

Dear Parents/Carers,

What a fantastic festive week we have had here at Dean Field. Here are some of the highlights!

### **Singing Around the Christmas Tree**

Thank you to all who joined us and to those who couldn't make it we hope you enjoyed the videos on Seesaw! I'm sure you'll agree this was a wonderful event again this year.

### **Santa's Visit**

A tradition at Dean Field, Santa visited each class this week to give them a very special present on behalf of the school. The gift of reading is something we try and instill in all our children and we hope you and they enjoy the book they were given this year.

### **Behaviour Treat**

97.5% of all children in the school took part in their behaviour treat this week. EYFS had a special visit from Boogie Babes and the rest of the school watched Jack and the Beanstalk pantomime on Wednesday. We are so proud of you all!

### **Goodbye Fred**

Fred the Elf bid us a fond farewell today and promised he would tell Santa just how well behaved all the boys and girls at Dean Field are.

### **Staff Christmas Video**

If you haven't seen this already on Seesaw—check it out. We hope you enjoy it. We certainly enjoyed making it.

A special thank you to all the staff for making these last couple of weeks so special for our children and for their hard work and dedication over the whole term. I know you will agree with me when I say, they really do go above and beyond!

Thank you once again for your support, we really do value our parents and carers here at Dean Field.

On behalf of all the staff I would like to wish our families a wonderful Christmas and we look forward to seeing you in the New Year!

Mrs F. Pether



## SAFEGUARDING

# West Yorkshire Police - Give Gifts Safely This Holiday Season

### **Give Gifts Safely This Holiday Season**

Are you planning to gift new technology to your children this holiday season?

Before the excitement of unwrapping begins, take a moment to set up security controls ahead of the big day. This way you can establish a secure digital environment.

With just a few extra steps, you can play a crucial role in protecting young people from the challenges of the online world. Stop them from encountering fake news, misinformation, and potentially harmful interactions by taking proactive measures.

After the holidays, you can create an open conversation about the importance of online safety and set boundaries in terms of their new devices.

This holiday, let the gift of technology be accompanied by a safe and responsible online experience!

Find out how to set up safety controls here: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/parental-controls/>

### **Stay Cyber Safe This Christmas**

This festive season, many young people will be opening new tech gifts. It's important to know how to set them up safely. Before you wrap that smartphone, tablet, or gaming console, take a moment to check the security settings. Extremists and other online threats often target young people through chat functions and social media, but prevention can make all the difference.

Don't let safety take a back seat in the excitement of gift-giving. Set up controls to ensure their online experience is a secure one.

### **Be Social Media Savvy**

With more time at home over the holidays, kids often spend longer on social media. Do you know the ins and outs of the platforms they use? Familiarizing yourself with apps like TikTok and Roblox can help you understand potential risks, such as harmful content or privacy concerns. Simple steps like adjusting privacy settings and talking about online safety can go a long way in keeping your child secure.

# ONLINE SAFETY

## 10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

# SAFETY ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Currently, children are growing up in an immediate and throwaway culture when it comes to content that's consumed online. So much material is now deliberately created to be shorter in nature – and may often contain hidden elements such as advertising, or extreme political and cultural views. With complex algorithms built to keep people on their phones and engaging with social media content, it's becoming increasingly difficult to reduce time spent on these platforms.

### 1 REDUCE DOOMSCROLLING

It's concerningly common for young people to spend hours 'doomscrolling': trawling through social media and aimlessly viewing every post they see, many of which might make them feel sad or anxious. Social media can be useful for keeping in touch with friends and family, as well as staying up to date on current events. However, it's important to use it with a clear purpose, instead of endlessly scrolling through content, which could lead to young people accidentally discovering harmful material.

### 2 TALK ABOUT THE CONTENT

It's important to keep apprised of the kind of content that a young person is being exposed to. Discussing what they're watching online can help you understand why they're using social media in the first place. Furthermore, ensure that children are aware of hidden content, such as advertising of a product – and that they know how to spot that the creator is being paid to talk about it.

### 3 FIND POSITIVE ASPECTS

Despite all the concerns, there's plenty of wholesome content on social media. It's worth spending time with children to help them find something suitable and enjoyable. Perhaps you'll even discover a joint interest, and you can enjoy the content alongside the child. As part of this, you should also point out why certain things shouldn't be given attention, explaining why it isn't suitable and why it's been created in the first place.

