

# Headteacher Newsletter Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December

## Highlights of the week

It's hard to believe its December already. Last night we welcomed our Year 11 families to our Post 16 Open Evening which ran alongside the Year 11 Parents Evening. Despite the subzero temperatures and icy conditions, the evening was incredibly well attended. Y11 students were given their mock grades and had the opportunity to get feedback from their teachers and consider their choices of Post 16 subjects. I've also had the chance to visit lost of lessons and see great learning taking place every day this week. As we approach the end of this term, we are gearing up for our celebration assemblies which give us another opportunity to recognise those children who are getting it right. I know from their feedback how much the students value this acknowledgement of success.

## Upcoming events/Diary dates

- Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December                      Headteacher drop-in session 1.30pm -5.30pm
- Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December                Parent Forum Meets 6.30pm
- Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December                      Last day of Autumn Term
- Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January                        INSET Day – school closed to students.
- Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January                    Students return for Spring term

## Golden Tickets

Year to date	
Year 7	2339
Year 8	2229
Year 9	2356
Year 10	1996
Year 11	1455

Last Week	
Year 7	176
Year 8	170
Year 9	166
Year 10	131
Year 11	121



## Positive achievement points for learning habit 3

Year to date	
Year 7	10749
Year 8	10891
Year 9	11065
Year 10	10240
Year 11	10084

Last Week	
Year 7	824
Year 8	888
Year 9	930
Year 10	793
Year 11	901

## Attendance

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
<b>Year 7</b>	90.8	88.7	90.6	90.8
<b>Year 8</b>	87.4	86.9	86.4	85.1
<b>Year 9</b>	87.1	88.9	88.8	89.8
<b>Year 10</b>	84.4	83.3	84.8	83.3
<b>Year 11</b>	83.7	83.7	84.8	83.3
<b>Year 12</b>	97.6	94.6	94.9	97.1
<b>Year 13</b>	96.7	95.6	91.7	89.9

### Key

94+% (National Average 2019)	
92-93.9%	
<92%	

We know that this half-term is always tricky for attendance, as the winter bugs push our immune systems to the limit. Don't forget that a good sleep routine, balanced diet and fresh air and exercise every day will help your children stay healthy this winter. And a gentle reminder that if a student's attendance is below 95%, we will not authorise an absence as illness unless medical evidence is provided.

## Tutor Lesson and Personal Development

A team of leaders from School represented us all at the Student Conference of Bradford Citizens, and presented in front of 23 other local schools on issues that are important to young people.

This week's assemblies with Mrs Walsh have had a learning focus helping all students to be successful in lessons. The Votes for school topic encouraged students to explore homelessness in an empathetic and reflective manner. As well as our Citizenship sessions continuing, we also looked at the agony of love after a news story about some newly uncovered 18<sup>th</sup> C prisoners love letters which were tragically undelivered.

The Peer Mentors in Y10 had a double session this week to complete their training on safeguarding, mentor expectations and how to use their new booklets once they have a mentee assigned. This has been the cause of a lot of excitement and anticipation for the New Year when the next phase of our new mentoring programme begins!

## Our expectations

We regularly share our expectations with students so that they know how they can be successful in their learning and so that we can remove any barriers to this success. It is important for us all to understand that when in school students are expected to be in lessons learning unless it is break or lunchtime. Time out of lessons should not be the norm or the expectation and we know that as we have increased our expectations of what students learn and what they do in lessons some students are finding the increased challenge difficult at times. We know that being expected to know more, remember more and do more is hard and staff will support students with this in a variety of ways.

The majority of our students get it right day in day out and make positive choices – the small number who do not are given opportunities to make the right choice but are clear of the consequences if they do not meet our very simple learning habits.

