

Dear Parents/Carers.

What a fantastic first week back we've had! I showed Miss Land, a new member of staff who is starting with us next Monday in year 1, around school on Thursday morning and I was blown away with how polite and welcoming every single class were to Miss Land.

### **Parents' Evening**

It was so lovely to see so many of you attend parents' evening on Wednesday. There was such a positive buzz around school all afternoon and into the evening and many positive comments heard from pupils, staff and families about how well children have settled into this academic year; making a great start! A big thank you to our Y6 school prefects who kept staff within time!

Thank you for completing the parental questionnaire and providing us with such valuable feedback we really do appreciate it.

### **Congratulations!**

On Thursday Miss Cheetham and Miss Fowler attended their university graduation day. Congratulations to both of them!



On Tuesday we threw a surprise baby shower for Miss Lees ahead of her maternity leave later this month. She was very shocked but equally grateful and touched of the efforts that had gone into it.



## Smartest Class of the Week

This week Reception, Mexico Class are smartest class of the week!



## SAFEGUARDING

### Campaigners join architects of Online Safety Act in Parliament to celebrate ground-breaking new laws for children

Abuse survivors and young people join NSPCC Chief Executive and head of Ofcom to mark momentous achievement.

Young people, bereaved families and abuse survivors celebrate the Online Safety act becoming law at our reception in Parliament.

Campaigners who have worked tirelessly for new laws that will protect children online joined politicians, civil society and regulators to welcome the legislation.

After years of campaigning, legislation that will put a legal duty on tech companies to protect children from sexual abuse and harmful material on social media sites, gaming apps and messaging services was given the Royal Assent on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2023.

The codes of practice will be consulted before being Implemented, but those at the event were united in their expectations that tech companies should not wait to begin putting concrete measures in place to make their sites safe by design for children.



# SUPPORTING CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH

## 10 Conversation Starters for Parents

Talking about mental health to children is sometimes hard. To the point that we can put off raising the subject, not wanting to unearth problems or raise overwhelming subjects that we perceive our child is too young or not ready for. But rather than keeping children in the dark, this guide is designed to help you confidently talk about mental health, so they feel comfortable talking about their own worries and end any stigma before it begins.



### 1 LISTEN

This sounds obvious, but it is not something we are always great at. Active listening is where we listen without interrupting or making judgements and shows interest in what is being said. If your child feels listened to in the 'smallest of problems' they will become confident that you will listen when the 'biggest of problems' arise.

### 2 ASK TWICE

The campaign from time to change is great. <https://www.time-to-change.org.uk/support-ask-twice-campaign>. Be tenacious about your child's wellbeing. Children instinctively know when your questions and support come from a place of wanting to help and care.



### 6 TALK ABOUT MENTAL HEALTH NATURALLY

Speak about mental health as part of everyday life, so that talking about our feelings and those of others is normalised. If the usual 'are you ok?' is not creating an opportunity for dialogue then say something like 'I know when something like that has happened to me I felt like this... is that how you are feeling or are you feeling something else?'

### 7 EMPATHISE

'It makes sense that you would feel this way. It is understandable'. Children often worry about things that we, as adults, might see as trivial or silly. However, for them at their age and stage it is a big concern and they need our kindness and care when they show their vulnerability and share their worries.



### 3 THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS A STUPID QUESTION

This advice also relates to the first point. If your child can ask you any questions about the smallest of things and you listen and answer without shaming or belittling, then they will have more confidence to ask the biggest of questions.



### 8 HELP YOUR CHILD FEEL SAFE

Teens particularly feel that by talking about their worries or concerns that this will make things worse. Reassure your child that you will discuss a plan of action together and what may or may not need to happen next. If they are a younger child, it is likely you will need to lead the conversation and explain next steps.



### 4 BE OPEN AND HONEST

Children appreciate honesty, particularly if you are having to share information or talk about a difficult subject. For example, you may be talking about death or loss; 'It's very sad that Nana has died' or 'I feel sad that Nana has died'. How you talk about a subject will differ depending on their age and developmental maturity. Talking about death to a younger child for example will be different to that of an older teen, as their experience and understanding of death is different.



### 9 MIND YOUR LANGUAGE

Be mindful of the language you use at home to describe and talk about mental health. Stigma often arises from misconceptions and a choice of language which is harmful. Using the word 'mental', 'man-up' or other such words in a derogatory way won't encourage your child to talk about their mental health for fear of being belittled.



