

# Headteacher Newsletter Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February

## Highlights of the week

A week of celebration at Beckfoot Oakbank this week. Our achievement assemblies this week have acknowledged the hard work and efforts of learners and have seen the first 'big prizes' drawn for golden tickets. I've seen some great learning taking place across the school, particularly with our exam cohorts in year 11 and year 13 who are preparing for mock exams next half term. Myself and Mr Heaton were at Haworth Primary school last night and got to meet some of our families who have Year 6 children joining in September which was exciting.

## Upcoming Events

10 <sup>th</sup> February	School closes for half term
20 <sup>th</sup> February	School reopens - students to be at line up by 8.15am please
20 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 11 Mocks begin – see more below.
2 <sup>nd</sup> March	Year 10 Parents' Evening 3.30pm -6.30pm
2 <sup>nd</sup> March	World Book Day
6 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 13 Mocks begin.
8 <sup>th</sup> , 9 <sup>th</sup> and 10 <sup>th</sup> March	The school performance of Annie takes place.
23 <sup>rd</sup> March	Y7 Parents' Evening 3.30pm -6.30pm
<b>Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March*</b>	<b>Partial school closure day for additional staff training.</b> <b>Years 11 and Y13 will attend all lessons as normal.</b> School will be closed to Years 7,8,9,10,12 who will have access to remote learning materials for the day.

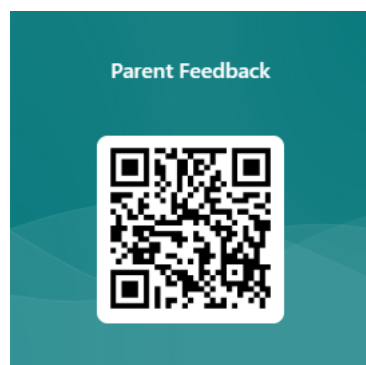
*\*this is a change to the calendar originally published at the start of the year.*

## We are a community and we would love you to give us feedback.

As part of our school improvement drive we are already working on further developing our curriculum and developing the staff team. We are also planning some changes to the school day for the next academic year and want your thoughts and feedback. We are also interested to hear from members of the community who may want to join our Local Schools Committee or engage in school improvement by attending parent forum meetings. The following link takes you to a short form where we can gather your feedback.

<https://forms.office.com/e/1zCaeY73bX>

Alternatively you can access the survey by using the QR code below.



## Attendance for the week

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Year 7	90.3	90.6	89.8	89.6	85.1
Year 8	86.9	89.4	86.9	88.4	86.2
Year 9	89.1	86.1	89.1	87	84.5
Year 10	86	86.3	86.9	86.9	84.5
Year 11	83	85.5	82.3	81.7	78.6
Year 12	97.3	97.6	94.7	93.6	97.2
Year 13	94.2	96.6	96	97.6	83.7

### Key

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

\*National YTD attendance at 13.1.23 was 90.8% (DfE).

1071 of our students had 100% attendance this week.

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

131 students have had 100% attendance for the year to date.

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

Awesome numbers of students are continuing to attend on time every day, and although we still want to improve attendance significantly, we recognise that for much of this week, more students were coming in than we have seen in previous weeks. We also rewarded 372 students who met the attendance challenge today; they had been in and on time to school every day this year, so we let them beat the queues for fish and chips at lunch, and gave them a little chocolate treat as well. Congratulations all the winners!

Let's make sure that everyone returns at 8:15 on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February, and maintains 100% attendance from that point on, so that students can get the most out of their time here (and be eligible for all the great attendance rewards – with more chance to get the other rewards too!).

## Golden Tickets

Last week	
Year 8	133
Year 7	116
Year 10	114
Year 9	113
Year 11	53

Year 8 continue to lead the way in terms of golden tickets and achievement points. Well done Y8.

## Positive achievements

Year to date		Last week	
Year 8	70664	Year 8	2084
Year 7	63804	Year 10	1295
Year 10	47918	Year 9	1157
Year 9	45168	Year 7	1037
Year 11	37473	Year 11	668

Congratulations to students Keiran C, Leon P, Kian FP, Maea G and Sam A for being the recipients of the Healthy Rewards for this term. FM catering gave each student a voucher for making healthy choices from our kitchen menus.

