

Dear parents/carers,

### **Parent Communication**

A reminder that the majority of our communication to parents goes out on Seesaw. Please make sure you check your Seesaw messages regularly for any important announcements or updates.

Could I also ask parents to ensure we have the most up to date contact information, as we have had a couple of cases recently where we've not been able to get hold of parents in an emergency.



### **Parents' Evening**

Due to this being such a short half term, we will be holding our next parents' evening after the Easter holidays, however, if there is anything at all parents wish to discuss with class teachers please don't hesitate to get in touch with them via Seesaw.

### **Easter Holidays**

A polite notice to parents that we will close for Easter on **Friday 22nd March at 1.10pm**. There will be no Friday after school clubs or Dean Field Den on this day.

Enjoy your weekend. It's nice to see we are finally starting to see the signs of Spring!

Mrs F Pether

### **Staff Training**

In our staff meeting this week, Miss Clay, our SENDCo shared information about supporting pupils with ADHD and how we can adapt our provision to ensure these pupil's needs are met.

# SAFEGUARDING

## Making the right choices for gaming

### What is PEGI?

The PEGI system is designed to inform the public of what's suitable and what's not for different ages. It can be a helpful tool in helping you to decide what games are appropriate for your child.

PEGI's professional analysts look at hundreds of video games every year and determine what is suitable for different age groups using a set of criteria.

This criteria has been established by experts in the field of child protection, psychology, the law and media. It helps analysts to decide what game content is appropriate in each of the five rating groups.

### How are games rated under PEGI?

All games released in the UK will have one of the following PEGI age ratings on the packaging: 3, 7, 12, 16 or 18. The rating means that the game shouldn't be played by a young person under that age.

Why? Because there may be content within the game which could potentially be harmful, frightening or worrying to children. As well as an age rating, PEGI also uses icons showing content descriptors, letting you know if a game contains: violence, drugs, bad language, discrimination, fear, gambling, sex, or in-app purchases.

### Is PEGI legally enforceable?

Yes – in the UK the PEGI 12, 16 and 18 ratings are legally enforceable. This means that retailers cannot sell or hire these games to those below these ages, however, this only applies to the retailer, it doesn't stop an adult or someone older from buying the game for a child.

Remember PEGI ratings are based on safety and not game difficulty. Lots of children want to be challenged by games and believe an older rating will be harder.

### Need more advice?

For extra age rating information about a game, use the additional Consumer Information (ACI) . This is a great tool for confirming you are making the right choices in games for your child.



## Smartest Class of the Week

This week Year 4, Kenya Class are smartest class of the week!



## ONLINE SAFETY

A cartoon illustration of two children, a boy and a girl, wearing yellow safety helmets and orange high-visibility vests. The boy is holding a black smartphone. They are both smiling and looking at the phone. The background is a colorful, abstract design with various shapes and colors.

**NEVER SHARE YOUR PASSCODE**

Alongside face or fingerprint recognition, your passcode is crucial to unlocking your phone and accessing your apps and personal information. You shouldn't give it out, even to close friends – after all, you wouldn't hand them a key to your house and let them go in for a nosy around! If a friend wants to use your phone, ask them why and make sure you can see what they're doing with it.

**ONLY USE AGE-APPROPRIATE APPS**

Before downloading a new app or game, check what age rating it has. Don't feel pressured into getting a particular game or app just because your friends are using it. If it's intended for older people, there's a definite risk that it could include content (which is violent or frightening, for instance) or language which isn't suitable and may leave you feeling upset or disturbed.

**RESPECT PARENTAL CONTROLS**

If you're allowed to have a smartphone, it's because your parents or carers feel that you're mature and responsible enough to use it safely. They might set controls and boundaries on your device – not to spoil your fun but to help you avoid hazards like too much screen time or costly in-app purchases. Following these rules means you can enjoy using your phone while respecting their wishes.

**REMOVE TEMPTATION**

A good night's sleep is so important for concentration, mood and overall health. Unwinding properly before going to bed – which means not staring at a screen late at night – can often improve sleep quality. Put your phone on charge overnight, but not in your room. This means you'll have a lot less temptation to check any notifications, reply to messages or get caught up scrolling on social media.

**TALK TO A TRUSTED ADULT**

Whether it's to listen to music, play games, create content or chat with friends, using a smartphone should be fun. If you're ever feeling anxious, worried or scared about going on your phone, then something isn't right. It's important not to ignore these feelings; instead, talk to a trusted adult about what's happening and how it's making you feel.

**THINK ABOUT OTHERS**

Watching videos, listening to music or calling someone can all help to pass the time while we're on the bus, waiting in a queue or walking down the street. It's important to remain mindful of other people, though: they might not want to hear your tunes or your conversation. Likewise, if you're calling from a public place then don't forget that anyone could overhear something personal about you.

**STAY ALERT**

Two words: look up. It might sound obvious, but it's so easy to get immersed in what we're looking at or listening to on our phones that we can become unaware of our surroundings – or who might be around us. People often walk with their head down, focusing on their phone, and forget to check for obstacles in their path, cars or other pedestrians coming towards them, which is clearly dangerous.

**DEVELOP HEALTHY HABITS**

Phones offer a vast amount of content and the chance to chat with friends whenever we feel like it, which can make it difficult to take time away from the screen. If that's something you struggle with, you could try setting time limits on certain apps. Putting our phones down for a while gives us more time to interact with others or do something physical that helps keep us fit and healthy.

