

# Headteacher Newsletter Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October

## Highlights of the week

This week we have been focussing on excellent learning in lessons and why learning is so important to future enjoyment and success. We've been catching our students getting it right every lesson every day. Teachers are collecting the best piece of work from every year 7 class this week ready to add to our WOW (work of the week) displays. Other year groups will feature in the coming weeks so watch this space. We have a group of year 11 students who are currently in Barcelona developing their Spanish speaking skills whilst enjoying some amazing cultural experiences. Over the next couple of weeks, we will be writing to you about how you can support us as parents in ensuring that your child is able to be successful at Beckfoot Oakbank. We will be working with our students in assemblies and lessons to revisit why this matters so much to us and them. Our school sentence, our three core values and our five learning habits underpin all that we do.

### Our school sentence.

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

### Our three values

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

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

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

### Our five 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.*

## Upcoming events/Diary dates

- |                                      |  |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| • Wb 23 <sup>rd</sup> October        | Half term  |
| • Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> October    | Year 11 Mock Exams Week 1  |
| • Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> November    | Year 11 Mock Exams Week 2  |
| • Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> November    | Year 13 Mocks  |
| • Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> November   | Beckfoot Trust 10 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Concert – St George's Hall |
| • Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> November | Parent Forum 6.30pm -7.30pm  |
| • Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> November   | INSET Day – school closed to students.                                 |
| • Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> November   | INSET Day – school closed to students.                                 |
| • Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> November | Y11 Parents' Evening / Post 16 Options Evening                         |

## Golden Tickets

Year to date		Last week	
Year 7	1159	Year 7	216
Year 8	1047	Year 8	180
Year 9	1195	Year 9	180
Year 10	1024	Year 10	219
Year 11	830	Year 11	152



## Positive achievement points for learning habit 3

Year to date		Last week	
Year 7	5477	Year 7	746
Year 8	4458	Year 8	824
Year 9	5173	Year 9	1116
Year 10	5264	Year 10	1107
Year 11	5577	Year 11	1134

## Planners and basic equipment

All students have been issued with a planner, their timetable and the basic equipment needed every lesson every day. We have found that a small number of students are forgetting to bring these in daily. Thank you for ensuring that your child brings these essentials every day.

## Attendance

	Friday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Year 7	92.5	94.7	91.8	92.6	91.9
Year 8	83.2	86.9	86.9	86.5	87.6
Year 9	83.8	89.2	85.1	83.3	84.3
Year 10	84.8	85.4	85.2	89.5	83.2
Year 11	84.7	82.8	84.7	85.2	84
Year 12	96.7	97	94.7	98.6	95.6
Year 13	94.7	89.3	96.3	96.2	94

### Key

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

Attendance and punctuality continue to be key priorities for us; if students are not in school – and on time – they will find it more difficult to achieve the success they deserve. After half-term, students who arrive after 9:15am will be classed as 'late after the register closes', resulting in an unauthorised absence for their morning session (a change from 9:30am currently). If students have regular absence that is unauthorised, and does not improve, we will offer support to remove barriers, but failure to do so could result in action in the form of requests for legal action from the Local Authority.

## Assembly and Tutor lessons (Personal Development)

Year Seven have been working hard on their BBC 500-word story competition entry. We are really excited to see where everyone's imagination takes us! We have a panel of Sixth Formers and staff ready to judge the entries and hope to be ready to share the wonderful stories soon.

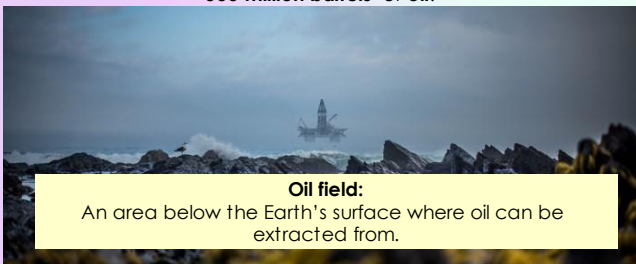
Students have had their online safety assembly with Mr Shearn which have been different each day, tailored to each year group, and many students have commented to different members of staff about how they have been surprised or moved by the importance of keeping themselves and one another safe online.

