy Buns 5, 10	Jelly	Strawberry Ice Cream 10

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

National Online Safety - Weekly 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

SNAP STREAK

97

DAYS

SNAPCHAT

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

Snapchat is a messaging app which allows users to send images, videos and texts to others. Its best-known feature is that anything sent 'disappears' 24 hours after it's been viewed; however, users are known to take screenshots or use another device to obtain a photo of their screen. In 2023, Snapchat added a chatbot function called 'My AI'.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

My AI is Snapchat's new chatbot, which replies to questions in a human-like manner. However, the software is still in its infancy and has significant drawbacks, such as biased, incorrect or misleading responses. There have already been numerous reports of young users turning to AI for medical help and diagnoses, which could be inaccurate and therefore potentially dangerous.

PREDATORS AND SCAMS

Predators can exploit Snapchat's disappearing messages by, for example, telling a user they have naked photos of them and will post them unless they're paid. Snapchat's own research found that 65% of teenagers had experienced this - on this app or others. This likely isn't helped by 'SnapMaps' - a feature which highlights your exact position in real-time. This is meant to help friends keep track of each other, but could be used for more sinister reasons.

MY EYES ONLY

Snapchat has a hidden photo vault called 'My Eyes Only'. Teens can conceal sensitive photos and videos from parents and carers in this folder, which is protected by a PIN. You can check for this by clicking on the icon which looks like two playing cards. This takes you to the 'Memories' folder which stores photos, stories and the My Eyes Only folder.

SCREEN TIME ADDICTION

Snapchat prioritises user engagement, with features like streaks (messaging the same person every day to build up a high score). The app also has sections called 'Discover' and 'Spotlight', which show tailored content to each user. However, this could also be seen as an attempt to hook users into watching videos endlessly. Furthermore, constant notifications can lure people into using the app.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some content on Snapchat simply isn't suitable for children. The hashtags used to group content are determined by the poster, so even an innocent search term could still yield age-inappropriate results. The app's 'disappearing messages' feature also makes it easy for young people to share explicit images on impulse - so sexting continues to be a risk associated with Snapchat.

ONLINE PRESSURES

Although many of Snapchat's filters are designed to entertain or amuse, the 'beauty' effects on photos can set unrealistic body image expectations - creating feelings of inadequacy in younger users. Snapchat now also has 'priority' notifications (which still get displayed even if a device is in 'do not disturb' mode), increasing the pressure on users to log back in and interact.

Advice for Parents & Educators

UTILISE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Snapchat's 'Family Centre' lets you view the details of the child's account, their friends list and who they've spoken to in the last week - and report any concerns. You must invite a child to the Family Centre for them to join. To keep the child's location hidden on the app, go into settings and turn on 'Ghost Mode' and 'Hide live location', and ensure they know not to share their location with anyone.

BLOCK AND REPORT

If a stranger does connect with a child on Snapchat and begins to make them feel uncomfortable through bullying, pressure to send explicit images or by sending sexual images to them, the child can tap the three dots on that person's profile and report or block them. There are options to state why they're reporting that user - such as annoying or malicious messages, spam or masquerading as someone else.

FAMILIARISE YOURSELF

Before you allow a child to download Snapchat, download it yourself and familiarise yourself with the app. Snapchat has produced a parents' guide to the app to help you understand how it works and any protections they have in place. A link for this can be found in the sources below.

ENCOURAGE OPEN DISCUSSIONS

Snapchat's risks can be easier to handle if you nurture an open dialogue. For example, discuss My AI's responses to questions and how reliable they are. Talk about scams and blackmail before letting children sign up. If they're faced into a scam, encourage them to tell you immediately. Talk openly and non-judgementally about sexting, emphasising its inherent risks. Furthermore, explain how popular 'challenges' on the platform can have harmful consequences.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/snapchat-2023>

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