

Headteacher Newsletter Friday 23rd February 2024

Highlights of the week

Another busy week after the half term break. Thank you to all of our Year 10 families who joined us at parents' evening last night – there was a genuine buzz to the evening.

We love to hear about our students' successes beyond the school day so if you have any good news stories, successes (and of course any pictures!) that you want to share with us about your children's amazing talents please do not hesitate to contact us by emailing Danielle Clifford, Exec Assistant to the Headteacher on DClifford01@beckfootoakbank.org

Upcoming events/Diary dates

- Wednesday 28th February Parent Forum 6.30pm
- Thursday 7th March World Book Day
- Thursday 14th March Y8 Parents evening 3.30pm -6.30pm
- Friday 22nd March Ski Trip begins
- Monday 25th March Easter Holiday begins

Golden Tickets

Year to date		Last Week	
Year 7	4953	Year 7	317
Year 8	4552	Year 8	287
Year 9	4947	Year 9	358
Year 10	4316	Year 10	322
Year 11	2991	Year 11	225



Positive achievement points for learning habit 3

Year to date		Last Week	
Year 7	27334	Year 7	2046
Year 8	24581	Year 8	1727
Year 9	28627	Year 9	2131
Year 10	25731	Year 10	1983
Year 11	22699	Year 11	1516

Parent Forum

At the last parent forum meeting there were a lot of new and old ideas tabled about how we can establish a new annual tradition for celebrating students' successes through an enjoyable evening with families. The details will be revealed over the coming months as they are organised. The date to save is 10th July! We're hoping to get everyone involved and make it huge evening that lingers long in the memories of everyone who attends. It promises to be very exciting! The next meeting is Wed 28th February 6.30pm

Personal Development and Tutor Lesson Attendance

	Friday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Year 7	73.3	95.3	92	89.3	89.7
Year 8	62.5	88.6	87.3	86.4	84
Year 9	68.5	92.7	90.1	85.1	87.9
Year 10	58.2	88.4	85	84	82.2
Year 11	64.3	84	83.3	82.2	82.4
Year 12	64.3	97.7	97.7	96.4	95.7
Year 13	89.1	97.1	91.2	99.2	99.3

Key

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

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. We have now moved to same day detentions for lateness to school and lessons and already we can see the impact on punctuality across the school. Thank you to our families for your continued support.

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	KS3 Art Club (till 3.30) F19 KGA	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

Congratulations to all involved in the Oakworth Pantomime, Aimee, Phoebe, Mya, Grace, Aremis, George, Ella, Matilda, Lexi, Henry, Gabriella, Scarlett, Isla, Lola, Henry, Noah, Dextor. A huge well done! We are very proud of you all.



After a successful launch with year 10 and 11, we have expanded our use of the Science homework platform Educake to all students including year 7. Educake is an online bank of automatically marked science questions which

give students instant feedback on their progress in science linked to what they are currently studying in class. In addition to work set by their teachers, student can set themselves questions which is a fantastic way to revise for tests and exams. Science teachers will be issuing students with a username and password soon if they haven't already. Several classes have been trialling this already – well done to Lola B who has answered 91% of her questions correctly and Emily G who has set herself 34 science questions to revise!

As a school Year 7 Beckfoot Oakbank have finished top of the Bradford Schools Football League. A huge well done to our team.

Y8 News

The half term has kicked off on a positive note as students have enthusiastically engaged with the new 'Right to Read' book, "Children of Blood and Bone," sparking lively discussions during their social periods.

This week Year 8 have received a visit from our Safer Schools Police Officer to address the pressing issue of vaping dangers. The students demonstrated keen interest and posed insightful questions regarding the adverse effects of vaping on health. Some were surprised to learn about the legal age requirement of 18 for purchasing vape products, highlighting the importance of such educational sessions in promoting awareness and responsible decision-making among our students.

We are delighted to report that there has been a noticeable rise in the participation of Year 8 students in our extracurricular activities. However, we believe there is still room for more to join in the fun and enrichment these clubs offer. Details of the various clubs available are regularly communicated through our Blog and announced during morning line up, ensuring that all students are well informed about the opportunities awaiting them. We warmly welcome all students to attend any session that piques their interest. Additionally, for those who haven't yet submitted their deposit for Activities Week, there is still time to do so. We encourage your child to take advantage of these opportunities for personal growth and enjoyment.

Congratulations to 8RG for winning the attendance breakfast this week!

Please save the date: Year 8 Parents Evening is scheduled for Thursday 14th March.

Y9 News

Welcome back year 9, well done on a positive week. You were very attentive and quiet during our important assembly about the dangers of vaping. So important for you to look after your developing brains and lungs. A group of talented Year 9 students had the opportunity to work with a creative writing project this week – more on that next week. On another positive note congratulations to 9AB for winning the attendance prize!

Y10 News

A powerful assembly this week on the dangers of vaping from our local Police Officer. She explained how around 20 countries, including Australia, Thailand, Norway, India and Canada have banned or heavily restricted the sale of vapes due to health concerns and use among young people. Although considered by some to be an effective way to quit smoking cigarettes, the World Health Organisation state that vapes are “damaging to health and not safe”. We also had a successful parents' evening, where we welcomed lots of Year 10 parents and had the chance to discuss the strengths and areas of development based on the assessments before February half-term. The students and parents who attended were really positive about the information they received and how they can build on their success for the rest of Year 10 – it was great to see you all!