Years Ten and Eleven have continued their booklets exploring Consent and the Law, and Migration respectively. This latter topic has complemented the Black History month work we have done in a similar way to how this week's assemblies matched the Consent topic.

Our Votes for School topic is on whether the UK should open new oil fields? All students voted with some very strong opinions on both sides especially some students concerned about geo political security being weighed against climate pressures.

**1 Why are we talking about this?**

UK regulators have approved a **new oil field** off the **Shetland Islands**. The **Rosebank** area under the **North Sea** could contain **500 million barrels** of oil.



**Oil field:**  
An area below the Earth's surface where oil can be extracted from.

There is controversy about this development. Should the UK be **opening** new oil fields as it **increases** its use of **renewables**? Will producing more oil **here** mean needing to **import less** from **other countries**? Let's explore some of the issues.

**Now's your chance to vote on :  
"Should the UK open new oil fields?"**

**Yes**

- If it means oil with a smaller carbon footprint, then yes.
- It uses fuel and energy to bring oil and gas to the UK from other countries.
- It offers jobs to people in the British oil and gas industry.
- The focus should be on putting available funds into more renewable technology.
- We should be using alternative fuels, not oil.

**No**

- This will not help us get to net zero. Is net zero enough anyway?

We will be sharing your thoughts on this topic with the Department of Energy Security and Net Zero, North Sea Transition Authority, Greenpeace UK, Equinor and Just Stop Oil.

Log in to your VotesforSchools account to submit your vote and leave a comment.

## Extra-curricular activities

Here are some fantastic projects from Leo, Henry and Lewis in the club..... Well done!



### Extra-Curricular Timetable After school unless specified

Autumn Term

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Debate club (Y8, 10, 12, 13) LUNCH TIME F51 MED	Year 9 Football DRI	Girls Football All year groups DWH	Year 7/8 Football CBE/JGI	Debate club (Y7, 9, 11) LUNCH TIME F51 MED
Fitness Suite KS4 FBR	Girls Rugby KS3 DCH/RST	Dodgeball KS3 MFL	Netball Year 7/8 DCH	Rugby year 7/8/9 JFL
Lego Club (all years) S34 C. Moore / J. Hird *starts 18.9.23	KS4 Football Astro GBO	Healthy Active ME Activity Room	Netball Year 9/10 DWH	Badminton All year groups TSH
		Basketball KS3 CBE	Year 11 BTEC Intervention JIC/DRI	Fitness Suite KS3 JIC
			Dance/Cheerleading KS3 CFL	
			Gardening Club (all years) S33 E. Cowham / S. Cooke	

After school activities begin at 2.55 and end at 3.55.

For PE activities you will need your **full PE kit** and meet downstairs outside PE.

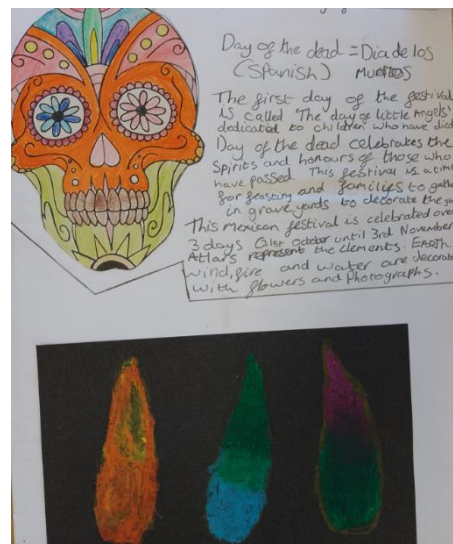
## Year Group News

### Y7 News

Year 7 have been getting creative this week, writing their 500 word stories. Topics have ranged from the day in the life of a pet dog; to blood chilling haunted houses; to a thrilling murder mystery involving the Brontë sisters. The year 7s have had sixth form students coming into form time this week to help them with their stories, and it has been great to see how our youngest students interact with our eldest. We were also lucky enough to visit Oxenhope Primary School on Tuesday and Wednesday this week. We will be back again in the next few months and will be taking some of our current year 7 students back with us!

