

Head's Blog Friday 25th November

Highlights of the week

Another positive week of learning at Beckfoot Oakbank this week.

Over the last couple of weeks I've spoken with a number of students one to one including Yvie,(Y8) Cameron (y10), Caleb (Y8) . They have spoken to me about their learning this year and the teachers who are supporting them to be successful. It was great to see them and discuss their future ambitions and how well they are doing with their studies. They also each took the time to write a thank you card to a member of staff who was making a difference to them. Great for me to be able to deliver these postcards too! This will certainly become a regular slot in my week and something I will definitely look forward to. I've also had messages from parents thanking us for sending out the positive achievement emails. We are always looking for ways to continue to improve communication with our families, so all feedback is welcome.

Friday 25th was a training day for staff. We are open as normal on **Monday 28th November**. Students need to be at line-up for 8.15am on Monday ready and equipped for learning.

Upcoming Events

Tuesday 6th December 3pm – 6pm– I will be holding a HT drop-in clinic for parents. Parents will be able to book a 15-minute appointment to come and discuss any relevant matters. We will send out a reminder of the date and further information on how to book an appointment. The plan is for this to run at least once a half term moving forwards.

Thursday 15th December 3.30pm -6.30pm Y11 Parents' Evening and Post 16 Options Evening.

Attendance for the week

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu
Year 7	88.4	88.4	88.7	86.8
Year 8	88.6	88.4	86.4	84.3
Year 9	79.3	80.6	81.8	81.4
Year 10	81.4	80.7	80.8	80.3
Year 11	82	80.7	78.5	80.3
Year 12	92.9	95.9	97.7	95.9
Year 13	87.4	91.8	85.8	89.4

Key

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

1007 of our students had 100% attendance this week.

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

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

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

We know that students enjoy school, learn more and have more success when they attend. And although attendance has been disappointing overall this term, many students are in 100% of the time, making **every day, every lesson and every minute count!** With that in mind, all students who sustain 100% attendance and no lates between Monday 28th November and Friday 16th December will receive a special reward in the final two days of term. They'll have to wait and see what their treat is, but they definitely deserve it if they hit that target.

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 8MFA, 9MEN, 10KPE and 11LWI! Next week we will include the most improved tutor groups too – something to aim at for everyone!

And don't forget: **Every day, every lesson, every minute, counts!**

Positive achievements

Year to date		This week	
Year 8	46256	Year 7	3577
Year 7	43760	Year 8	2415
Year 10	33837	Year 10	2308
Year 9	30692	Year 9	2070
Year 11	26658	Year 11	1490

Year 7 smashed it this week – well done! Year 8 still holding the top spot overall. Really pleased to see another consistent week from year 10.

Tutor lesson and assembly (Personal Development) this week

Tutor lessons this week have covered the World Cup, and many Tutor groups have drawn teams for the competition. All students have been asked to start an entry for the Show Racism the Red Card competition which opens early next year, we will be spending some time each week working on our entries. We spent time exploring different types and examples of racism, including attitudes to other cultures and groups such as immigrants.

National Competition – all Schools

- We want everyone to think about racism and produce their own work about this serious issue. Young people are welcome to produce work:
 - Creative writing
 - T-shirt design (front and back)
 - Artwork (not bigger than A3)
- If it's about racism we want to see it!
- This is the UK's largest school competition and we're looking for winning entries. **We will also display entries in assembly, around school and online.**
- Pass all entries to Mr Moules (NMO) by Fri 3rd Jan
- **This work can be undertaken between now and Christmas – don't try and complete it today. A little bit each week will lead to a winning entry! Use today's lesson to plan out ideas, themes and share your thoughts.**



Discussion:

- Where do we get our ideas about immigration from?
- How do we hear the word 'immigrant' being used in the world around us?
- What is the media's role in shaping our views and ideas?
- What is the World View of this thinking? (A philosophy of life or conception of the world.)
- Can our World View change over time?



