

Headteacher Newsletter Friday 24th November

Highlights of the week

I've had the pleasure of seeing some excellent learning this week -which just reminds me how lucky I am to do the job that I do. As I finished writing this last night I was met by the Y11 debate team who had just secured their place in the next round – they were absolutely buzzing- we are so proud of their achievement and can't wait for the next round. See later in the newsletter for more details. Next week is our Year 11 Parent's Evening coupled with our Post 16 Options evening – we look forward to welcoming our Year 11 families on Thursday. We are always looking to improve and have sent out a link to the parent voice survey. We'll share the outcomes with you in a later newsletter. Monday 4th December I will be holding a drop in session for parents who wish to make an appointment to speak to me 1-1. Details about how to make an appointment to follow.

Upcoming events/Diary dates

- Thursday 30th November Y11 Parents' Evening / Post 16 Options Evening
- Monday 4th December Headteacher drop-in session 1.30pm -5.30pm
- Wednesday 6th December Parent Forum Meets 6.30pm
- Friday 15th December Last day of Autumn Term
- Tuesday 2nd January INSET Day – school closed to students.
- Wednesday 3rd January Students return for Spring term

Golden Tickets

Year to date		Last Week	
Year 7	2163	Year 7	207
Year 8	2059	Year 8	224
Year 9	2190	Year 9	179
Year 10	1865	Year 10	155
Year 11	1334	Year 11	73



Positive achievement points for learning habit 3

Year to date		Last Week	
Year 7	9925	Year 7	885
Year 8	10003	Year 8	1164
Year 9	10135	Year 9	761
Year 10	9447	Year 10	823
Year 11	9183	Year 11	686

Attendance

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Year 7	86.9	88.1	89.5	86.9
Year 8	88.5	87.4	91.1	85.8
Year 9	83.6	85.4	85.2	83.9
Year 10	83.7	83.7	88.5	83.5
Year 11	82.4	82	83.7	81.5
Year 12	96.1	96.1	98.6	98.6
Year 13	100	94.9	98.5	95.7

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 the students 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 has been provided.

Tutor Lesson and Personal Development

The News article students have studied this week focussed on Remembrance as a prominent journalist lamented 'I should have worn a poppy,' regretting her belief that Poppy Day glorifies war – there were a lot of mature discussion and some very strong views from students about supporting Remembrance. The Votes for School this week was taken equally seriously, it focussed on bereavement as this week marks Grief Awareness in the UK. The vote challenged everyone to reflect on how well they were able to support a friend experiencing the pain of grief.

Mr Trueman's assemblies this week have centred on sexual harassment and consent – another important opportunity for students to reflect on their prior learning in Open Minds about safety and consent in an age-appropriate delivery. Keeping safe and knowing who to speak to with any problems or worries (even about others) is a constant reminder for all students.

The excitement and competitive streak we've seen in recent week continued as KS3 groups took to their Numeracy Ninjas with gusto!

Extra-curricular activities

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Debate club (Y8, 10, 12, 13) LUNCH TIME F51 MED	Debate club (Y7, 9, 11) LUNCH TIME 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	

Debate team winners!



Beckfoot Oakbank's debate team have stormed to victory in their first ever national debate competition. The team competed in the first round of the English Speaking Union's Mace competition- a well-established and respected competition that sees schools compete nationwide. Finlay S (First Proposition), Jasper R (Second Proposition) and Mary-Jane J (Summary Speaker) excelled both individually and as a team, debating the motion 'This House Believes that environmental campaigning should focus on changing government policy rather than individual behaviours' against opposition from Calder High School. Evie K- reserve team member- provided excellent moral support on the evening. The team are now through to the second round- a regional heat- meaning the team will get to showcase their fantastic argumentation skills on an even larger stage. Well done to the team- we are so proud of you!

Year Group News

Y7 News

The school was rocking on Thursday morning when year 7 were treated to a performance by a group of visiting students from Australia. The performing arts are an integral part of our student's education, and we hope students have left inspired to get creative themselves! In lessons year 7 are consistently earning hundreds of golden tickets week on week and are continuing to go from strength to strength with their studies. Well done year 7!

Y10 News



Year 10 continue to grow into an excellent group of GCSE students. Staff and visitors notice the maturity and warmth that typifies most of the year group, most of the time; they come to school to learn, understand how to enjoy their school experience and are beginning to experience the success that they deserve – and there is much more to come!

Harrison in Y10 has completed 3 months of volunteering with the charity homeless not hopeless as part of his Duke of Edinburgh awards. We are super proud of Harrison and his willingness to support others!

Below are some comments from the charity's Facebook page.

"Harrison, you should be very proud of the work you have done to support some of the most vulnerable people in our area".

"A big THANKYOU to this wonderful young man . 🙏🙏🙏❤️❤️❤️"

Harrison has been volunteering with us here at Homeless Not Hopeless

for over 3 months as part of his Bronze Duke of Edinburgh award. His first visit was to our unit in Keighley where he saw where all our stock was stored . He helped pack the vans ready for our outreach . He got involved with the food element of our outreach, making 40 hot vegetarian meals , baking cakes and organising tinned food collections in his local area . He also collected second hand clothing for us .

Y11 News

This year we have started using an online platform called Educake to set our science homework; like Sparx maths and English, Educake is a fantastic resource where students can engage with short videos and test their knowledge on short quizzes set by their teachers. Students have responded well to this, non-more so than Jack Judson who is our year leader having answered a remarkable 492 questions, I'm sure all this independent study will pay-off – well done Jack.

Post 16

WHY Beckfoot Oakbank Sixth Form.....



**Sixth Form Open
Evening: Thursday
30th November**

3:30 – 6:30pm



Here are 10 reasons why.....



Also please find enclosed some great Post 16 Opportunities for Speakers for Schools:



Career Newsletter 20 November 2023.pdf

Pick of the week – Broadcast Talk

Monday 27th November: Blind Not Broken with Lucy Edwards-Cave, blind broadcaster, journalist, content creator, and disability activist <https://forms.office.com/e/z3BwfM7s32> VIP SPEAKER!

Step into a world of charm, charisma, and creativity in this broadcast, when we are joined by Lucy Edwards- Cave, Blind Broadcaster, Journalist, Content Creator, and Disability Activist. After losing her full eyesight at 17, Lucy had no one to take inspiration from who was going through the same thing and made it her mission to share her experiences with the world. Tune in and hear how one woman built a community that champions disability advocacy and is changing how the world views blindness #BlindNotBroken.

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

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/ - find out more about opportunities in West Yorkshire

futuregoals.co.uk/learn/our-region/lmi-resources-regions/ find out about Labour Market Information in West Yorkshire

Are you considering a career in consulting or technology? Do you want to be a part of shaping the next steps of the AI revolution and supporting companies across 120 different countries?

Come along for our free and interactive webinar with Accenture on the 5 December 2023 to discuss everything you need to know about apprenticeships within consulting or technology!

- Come here directly from the recruitment team
- Get all the latest application tips and tricks from current apprentices to learn how to make your application stand out
- Take part in a Live Q&A to get all your questions answered

Can't wait to see you all there!

The Success at School Team

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.

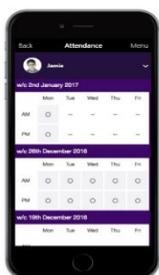
This event will take place on **Saturday 9th December 2023** at the **University of Leeds** campus.

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 18th 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

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.*