## Y8 News

Olivia in Year 8 has received numerous medals from Bolt Academy for her dedication to the club. Alongside her acting talent she has also achieved several dancing medals for her performances. Well done!



Year 8 have been working hard to promote the use of good manners and positivity. Lillie has been setting a good example during lunch time by opening doors and greeting people politely.

During Art lessons with Miss Flemming the students have been learning about the colours and history around The *Day of the Dead* students have enjoyed the topic and the use of bright contrasting colours.

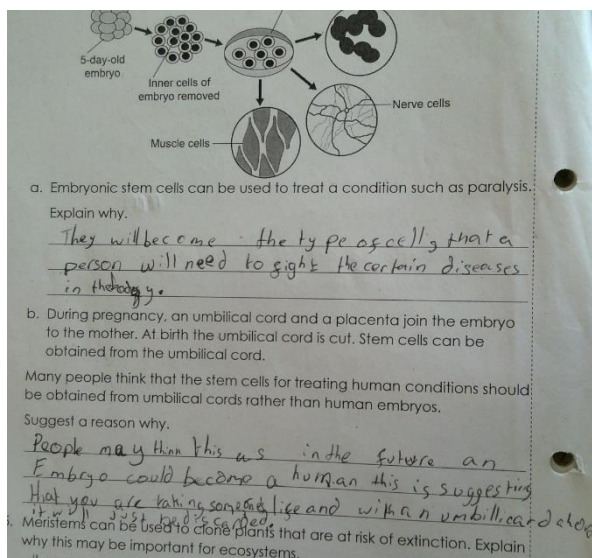


## Y9 News

We have been incredibly impressed with Year 9 and their attitude during line ups this week, they have demonstrated maturity, and have been ready to learn straight after break and lunch. Thank you everyone, it makes a real



difference. A huge shout out to Logan R for his fantastic number of golden tickets to date. Very impressive! Well done for your hard work Logan. Santi V has another mention this week for producing some fantastic science work. His work on the use of embryonic stem cells is well considered and detailed.



## Y10 News

A hard-hitting assembly this week from Mr Shearn, reminding all students of the importance of keeping themselves safe online – now and after they leave school. The year group showed their usual maturity with the sensitive subject-matter – well done Year 10.



Some delicious work going on in Hospitality and Catering, courtesy of Megan C and Tilly P...



We've also had some awesome work going on in Mrs White's Geography and Business and Enterprise groups. Mrs White reports that: "They've settled into their courses extremely well and are really making progress. Their focus, manners and behaviour are nearly always exemplary. I'm so proud of them."

In other great news, Eevee T has had a brilliant few weeks, being Young Leader for 1<sup>st</sup> Fell Lane Scouts on a successful expedition, making it through trials for Bingley Swimming Club and qualifying for the Bradford Aquatics Elite Swimming Training Scheme – we're all really proud of you Eevee!

## Y11 News

As a year group this half term we have regularly been talking about the importance of attendance, learning habit number 4 of the 'Oakbank way.' Mainly, recognising the link between a high attendance and how well students will do in their GCSEs. Therefore, a massive congratulations to the 103 students that still have 100% attendance for this half term...one more week to maintain that excellent record.

Mehek in Year 11 has received a medal for competing for Great Britain in Taekwondo, well done Mehek!



## Post 16

Another busy week for UCAS – we have now sent off 8 applications and students have already received offers from Liverpool, York and Coventry – well done to those students.

To continue to ensure our students are given the highest aspirations and guidance, next week sees both the University of Oxford and Cambridge coming in to speak to our Y12 students – coupled with Y13 going to Elland Road on Thursday for the annual UCAS and Apprenticeship fair, Post 16 students continue to receive the best guidance and support.

