

# Headteacher Newsletter Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December

## Highlights of the week

It's been another busy week with some great learning happening. Year 9 have been involved in end of term assessments, Y7 have been impressing in the creative arts. Year 11 continue to impress with their hard work and an increasing number of our Year 13 students have completed their university applications and have offers coming in. Year 11 students can currently apply to our sixth form and the sixth form team have been following up in tutor time and lessons. Today I got to spend the last part of the afternoon with some of our superb learners in Year 7 and Year 8. The students who have secured lots of learning habit three stamps and golden tickets in Term 1 were acknowledged in a surprise event today. At our Year 11 Parents' Evening all who attended were entered into a prize draw – the winner of the love to shop vouchers is parent of Eve C!

Thank you to the members of the parent forum group who met on Wednesday – your feedback and insight is really helpful to us.

We are currently consulting on reducing our published admission number for 2025-26 – details are available on the website. [Beckfoot Oakbank School - Admissions Consultation December 2023](#)

Finally 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](mailto:DClifford01@beckfootoakbank.org)

## Upcoming events/Diary dates

- 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	2562
Year 8	2487
Year 9	2559
Year 10	2180
Year 11	1613

Last Week	
Year 7	221
Year 8	254
Year 9	202
Year 10	182
Year 11	153



## Positive achievement points for learning habit 3

Year to date	
Year 7	12162
Year 8	12239
Year 9	12516
Year 10	11241
Year 11	11478

Last Week	
Year 7	1413
Year 8	1332
Year 9	1451
Year 10	1001
Year 11	1387

## Attendance

	Friday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
<b>Year 7</b>	91.2	89.4	88.3	89.8	88.2
<b>Year 8</b>	85.1	84.6	89.3	85.8	83.2
<b>Year 9</b>	86.8	86.8	89.9	87.6	82.5
<b>Year 10</b>	83.1	83.1	86.1	83.3	83.1
<b>Year 11</b>	83.3	84.2	82.5	82.5	79.3
<b>Year 12</b>	99.2	93	96.1	100	100
<b>Year 13</b>	94.6	95.7	97.1	96.2	97.8

### Key

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

We have our final week of term coming up with celebration assemblies for every year group. We need to see all students attending every day until 2.50pm on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December, and look forward to welcoming every student back on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> January at 8:15am. 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.

## 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) <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

Some of our Year 7 Students took part in the District Young Farmers public speaking competition and obtained 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> place. Well done Mia and Seth.

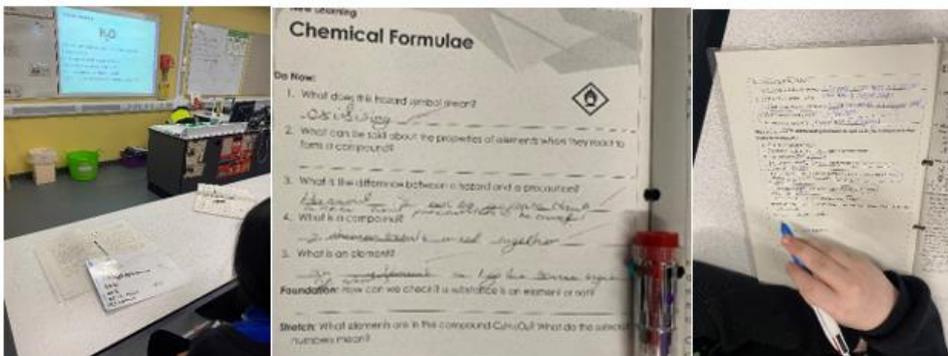
It is very important that year 7 come to school equipped to learn, with a full set of equipment and their planner and each morning we ask them to get out their planners and equipment at line up to make sure they have the best possible start to the day. All students were issued with a learning pack in September however if they need any replacements, please ask them to speak to their form tutor. If they have lost or damaged their planner new ones can be purchased on ParentPay.