## Extra-curricular activities

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Debate club (Y8, 10, 12, 13) <b>LUNCH TIME</b> F51 MED	Debate club (Y7, 9, 11) <b>LUNCH TIME</b> F51 MED	Girls Football All year groups DWH	Year 7/8 Football CBE/JGI	
Fitness Suite KS4 FBR	Year 9 Football DRI	Dodgeball KS3 MFL	Netball Year 7/8 DCH	Rugby year 7/8/9 JFL
Lego Club (all years - till 3.30) No new members until Spring term S34 C. Moore / J. Hird	Girls Rugby KS3 DCH/RST	Healthy Active ME Activity Room	Netball Year 9/10 DWH	Badminton All year groups TSH
	KS4 Football Astro GBO	Basketball KS3 CBE	Year 11 BTEC Intervention JIC/DRI	Fitness Suite KS3 JIC
	Drama Club (all years) G28 RSI		Dance/Cheerleading KS3 CFL	
	Science Club (Y7 and 8) MMI / ECO S43		Gardening Club (all years) S33 E. Cowham / S. Cooke	

## Year Group News

### Y7 News

Year 7 have had a fantastic week earning the most golden tickets in the last week, closing in on year 9 for the top spot in the year so far – well done! This week the Science club have been putting samples of moss under the microscope and discovered a whole ecosystem of microorganisms. Thank you to Mr Minshull and Ms Cowham!

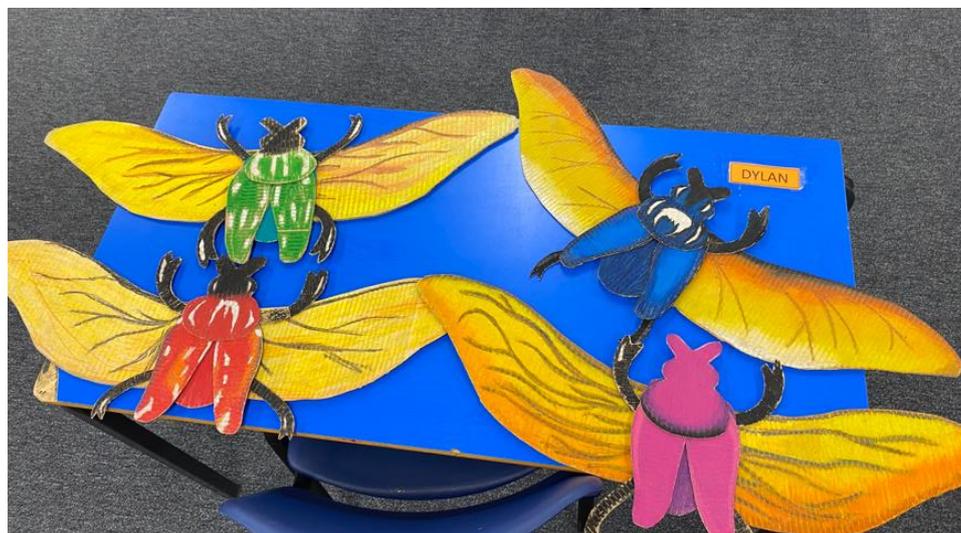


### Y8 News

Congratulations to 8AT for winning the attendance breakfast this week.

Year 8 are continuing to receive a high number of Community Awards daily as they are respectful and polite to others.

Students have been working hard in lessons following on from Ms Walsh's assembly. Leah H has produced some detailed and expressive work in Art. Well done.



### Y9 News

Congratulations to 9MY for winning the attendance practice, hope you enjoyed your reward. Year 9 have been very impressive in their learning this week, and particularly at the end of social times – their lines up have been fantastic! Well, done to the Year 9 footballers for playing so well, even if the scoreline reflect a win on this occasion. Your team spirit was a credit to you.

### Y10 News

Into the final few days of this term and we have been talking to Year 10 students about the importance of making the most of their learning time. Mrs Walsh delivered a great assembly on learning, and gave the students some tips on how to maximise their lesson time to be successful. This time next year they will be making decisions about their next steps in Year 12, just like this year's year 11s are; and we want them to be in the best position possible through their hard work and commitment to developing positive routines this year. Many are well on the way to realising their potential and having a really successful end to their GCSE studies. Keep it up Year 10!

## Y11 News

Following on from yesterday's parents' evening I delivered an assembly on next steps for the year 11 cohort, it was great to see the enthusiasm amongst the group – they were truly energised. Two weeks of hard graft until the Christmas break!