### 4 REDUCE SCREENTIME

Young people can sometimes be unaware of the exact amount of time they spend looking at social media. Smart phones don't just have the capacity to monitor screentime; they also record how much time is spent on each app. Consider setting targets to reduce this and support children to meet these goals, gradually reducing the amount of time spent on different apps.

### 5 FILL THE VOID

Monitoring and reducing screentime can create a lot of free time to fill, and young people can even face withdrawal symptoms when made to step away from their phones. To mitigate this, consider what offline activities you could introduce the child to, and what they would enjoy. This can ensure that young users will permanently cut down on their screentime, rather than temporarily doing so while they know it's being monitored.

### 6 REDUCE NOTIFICATIONS

One way in which social media platforms keep people coming back is through notifications. The algorithms behind these apps track people's daily habits, including the times of the day where they're most likely to engage with the platform. This data is then used to deliver specifically timed notifications to draw them back in. To avoid young users being exposed to this tactic, simply turn off notifications for the app in their phone's settings.

### 7 LIVE IN THE REAL WORLD

Overexposure to social media can distort someone's perception of the real world – from body norms to social conventions. This filtered environment can make it hard for young people to distinguish reality from online content, which is now becoming even more difficult with the rise of AI. To mitigate this concern, take time to teach young people how to discern truth from fiction, both on and off social media.

### 8 DIGITAL DETOX

Encouraging young people to take a 'digital detox', from even just a couple of the apps that they use, can result in an overall reduction of screentime and less exposure to potentially harmful content. Alternatively, rather than avoiding the app entirely, encourage children to take a 'digital detox' from content creators and influencers, and instead, keep in touch with friends and family – which is generally a far healthier use of these platforms.

### 9 MODEL GOOD BEHAVIOUR

Consider the habits that you're demonstrating to your children. How much time do you spend on your phone? How much do you 'doomscroll'? Comparing your own usage with the child's could put things into perspective for them – or if it turns out that you're also overusing social media, it can turn screentime reduction into a joint mission, which you and the child can work on together.

### 10 BE CLEAR ON THE "WHY"

Research shows that young people can become addicted to social media. There are many schools that are moving towards being 'phone free' due to the negative impacts of using social media and phones continuously. It's important to explain to young people why managing screentime is important. Set out the benefits and ensure they have all the relevant information, so it's not just seen as a punishment.

## Whole School Values

As a school, our vision is 'Learning without Limits' and being guided by our school values.



Next half term's focus value is ...

### Determination and Perseverance

We will be learning a to sign and sing 'Try Everything' by Shakira in Makaton Sign this half term too to embed our Values further!



## Boogie Babies behavior treat

Reception and nursery enjoyed a visit from 'Boogie Babies' for their behavior treat this term.

The children had so much fun playing lots a great games and busting some fabulous dance moves. Well done guys for earning your behavior treat. Have a great Christmas.



## Spreading Joy

Yesterday we delivered some Christmas cards to our local community to spread some Christmas joy!!