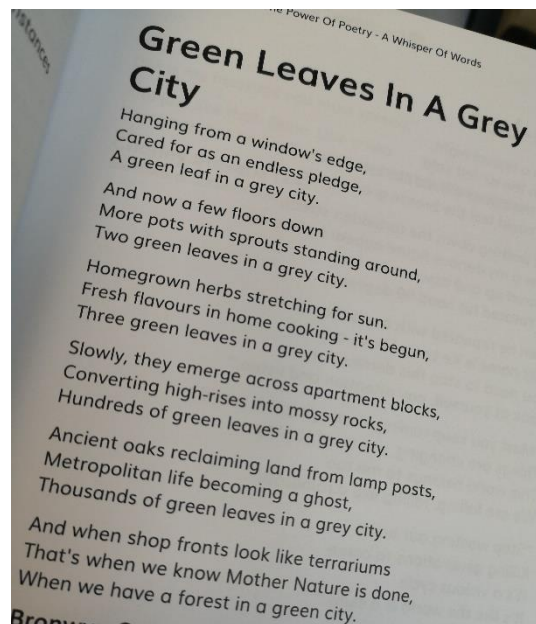


HOPE DREAMS POWER IDENTITY POLLUTION BUILDING DISCANTMENT DESTRUCTION

# THE POWER OF POETRY

A Whisper Of Words  
By Daisy Job

Congratulations to Bronwyn Yr 13 for having her poem Green Leaves in a Grey City, published in the Power of Poetry. A fantastic evocative piece of work.



Each week we celebrate students across school who are enjoying learning and succeeding, doing themselves proud and being great role models to others.

Fraser A Year 8

Keiran C Year 11

Albie E Year 7

**Well done to you all.**

## Homework

After evaluating our homework offer and taking on board views from all of our stakeholders we have reassessed our approach to homework. I am excited to share with you our homework timetable with you for next half term; not only are there changes to how homework is set but also how we communicate with parents when homework is set and we are currently discussing how best to reward those students who engage fully in their homework. Please find more details here:

[Beckfoot Oakbank School - Homework Timetable](#)

**Sparx maths** is coming for years 7-11! We now have the capacity to set all students personalised maths homework linked to the scheme they are following in class. After half term your child will be given a Sparx homework book to complete their weekly homework. Their maths teacher will have shown them how to log on and what to do. As parents you can access further details on the website

Students can complete on any device including a smart phone. Students without access to a device at home can always access our LRC which is open every break time, every lunch time and daily after school.

## Assembly and Tutor lessons (Personal Development)

The Reward Assemblies have caused quite a stir this week, lots of prizes of chocolates, silver and bronze badges as well as large ticket vouchers have been won. Especially the new £100 vouchers, one per year group, which created excitement and anticipation every morning this week. Seeing the huge piles of Golden Tickets won by students piled up ready for the draw was incredible, and testament to the hard work that goes on every day right across school.



The current affairs article for Years 9-11 has focussed on everyone favourite guilty pleasure: cake! We have been investigating claims from a food chief that it's the new smoking and the effects of too much cake can have grave implications for our health.

Students vote every week in the Votes for School topic on a Friday, everyone has their vote counted and it's added to the 221 other schools who take part – this week students learned about online harm and if influencers have to take some of the blame for creating problems on the internet.

The Oakbank Way curriculum focussed on learning habit 1 this week. All students learned about the importance of how we do things here. Students are reminded and encouraged to make positive choices, and these are recognised in growing numbers by our Green Community Awards for students who are helpful, kind, hold doors open, and show respect making our school and community an even nicer place to learn and work. Just as the tickets say on them '*palma non sine pulvere*' no reward without effort!

This is the Oakbank way. It is how we do things here.

Learning is hard and so we have to make every minute count in lessons to learn more and remember more.

We are all here to learn

All the Learning Habits are designed to increase learning. The more time we have to work in lessons, we can learn more and remember more increasing our individual success.

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We are all here to learn

What do we have to do to help us learn and make every minute count?

- Keep smiling. Smiling is infectious and you can spread a lot of enjoyment by smiling.
- Say 'Hello!' or 'Morning' to others, and if someone speaks to you acknowledge them by replying. Walking past or ignoring them is hurtful and unkind.
- Building belonging and enjoyment makes this a nicer place for everyone to work and learn.
- Actively listening to one another shows obvious kindness, respect and genuine interest in others – this can transform someone's day. Taking an interest is powerful.
- Showing your gratitude is good manners. Saying 'thank you' to teaching staff after a lesson, or to an adult or student who helps you is polite. We all belong here.

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Learning Habit 1: Positive response

We use our manners, and we are polite. We say 'please' and 'thank you,' 'morning' and 'how are you?' This shows how we respect one another, and how much we care. It is kind. Positive responses build belonging in our community, and this makes it a nicer place to work.

Learning Habit 1: Positive response  
Learning Habit 2: Perfect uniform  
Learning Habit 3: On-task behaviour  
Learning Habit 4: Punctuality and attendance  
Learning Habit 5: Equipped for success

## Y7 News



We are so very proud of Katie J for winning gold in her recent Gymnastics competition. Such a talented and committed student.

