

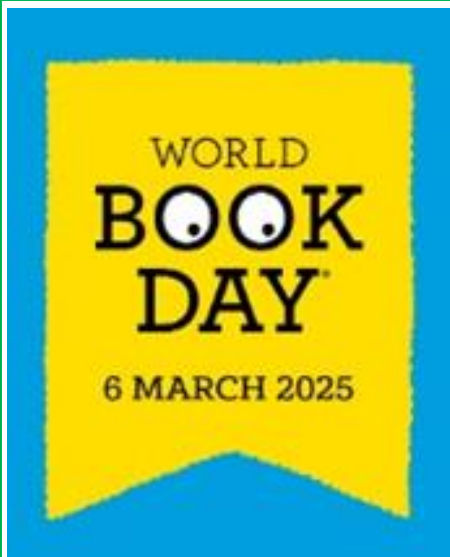


BEECH HILL NEWS



Friday 7th March

World Book Day 2025



On Thursday we thoroughly enjoyed celebrating World Book Day.

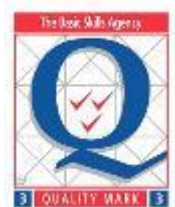
The whole school came dressed up as different book characters; it was great to see so many creative, handmade costumes. The children showcased these in our assemblies during the morning.

In the afternoon, children took part in reading in their classrooms whilst listening out for a 'drop everything and read' announcement. Classes stopped whatever they were doing and read a book of their choice or listened to their teacher reading their favourite story.



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

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

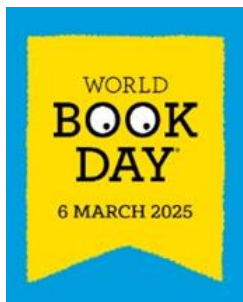


Stay and Read Sessions

Throughout the week we hosted parent 'Stay and Read' sessions for reception to year 3 children and their parents.

Children enjoyed sharing books and it was wonderful to welcome so many parents into school.

There was such a lovely atmosphere in the hall whilst these sessions took place.



Book Token Competition

Children in upper school took part in a national competition to design a book token for their class!

We will have in-school winners which will be announced in *Gold Book* and the newsletter next week so keep your eyes peeled for the entries.

Gardening Club

Gardening club have been busy painting and preparing some tyres to become planters and brighten up the playground.

The group are off to the garden centre to purchase resources including some seeds to plant and grow over the next half term.



TTRS Winners



Year 2 - Aairah-Noor A (Switzerland)

Year 3 - Vivaan M (Jordan)

Year 4 - Mridini Sree G (South Africa)

Year 5 - Raqeeb H (Denmark)

Year 6 - Muhammad Ur-R (Egypt)

Class with the highest accuracy

Tanzania

Parent Consultation Meetings

We will be holding parent consultation meetings on Wednesday 4th April and Monday 7th April 2025, through a mixture of online and face-to-face meetings to discuss your child's progress in school. (Please check the letter for dates for Switzerland and South Africa.)

For both online and face-to-face meeting, you will be able to book an appointment using our Parent's Evening Booking system, the same way as you have done in the past.

Booking will go live on Monday 10th March at 8am. To book, follow the link below:

<https://beechhill.schoolcloud.co.uk/>

For more information about the parent consultation meetings, please refer to the letter sent out on Seesaw.

Please also be advised that clubs will be cancelled on Wednesday 2nd, Thursday 3rd and Monday 7th April.



Parents Evening



Attendance Update

24.02.2025 - 28.02.2025

Group	% Attend
Halifax 1	93.1
Halifax 2	95.7
Halifax 3	97.6
Northern Ireland	95.7
Wales	97.3
Scotland	100.0
Switzerland	94.1
Jordan	94.3
Canada	99.0
Mexico	93.7
Morocco	94.2
South Africa	92.1
Australia	96.0
France	95.0
Singapore	93.4
Denmark	97.5
Tanzania	91.9
Egypt	97.4
Totals	95.3

Congratulations to class Scotland for achieving 100% attendance. Well done!

Can your class reach 100% next week?

QUOTE OF THE WEEK!

"If you don't show appreciation to those that deserve it, they will learn to stop doing the things you appreciate."

**Mrs Bi and Miss Myrah
Nadeem need your help!**

On April 14th, we will be travelling to Lebanon with Human Appeal to hand deliver aid in refugee camps to the people who need it most. We will travel to camps across Lebanon that house Syrian, Lebanese and Palestinian refugees, to provide them with food, water, hygiene boxes and blankets. You can make a donation via the QR code or bring in a cash donation. Every penny counts!

Let's make a difference together!



SLAM JAM
BASKETBALL ENGLAND

**APRIL 2025
AT 9AM**

Inspire Centre
Calderdale, College.

Hosted by Bradford
Dragons Basketball
Club

Slam Jam is Basketball England's official primary age programme designed to provide a great first experience to the sport in a fun, safe and engaging atmosphere!

Dinner Menu w/c 10th March 2025

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

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

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 TECHNOLOGY TO BOOST READING SKILLS

The way we engage with text has changed dramatically over the years. Whether reading captions on social media, instructions in a video game or an e-book on a digital device, technology plays a major role in modern literacy. While traditional books remain invaluable, digital tools can enhance reading skills by making text more accessible, interactive and engaging.

1 CHOOSING THE RIGHT TYPE OF TEXT

Before integrating technology, consider the types of text that a child engages with. If they need help on occasion, digital reading pens can assist by scanning and reciting words or sentences. These tools are especially useful for students with reading difficulties, and can even be used in exams if they're part of their routine learning process. Proper training and practice are required, but they can be a great help when tackling printed text.