## Post 16

Thanks to all our student helpers on Thursday for the Post 16 Open Evening – and all so thanks to all of the Y11's who came and spoke to us and picked up a prospectus. Applications are now open for Post 16 – applications can be dropped off at the sixth form office, and members of the Post 16 team will be calling into tutor groups over the next few weeks to collect applications – if you are reading this blog as an external student, please email either [mdelgado01@beckfootoakbank.org](mailto:mdelgado01@beckfootoakbank.org) or [EEllis01@beckfootoakbank.org](mailto:EEllis01@beckfootoakbank.org) and we will email you an electronic application and prospectus

If you have a minute please scan the QR code and explore this new trial APP from Careers Bradford:



Have you tried *Cici*  
the careers chat bot?



Scan the QR code or visit:  
<https://bit.ly/465sFJ1>

Features include:

- Engaging activities for jobs discovery
- Courses, T Levels & Apprenticeships
- Job information and vacancies
- Career insights
- Decision making
- Volunteering
- CV Support
- Self-employment
- UCAS & exam results

Skills House *Cici*  
Empowering Careers

## SPARX Reader and SPARX Maths.

All students in years 7 to 11 have access to Sparx Maths and all students in Years 7, 8 and 9 have access to Sparx Reader. Students can access these programmes with the same login that they use for Teams and logging at school. You can log on here. [Beckfoot Oakbank School - Maths](#)

Sparx maths is now live so all students in Y7-11 have weekly online homework linked to the maths curriculum being followed. It's due in each Wednesday! Your child's tutor can help them if they do not know their login / password.

## Educake

In Science we are launching a new online homework platform for years 10 and 11 called Educake where students can answer online quizzes set by their science teachers. Educake is also a fantastic tool for revision as students can log on and test themselves on their science knowledge. All students should have received their login details in class as a sticker in their planners but if they have any problems logging on they should speak to their science teacher or Mr Hazelgreen. Log on at <http://www.educake.co.uk> or download the app.



## CEIAG – Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance.

Future Ready Learners – then please do so by clicking the link below

[Beckfoot Oakbank School - Future Ready](#)

[futuregoals.co.uk/learn/our-region/](http://futuregoals.co.uk/learn/our-region/) - find out more about opportunities in West Yorkshire

[futuregoals.co.uk/learn/our-region/lmi-resources-regions/](http://futuregoals.co.uk/learn/our-region/lmi-resources-regions/) find out about Labour Market Information in West Yorkshire

**Use these links to navigate our pages easily.**

[Work Experience \(booked by Students\)](#)

[Discovery Workshops \(reserved by Educators\)](#)

[Upcoming Broadcasts](#)

[Host a Speaker at your school](#)

[VTalks Library](#)

[National Teen Book Club](#)

[Past Imperfect Podcasts](#)

Here is the [Live Broadcasts Schedule](#). Live broadcasts are a great way for students to hear from leading figures from a range of industries, and have the opportunity to ask questions via a moderated Q&A. You can register on behalf of your students, and you will be sent the event link, or students can register for talks by selecting 'student' rather than teacher.

