



BEECH HILL NEWS



Friday 4th October

School Council



A huge well done to all of our Rights Respecting School Council winners.

This week we had our first meeting to discuss roles and responsibilities for the upcoming year. We have lots of exciting things planned to help support the school, The Family of Learning Trust and the community.

EFYS

Laraib Ghani

Year 1

Northern Ireland - Pavla Horvathova

Scotland - Ameera Mahmood

Wales - Faseeha Naeem



Year 4

Australia - Habiba Badar

France - Mohammed Alanazi

South Africa - Ozaan Ahmadi

Year 5

Denmark - Kiara Srivastava

Singapore - Thiago Guarnizo

Year 2

Canada - Yusuf Qazeem

Switzerland - Sara Pjetri

Year 3

Jordan - Areeba Nasir

Mexico - Anika Jeyarajan

Morocco - Moeen Shahnawaz

Year 6

Egypt - Ayden Dar

Tanzania - Ehsan Wakkas

Harvest Festival

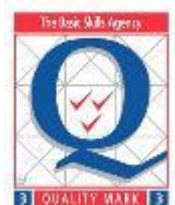
We will once again be supporting the Halifax Community Fridge with donations of food this year.

We are awarding each child one house point per item they bring in to help encourage them to donate as much as they can. If you feel that you can and would like to donate, please send non-perishable items into school with your child by **Friday 18th November**.



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Year 4 Trip to Cromwell Bottom

The children in year 4 had a fabulous time visiting Cromwell Bottom Nature Reserve. They were a real credit to the school with their fantastic behaviour and resilience, taking part in activities and not allowing the bad weather to stop them!

They took part in pond dipping and found all sorts of animals including newts, frogs and water snails. Their scientific vocabulary came to good use during the minibeast hunt. They classified the animals using terms such as insects, amphibians, invertebrates, vertebrates, soft bodied invertebrates and invertebrates with exoskeletons. On a walk around the reserve, the children also learnt to identify different species of birds and plants.



Hello Yellow Day

On Friday 11th October, we will once again be holding Hello Yellow Day in celebration of World Mental Health Day.

All children are invited to come in to school dressed in something yellow and bright to help put a smile on everybody's face. We kindly ask that children bring in a small donation to help raise money for the UK charity Young Minds. Young Minds help support children and young people with their mental health.

Thanks in advance for your support and generosity.



Secondary School Admissions - 2025

If your child is due to start secondary school in September 2025, you must apply for their place before Thursday 31st October.

You can apply for your child's place by following the link below:

[Secondary School 2025](#)

Online
Admissions
Secondary School 2025

Macmillan Coffee Morning

Thank you to everybody who attended our Macmillan Coffee morning last week.

It was lovely to have so many of our families join us and raise money for such a good cause. A special mention to our wonderful kitchen team who made the tasty treats for us all to enjoy.

On the day, we raised a fantastic **£140**. If you would like to donate to Macmillan please use the below link:

<https://cm24.macmillan.org.uk/fundraising/CM24056292>



After School Clubs

Please be aware that on **Tuesday 5th November** and **Tuesday 26th November**, the following clubs will not be taking place and children must be collected at the normal finish time of 3:10pm:



Indian Dance

Nasheed

Board Games



Young Voices

There are still 12 places available in upper school choir club. We rehearse on Mondays after school until 4pm. Members of the choir will have the opportunity to take part in the largest choir concert in the world - Young Voices - at Sheffield Arena in January. You can find out more by following this link: <https://www.youngvoices.co.uk/>

If your child enjoys singing and dancing, is in year 4, 5 or 6 and you wish for them to take part, please contact the school office to add them to the after-school club register. Places are very limited and will be allocated on a first come, first-served basis.