### Y8 News

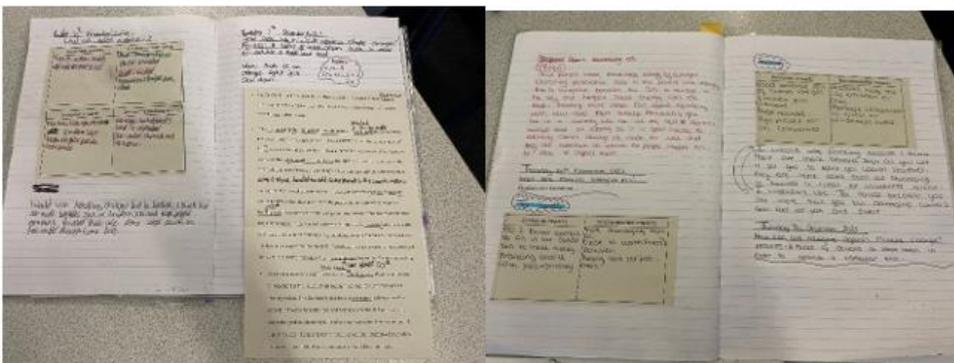
Year 8 have been exploring several different topics across the curriculum this week. It has been fantastic to see the level of engagement and progress within lessons.



In Computer Science lessons students have been designing their own films and using graphics to create a storyboard.



There has been a focus on Chemical Formulae in Science. Students have been using mini whiteboards to record answers and show their understanding of each activity. Keanan and Kian have been working incredibly hard.



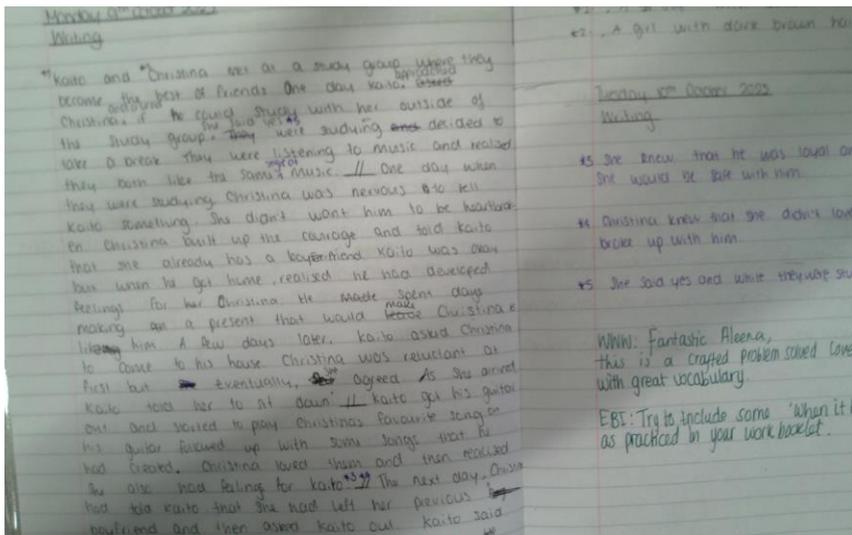
In Geography students have been studying Climate Change. Millie and Heidi have created some beautiful work in which they have expressed their personal opinions on the subject based on the knowledge retrieved throughout the lesson.

Congratulations to 8AB who won the attendance breakfast this week!

## Y9 News

Congratulations to 9AB again for their fantastic attendance last week. Lots of super learning and focus taking place in lessons this week – here is a fantastic example from Aleena- below she has crafted an extended piece of writing with a wonderful range of vocabulary. Well done !

We have one week left to collect and earn Golden tickets ahead of our Rewards Assembly. Traditionally we are the year group with the most Golden tickets and Learning Habit 3s, so let's make next week a superb week of learning as always.



## Y10 News

Another important week on our journey towards GCSE success. I had reports of some excellent work going on in Miss Crowe's class this week – felting, embroidering and other skills being honed. Well done!

We also had a great assembly about the Labour Market, with a focus on West Yorkshire; we reminded Year 10 that they need to start thinking about their possible next steps now, although obviously with no pressure to decide yet. Taking an active interest now will help them to focus on how to make it happen over the next year and a half. Enjoy the winter break Year 10 students and families!