Y11 News

We enjoyed welcoming our year 11 students back this week for what is their penultimate half term – can you believe that! Only 45 school days left! The focus, in the classroom, for this short half term the focus is students reflecting on their recent mock exams exploring how students can improve even further. I am glad to report that the year group have made a great start in this endeavour, I was in English and maths lessons yesterday where, to a person, the concentration and work ethic was faultless palpable, well-done Year 11.

Post 16

This week Y13 have been doing their second round of MOCKS – attendance has maintained high during this period and students have been working hard. These were the final mocks before the summer exam period – good luck Y13

On Friday 15 Y12 students visited Leeds University to take part in some tailored activities to expose them to University Study – Students visited the following departments: Social Work/Mental Health Nursing/Adult Nursing/Child Nursing - feedback from the day was positive and the students found the experience invaluable – another great trip for our Post 16 Students – thanks Will and Emma for taking them

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 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

[Use these links to navigate our pages easily.](#)

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

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

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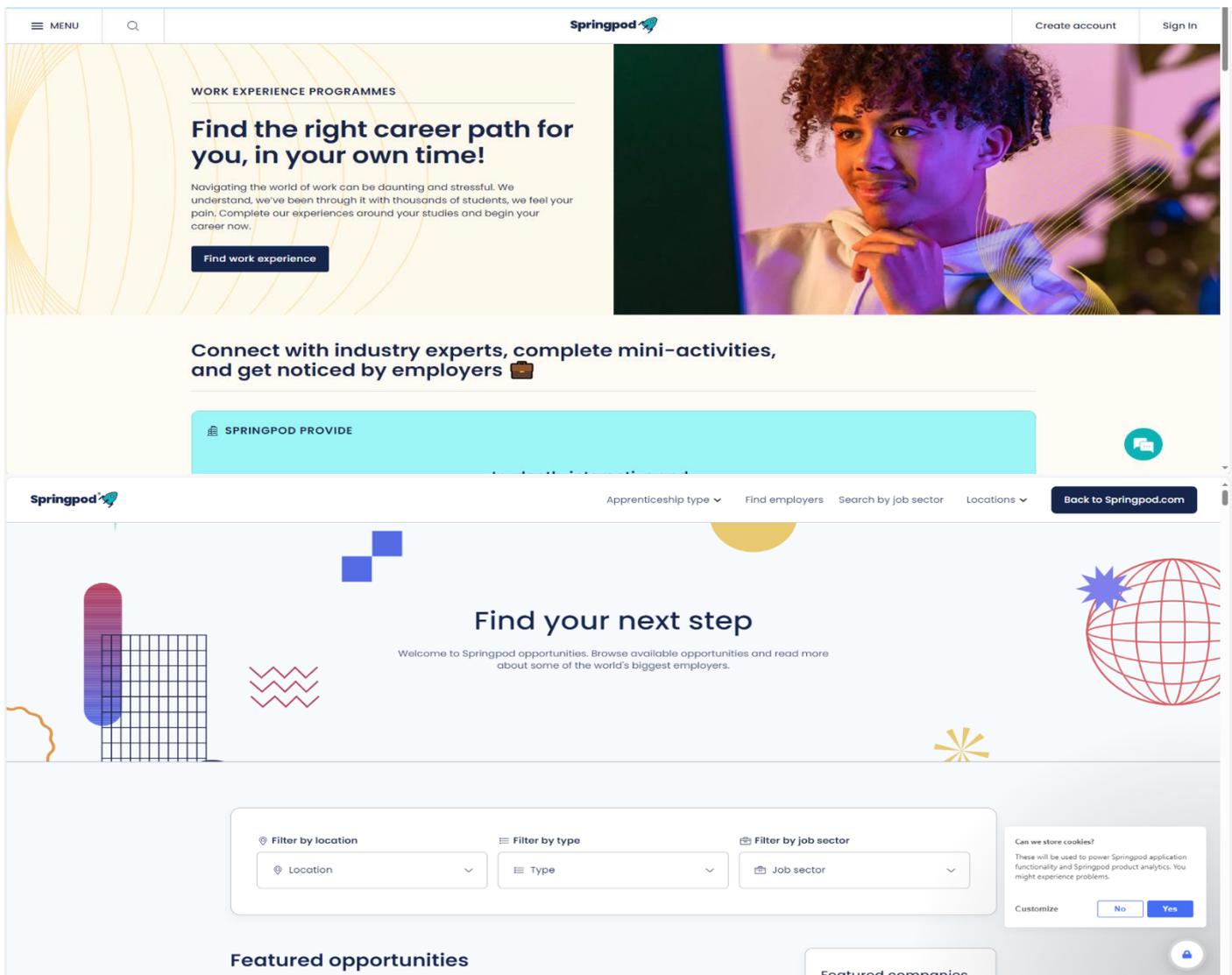
[VTalks Library](#)

[National Teen Book Club](#)

[Past Imperfect Podcasts](#)

[Check out Springpod](#)

[It's time to take control of your future | Springpod](#)



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 \(barnardos.org.uk\)](https://www.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.*