Thank you
Miss Hoodlass (choir teacher)



TT Rockstars



Year 3 - Aima O (Mexico)

Year 4 - Abubakr N (Australia)

Year 5 - Ayaan M (Denmark)

Year 6 - Nirvigna K (Tanzania)

Class with the highest daily minutes per active player
Australia

Attendance Update

(from 23.09.2024 to 27.09.2024)

It has been another great week with attendance staying above the national average. Special mention to class Wales and class Scotland for achieving 100%.

Please find some helpful attendance and punctuality tips below. These tips will help to support your child with their learning:

- Get book bags and clothes ready the night before to speed up the morning routine.
- Make sure your child is in bed at a reasonable time.
- Speak to us about breakfast club if you are struggling to get your children here on time.
- Let your child's teacher know if you or they are having problems getting up for school.
- Make routine appointments e.g. dentist, during the holidays or after school.

Group	% Attend
Halifax 1	97.6
Halifax 2	97.4
Halifax 3	96.3
Northern Ireland	93.6
Wales	100.0
Scotland	100.0
Switzerland	96.0
Jordan	99.3
Canada	98.6
Mexico	97.6
Morocco	90.8
South Africa	94.3
Australia	97.9
France	95.2
Singapore	99.3
Denmark	99.3
Tanzania	96.1
Egypt	95.2
Totals	96.8

Thank you for your continued support!

Boom Reader Trial

Our trial of the Boom Reader online reading record has now come to an end. Thank you to families for supporting us throughout the trial and working electronically to inform staff about your child's reading at home - this has been very much appreciated.

We have compared the use of the electronic system with the use of paper-based reading records and have decided to return to using paper-based booklets to record messages both at home and at school. Your child should be bringing a reading record home by the end of this week if they have not done so already.

Thank you in advance for your continued support with listening to children read at home - we really value your input. If you have any questions, queries or concerns about your child's reading, please contact the class teacher.



INTRODUCING CASHPOT FOR SCHOOLS

Download and opt-in with Asda Rewards and we will donate ££s to schools.



Asda Cashpot for Schools

Parentkind - the charity that supports school PTAs - have teamed up with Asda, who are making millions of pounds available to donate to primary schools across the UK through their 'Cashpot for Schools' initiative.

All you have to do is, opt-in through the Asda Rewards app, choose '**Beech Hill School**' and shop and scan in store or shop online at Asda.com, between 2nd September and 30th November 2024.

Asda will donate 0.5% of the value of your shop to Beech Hill School. Also, every time somebody opts in, Asda will give an additional £1 to the school Cashpot. Plus, it doesn't stop there - Asda are also giving £50 to every school to get them started.

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Quote of
the week
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“The truth doesn't mind being questioned,
a lie does!”

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Quote of
the week
”

Dinner Menu w/c Monday 7th October

3	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Hot Meal Option	Chicken Nuggets 5	Homemade Lasagne 5, 10 Southern Fried Chicken Poppers 5, 8	Fish Fingers 2, 5	Homemade Chicken Pie 5, 10, 12 Chicken Sausages 5	Pizza 5, 10
	Vegetable Pasta Bake 5, 10	Quorn Nuggets 5	Homemade Sweet Potato & Chickpea Curry Rice	Vegan Rolls 4, 5	Homemade Creamy Broccoli Pasta 5, 10
Vegetables	Ziggy Fries Beans Sweetcorn	Potato Wedges Mixed Veg Peas	Potato Puffs Sweetcorn Broccoli	Roast Potatoes Carrots Cauliflower	Potato Cubes 5 Beans Peas
Served Daily	Jacket Potatoes with various fillings Salad Bar Selection of Sandwiches Allergies for the daily items available on request				
Dessert	Sweet Waffles 4, 5, 10, 12	Treacle Sponge 5, 10, 12 Custard 10	Parkin 5, 10, 12	Chocolate Sponge 5, 10, 12 Custard 10	Assorted Fresh Baking 5, 10, 12
	Chocolate Swirls 10	Assorted Biscuits 5, 10, 12	Cheesecake 5, 10	Jelly	Vanilla 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.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators USING AND REVIEWING PARENTAL CONTROLS

Phones and computers are essential parts of children's lives, but with unfettered internet access comes a multitude of risks. While not foolproof, parental controls can help with this; filtering out inappropriate content, limiting the ability to spend real money, capping screen time and generally making devices safer for young people.