Y11 News

Another shout out to our amazing quartet of Lego club superstars: Brandon M, Emily W, Jake D and Dylan H. They certainly can't be accused of resting on their laurels after securing their championship victory; on a weekly basis they are working extremely hard in preparation to defend their title...go team Oakbank Lego, I will keep you posted.

Y7 News

Another great week of learning for our amazing Y7's! Mr Heaton has attended several lessons across the week and seen lots of brilliant work in books and students willing to answer challenging questions.

Y7 have again been top attenders at extra-curricular events across the school.

A huge congratulations to Charlie Groves on his silver medal in the recent martial arts competition.

Y8 News

Maisie R taught herself to crochet during lockdown all on her own. She started by making a 'granny square' and has since gone on to teach herself how to do lots more and recently made a bee for Mrs Askham's office, a horse for her friend and a gorgeous giraffe too.

At Halloween she also made a pumpkin for Mrs Askham which was beautiful.

Maisie you are a self-taught wonder! well done.





Jess in Year 8 raised a staggering £2836.31 for the Poppy Appeal with the Scouts! Amazing Jess, we are very proud of you.

Tyler in Year 8 undertook his first grading for Taekwondo, and he passed! He received a certificate and a yellow tag for his belt. Tyler started Taekwondo because he



Y9 News

Well done 9MEN for winning the attendance reward breakfast again. That is wonderful! Year 9 have been learning about the reactions of metals and acids in Science. They have looked very impressive completing their practical work fully equipped with goggles, and carefully observing their results. Great work, Year 9!

Y10 News

Year 10 have been working hard again this week, demonstrating very good punctuality and behaviour across the school. Special mention goes to Evie P (10ASH) and Finley F (10GRE) for being top in positive points this week. 10KPE won the attendance breakfast (again!); we will see who has been the most improved tutor group next week too. Let's see if we get some new faces winning the prize!

Post 16 news

Once again, it's been a busy week for our sixth form students. Online Nursing and Occupational Health interviews have been taking place all week in Lisa Bains' office (thanks Lisa for putting up with all the disruption!). So far, we have had three students secure offers for Nursing at Manchester Met, York St John and Liverpool – well done to those students.

Four students this week have secured offers for English Literature, Geology, History and Psychology from Leeds University - And good luck to those waiting to hear back – fingers crossed

We have had the Police in this week to discuss their fantastic training opportunity after Post 16 to Y12 – this was a great presentation and hopefully will inspire some of our students to consider applying for a career in the police.

Congratulations to students who have already secured Work Experience placements – again, if anyone in the community is able to assist in offering Work Experience placements for a week starting from the 12th June can you get in contact using the following email:

[OAK Career HE Progression route enquiries@beckfootoakbank.org](mailto:OAK_Career_HE_Progression_route_enquiries@beckfootoakbank.org)

We have had confirmation from Coventry University that we are able to take 30 Y12 NCOP students. They will be attending lectures, have a tour of the university and experience a typical student's day. The day is fully funded by Coventry University as part of its Outreach Programme – thank you Coventry!

[Widening Participation Outreach | Coventry University](#)

Expectations

We have been focusing on punctuality to lessons and have seen a significant improvement this week. Thank you to parents who have supported us in this.

Being late to lesson twice in a day result in a same day after school detention. Persistent late to lesson during the week and or failure to attend an after-school detention results in a longer SLT detention each Friday. The numbers who have needed after school detention have been low this week – we hope to see continued improvement in the coming weeks.

CEIAG – Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance.

Please use the following link to find out about Careers at Beckfoot Oakbank this half term. Also, in the bulletin there are useful links for careers in the community – as well as useful links about Labour Market jobs in the community:

[Beckfoot Oakbank Aspirations & Careers Bulletin - November December 2022.pdf](#)

We are constantly updating our Future Ready and Careers platform on the school website – take a minute to have a look:

[Beckfoot Oakbank School - Future Ready](#)

[Beckfoot Oakbank School - Careers Education Information and Guidance \(CEIAG\)](#)

Below are some useful career websites to help students and their parents/careers, navigate through Y9 Options and choices after Y11:

[Careerpilot : Parent zone](#)

[Careerpilot : Plan your future work & study](#)

[Unifrog - The complete destinations platform.](#) - all students have login details for this platform and can access and reset their login details through their school email

Finally, can I remind all students and their parents/carers that each year group has a dedicated TEAMS Careers page – this page is updated daily with a different job focus, linked to a weekly theme – this week its Careers in Creative arts and design – ask your child about their Careers Page and help promote Careers:

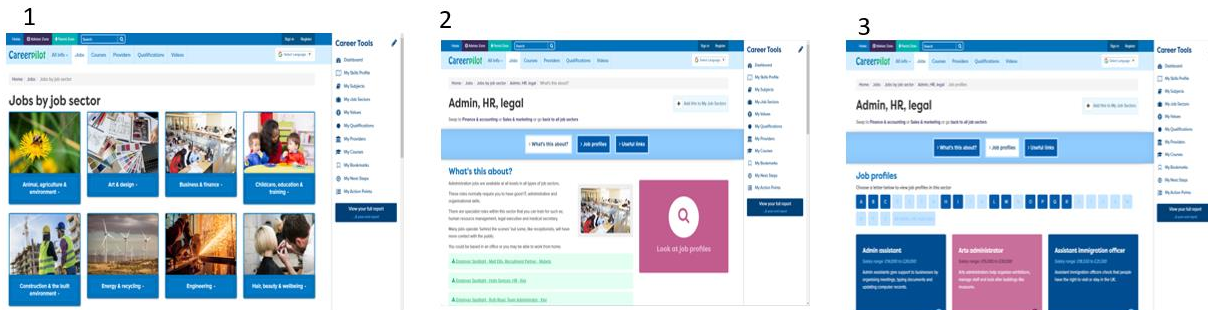
[Job profiles | Prospects.ac.uk](#)

Students and parents can easily contact a member of the careers team through the email below. Our careers team is here to support our students, but also parents and carers – if you need any career advice, support or guidance then please contact us:

[OAK Career HE Progression route enquiries@beckfootoakbank.org](mailto:OAK_Career_HE_Progression_route_enquiries@beckfootoakbank.org)

Alternatively, if you are looking for opportunities in West Yorkshire area then use this link below

[Careerpilot : Jobs by job sector](#) - click on the link, then select the industry you are looking for, then click the search box and you can find jobs in the area and the key qualifications/qualities needed.



<https://ratemyplacement-email.co.uk/30Z1-1CAQQ-9D04290C473819F18N7FVDFD7BE49E48CFB407/cr.aspx> - most recent apprenticeship opportunities in and around the West Yorkshire region – any beyond.



This is Annie Gibson your Careers adviser

She is in school every Tuesday and every other Wednesday. Find her in the 6th form office Her email is Annie.Gibson@Bradford.gov.uk.

Mobile number is 078115-4133.

Please ask for help if you are not sure what you are doing next .

Send an email or a text.

Staying safe with Online Gaming

The Call of Duty (CoD) series is a worldwide gaming phenomenon, with millions of copies sold every year. A sequel to the recent Modern Warfare reboot (and not to be confused with the original Modern Warfare 2, from back in 2009), the game is an online shooter which features – unsurprisingly – extreme violence, rendered in realistic graphics. Amid the explosions and potential political nature of the plot, there's much for parents to be aware of. This game has a PEGI 18 rating and this classification is applied when the level of violence becomes 'gross'. Gross violence is classed as horrific methods of bringing death or severe injury, including torture, decapitation or dismemberment. We understand that children of all ages may want to play these games. However, it is important for us to understand the potential harmful impacts of exposing young people to this level of extreme violence online.