### 5 KNOW WHEN TO SEEK HELP

Assess the severity of the mental health difficulty you are noticing. Is the difficulty making it hard for your child to function regularly throughout everyday life? How frequently is your child affected, how long does it last and how persistent is it? Are they having problems controlling the difficulty? Talk to your child about your concerns and that it is likely they will need further support beyond family and friends.



### 10 IT IS OK TO SAY 'I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO NEXT'

Adults do not have all the answers but often children think they do. It is ok to acknowledge that what your child is experiencing is not something you have come across before or know anything about, but that you will work it out together and seek help together.



## Meet our expert

This guide has been written by Anna Bateman. Anna is passionate about placing prevention at the heart of every school, integrating mental wellbeing within the curriculum, school culture and systems. She is also a member of the advisory group for the Department of Education, advising them on their mental health green paper.



## Sources of Information and Support

Your GP  
Young Minds <https://youngminds.org.uk/v>  
<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/stress-anxiety-depression/>  
<https://www.actionforchildren.org.uk/news-and-blogs/parenting-tips/2016/november/a-simple-guide-to-active-listening-for-parents/>  
<https://www.themix.org.uk/mental-health>



[www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) Twitter - @natonlinesafety Facebook - /NationalOnlineSafety

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# Starting School September 2024

## How to apply for a school place

Children born between 1 September 2019 and 31 August 2020 are due to start primary school in September 2024.

To apply for a school place you must **apply online by 15 January 2024** at [www.calderdale.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.calderdale.gov.uk/admissions).

For advice and guidance regarding the application process please contact 01422 392617, option 1, and a Customer First Advisor will be able to assist you.

If you would like a leaflet about applying for a primary school place please contact your preferred school and register your child's name. The leaflet will then be distributed by the primary school at the end of November 2023.

Information relating to Admission to Primary School 2024, including oversubscription criteria, is available at [www.calderdale.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.calderdale.gov.uk/admissions).

**The application process opens on 17 November 2023  
and the close date is 15 January 2024**

Offers of school places will be made on 16 April 2024.

## Reception 2024 Open Day



Come and visit our  
Reception Open Day!



**Dean Field**  
Community Primary School



Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2023  
10am – 11am and 1:15pm- 2:15pm



**Dean Field**  
Community Primary School

Children in early years get off to a good start. Leaders plan the curriculum so that children learn knowledge and engage in activities that capture their imaginations.