2 READING ON SCREEN

Many devices now allow users to customise text for better readability. Adjusting font type, size and background colour can significantly enhance comprehension. For many readers, white text on a black background is the easiest to see, whereas other styles – such as dyslexia-friendly fonts – are designed to help those who are struggling. Teaching children how to personalise text settings on their devices empowers them to read more comfortably and with greater confidence.

3 ACCESSIBILITY TOOLS

Most modern devices include built-in tools designed to support readers. These features can be found in Settings under Accessibility and may include text-to-speech, speech-to-text and screen magnification functions. Enabling these tools can make digital reading more user friendly, especially for children with learning difficulties or visual impairments, who might have an easier time with spoken language than the written word, or who might simply require a closer look at the text.

4 INTERACTIVE READING PROGRAMMES

Many digital reading devices, such as Kindle and other e-readers, offer features like word highlighting, adjustable text speed and built-in dictionaries. These tools help learners to break down complex words and phrases while maintaining an appropriate reading pace. Some programmes even allow users to track their progress, making reading a more structured and motivating experience.

5 VIDEO GAMES AND READING SKILLS

Many video games require players to read instructions, character dialogues and mission objectives, making them an unexpected but effective literacy tool. Games that involve storytelling, puzzles or problem-solving often include large amounts of text – encouraging children to read these texts aloud or discuss them can improve their comprehension and vocabulary in a fun, engaging way.

6 SUBTITLES AND CLOSED CAPTIONS

Watching videos with subtitles or closed captions is an effective way to enhance reading skills. As children watch their favourite shows or online videos, they can follow along with the text, gaining a better understanding of how written words sound when spoken aloud. This is particularly beneficial for reluctant readers, as it exposes them to words in a familiar, engaging context. Repeatedly watching content with subtitles reinforces word recognition and comprehension.

7 USING AUDIOBOOKS

Audiobooks are an excellent way to develop listening and reading skills simultaneously. Children can follow along with the text while listening to a narrator, reinforcing word recognition and fluency. For struggling readers, listening to an audiobook before attempting to read the text independently can boost their confidence and comprehension.

9 TEXT-TO-VOICE TECHNOLOGY

Text-to-voice software reads digital text aloud, making it easier for learners to follow along. Most smartphones, tablets and computers come with this function built in. When enabled, users can highlight a passage or sentence and press Play to hear it read aloud. This tool is particularly helpful for auditory learners and those who struggle with decoding written words.

8 VOICE-TO-TEXT FOR WRITING AND READING

Voice-to-text tools allow users to dictate words, which are then transcribed into text. This feature helps children see the connection between spoken and written language. By using text-to-voice to have their dictated words read back to them, learners can identify mistakes and improve their reading and writing skills simultaneously.

10 SOCIAL MEDIA AND PARENTAL CONTROLS

While social media provides opportunities for reading, most platforms have age restrictions of 13–16 years old, making parental guidance essential. Many social media videos include captions and comments that can encourage reading. However, it's important to use the platform's parental controls (such as time limits and content filters) to create a safe and educational online environment for children. Encouraging responsible social media use can ensure a balanced and productive approach to digital literacy.

Meet Our Expert

Catrina Lowri is a qualified special needs teacher and experienced SENCO. She recently launched her own site, Neuroteachers, which offers a library of short, 'how-to' and explanation videos for educators. Catrina also writes and delivers online training and events for multi-academy trusts, businesses, schools and training organisations.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

@wake_up_weds

/www.thenationalcollege

@wake.up.wednesday

@wake.up.weds

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 05.03.2025



Gold Book Nominations



Pellon Lane - Oakley D for his amazing home made costume for World Book Day and being able to tell us all about the story and the character.

Halifax 1 - Hani I for her improvement in attitude towards learning. Hani is working so hard and is putting all her efforts into her work. She is reading and writing fluently and becoming a role model to others. Well done!

Halifax 2 - Khadijah K for always setting an example in class and for having a positive attitude.

Northern Ireland - Mohammad H for working hard in every lesson and growing in confidence during class discussions.

Scotland - Ameera M for working really hard in art to create different shapes that are inspired by Wassily Kandinsky.

Wales - Albiclene B for his dedication, perseverance and motivation in all subjects. He has made amazing progress since starting year 1.

Canada - Muhammed A for his love of reading - it has really shone through during World Book Week and he is having a wonderful influence on his peers.

Switzerland - Peter P for his impressive knowledge of animals and their offspring.

Switzerland - Kaif H for trying really hard to improve his handwriting and presenting his work neatly.

Jordan - Adam A for his hard work during multiplication and division work.

Jordan - Benjamin B-A for his improved behaviour and attitude to learning. Keep it up!

Mexico - Zahid A for a great attitude towards his learning and producing high quality pieces of work.

Morocco - Bilal M for his amazing work with Mrs Hunter in English. He's really trying his best and putting in lots of effort.

Australia - Ellis K for taking more ownership over her own work.

France - Aaria K for being a fantastic helper for Mrs Khan in masterchef club. Aaria always helps to dry up the equipment and put it away in the correct cupboards. Well done, Aaria!

South Africa - Zainab N for her excellent homemade costume for World Book Day and always trying her best in lessons.

South Africa - Ibrahim R for being an excellent role model and always showing the Beech Hill values!

Denmark - Sahara I for going above and beyond and doing extra work at home to enrich her learning.

Singapore - Arwaa H for always showing the Beech Hill values. Her manners are exemplary and she always has a smile on her face.

Egypt - Abdul Aziz for showing a really mature attitude this half term which is having a positive impact on his learning and results.