1 KNOW THE TYPES

While parental control software can apply to an entire device, it also pays to know about options on individual apps and websites. TikTok, for example, has Restricted Mode for limiting unsuitable videos, while Snapchat lets you keep an eye on who a child has been talking to. Check the settings of any new app young users want and review your options.

2 COVER ALL DEVICES

Knowing what parental controls cover is crucial, as remaining unaware can run the risk of 'blind spots' in the device's safety measures. Controls on a phone will apply whenever a child's on that device, for instance – but you'll want to ensure that parental controls are set up across any laptops, tablets and potentially other phones, too. Remember, buying a new device may require you to set everything up again.

3 DON'T NEGLECT SHARED TECH

While children often have their own devices, if you have a shared family computer or tablet, for example, you'll need to make sure that's not a weak point in your safety measures. Parental controls for your router, that cover everything connected to your Wi-Fi are one option – or you can just be thorough with each device and online account. Just ensure that unprotected laptops, phones and tablets are password locked.

4 CONSIDER TIME CONTROLS

Even safe internet content can be harmful if it's viewed in excess. Not only are certain apps addictive enough to distract from other duties, but late-night usage can badly disrupt sleep, which is vital for adolescent brain development. Most parental controls offer some kind of time limit – either blocking access at certain hours or capping the number of minutes it can be used per day – so be sure to consider these.

5 BLOCK APP SPENDING

Seemingly free apps can sometimes include microtransactions; purchases that can be made using real money. While plenty of developers implement these fairly, some companies attempt to manipulate children into paying for additional features or content, which can soon add up to hundreds of pounds if a child gets carried away. Thankfully, iOS and Android's settings allow you to block in-app purchases, preventing any huge bills.

6 NO CONTROLS ARE PERFECT

Parental controls can be very useful, but they're far from infallible. Some unpleasant content can and unfortunately will slip through the net, so remember that setting up these measures isn't a substitute for taking an active interest in young people's digital lives. Talk to them, and make sure they're aware of the risks of the internet as well as its benefits.

7 MIND THE GAPS

There'll undoubtedly be some gaps in parental controls, no matter how thorough you intend to be. For example, if you use router-level parental controls, bear in mind that these won't cover Wi-Fi outside the home. For that reason, it's important to keep an open dialogue with children about the many unpalatable aspects of social media and the web.

8 KEEP THINGS SECURE

Some children can react poorly to parental controls and feel tempted to circumvent them. It's important to ensure that the passwords to these settings remain unknown to children, otherwise they can easily modify the restrictions without you knowing. Similarly, make sure your phone isn't left unlocked and unattended.

9 REVIEW CONTROLS REGULARLY

Parental controls shouldn't be a 'set and forget' deal. Not only can parental summaries provide you with a frequent overview of a child's digital life – to let you spot any warning signs – but companies often add new features, and some of these may be useful to enable (or disable). Regularly checking in ensures that if a child has found a way to wiggle out of the controls, you'll be the first to know.

10 KNOW WHEN TO LET UP

The parental controls you install on a computer for a seven-year-old probably wouldn't be appropriate for a child of 16 – and as young people approach adulthood, bubble wrapping the internet can do more harm than good. Consider relaxing parental controls as children get older, so they can learn to manage the risks of the internet themselves, without so many training wheels.

Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist and the former deputy editor of technology and internet culture website Alphr. Now freelance, he has contributed articles to publications including the New Statesman, CNET, the Evening Standard, Wired, Rock Paper Shotgun, Gizmodo, Pocket Gamer, Stuff, T3, PC Pro, Macworld, TechRadar and Trusted Reviews.



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