Ofsted 2022



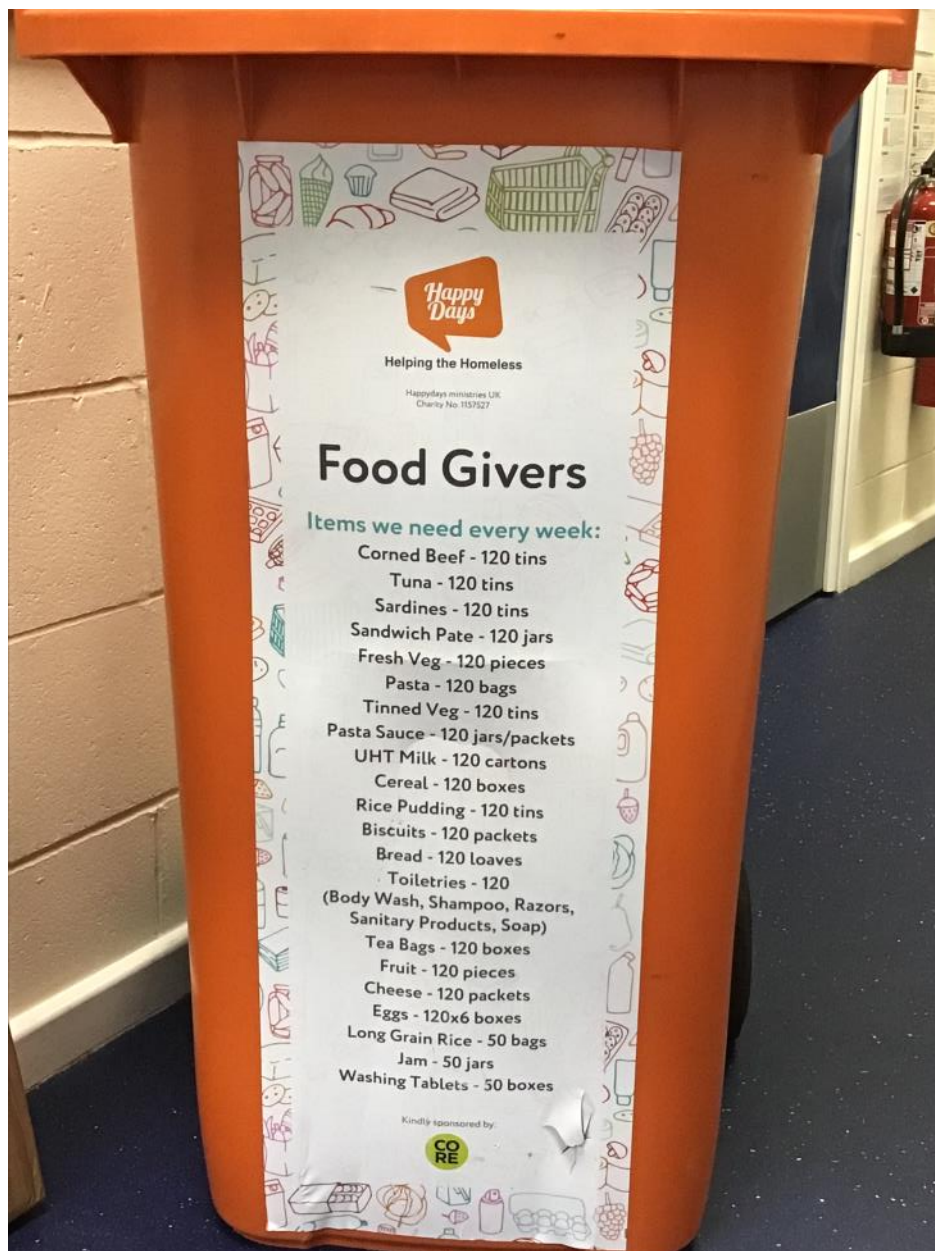


## Charity Food Bin

School have partnered up with Happy Days Charity to help the homeless in our community. If you would like to donate food items, toiletries, washing tablets, etc. please see the bin below with details of what is needed each week.

We will put the bin outside each morning by the ramp at the school entrance, or you can bring items into the office at any time during the school day.

Dean Field is proud to help the community in any way possible and show our children the value of kindness and giving to others.





## Children in Need 2023

This year we are taking part in the BBC Children in Need Bearpees challenge!

We are taking on Joe Wicks' challenge to try and complete 1000 burpees as a school every day during the fundraising week which is the week commencing Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November.

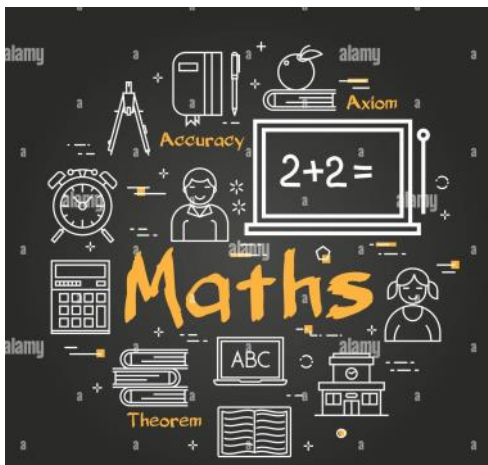
Each class is going to keep a daily class total and hopefully by the end of the day, we will reach the target of 1000!

On **Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November** we have a **yellow/spotty/sportswear** themed non-uniform day and we would be very grateful for a **50p** donation which will go to Children in Need. We are also going to do a whole school bearpees challenge in the playground on this day!

Visit <https://www.bbcchildreninneed.co.uk/fundraising/introducing-pudsey-bearpees/learn-how-to-bearpee/> to learn how to bearpee!

## Parent Presentations

Stay tuned to Seesaw as over the next few weeks our fantastic subject leaders will be releasing parent presentations for different subjects to help you understand how different subjects are taught across the school. Next week will be maths and the following weeks will be reading, writing, science, geography and history.



## Anti-Bullying Week

Next week are going to be raising awareness about Anti-Bullying week!







## Christmas Events



Event	Date
Chocolate Tombola - non-uniform	Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> November
Christmas Fayre	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> December
EY Christmas Nativity	Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December
Reindeer Run	Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> December
Christmas Dinner Day	Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> December
Christmas Jumper Day	Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> December
Singing around the Christmas tree – Lower School	Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> December 9am
Singing around the Christmas tree – Upper School	Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> December 2:15pm
Santa Visit	Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> December
Christmas Party – non-uniform	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December



**Christmas Fayre**

We need your help with donations.