## Whole School Value Winners Tolerance and Respect



## Pupil Well-Being Survey Results

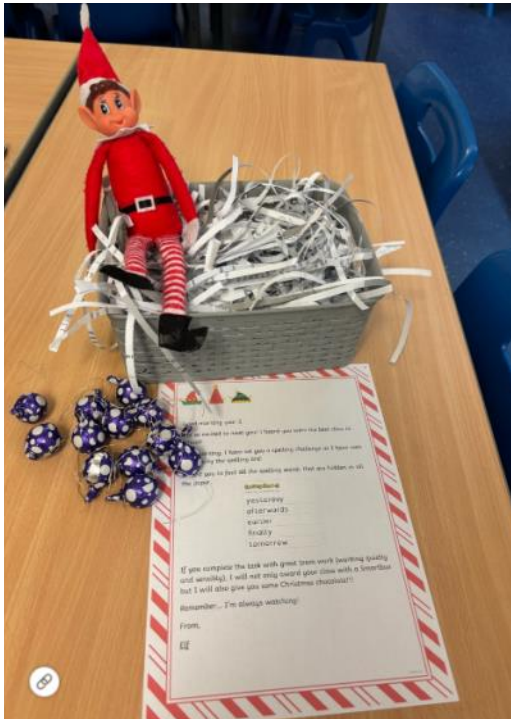
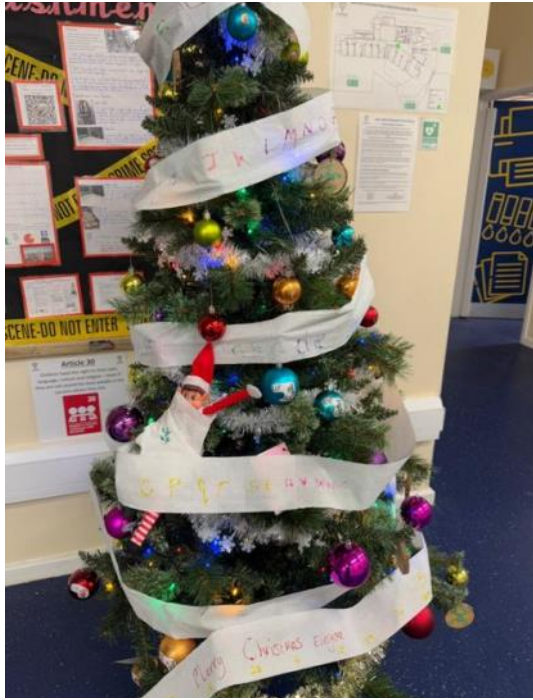
At Dean Field we value pupil voice and we always want to know what our pupils are saying! This term we carried out a pupil well-being survey to find out more. Here are our results!

### Pupil wellbeing Survey Autumn 2024 - Results

	Yes	Sometimes	No	Unsure
I enjoy coming to school and feel safe	72%	24%	4%	0%
I feel like I am treated equally and with respect in school	75%	20%	2%	4%
I feel good about myself	68%	20%	9%	3%
I am learning new things	83%	14%	2%	1%
I know what is expected of me at school	74%	13%	4%	9%
Pupils at Dean Field are kind to each other	50%	38%	3%	6%
I know what my rights are as a child	84%	11%	4%	1%
There are adults in school that listen to me when I have something to say	89%	6%	3%	2%
There are adults in school that make me feel better when something is bothering me	78%	15%	5%	2%
There are other children at school that cheer me up when I feel down	72%	20%	8%	0%
I know what to do if I am worried about something	70%	19%	6%	5%
I enjoy eating the different fruits that we now have at breaktime	73%	12%	12%	3%
If you could describe the school in one word, what would it be?	Most common answers: great, perfect, safe, happy, excellent, wonderful, helpful, fun, friendly, amazing, respectful.			

# Elf on the Shelf

Over the past few weeks the Elf has set some challenges for the children at Dean Field and also been a little bit cheeky! Today he has bid us farewell until next year.



# Dean Field Nursery

**If you have applied for a September 2025 Reception place at Dean Field please speak to the office about our Nursery Provision. We have places available in Nursery that will improve your chances of a place in Reception. Please contact the school office on 01422 258258 to register.**

## What we offer



- ✦ Safe, secure & stimulating environment
- ✦ Fully equipped indoor and outdoor space
- ✦ Fun and sociable experiences
- ✦ Fully qualified, friendly and caring staff
- ✦ Up to date resources and equipment
- ✦ Nurturing transition to our school
- ✦ Hot meals available
- ✦ Free and daily fruit, milk and tooth brushing
- ✦ Whole school involvement to prepare for starting Reception with their class mates
- ✦ Trips and exciting opportunities including animal workshops



## When to apply

Apply when your child turns 2 years old. Children start nursery the term after they turn 3 years old.



## When will my child start Nursery?

- If your child turns 3 between 1 September and 31 December – **Term starting on or after 1 January**
- If your child turns 3 between 1 January and 31 March – **Term starting on or after 1 April**
- If your child turns 3 between 1 April and 31 August – **Term starting on or after 1 September**







# Starting School September 2025

## How to apply for a school place

Children born between 1 September 2020 and 31 August 2021 are due to start primary school in September 2025.

To apply for a school place you must **apply online by 15 January 2025** 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 2024.

Information relating to Admission to Primary School 2025, including oversubscription criteria, is available at **[www.calderdale.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.calderdale.gov.uk/admissions)**

**The application process opens on 18 November 2024 and the close date is 15 January 2025**

Offers of school places will be made on 16 April 2025.