## UPCOMING TALKS

DATE	SPEAKER	INFO
<p><b>Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November</b></p> <p><b>2-2:45pm</b></p>	<p><b>Your life is full of purpose &amp; potential with Lara Morgan Founder, Company Shortcuts Ltd</b></p> <p><b>KS3-5/S1-6</b></p>	<p>Lara Morgan is a British entrepreneur who grew her company with products focusing on wellbeing and aiming to improve life's journey. In this broadcast, Lara will talk to us about how life is full of purpose and potential and what you need to do, to make the most of every situation.</p> <p>Click <a href="#">here</a> to register</p>
<p><b>Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November</b></p> <p><b>2-2:45pm</b></p>	<p><b>What It's Like To Complete An Apprenticeship sponsored by VMO2</b></p> <p><b>Lauren West, Future Careers Senior Programme Manager, James Harwood, Senior Security Product Manager And Matt Short, Head Of Field Operations (South), Virgin Media O2</b></p> <p><b>KS3-5/S1-6</b></p>	<p>Meet a panel of Virgin Media O2 leaders who are currently completing or have completed an apprenticeship where they will share more about their own journeys, the benefits of an apprenticeship and explore the concept of squiggly careers. Join us in this broadcast to hear from our leaders and ask questions to help you make the best decision for your future.</p> <p>Click <a href="#">here</a> to register</p>
<p><b>Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December</b></p> <p><b>2-2:45pm</b></p>	<p><b>Career Hacks: Kelly Beaver, CEO, Ipsos MORI</b></p> <p><b>KS4-5/S4-6</b></p>	<p>Kelly Beaver is Chief Executive of Ipsos in the UK and Ireland. She has been with Ipsos for over a decade and was previously Managing Director of Ipsos's UK Public Affairs division. Kelly holds several honorary positions external to Ipsos in academia and charities. She is passionate about the use of evidence in decision-making and in this broadcast this will be talking about all the 'career hacks' that she has learned along the way.</p> <p>Click <a href="#">here</a> to register</p>
<p><b>Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December</b></p> <p><b>10-10:45am</b></p>	<p><b>The Future of Architects: Maria Faraone, Director of the RIBA Studio, Royal Institution of British Architects</b></p> <p><b>KS3-5/S1-6</b></p>	<p>Maria Faraone's journey in the world of architecture is a testament to passion, dedication, and a relentless pursuit of excellence. Join her talk as she unveils the innovations, sustainability, and collaborative approaches shaping tomorrow's architects. Don't miss this chance to gain information on what this career looks like to help you figure out if being an architect is for you!</p> <p>Click <a href="#">here</a> to register</p>
<p><b>Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December</b></p> <p><b>2-2:45pm</b></p>	<p><b>'The Science is Just So Ridiculously Good.' Professor Lloyd Peck, Polar Marine Biologist</b></p> <p><b>KS3-5/S1-6</b></p>	<p>Dive into the extraordinary world of Polar Marine Biology with Prof. Lloyd Peck! Join his captivating talk, 'The Science is Just So Ridiculously Good.' Explore the wonders of icy ecosystems, cutting-edge research, and the thrill of discovery. Don't miss this chance to have a peek at the science and hear about marine biology as a career!</p> <p>Click <a href="#">here</a> to register</p>

## HOW TO JOIN THE LIVE BROADCASTS

- Join 10 minutes before the broadcast to be ready.
- You can join without needing an account – [Watch how here](#)
- Video library [here](#)



### **Step Into Audiology**

We are very excited to announce our new post-16 programme in the Allied Health Professionals field, ***Step Into Audiology***.

'Step Into Audiology' is a collaboration between the University of Leeds, the York and Scarborough Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, and Hull University Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust, aimed at providing your students with an insight into the profession of Audiology. It is an outreach programme that will allow your students to find out more about Audiology as a profession and career, and what it would be like to study Audiology at University.

The programme includes two in-person Insight Days to give you a flavour of Audiology. Both taking place in Spring 2024, the first event will be held at one of the Trust's Hospitals, with the second event taking place at the University of Leeds campus. Students will take part in practical taster sessions and hear from current Audiologists and students about their experiences.

**Applications will open later this month.** To be the first to hear about when they do and to register interest on behalf of your students, please follow the link below, which provides more information about the programme and contains both a Student and a Teacher/Advisor Registration of Interest form.

[Register interest in Step into Audiology](#)

### **2024 Yorkshire Medical Schools Summer School: An MSC Pathway Programme**

We are excited to soon be launching applications for the 2024 Yorkshire Medical Schools Summer School: An MSC Pathway Programme.

The programme is a collaboration between Leeds Medical School, Hull York Medical School, Sheffield Medical School, The Royal College of Surgeons, and the Medical Schools Council, funded by Health Education England.

The programme will run throughout 2024 and will consist of monthly online activities to prepare your students for applying to Medical School. The students will also take part in a week-long online summer school, including a visit to the University of Leeds Medical School for a Surgical Careers Taster Day.

The programme is open to Year 12 students interested in studying Medicine who are from under-represented backgrounds in medical education, and targets areas of England that have limited outreach engagement with medical schools.

**Applications for the 2024 programme will open later this month.** To be the first to hear about when they do and to register interest on behalf of your students, please follow the link below, which provides more information about the programme and contains a Registration of Interest form.