Visit our website www.beckfootoakbank.org

Follow us on twitter [@BeckfootOakbank](https://twitter.com/BeckfootOakbank)

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many games which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about CALL OF DUTY: MODERN WARFARE II

The Call of Duty (CoD) series is a worldwide gaming phenomenon, with millions of copies sold every year. While 2021's release, Vanguard, wasn't quite as well received, this latest entry – Modern Warfare II – has so far proved a massive commercial success. A sequel to the recent Modern Warfare reboot (and not to be confused with the original Modern Warfare 2, from back in 2009), the game is an online shooter which features – unsurprisingly – extreme violence, rendered in realistic graphics. Amid the explosions and political nature of the plot, there's much for parents to be aware of.

AGE RATING

PEGI
18

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

VIRTUAL VIOLENCE

Like most of its predecessors in the franchise, Modern Warfare II carries an 18 age rating from PEGI (the Pan-European Gaming Information system, which assesses games' content for suitability). This means players will encounter – according to PEGI's wording – depictions of "gross violence, apparently motiveless killing, or violence towards defenceless characters".

OFFENSIVE CHAT & MESSAGING

Most CoD players are likely to spend the majority of their time on Modern Warfare II in online multiplayer mode. This entails competing against – or cooperating with – strangers on the online battlefield. The fast-paced, cut-throat world of CoD means that communication through the game's voice chat and direct messages often turns heated and aggressive, which may upset younger players.

IN-GAME PURCHASES

Modern Warfare II follows the 'battle pass' model of games like Fortnite. For a fee – usually around £10 – each 'season' (every three months or so), players will be invited to complete extra challenges to earn new weapons and equipment. Different tiers of battle pass (costing more money) enable them to achieve this more quickly, while items can also be purchased from the in-game store.

POLITICAL SENSITIVITY

Previous CoD games have been accused of attempting to "rewrite history": failing to correctly attribute alleged war crimes to the US military, for example. The semi-fictional version of history presented on screen can cause players to misunderstand past conflicts and the real reasons they took place. This could lead to young people developing a distorted, inaccurate view of world politics.

AN ADDICTIVE EXPERIENCE

Multiplayer mode in Call of Duty titles revolves around levelling up your character to unlock new weapons, abilities and equipment. The process is designed so that it doesn't take too long to see an improvement, and the feeling of making meaningful progress can keep players hooked for hours. It's easy for gamers of any age to lose track of time, but younger ones are especially susceptible.

Advice for Parents & Carers

RESPECT THE AGE RATING

Based on accurately recreating combat situations, Call of Duty games are unflinching in their portrayal of war. Limbs are shot off and explosions send gore flying, while the previous Modern Warfare featured a lengthy interrogation and torture sequence. With Modern Warfare II offering the same style of brutal realism, it's worth reiterating that the PEGI 18 age rating is there for a reason.

SET SPENDING LIMITS

If your child is likely to be tempted by buying that 'must-have' weapon or item, consider removing your bank details from the console or computer to prevent indiscriminate spending – and an unwelcome bill. Pre-paid cards could be an option for in-game purchases, allowing you to control how much your child can spend in advance – and helping them learn the basics of budgeting.

CLOSE OFF COMMUNICATION

Unless they're playing with their real-life friends, it may be worth closing communication channels if your child plays Modern Warfare II. There's less of a team focus than in many other online combat games and therefore no real need to interact with strangers. Call of Duty fans can be intensely competitive, so even a single action by your child could provoke a barrage of abuse from strangers.

TRY OTHER MODES

If it seems that your child only ever plays Modern Warfare II in multiplayer, you could try out the Spec Ops mode with them – formulating strategies while enjoying each other's company. You could also play multiplayer together, taking it in turns to ensure regular breaks. Another alternative is the game's campaign mode, featuring bespoke missions and scenarios which follow an overarching plot.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is Games Editor of technology and entertainment website Dexerto and has been working in the gaming media for three years. A long-time gaming enthusiast, he is also a parent and therefore a keen advocate of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his articles have also been published on influential sites including IGN and TechRadar, among others.



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Source: <https://www.ign.com/articles/what-is-the-battle-pass-in-call-of-duty-modern-warfare-ii> / <https://www.usgamer.net/articles/call-of-duty-modern-warfare-ii-accused-of-rewriting-history-to-blame-russia-for-carlton-kidnapping>



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