



BEECH HILL NEWS



Friday 11th October

School Drop Off/Pick Up

When dropping off/picking up your child you **MUST NOT** walk through the car park as this can be dangerous - please use the school path.

We also ask that you do not allow your child to play on the school equipment in the playground eg. the Trim Trail or Roktagon as there could be an accident. During school hours, use of this play equipment is fully supervised and risk-assessed. This is not the case at school drop off/pick up times.

Thank you for your co-operation

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



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 October**.

We have been advised that the best items to donate are tinned tomatoes, kidney beans, chickpeas, soup and peaches.



In need of early help?



Our **Early Help Guidance and Advice Service** is the first point of contact for parents and carers in Calderdale.

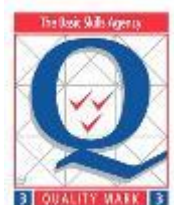


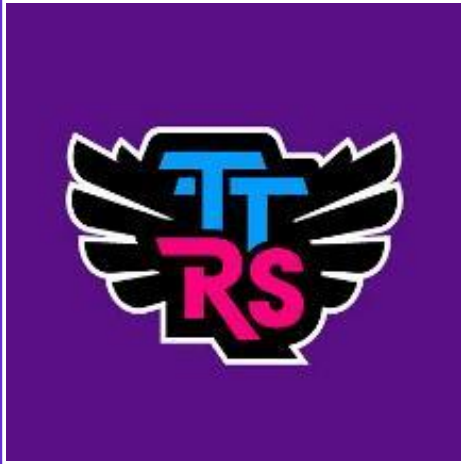
Parents and carers in Calderdale can access the Early Help Guidance and Advice Service for support tailored to their family's needs.

Email earlyhelpadvice@calderdale.gov.uk or call 01422 393387 (phone lines are open Monday to Thursday, 9am-5pm and Friday 9am-4pm (excluding bank holidays)).

Beech Hill School
Mount Pleasant Avenue
Halifax
HX1 5TN
Tel: 01422 345004

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





TT Rockstars Winners

Year 2 - Ismaeel K (Switzerland)

Year 3 - Mazeeda G (Morocco)

Year 4 - Ismaeel S (South Africa)

Year 5 - Hasnain M (Denmark)

Year 6 - Muhammed F (Egypt)

Class with the highest accuracy

Singapore

Attendance Update

(from 30.09.2024 - 04.10.2024)

It has been another brilliant week for attendance.

Well done to Halifax 1, Wales and Canada for achieving 100% attendance.

By ensuring your child has good attendance you are really supporting them with their learning so please keep this up.

Thank you for your continued support!

Group	% Attend
Halifax 1	100.0
Halifax 2	97.8
Halifax 3	91.2
Northern Ireland	96.4
Wales	100.0
Scotland	96.5
Switzerland	99.3
Jordan	95.6
Canada	100.0
Mexico	98.8
Morocco	92.5
South Africa	95.0
Australia	98.1
France	99.3
Singapore	94.8
Denmark	94.3
Tanzania	98.7
Egypt	98.1
Totals	97.1



There are still some Calderdale Culturedale Events remaining.

You can find all information about the events taking place by following the link below to their brochure:

[Calderdale Culturedale Brochure](#)

“
Quote of
the week
”

“Honesty is the fastest way to prevent a mistake from turning into a failure.”

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.

Community Fridge

Members of the School Council visited the Halifax Community Fridge to see how they can support the community with their food bank. They got to serve the community and see how it works.

We will be visiting again to deliver the donations from our Harvest Festival.



Memory Lane Café

Year 6 children attended Memory Lane Cafe at the Maurice Jagger Centre in Halifax this week. They did a great job interacting with the customers - they provided drinks, played games and even joined in with some dancing!



National DLD Awareness Day!



What is DLD?

Developmental Language Disorder (DLD) means a person has significant, ongoing difficulties understanding and/or using spoken language. DLD is a life-long condition.

DLD is not caused by emotional difficulties or limited exposure to language, in fact, there is no known cause of DLD and that can make it hard to explain to other people.

DLD emerges in early childhood but persists into adulthood and it affects people around the world, no matter the language spoken.

DLD is common. In one study, 1 in 14 children demonstrated symptoms of DLD. It can affect social and emotional well-being as well as success at school and work.

What signs should you look out for?

Common symptoms of DLD to look out for include:

- Children who may not talk as much as their peers
- Children who find it difficult to express themselves verbally
- Children whose language may sound immature for their age
- Children who struggle to find words or have a limited vocabulary
- Children who do not understand, or remember, what has been said to them
- Older children may have difficulties reading and using written language

They may experience difficulties with:

- Understanding instructions, especially those involving more than one step
- Answering questions
- Learning new words
- Putting words together to speak in sentences
- Reading
- Writing sentences
- Telling stories
- Playing with others

If you are concerned that your child may have DLD, please speak to your child's class teacher.