## Y8 News



Just a small sample of the fabulous work Year 8 students have completed in Art over recent weeks. Zak, Lexie E and Lexie G were excited to be taking home their work, there'll be a lot of impressed families this week. Huge well-done Year 8!



## Y9 News

Well done Year 9- we had a fantastic rewards assembly complete with our Y9 Band! You have done a tremendous job in considering your next steps and handing in your Options Forms. We are all very proud of the mature and considered approach you have had this half term.

Scientists have been carrying out thermal decomposition reactions all week!

## Y10 News

A positive end to the term for Year 10 (halfway through the year and over a quarter of the way through the entire GCSE course!). We celebrated excellent achievement, effort, attitude and attendance in assembly this week, and did the grand prize draw using all the Golden Tickets collected this half-term – congratulations Raheesa! Have a lovely week off school and see you all rested and ready to learn at 8:15 on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February.

## Y11 News

Well done to the year group as a whole, they have really put the effort in this half term, 'The Oakbank way'. Their approach has been excellent, and I am sure they will reap the fruits of their labour in the mocks after half term. More information on the mocks can be found here: [Beckfoot Oakbank School - Year 11 Support](#)



Congratulations to Year 11 Billy and Kieran who have both received football scholarships for next year. Amazing news for two very talented young people, aiming high to reach their goals!

## Staying safe and supporting your children

### Traffic Around School

Please can we ask families that are dropping off or picking up students in cars to consider where they are parking and avoid blocking side roads and driveways for local residents and ensuring safe access for students and all our community. Thank you.


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

It's been a great half term for careers, visits and links with local employers – our students are certainly getting a vast array of opportunities to enhance their understanding of what they need for future careers. If you would like to take a look at our careers section – Future Ready Learners – then please do so by clicking the link below:

[Beckfoot Oakbank School - Future Ready](#)

We also have a weekly job update – and all of these can be found using the link below "Job of the Week" - this week's job of the week is:


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## Job Of The Week

### 6th February

# BROADCAST JOURNALIST




## Salary

The salary of a Broadcast Journalist can range from **£23,000 to £42,000**

## Typical Hours

**37-39 hours a week. You could work evenings, weekends & bank holidays**



## Entry Requirements

You can get into this job through:


- A University Course - Most Broadcast Journalist either have a degree in Journalism or a degree in another subject followed by a Postgraduate qualification in Broadcast Journalism. As a graduate, you can apply to various graduate schemes at various companies, including the BBC, as they offer advanced journalism trainee schemes.
- For entry requirements, you'll usually need 2-3 A-levels, or equivalent, for a degree and a relevant subject degree for a post-graduate qualification
- An Apprenticeship - You may be able to become a broadcast journalist by doing a level 5 journalist or a level 7 senior journalist apprenticeship. To do this apprenticeship, you'll usually need 4 or 5 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 (A\* to C) and A levels, or equivalent, for a higher or degree apprenticeship
- Working towards the role - You could start off as a Production Assistant, Media Researcher or runner with a Broadcasting company and work your way up
- Applying directly - Multiple companies offer the opportunity for people to undertake voluntary experience. Those companies include, ITV, Channel 4 and the BBC.

## What You'll do

Day-to-day tasks

As a broadcast journalist you might:

- research stories, follow 'leads' or develop ideas
- prepare and conduct live and pre-recorded interviews
- present in a TV or radio studio or on location
- record voiceovers for recorded material
- ask questions at briefings and press conferences
- direct a small camera or sound crew or operate equipment yourself



### [Beckfoot Oakbank School - Careers - Job of the Week](#)

So, what's been happening so far since Christmas:

1. Y9/10 Careers Fair
2. Y9 Options Evening
3. Craven College Assemblies
4. Oxford University Talk
5. University of Coventry Visit
6. Reach for Excellence talk with University of Leeds
7. Virtual Careers Event with Lewis Silkin LLP
8. Aspirations & Careers Bulletin – Aimed at all students
9. Progression Module (started) for year 12 NCOP

Events planned for after February half term:

- Student Finance talk for year 13 students
- Transition day for year 11
- Leeds Beckett University Gaming design taster
- Spring UK University & Apprenticeship search fair
- Enhanced Careers Guidance for year 11 under-represented group
- University of Hull campus visit for 54 year 8 students – TBC date

- University of Manchester visit for 54 Year 7 students – TBC date
- Keighley College to all year groups Y7-Y13 for National Careers week
- Ahead Partnerships for 30 year 9 students (Dragon's Den activity)
- Cambridge Uni for 30 year 11 students
- Year 12 work experience week
- Subject focus visit for Health & Social Care for 12 students at Leeds Trinity

Visit our website [www.beckfootoakbank.org](http://www.beckfootoakbank.org)

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