Students talking to Sarah Thomas from Leeds Beckett

Lucy and Gracie showing off their free t-shirts







## 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.

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

	<p><b>EY</b></p> <p>Degree Apprenticeship, Level 3 Apprenticeship, School Leaver Programme</p> <p>30th November 2023</p> <p>Nationwide</p> <p>Competitive</p> <p><a href="#">View Jobs</a></p>
	<p><b>Mace</b></p> <p>Degree Apprenticeship, Level 3 Apprenticeship</p> <p>31st October 2023</p> <p>Nationwide</p> <p>Competitive</p> <p><a href="#">View Jobs</a></p>
	<p><b>AWE</b></p> <p>Degree Apprenticeship, Level 3 Apprenticeship</p> <p>29th October 2023</p> <p>Reading</p> <p>£16,000+</p> <p><a href="#">View Jobs</a></p>
	<p><b>PwC</b></p> <p>Degree Apprenticeship, School Leaver Programme</p> <p>11th October 2023</p> <p>Nationwide</p> <p>Competitive</p> <p><a href="#">View Jobs</a></p>

If you are a local business and would like to support at our Career Fair on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January from 11am – 2:50pm then please get in contact with either Will France ([wfrance@lcb.ac.uk](mailto:wfrance@lcb.ac.uk)) or Lee Grant ([lee.grant@bradford.gov.uk](mailto:lee.grant@bradford.gov.uk))





We also invite **Parents and Carers** to a special **Virtual Open Evening (18<sup>th</sup> October)** to find out more, and also hear from some of those very same industry experts about why creative careers couldn't be more important and relevant right now. Eventbrite link for [Parent and Carer Virtual Open Evening DISCOVER! Creative Careers](#)

Take a minute to look at these Apprenticeship websites: [Multicultural Apprenticeship Alliance - Pathway Group](#)



The alliance seeks to bring about positive and lasting changes in the apprenticeships and employability landscape, ensuring that opportunities are accessible to individuals from all backgrounds.



**Educate**

Working with employers, training providers, FE & HE institutions and key stakeholders to educate them on multicultural workforce representation, apprenticeships and employability provision.



**Engage**

Through various platforms, we engage with the multicultural communities and key stakeholders locally, regionally and nationally.



**Advocacy & Policy**

Providing advocacy support, working with sector leaders and experts to influence local, regional and national policy.

- [UCAS Degree Apprenticeships](#)
- [GOV-Find an apprenticeship](#)
- [Job and work experience- Prospects](#)
- [Open University Apprenticeships](#)

## [Contact Us](#)

Follow us on X [\*\*@BeckfootOakbank\*\*](#)

Contact us at [\*\*office@beckfootoakbank.org\*\*](mailto:office@beckfootoakbank.org)

For prospective families wanting specific transition information contact us on [\*\*Transition24@beckfootoakbank.org\*\*](mailto:Transition24@beckfootoakbank.org)



**A WONDERFUL EVENING OF LIVE MUSIC TO CELEBRATE THE  
10<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE BECKFOOT TRUST  
PERFORMANCES FROM ALL OUR TRUST SCHOOLS**

This year, we celebrate 10 years of the creation of the Beckfoot Trust. To mark this special occasion, we are holding an evening of live music at St Georges Hall in Bradford.

The concert will feature performances from each of our Trust schools as well as collaborative pieces, where schools will come together on stage to perform.

The concert will shine a light on the incredible musical talent we have in our schools and will be an amazing experience for our students to play at a world famous venue.

We would love students, staff and parents to join us for the event.

Tickets are available via [www.bradford-theatres.co.uk](http://www.bradford-theatres.co.uk) from Friday the 29th of September.

**Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November**

**6.00<sup>pm</sup> - 8.00<sup>pm</sup>**

**St George's Hall Bradford**

**Tickets - £4 (available from [www.bradford-theatres.co.uk](http://www.bradford-theatres.co.uk))**