To find out more about DLD, please watch the below video:
[DLD 1-2-3](#)

Dinner Menu w/c Monday 14th October

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 Bolognaise 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



Beech Hill School - Allergens



1 cel = Celery	5 W.glut = Wheat and Wheat Gluten (also includes all types of gluten)	9 crus = Crustaceans e.g. prawns	12 egg = Eggs
2 fish = Fish	6 lup = Lupin	10 milk = Milk	13 mol = Molluscs
3 must = Mustard	7 nut = Nuts	11 pnut = Peanuts	14 ses = Sesame Seeds
4 soya = Soya	8 sdx = Sulphur Dioxide (sulphites)		

The items on this list are the legal notifiable allergens that are highlighted on your menus. As there can be a great number of food products that people have an individual reaction to, there may be other allergens you need to make us aware of so we can advise you on an individual basis. Although we strive to keep ingredients for different dishes separate, all dishes are cooked in the same kitchen environment.

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 IN-GAME CHAT

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Video games are continuing to grow in popularity – including, of course, among children and young people – and the emergence of gaming communities has been accelerated by the inclusion of chat functionality across many different titles. While in-game chat isn't inherently a bad thing, it can create some concerns about online safety and the people that children might be interacting with.

DIFFERENT TYPES OF CHAT

There are a number of ways that gamers commonly chat with one another online. As the name would suggest, in-game chat happens within the game itself. There's also party chat: a group voice conversation that console users can have with anyone on the same platform. This tends to be more commonly used by players who already know each other. Finally, many gamers – especially on PC – will chat via a third-party app such as Discord.

CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

Whether it's text- or voice-based, in-game chat is frequently open to all players to use. Many games default to making it an opt-in function, but some don't: meaning a child could start seeing messages within the game from people they're playing with, regardless of whether they know those individuals or not. While most strangers won't necessarily have ill intent, there are some who may behave inappropriately when chatting to a child – intentionally or otherwise.

DANGER OF GROOMING

It's been reported that some young gamers have encountered older players online who pretend to be a lower age to manipulate children, sending gifts in exchange for chatting and sending photos. Just as on any messaging platform, it's good to advise young people to avoid speaking to strangers; emphasise that they shouldn't accept gifts from anyone online that they don't know.

BULLYING AND ABUSE

While some in-game chat can turn toxic because of how a match plays out, others turn that way because of people who engage in trolling – in essence, behaving in an offensive and abusive way simply to cause pain or get a rise out of whoever they're talking to. These 'trolls' often lean on racial slurs, anti-LGBT sentiment and other hateful rhetoric; they normally feel most confident preying on younger, more impressionable gamers.

POTENTIAL FOR PRIVATE CHAT

If a player would like a re-match with a stranger after meeting them in the game, they can send a friend request, or use the party chat together in the future. For the most part, this is harmless – but it might lead to messages being exchanged in private. This could then escalate to the sharing of private information, and potentially attempts to manipulate or scam younger players.

COMPETITIVE ATMOSPHERE

Certain games are very competitive, and players can sometimes get upset if they feel a teammate is underperforming, an opponent won unfairly, or they're just a bad loser. This can lead to unpleasant messages that stray away from playful 'trash talk' and wander into the territory of bullying. Some players have been known to get incredibly abusive in situations like this, and the impact of this on a young gamer's emotional wellbeing could be severe.

Advice for Parents & Educators

LOCK-DOWN IN-GAME CHAT

In-game chat can often be disabled in the game's settings. This allows children to play without risk of contact from strangers – but it will need to be done in each individual game. Text chat appears in the corner of the screen in many titles, so it's normally easy to take a quick glance and see what's being said. With voice chat, explain to children what behaviour is inappropriate, so they can spot the dangers themselves.

REPORT POTENTIAL OFFENDERS

Most games offer a robust means of reporting other players, so you can flag an account as potentially harmful. This normally leads to the account not being matched with yours in the future and, if that person's conduct breaks any of the game's rules, they may be banned from playing entirely. This is done within the game itself, so each title has a slightly different process, but these tend to be designed for simplicity.

CONSIDER OTHER CHAT OPTIONS

If a child wants to play with people they know, consider using party chat or a third-party service like Discord. This allows everyone involved to chat on a private server and even enjoy each other's company while playing different games. It's also far more secure, as anyone looking to join will need to request and be granted access – normally by whoever is hosting the chat.

COMMUNICATION IS KEY

Make sure children understand the differences between being competitive and being abusive. Talk about what constitutes unusual or inappropriate behaviour from strangers online. Be clear that if anything ever concerns or worries them, they should tell a trusted adult as soon as possible. Empower children to identify the risks of in-game chat for themselves and reassure them they won't get in trouble for seeking help if anything goes wrong.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is the Editor in Chief of GGRecon and has been working in the games media industry for five years. He's also a parent and therefore understands the importance of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his work has been published at sites including IGN, TechRadar, and plenty more.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at nationalcollege.com/guides/in-game-chat

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