

Dear parents and carers,

This week we have been visited by two separate school improvement partners that we use to ensure we are always improving the quality of education here at Dean Field.

On Monday we had a review of EYFS (Reception and Nursery) and had some excellent feedback from Michelle Joyce around the children's attitudes to learning, clearly established routines that are embedded throughout both classrooms and the highly skilled staff who work in both nursery and reception classes.

On Thursday we had a review of early reading and phonics and PE. Andy Taylor who carried out the review was thoroughly impressed with our teaching of phonics and all that is in place throughout the school to ensure pupils have the best start in reading in the early years and KS1 so they can access the full curriculum offer as they move through school.

A big thank you to all the staff involved in the reviews, particularly Miss Brambani who led all three reviews.

Goodbye

Today we say goodbye to Miss Lees who starts her maternity leave. We wish her all the very best of luck for her imminent arrival and look forward to her visiting us soon with her bundle of joy!

Have a great weekend!

Mrs Pether

A very polite reminder: Seesaw is the platform we use regularly to contact parents and share the students school day. Please access Seesaw for all information. Thank you.

Staff training

This week all teachers have taken part in a cross trust writing moderation event. All teachers from across the trust met in year groups and looked at a selection of English books to discuss their judgements which teachers find really beneficial.

Smartest Class of the Week

This week Year 1, China Class are smartest class of the week!



SAFEGUARDING

Relationship Matters – Reducing Parental Conflict

Whether you're together or separated, the way you and your partner communicate can impact on your children. All relationships have tricky moments, it's how they're experienced and resolved that matters.

Research has shown that frequent, intense and poorly resolved inter-parental relationship conflict, whether between couples who are living together or separated, can have an adverse effect on their child's emotional, social and cognitive development.

Of course, disagreements and arguments are completely normal and part of everyday life but if it is becoming a problem then you can get help.

The [Relationship Matters website](#) is a great source for additional information. You can download [Relationship Matters Key Messages](#).

Parenting Support

Support services for parents are available on the Calderdale Council website, see [Parental support](#).



SUPPORTING CHILDREN TO DEAL WITH UPSETTING CONTENT

A Guide for Parents and Carers

Raising children in the digital age seems to be getting tougher, with the world currently experiencing so many uncertainties. From climate change to military conflicts around the globe, right now children across the globe can scarcely go online without being exposed to unsettling stories, images and ideas. Reassuring a concerned child can be difficult, especially when bad news feels omnipresent. We've put together some advice to help you in discussing upsetting events with young ones.

1 FIND OUT WHAT YOUR CHILD KNOWS

There are many ways that children are exposed to upsetting content in the media, both online and offline. Before swamping your child with information, find out what they know already. Show them you're interested in what they have to say, practice active listening and try to gauge how much your child has been impacted by what they've seen.



2 RIGHT TIME, RIGHT PLACE

Starting a conversation about upsetting content probably isn't the best idea when your child is studying for an exam or about to go to bed. Choose a time when they're relaxed and open to talking, to make sure you have their full attention. Remember, these conversations can become emotional, so choose somewhere your child feels safe and comfortable.



3 KEEP IT AGE APPROPRIATE

With younger children, try and keep the conversation more general and avoid leading questions and complex detail. You can go slightly deeper into the specifics with young teenagers but keep monitoring their emotional response. With older teens, you can be more open about the realities and consequences of what's happening – but again, do stay aware of their emotional state.



4 EMPHASISE HOPE

Upsetting content can make anyone feel angry, scared, sad or overwhelmed. Try to find stories of hope, generosity and strength related to the content you're discussing. Children often feel reassured when they know they can do something to help, so encourage your child's sense of control through activities which make them feel they're positively impacting the events they're concerned about.



5 MONITOR REACTIONS

All children react differently, of course, and young people might not directly say that they're scared, angry, anxious, confused or uncomfortable. Emotional reactions are natural when discussing upsetting topics, so take note of your child's body language and reactions. Allow them to express their feelings in a non-judgmental space and try to stay mindful of how they might be feeling.



6 CONSIDER YOUR OWN EMOTIONS

It's not only young people who find upsetting news difficult to process: adults also have to deal with strong emotions in moments of stress. Children develop coping strategies by mirroring those around them, so staying on top of how you appear to be regulating your emotion on the outside is important for supporting your child through worrying times.



7 SET LIMITS

Managing screen-time and content can be difficult even in normal circumstances, but especially in unusual or stressful periods (at the start of the pandemic, for example). It's virtually impossible to keep children away from upsetting content completely, but it's important to try to limit exposure by using parental controls, talking about the dangers of harmful content and enforcing screen-time limits.



8 TAKE THINGS SLOWLY

Try not to overwhelm your child with information all at once; instead, take the discussion one step at a time. You could make the first conversation a simple introduction to a potentially upsetting subject and then wait until your child is ready to talk again. Opening the door to the conversation and demonstrating that your child can talk to you about this type of issue is a vital first step.



