

Headteacher Newsletter Friday 19th January 2024

Highlights of the week

The temperatures outside may have been subzero for much of the week but there was certainly a lot of energy in the building with some fantastic learning and some great opportunities for our students. Thank you to the families who braved the cold and attended the Y9 parent evening last night. Lots of information about options and next steps. Years 9,10 and 11 also had the opportunity to visit our careers fair yesterday afternoon. We had a whole range of employers and further education providers with us. The feedback about our students' attitude and engagement was stunning. I am so proud of the students and the way they engaged with our visitors.

A well done to Logan R in Y9, who wowed me with the computer game he designed and wrote the code for to use with his Spanish teacher Miss Bell. Hugely impressive.

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

Upcoming events/Diary dates

- Week beginning 22nd January Y12 In class assessments.
- Week beginning 29th January Y11 Mocks begin.
- Thursday 1st February Year 7 Parents' evening 3.30pm -6.30pm
- Wednesday 7th February Parent Forum Meeting (re-arranged)
- Monday 12th February Half Term

Golden Tickets

Year to date		Last Week	
Year 7	3609	Year 7	331
Year 8	3384	Year 8	253
Year 9	3506	Year 9	287
Year 10	3001	Year 10	228
Year 11	2276	Year 11	224



Positive achievement points for learning habit 3

Year to date		Last Week	
Year 7	18654	Year 7	1920
Year 8	17548	Year 8	1443
Year 9	19989	Year 9	2225
Year 10	17397	Year 10	1762
Year 11	17697	Year 11	1723

Well done Y9 – great learning this week!

Attendance

	Friday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Year 7	82.8	90.3	85	79.5	74.6
Year 8	84.5	85.1	79.7	73.6	65.9
Year 9	85.4	89.1	84.4	73.3	76.9
Year 10	80.4	85.4	82.7	71.2	66.7
Year 11	78.8	82.9	79.4	71.3	68.4
Year 12	94.9	92.2	90.7	83.3	77.4
Year 13	94.1	91.5	91.3	89.2	86.5

Key

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

We know that the weather has been a challenge for students, families and staff this week, so appreciate everyone who managed to get into school in spite of this. It is also the time of year when lots of bugs are doing the rounds. It is vital that we support students to keep healthy and able to access as much learning as they possibly can. Please remind them of the need to get enough sleep, eat well, exercise and practise good hand hygiene to keep the winter bugs at bay. And please remember that we don't authorise absence for illness without medical evidence if a student's attendance is below 95%.

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) LUNCH TIME F51 MED	Debate club (Y7, 9, 11) LUNCH TIME 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	

On Thursday 11th January, the Drama Department hosted a trip for KS3 students, to the Alhambra Theatre, Bradford to watch the pantomime 'Cinderella'. This was a fantastic, enriching experience with bundles of laughs, superb acting and incredible visual settings; there was a flying chariot with horses, (fake) snow, dazzling lights and spectacular costumes. Billy Pearce, as expected, was full of fun and was accompanied this year with Emmerdale actress Samantha Giles and Strictly Come Dancing star, John Whaite. Our students were amazing throughout the performance, participating and adding to the theatrical ambience of Pantomime entertainment. I'm not kidding, 'Oh no I'm not!'

Year Group News

Y7 News

This week Year 7 have been working hard to achieve more golden tickets. They have been doing well in class and are showing some real improvements in both the quality and quantity of their writing. We hope that the students really understand that the more they practice the easier extended writing becomes. Just as a reminder, year 7 Parents' Evening is on the 1st of February. We are looking forward to seeing as many parents and students there as possible.

Y8 News

Year 8 have been working hard this week with our students arriving to lessons on time and achieving high numbers of Golden Tickets in lessons. Congratulations to 8AA for winning the attendance breakfast.

Year 8 have been accessing Numeracy Ninjas during form time, many students are talking about how competitive this has become within their tutor groups as they enjoy the challenge of using the mental strategies to approach the questions.

Year 8 are now getting to know the characters in their *Right to Read* novel 'Children of Blood and Bone' and are intrigued to find out how the ancient magic will impact the lives of Zelig and Tzain.

Y9 News

Logan has created his very own computer game! We are so amazed by the hard work that has gone into this, completely of his own accord! A huge well-done Logan.

It was wonderful to see so many year 9 students with their families for our Options and Parents Evening on Thursday. Thank you for braving the cold and coming to discuss the progress of your children. As discussed, it is now time to read, talk to teachers and gather as much information as possible about the best suite of subjects for every Year 9 student. Options forms and attendance information will be posted to families who could not attend. As always if you have any questions let Ms Walsh or our Year Team know. Finally, well done 9EB for winning the attendance prize.

Y10 News

Year 10 have been completing assessments this week, which has demanded lots of resilience, determination and focus from all of them. Mock exams are a crucial tool to develop these qualities, and provide invaluable learning opportunities to the students about their strengths and areas for development. Some of them have found it a real challenge, especially when coming up against the subjects that they feel least confident about. This is an experience that will make them increasingly able to cope with the demands of the GCSE courses and the exams they will face in Y11. Keep going Year 10; you can do it!

Y11 News

Ellis M is responsible for this fantastic piece of creative work for his photography project. It's a piece inspired by a famous photographer; the original photograph was taken of Ellis' friend who plays guitar, well done Ellis. All year 11 students have gone home this week with a mock examination booklet which has in it the timetable, revision strategies and what to revise – please ask them about it!

Post 16

We are now in the final push for UCAS – we have sent 48 applications and I know we have several students who are still too complete their applications. The deadline for all UCAS application is the 31st January.

Applications for Sixth Form are still open – if you have not applied to Beckfoot Oakbank Sixth Form and still want to – come and find Mr Delgado or Mrs Ellis to get an application. We will be holding over Sixth Form Taster morning on Friday 9th February – further details about this event will be sent out over the next two weeks

Finally, good luck to Artemis, Matilda and Phoebe who will be appearing in the Oakworth pantomime and well done to Eli Dodd, whose artwork is to be exhibited at Keighley Arts Hub during February



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.

Parent Voice Feedback

Thank you to those parents who completed the questionnaire at the Year 9 options evening, here are just some of the comments we received.

"Teachers were lovely and friendly"

"Very good and gave a better understanding"

"I am very proud of my sons progress"

"A very good evening, well informed and very happy"

As always we appreciate your feedback

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/ - find out more about opportunities in West Yorkshire

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](#)

Yesterday saw our 2nd Annual Career and Industry Day – I would like to thank all the local colleges, universities and businesses who attended. We had over twenty-five agencies attend, and the day was a great success. Y9/10 and 11 attended below are some pictures of students engaging with our visitors





We also had some fantastic feedback from our visitors about the engagement of our students:

“it was really rewarding for us to attend the careers fair and meet the students, and the next generation coming into the working world. We met many students who were interested in learning about a career in law. I think there are many students who will go far in their next steps in studying and work” Sonia Hussain

“we very much enjoyed the day. Students had lots of interesting questions about the construction industry. All the students were polite and had been full prepared in what to ask and how to conduct themselves” Ameila Bleasdale and Sufyann Akhtar

Finally, if your child is in Y9/10/11 and they attend the fair please can they complete the online survey – this will help us make next year’s Career and Industry Day even more successful.

Careers Day Fair Feedback
18/01/24



**BECKFOOT
OAKBANK
SCHOOL** 

Your child in Year 9,
10 or 11 visited the
Careers Fair in school
on Thursday.

Please can they scan
the QR code and
complete the online
survey to provide
feedback.

learnenjoysucceed

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.*