Whether you have a business and you could donate a raffle prize or having a declutter at home, we would appreciate you thinking of us!

Any donations please bring to the main office at Deanfield Primary School



**Reminder:** Raffle letters have gone out and we are now selling tickets £1 per strip.

**NO BOOKS PLEASE**

## SCHOOL LOTTERY

Don't forget to join our school lottery and be in with a chance of winning cash prizes up to £25,000, plus great bundles like the one shown here.

The school lottery helps support our school so we can buy extra resources and do extra curricular activities.



- Win a Limited Edition Spider-Man 2 Playstation 5
- AND the brand-new Playstation VR2 Headset!
- Tickets from just £1 a week
- Play now and support our school!

### BUY TICKETS:

Go to: **YourSchoolLottery.co.uk**

And search for: **Dean Field Community**



Draw date Saturday 25th November. See website for terms and conditions

GambleAware



**FREE**

# FOOTBALL FRIDAYS



**FOREST COTTAGE 3G PITCH,  
COUSIN LANE,  
HALIFAX  
HX2, 8AD**

**AGES 8-12 BOYS/GIRLS  
EVERY FRIDAY | 4PM-5PM**



**TO BOOK:**

**EMAIL: [PROJECTCOMMUNITIES@OUTLOOK.COM](mailto:PROJECTCOMMUNITIES@OUTLOOK.COM)**





## DIARY DATES

DATE	EVENT
Tuesday 14th November	Year 5+6 CAMHS Workshops
Wednesday 15th November	Rec + Y6 Height and Weight Check
Wednesday 15th November	Year 3+4 Gymnastics Trip
Thursday 16th November	Year 2 Residential—Nell Bank
Thursday 16th November	Reception 2024 Open Day 10-11am 1:15-2:15pm

**REMINDER:** All school fees, dinner money, extended provision and Nursery need to be paid in advance.  
We do not offer any credit and there are no exceptions.  
Please pay fees on time.

**REMINDER:** We are a nut free school and we would appreciate that any lunchboxes do not include nut products to protect the children in school with nut allergies.



To accomplish great things, we must not only act, but also dream, not only plan but also believe.

### Accelerated Reader – Reading Achievements this week



Brazil	91%
Poland	85%
Australia	85%
Ireland	87%
Kenya	88%

You could help increase your class percentage by doing some extra reading on myON! There are thousands of books for you to choose from! If you need a reminder of your login details, please speak to your teacher. Visit <https://www.myon.co.uk/login/> to start reading!

### TT Rockstars Weekly Winners

Year 2 – Lilly-Jo F

Year 3 – Poppy B

Year 4 – Blakley R

Year 5 – Asmaria B

Year 6 – Freddy B

**Class Winner – Year 4**



Group	% Attendance
Mexico	96.1%
China	97.5%
Australia	95.8%
Poland	89.2%
Kenya	96.4%
Brazil	92.4%
Ireland	91.7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>94.3%</b>

### This Weeks Attendance

Congratulations to China class who had the highest attendance in the school this week. Well done to Kenya class for coming second. I am seriously concerned of classes who are below 96%. Meetings with parents of children who are of concern will occur.

If your child is absent from school please contact the school office on 01422 258258 before 9.00am.

It is important we are aware of the reason for your child/children's absence. It becomes a safeguarding concern if parents do not inform school when their child/children are absent. Please contact the school office on the first day of absence before 9am stating reasons for any absence. This will avoid absences being recorded as unauthorised.

If you have any concerns or questions surrounding your child/children's attendance please do not hesitate to contact me.

Many thanks,  
Loraine Stansfield, Pastoral Manager

## CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY

Mexico Reception	Luna S	For completing lots of new challenges.
	Evie R	For been an always child and being helpful and a good friend.
China Year 1	George G	For being ready to learn and sitting beautifully on the carpet.
	Joey C	For a huge improvement in his segmenting and blending.
Australia Year 2	Annabelle H	For being a super role model to all her friends in class and always doing the right thing.
	Alexander Z	For trying really hard with his Black history month art work.
Poland Year 3	Mia E	For being super helpful and always doing the right thing.
	Hannah R	For trying hard in maths this week.
Kenya Year 4	Seb L	For fantastic engagement during RE.
	Isaac P	For having an outstanding attitude to learning.
Brazil Year 5	Jacob Br	For being an all round superstar!
	Levi N	For being so well-mannered and polite at all times.
Ireland Year 6	Lacey N	For superb maths this week.
	Emelia N	For being an absolute star at ALL times.