9 ENCOURAGE QUESTIONS

Online, troubling images, posts, videos and stories are shared across multiple platforms, many of which your child might access. Even if the content is actually inappropriate, encourage your child to discuss what they saw instead of being angry at them for seeing it. Children are still learning that not everything online is accurate – you want to be their ultimate source of information, not their device.



10 FIND A BALANCE

There's often a tremendous compulsion to stay right up to date with events. Our phones frequently send us push notifications urging us to read the latest article or view the most recent video on social media. It's essential to remind your child that it's healthy to take regular breaks, and to focus on positive events instead of 'doomscrolling' and risking becoming overwhelmed by bad news.



11 BUILD RESILIENCE

News has never been more accessible. While our instinct may be to shield children from upsetting stories, it's important that they're equipped with the tools to manage this content when they are exposed to it. Talk about upsetting content more generally with your child and emphasise that they can always tell you or a trusted adult if something they see makes them feel uneasy.



12 IDENTIFY HELP

It's hugely important that children know where to find support if they encounter upsetting content online. Encourage them to open up to an adult that they trust, and make sure they're aware of who their trusted adults are. It is essential that children understand that they're not alone, and that help is available if and when they need it.





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.

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.

**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.

Year 6 Trip to The Gibbet

Year 6 visited The Gibbet in Halifax as part of their crime and punishment topic in History. They spent time viewing the structure and learning historical facts about it. They then discussed how punishments have differed throughout history.



Year 3 Gymnastics

On Wednesday, Year 3 visited Jim-nas-tiks Matt's Gym in Dean Clough. The children had a gymnastic session delivered by a specialist coach where they learnt how to do a handstand. After that, the children had chance to play on all of the equipment. The children had an amazing time and would love to go again!

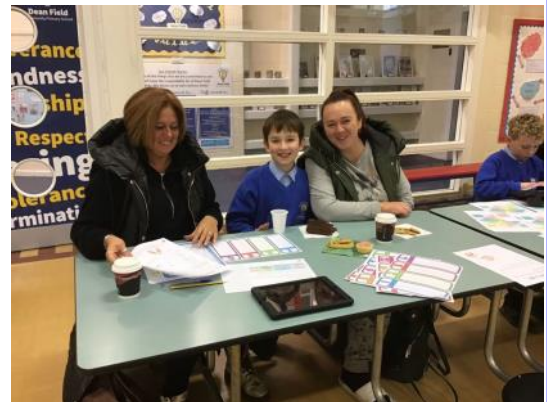


MTC Tea party

On Wednesday, Year 4 had a Timetables Tea Party ready for their MTC test in June 2024. Miss Jagger discussed what the MTC is and how the children access the test in June. The children and adults completed a variety of time tables activities. The children showed their adults how the MTC test work. We even had a competition between adults and the children.

Ways to support your child at home:

- Chant the times tables “6, 12, 18, 24....”
- Listen to and sing along with times table songs. Lots of these are available on YouTube for free.
- Play on apps or websites such as TTRS, Hit the Button and MTC Practice.
- Ask your child multiplication questions in a random order: What is 4×7 ? What is 9×5 ? What is 6×11 ?
- Use objects to show how groups of numbers represent times tables E.g. four groups of three pasta shells shows $3 \times 4 = 12$
- Try out active ways of learning times tables, like pavement chalk hopscotch.
- Make a bookmark with the times tables you find tricky. Look at it whenever you can and practice!



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.



EYFS Donations

Over the next half term EYFS staff will be working really hard enhancing the outdoor provision to make it even more exciting and engaging for our children.

Any donations of toys that can be used outdoors would be greatly appreciated. If anyone is getting rid of any large plastic boxes with lids on we would also be grateful of these to sort the toys in and to keep them clean and safe.

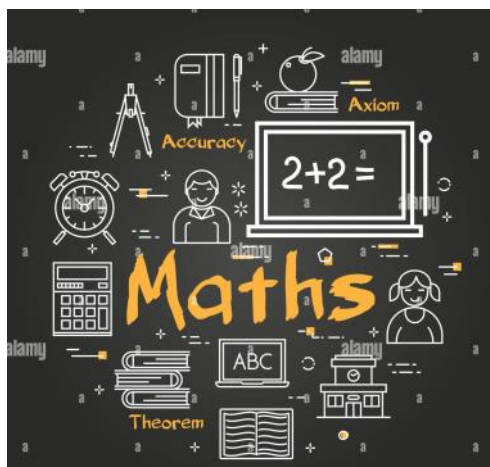
Ideas of things that we are looking for: plastic animal figures, dolls/prams, plastic dolls house, plastic car garage, any construction toys. If you have any items to donate please give them to a member of staff at the door.

Many thanks the EYFS team.



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.