## Y11 News

Just wanted to take this opportunity to give a shout out to a few pupils that have been recognised for doing excellent work in lessons: Sydney Drake and Kaitlyn Ainsworth have both received 4 golden tickets this week, well done. With one-week left Clodagh Flynn, Isabella Ellison have the most golden tickets so far this term with 28 and 25 respectively – amazing, let's see if anyone can catch them in the last week of term.

## Post 16

Big news this week has been Sara's (Y13) successful application to the University of Birmingham for dentistry – she has her interview in February, and we are delighted that she has managed to secure an interview – we wish you all the best. Next week 7 Y13's will be attending Leeds Beckett University to receive their Progression certificates at a bespoke ceremony – again we are proud of you all.

UCAS is going well, and we have currently sent over 30 UCAS applications and we have another 15 applications going over the next two weeks. So far, our current Y13 have secured offers from the following Russell Group Universities: Liverpool, Manchester, York, Newcastle, Nottingham, King's College, Birmingham, Sheffield, Leeds, Southampton – this is a great achievement, and a great reflection on the work of our tutors and UCAS application programme, in collaboration with Aim Higher, Realising Opportunities and Unifrog.

## 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
<b>Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December</b>  <b>10-10:45am</b>	<b>The Future of Architects: Maria Faraone, Director of the RIBA Studio, Royal Institution of British Architects</b>  <b>KS3-5/S1-6</b>	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!  Click <a href="#">here</a> to register
<b>Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December</b>  <b>2-2:45pm</b>	<b>'The Science is Just So Ridiculously Good.' Professor Lloyd Peck, Polar Marine Biologist</b>  <b>KS3-5/S1-6</b>	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!  Click <a href="#">here</a> to register

### HOW TO JOIN THE LIVE BROADCASTS

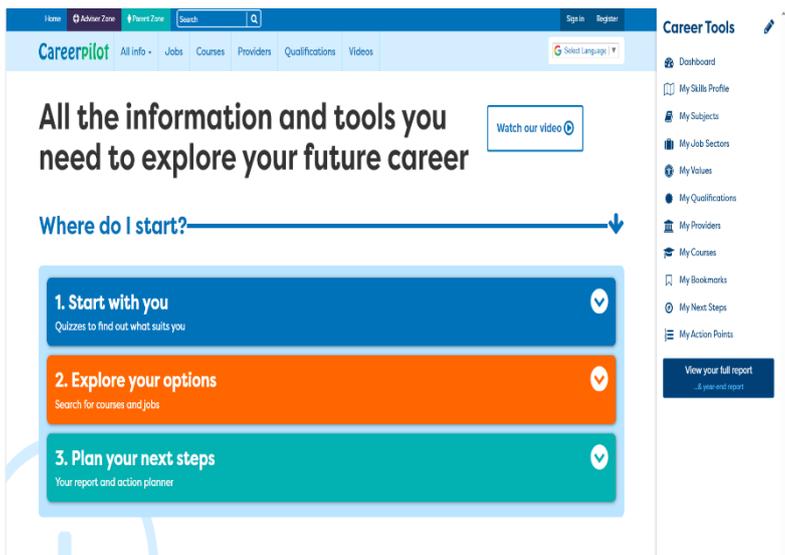
- Join 10 minutes before the broadcast to be ready.
- You can join without needing an account – [Watch how here](#)
- Video library [here](#)



If you are a local business and would like to be part of our Careers Fair on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January – email [mdelgado01@beckfootoakbank.org](mailto:mdelgado01@beckfootoakbank.org)- the event takes place from 11-3pm for Y9-11

Please can you encourage your child to register with Career Pilot – our online careers platform – I have enclosed a PPT which guides you through how to register

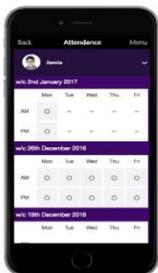
**Tutor Career Pilot.pptx**



Finally, due to the successful participation from Beckfoot Oakbank families in this pilot from Careers Bradford they have extended the QR code for another week – if you have not had a chance to use this with your child then have a go today



## 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.*