

beckfootHead's Blog Friday 4th November

Highlights of the week

It's been great to welcome our students back after the half term break and to see them engaging in lessons. Year 11 have begun their mock exams this week and these continue next week. Year 12 students had the opportunity to listen to a presentation about accessing higher education at Oxford University. I've seen great learning in taking place across the school this week and lots of happy faces. I love it when it's my assembly week as I get to see whole year groups together. In assemblies this week we've spoken about our imminent drive to recruit antibullying ambassadors – this is a great opportunity for students to develop their leadership skills and support their peers. I've also spoken to students to remind them how important it is to talk to us if they are worried about something, including bullying, or are worried about any of their friends. They can speak to any adult or contact one of the wellbeing team or one of our named persons. The posters identifying the wellbeing team and named persons are on display throughout the school and we show them during tutor presentation and in assembly. The wellbeing team also have a post box that students can access outside their base in G16.

Attendance for the week

Key

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
Year 7	90.3	91.2	91.2	89.9	86.5
Year 8	88.1	89.4	91.4	90.1	87
Year 9	88.2	82.8	86.4	87.7	85.4
Year 10	87.3	87	86.6	88.1	85.3
Year 11	90.2	89.5	89.5	85.6	86.6
Year 12	93.2	93.2	92.4	91.8	89
Year 13	89.8	90.3	87.4	87.5	89.3

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

1120 of our students had 100% attendance this week.

480 of our students had 100% attendance and 100% punctuality this week – WELL DONE!

502 students have had 100% attendance for all 8 weeks.

355 students have had 100% attendance and been on time every day this year.

A disappointing week for attendance, but a special mention to Year 11 who started the week brilliantly with better than usual attendance as they began their mock exams. We need to see lots of resilience in the weeks to come so that students are accessing as much learning as possible, so they can be successful – it will be Christmas before you know it and a third of the year will be gone! Don't forget our key attendance message: **Every day, every lesson, every minute, counts!**

The best attending form each year group have attended their rewards breakfast each day this week. A great way to start the day. Well done to **7JAT, 8MFA, 9TMC, 10STU, 11IFO, 12JIC and 13BWH**.

Positive achievements

This week		Year to date	
Year 8	4066	Year 8	35790
Year 7	3357	Year 7	33166
Year 10	2970	Year 10	26461
Year 9	2540	Year 9	22999
Year 11	703	Year 11	22541

Tutor time and assembly (Personal Development) this week

We've had a big focus in assembly this week on marking Anti-Bullying Week. We are searching for amazing volunteers to train to be our new Anti-Bullying Ambassadors trained by the Diana Award to help promote our message of Anti-Bullying and to help keep all students safe. Mrs Hart has delivered this all week and underlined how it is an important part of being Beckfoot Oakbank.

The Tutor lessons this week have covered the dangers of too much choice. The Oracy newspaper article for this week explored if too much endless choice is ruining us? More seriously, to keep young people safe and combat rising numbers of young people who choose to vape, the session for this week's Votes for Schools was on the dangers of Vaping and the potential damage to young people's lungs. Many vape products are unlicensed, bought cheaply from importers with no idea of the contents, chemicals or how the components work. They are commonly sold cheaply and easily without restrictions making them an all-too-easy choice for young people who are aware of the 400 or more cancer-causing chemicals in cigarettes.

1 Why are we talking about this?

We've all seen and smelled the smoke from **vaping**. Increasingly, this is being seen in **school environments** too.

Vape:
To breathe in nicotine or another drug as vapour rather than as smoke, especially using an e-cigarette.

Vaping is seen as an answer to the **awful health damage** caused by **cigarettes**. Like cigarettes before them, are vapes something to **worry** about?

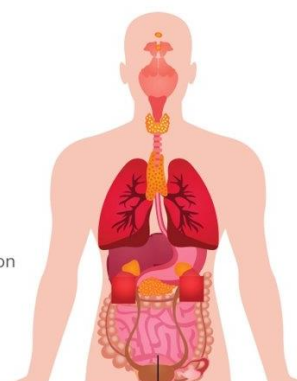


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SIDE EFFECTS OF VAPING

The short-time side effects of vaping:

- Headaches
- Sleepiness
- Coughing
- Dry mouth and throat
- Shortness of breath
- Mouth and throat irritation
- Weight loss
- Nausea and vomiting



The Long-term Side effects of vaping:

- Nicotine addiction
- Severe lung injury
- Seizures
- Cryptogenic organizing pneumonia (COP)
- Popcorn lung
- Strokes
- Heart attacks

Y11 News

This week was always going to be a challenge for the year group: returning from a holiday straight into the throes of a busy mock exam timetable. However, I am pleased to say they have risen to that challenge and beyond. We have had 10 exams this week and the year group's maturity, attitude, and approach to each one has been great. Rest at the weekend before we do the same next week!

Y7 News

Amazing to see our Y7 cheerleading club go from strength to strength, over 20 girls developing confidence and teamwork.

Well done to 7JAT for winning the attendance award this week!

Y8 News

Yvie attended the Taekwondo World Championships last week! The competition had over 1100 competitors. Yvie's Mum described the competition as having a 'very hostile atmosphere'. Her category was mainly Argentinian competitors and one competitor from Chile. Yvie was chosen to compete against the Chilean girl in the final sparring. She was very nervous from the word go as Argentina is world famous for its taekwondo and the hard-hitting students, but she quickly settled into her stride, bringing home gold in sparring and silver in patterns! Incredible Yvie we are extremely proud of you! This makes her the European and World champion, and she will hopefully add a British medal to that with a competition at the end of the month.

Mrs Lonsdale would like to congratulate her Year 8 PE Group! They tried so hard in Friday's lesson and were extremely kind and considerate towards each other.



Grace S won the rosette for best dressed costume and a participation rosette last weekend with Aire Valley Riding Club. Keep up the great work Grace!



Y9 News

Well done to 9TMC for winning the Rewards Breakfast for best attendance this week! Absolutely brilliant! Super learning in science where students are understanding what the theory of evolution is.

Y10 News

Nearly all of the students in Year 10 have been brilliant this week, focusing on learning, getting to lessons on time and presenting the best version of themselves. Special mentions go to the top boy and girl for positive points this week: Isabella (10KPE) and Abdul (10GHO), and to Miss Melia's star of the month winners: Sean (10KGA), Summer (10KPE), Maisie (10AMO), Robert (10AMO), James (10STU). Congratulations!

Our expectations

Below are the expectations that we share with students and families regularly. Most of our students meet these expectations every lesson every day. If your child has no planner, they need to purchase a new one via Parent Pay and the school office as the planner is an essential piece of school equipment. If there are

any barriers to your child having the correct uniform, please let us know so that we can support you and your child. Email the school office office@beckfootoakbank.org or contact your child's year team leader.

This half term we will be having a real push on punctuality both to school and to lessons. Students need to be at all lessons **before** the bell rings and for the very small minority who don't manage this we will be introducing after school detentions. However, before we start to do this we will speak to our students in assemblies and their tutor lesson about the importance of being on time, why it matters so much to us, and we will also communicate the details to our families before we go live with this.



Have your **planner** with you at all times



Have your **timetable** in your planner



Have the correct **equipment** with you



Wear the correct **uniform** at all times



Be **on time** for school (**8.15am**) and **every lesson, every day** (**before** the late bell)

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