HEAD LICE ALERT

Please check your child's hair regularly to avoid Head Lice

To Check

Check the scalp for insects or eggs

Use a fine-tooth comb on wet hair then comb through the hair in sections looking for eggs or lice, repeat over a few days

To Treat

Wet the hair and scalp with conditioner or use a chemical shampoo/lotion (containing insecticide) – this will kill the lice and eggs. Using a fine metal comb, or special head lice comb you can get from a chemist, go through the hair in sections to comb the lice and eggs out

Tips

- Check and treat the hair every night
- Please tie up long hair for school
- If your child has head lice please check everyone in the family home
- Do not share hairbrushes, towels, hats/scarves etc

Always re-treat 7-10 days after the first treatment

Nursery crispy bun sale 30p!!



If you would like to buy a crispy bun please give your money to your class teacher any day

27th November - 1st December

Thank you from The Nursery Team.



Christmas Events



Event	Date
Chocolate Tombola - non-uniform	Friday 24 th November
Christmas Fayre	Monday 4 th December
EY Christmas Nativity (Parents invited)	Wednesday 13 th December
Reindeer Run	Thursday 14 th December
Christmas Dinner Day	Thursday 14 th December
Christmas Jumper Day	Thursday 14 th December
Singing around the Christmas tree – Lower School (Parents invited)	Tuesday 19 th December 9am
Singing around the Christmas tree – Upper School (Parents invited)	Tuesday 19 th December 2:15pm
Santa Visit	Thursday 21 st December
Christmas Party – non-uniform	Friday 22 nd December
School closes for Christmas	Friday 22nd December 1.10pm No after school clubs or Dean Field Den



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

Dean Field
Community Primary School

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

NO BOOKS PLEASE



The Rotary Club of Halifax
invites you to enjoy an evening of



Comfort & Joy

in support of Healthy Minds,
SmartMove & Happy Days

A FAMILY CHRISTMAS CONCERT OF MUSIC AND CAROLS

★ Compèred by Ian White, ITV Presenter ★

Saturday 9th December | 6.30pm
at Halifax Minster

Tickets £5 under 16 years FREE
Available on the door and online

www.halifaxminster.org.uk/events



JOIN THE FUN THIS WINTER AND ENJOY A HEALTHY HOLIDAY!

HEALTHY HOLIDAYS CALDERDALE WINTER PROGRAMME

2nd January – 5th January 2024

This Winter, during the school holidays in January 2024, children and young people across Calderdale aged 5-16 who are eligible for benefits-related free school meals are getting the chance to access free holiday club places through our Healthy Holidays Calderdale programme.

The scheme provides enriching activities, delicious nutritious meals, and a chance for young people to meet new friends in a safe and fun environment during the school holidays.

You can book your free place at a holiday club taking place near you this January by visiting: **www.calderdale.gov.uk/healthyholidays**

Please book your place directly through the provider. There may also be sessions available for fee-paying children who are not eligible for free school meals.

For more information on the programme and support in booking a place on the winter programme please contact:

Email: healthyholidays@calderdale.gov.uk

Facebook: @HealthyHolidaysCalderdale

Twitter: @HAFCalderdale

No internet? Visit a local Calderdale Library and they will support you in registering your children onto available activities.



SCAN
ME

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



DIARY DATES

DATE	EVENT
Tuesday 28th November	Year 4 Ancient Egypt Family Learning 1:15-2:45pm
Wednesday 29th November	Year 2 Matt's Gym Visit
Thursday 30th November	CAMHS Parent workshop 9:15-10:15am
Monday 4th December	Year 2 Owl Experience at Beech Hill School
Monday 4th December	Christmas Fayre
Tuesday 5th December	CAMHS Parent workshop 9:15-10:15am
Wednesday 6th December	Year 4 Bikeability

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.



A journey of a
thousand miles begins
with a single step.

Accelerated Reader – Reading Achievements this week



Brazil	87%
Poland	85%
Australia	75%
Ireland	74%
Kenya	75%

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 – Drake C

Year 3— Daniel I

Year 4 – Nico G

Year 5 – Sofie A

Year 6 – Lily B



Group	% Attendance
Mexico	93.1%
China	92%
Australia	89.3%
Poland	92.8%
Kenya	94.5%
Brazil	94.8%
Ireland	93.3%
Total	92.8%

This Weeks Attendance

Congratulations to Brazil 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	Ivie-Mae N	For an improved attitude towards learning.
	Josie S	For enthusiasm in all she does.
China Year 1	Nilaani S	For producing some amazing spiral artwork.
	Aiden Mc	For a brilliant attitude to work and learning this week.
Australia Year 2	Kairi IS	For a great attitude to learning.
	Lexie D	For being enthusiastic and determined.
Poland Year 3	Robyn-Jade GH	For an excellent start on her English work this week.
	Alex W	For being brave and trying things on our gym trip!
Kenya Year 4	Annaleise C	For always being positive.
	Lucy H	For always being helpful in the classroom.
Brazil Year 5	Jessica S	For her positive and enthusiastic attitude.
	Lucas W	For being a role model pupil.
Ireland Year 6	Annalise H	For her enthusiasm on our trip.
	Noah M	For superb efforts during writing.