## School Lottery

So far we have raised a huge £3000 through the School Lottery. If you would like to support our school and help us raise funds to provide extra resources for the children, improve the school environment and organise extracurricular activities such as music, art and sport please sign up and be in with a chance of winning the super draw or £1000 cash!

Cash prizes are guaranteed weekly for one player locally plus money for school. You can also win up to £25,000!

Follow the link to sign up— <https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/play>.





## Places where children can eat for reduced price (or free) during the Christmas holidays

If you need further support, information on food banks, affordable food and community meals can be found at: [Cost of Living/Food Poverty - VSI Alliance](#) and [calderdale.gov.uk/benefits/money/food](http://calderdale.gov.uk/benefits/money/food)

Information on the Healthy Holidays provision can be found at [healthyholidays.calderdale.gov.uk](http://healthyholidays.calderdale.gov.uk)

**ASDA CAFÉ** Children under 16 eat for £1 all day, every day with no adult spend required. All meals include a piece of fruit. Above are only applicable in Asda's own café's.

**BREWERS FAYRE/BEEFEATER** Two children under the age of 16 can get a free breakfast with one paying adult. Valid every day

**DOBBIE'S GARDEN CENTRE, HUDDERSFIELD** Kids eat free with every main meal purchased (Breakfast or Lunch) Valid every day

**DUNELM – PAUSA CAFÉ** Kids get 1 mini main, 2 snacks and a drink FREE with every £4 spend on adult meals, offer available all day

**IKEA** Kids eat from 95p every day from 11am.

**MORRISONS CAFÉ** Spend £5 on an adult meal and get 1 free kids meal (aged 16 and under) all day every day.

**SAINSBURYS CAFÉ** From 11:30am, children aged 5-10 eat for £1 (hot meal or a lunch bag) with every adult meal over the value of £5.20 purchased

**SIZZLING PUBS (Armytage Arms, Brighouse)** Monday to Friday from 12 noon Childrens main meals are £1 with every adult meal. (this offer is available out of school holidays between 3&7pm)

During the school holidays, you can feed the whole family for under £15 all day, from Monday to Friday Get 2 adult mains from £10.50 and then 2 kids' main meals for just £1 each. After 12noon

**TESCO CAFÉ** Monday to Friday, children eat free (up to the value of £3.25) with any adult food purchase. You need to have a clubcard to use this offer. Only applicable in Tesco's own café's.

**TABLE TABLE (The Aspley, Huddersfield)**

Two children under the age of 16 can get a free breakfast with one paying adult. Valid every day

Please note - Terms and Conditions apply to all offers, individual stores offers may vary



# Moorside Dental Practice

1 Forest Grove, Halifax. HX2 8AU

**NHS**



**NOW WELCOMING CHILDREN (aged 0-17)  
TO REGISTER For FREE NHS Dental Care.**

**Call us on (01422) 229616  
to arrange an appointment.**

Limited spaces available. Moorside Dental Practice reserves the right to withdraw this offer when capacity is reached.

## Week commencing Monday 6th January

1		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Hot Meal Option		Battered Chicken Steak 1, 3, 4, 5, 10	Homemade Chicken Pulao Rice 4	Cod & Parsley Fishcakes 2 Parsley Sauce 5, 10	Homemade Mexican Chicken Enchiladas 5, 10 Peri-Peri Shredded Chicken 4, 5	Pizza 5, 10
		Cheese & Onion Rolls 3, 5, 10, 12	Homemade Vegan Meatball Curry 4 Rice	Homemade Vegan Spaghetti Bolognese 4, 5	Spicy Bean Burgers 5	Spinach & Ricotta Ravioli 3, 4, 5, 10, 12
Vegetables		Potato Wedges Spaghetti 5	Ziggy Fries Broccoli Sweetcorn	Chips Peas Carrots	Potato Smiles Sweetcorn Cauliflower	Potato Cubes 5 Beans Mixed Veg
Served Daily	Jacket Potatoes with various fillings Salad Bar Selection of Sandwiches Allergies for the daily items available on request					
Dessert		Jam Doughnuts 4, 5, 10, 12, 14	Treacle Sponge 5, 10, 12 Custard 10	Carrot Cake 5, 10, 12	Choc Chip Sponge 5, 10, 12 Custard 10	Assorted Fresh Baking 5, 10, 12
		Assorted Biscuits 5, 10, 12	Angel Delight 10	Crispy Buns 5, 10	Jelly	Strawberry Ice Cream 10