[Register interest in the 2024 Yorkshire Medical Schools Summer School: An MSC Pathway Programme.](#)

### **Leeds Access to Medicine Society (A2M) Mock MMI & Interview Preparation Day**

We're excited to host the first Leeds Access to Medicine Society (A2M) Mock Multiple Mini Interview (MMI) & Interview Preparation Day, a collaborative event with A2M and the Health Sciences Outreach Team at the University of Leeds.

This half day event is designed to give Year 13 students/ second-year college students, who have already applied for Medicine for 2024 entry, the opportunity to take part in a Mock MMI circuit, as well as a Communication Skills workshop to hone their skills ahead of the Medicine Interview cycle in early 2024. They will also have the opportunity to meet our Leeds medical students and ask them about their journeys so far.

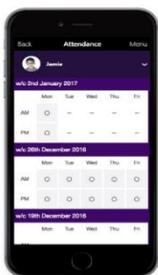
This event will take place on **Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2023** at the **University of Leeds** campus.

Applications are now open. Please note that **priority will be given to applications from students in the West Yorkshire region, and student group who are under-represented in Medical Education at the University of Leeds.**

[Click here to find out more information about this event, and for the application link to share with your aspiring Medics](#)

We are holding a Careers Fair on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January – from 11:00-2:50pm – if you are a local business and would like to help out – please contact me at [mdelgado01@beckfootoakbank.org.uk](mailto:mdelgado01@beckfootoakbank.org.uk)

### **SIMS parent app**



We are changing our school app and this will come into effect during the first week after the school holiday. You will be receiving a message inviting you to download the new app, please download as soon as possible and familiarise yourself with it. The app will enable you to access information about your child such as attendance, conduct and daily timetable. The new app will also be used for school to communicate with parents.

### **Some Useful links**

#### **Bradford Parenting Cygnet Service**

This programme is designed for parents and carers of children and young people aged 5-18 with an autistic spectrum condition.

This is a core Cygnet programme which is delivered over six, two and a half - three-hour sessions which sequentially work towards behaviour management and covers a number of topics.

[Bradford Parenting Cygnet Service | Barnardo's \(barnardos.org.uk\)](#)

01274 513300

**Child Autism UK**

Child Autism UK helps children with autism achieve their potential. We provide services to enable children to overcome difficulties with communication, learning and life skills and give families the techniques and strategies to cope with autism through the use of Applied Behaviour Analysis (ABA).

[Support, advice and services for children with autism - Child Autism UK - releasing potential](#)

Help line:01344 882248

#### **ADHD UK**

Providing emotional and informational support for people with ADHD and their carers via telephone, email, social media and support groups.

<https://adhduk.co.uk/>

#### **Creative Support – Bradford**

Providing person-centred services for people with a learning disability, autism and mental health needs.

[Creative Support](#)

#### **Janssen with me**

Advice on ADHD for teenagers and parents.

[Home | Janssen With Me UK](#)

#### [Contact Us](#)

Follow us on X **@BeckfootOakbank**

Contact us at **office@beckfootoakbank.org**

**For prospective families wanting specific transition information contact us on**

**Transition24@beckfootoakbank.org**

## Our Beckfoot Trust Mission:

*Creating remarkable schools where no child is left behind.*

## Our Beckfoot Oakbank school sentence:

*“Beckfoot Oakbank School ensured that every child succeeded in education, had a great career and enjoyed life”.*

## Our Oakbank values:

**Enjoy:** We **enjoy** belonging to Beckfoot Oakbank

**Learn:** We are all here to **learn**

**Succeed:** We are determined to **succeed**

## Our Oakbank learning habits:

### The Oakbank Way: Our Learning Habits

**Learning Habit 1. Positive response:** *Opening doors, tidying up, using good manners; ‘please’ and ‘thank you’.*

**Learning Habit 2. Perfect uniform**

**Learning Habit 3. On task behaviour:** *Working hard, taking part, following Learning Modes*

**Learning Habit 4. Punctual to school and lessons:** *Arrive to school before 08:20, arrive to lesson before the bell.*

**Learning Habit 5. Equipped for success:** *bag, pen, pencil, ruler, planner, mobile phones not seen or heard.*