**PROJECT COMMUNITIES CIC**

# WINTER HAF Camp

## Forest Cottage Community Centre

**Thursday 2nd January -  
Friday 3rd January 2025**

**10.00AM UNTIL 2.00PM**

**Multi-sports including football, cricket, dodgeball, archery and many more!**

**Free to children who are eligible for benefit-related free school meals**

**Ages 5 - 11**

**Cousin Ln, Halifax HX2 8AD**

**Hot meal provided for all that attend**

Scan QR or visit <https://healthyholidays.calderdale.gov.uk>






## DIARY DATES

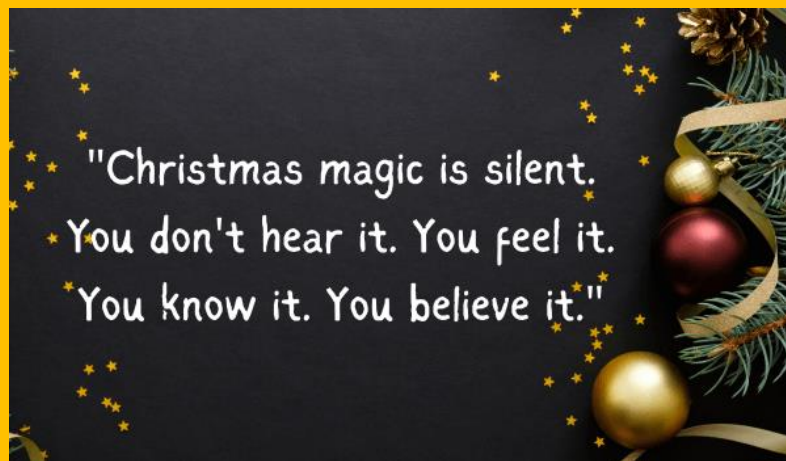
DATE	EVENT
Monday 6th January	School Reopens
Monday 6th January	Midweek clubs start

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

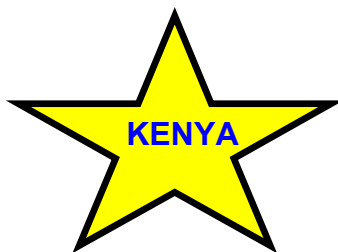
**REMINDER:** We are a nut free school and we would appreciate that any lunchboxes do not include nut products to protect the children in school with nut allergies.



**REMINDER:** If your child has asthma please ensure they have an inhaler in school and you have filled out a medical form at the school office. Thank you.



## Accelerated Reader – Reading Achievements this week



Australia	87%
Poland	73%
Kenya	89%
Brazil	69%
Ireland	76%

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!

### This Weeks Attendance

Group	% Attendance
Mexico	85.7%
China	83.7%
Australia	83.7%
Poland	85%
Kenya	87.3%
Brazil	80.3%
Ireland	89.1%
Total	84.8%

Congratulations to Ireland 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



# SCHOOL VALUES



## CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY

Mexico Reception	Dakota A	Even when there is disruption changes in the classroom we can always rely on Dakota to be doing the right thing.
	Kairo C	For showing respect everyday by following the class rules and listening to teachers and friends
China Year 1	Hunter W	For showing respect at all times and doing the right thing even when things don't always go to plan.
	Kaleesi F	For being kind and respectful to peers and teachers, always.
Australia Year 2	Angus M	For always being respectful and kind to your friends and classmates.
	Jorge D	For radiating respect, tolerance and kindness!
Poland Year 3	Alarah S	For always showing respect and tolerance to everyone.
	Noah G	For always showing respect and tolerance to everyone.
Kenya Year 4	Penelope C	For always showing her classmates and teachers respect.
	Lillie-Paige K	For showing respect for school property and always making sure everyone has all they need.
Brazil Year 5	Myla Mc	For showing mutual respect to everyone.
	Kayson T	For always showing respectful behaviour towards all!
Ireland Year 6	Vihaan P	For always showing respect and tolerance.
	Lucas W	For respectful behaviour towards staff and pupils.