**IGNORE UNKNOWN NUMBERS**

There are some scammers who might call or text asking you to share personal data or to click on a link and provide your details. Some may claim to be from a genuine company, but trustworthy businesses don't spontaneously call or message to ask for your information. It's safest to ignore calls or texts from unknown numbers, and never give your personal details out over the phone.

**SWITCH OFF GEOLOCATION**

In your phone's settings, you'll be able to disable geolocation for individual apps and photos: this means that people online (including strangers) can't see information about where you are when you share or post a pic. On the subject of images, it's also important to ask permission before taking or sharing a photo of someone – and don't share embarrassing images of your friends with others.

**Meet Our Expert**

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.

**The National College**

**NOS National Online Safety**

**#WakeUpWednesday**

## Dean Field Values

This half term our focus value will be caring!

Here are the focus values for the rest of the academic year:

Spring 2 – **Caring**

Summer 1- **Friendship**

Summer 2 - **Kindness**

We are really looking forward to recognising the amazing achievements of the wonderful children here at Dean Field School!

We will be introducing our new STOP approach to bullying this coming week. Keep an eye on Seesaw for more information.

Bullying is...		You need to...
Several	STOP	Start
Times		Telling
On		Other
Purpose		People

This half term's focus value is...



## 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.

**Enter our**  
**Super Draw**  
**Nintendo Switch Bundle**  
**OR £1,000 CASH PRIZE**



- Tickets cost just £1 a week
- Chance to win up to £25,000
- Play weekly, or just play the Super Draw!
- Win an amazing gaming bundle!



**Dean Field**  
Community Primary School



**YOUR  
SCHOOL  
LOTTERY**

**PLAY NOW:**  
Go to  
[www.yourschoollottery.co.uk](http://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk)  
Search for: **Dean Field Community**



**18+** GambleAware

See website for Terms & conditions. Enter by 24/02/24



**National  
Autistic  
Society**

**Calderdale  
Branch**

**Support | Influence | Transform**

[calderdalenas.org.uk](http://calderdalenas.org.uk)

## **ROLLER SKATING**

*First Saturday of the month @ YMCA*

Roll into fun at our monthly roller skating session for autistic individuals aged 8-19. Age is a guide so please ask if your child/young person is outside the age as we will try and accommodate families depending on numbers. Join us every first Saturday for a social night with a YMCA skater offering tips. Lace up, skate, and build connections in a supportive environment!



## **YOUTH GROUP**

*Second Friday of the month @ Forest Cottage*

Join us for an inclusive and engaging Youth Group gathering! Connect with fellow autistic young minds every second Friday of the month at Forest Cottage. Enjoy a variety of activities, from card games and arts and crafts to gaming on the Nintendo Switch. Embrace the freedom to participate at your own pace, making it a perfect space for everyone.



## **TEEN BOWLING**

*Third Friday of the month @ Electric Bowl*

Calling all autistic teens! Join us for Teen Bowling on the third Friday of every month! Gather at Electric Bowl for a fun-filled evening of strikes, spares, and great company. Embrace the joy of friendly competition, make new friends, and create unforgettable memories. Come roll with us and experience the excitement every month in a welcoming and inclusive atmosphere!



## **SOFT PLAY GROUP**

*During the school holidays @ Play Palace*

Dive into the NAS Soft Play Group at Play Palace in Halifax! During school holiday periods, our sessions are the ultimate haven for children aged 0 to 11 years with a diagnosis or awaiting one. Watch as friendships bloom and families come together to support each other. Let your little ones explore and play in a safe, inclusive environment that celebrates every child's unique journey.



If you would like to contribute to our autistic community and are interested in volunteering at any of our activity groups or wish to lead one of your own, take the first step by applying to become a NAS volunteer. Simply scan the QR code to embark on a fulfilling journey of making a positive impact in the lives of others.



Find us on social media or email us:  
[calderdale.branch@nas.org.uk](mailto:calderdale.branch@nas.org.uk)

## DIARY DATES

DATE	EVENT
Monday 26th February	Year 3 Murton Park Trip
Tuesday 27th February	Year 5 Family Learning 1:15-2:45pm
Wednesday 28th February	Parent Sleep Tight Course
Tuesday 5th March	SEND Panathlon Festival
Wednesday 6th March	Year 2 Manor Heath Park Trip
Thursday 7th March	World Book Day—dress as any book character

**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.



**SOMETIMES IT TAKES ONLY  
ONE ACT OF KINDNESS AND  
CARING TO CHANGE A  
PERSON'S LIFE.**

– JACKIE CHAN

### Accelerated Reader – Reading Achievements this week



China	96%
Australia	94%
Poland	83%
Kenya	83%
Brazil	85%
Ireland	84%

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!

### TTRS Stars of the Week

Year 2 – Zoraiz B

Year 3— Lillie-Paige K

Year 4 – Kayson T

Year 5 – GG S

Year 6 – Lexi O



### This Weeks Attendance

Group	% Attendance
Mexico	92.2%
China	97.1%
Australia	96.1%
Poland	95.7%
Kenya	95%
Brazil	92%
Ireland	100%
Total	95.5%

Congratulations to Ireland class who had the highest attendance in the school this week. Well done to China 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	Noah B	For enthusiasm during maths lessons.
	Zarmish B	For increasing confidence and showing interest in her peers. Being kind and caring.
China Year 1	Aria R	For showing excellent behaviour all of the time and setting an example to others.
	India-Mae A	For being kind, caring and compassionate to others.
Australia Year 2	Alexa A	For contributing in lessons and listening well to the teacher!
	Zoraiz B	For beautiful handwriting and presentation of his work.
Poland Year 3	Millie-Lou A	For a fantastic description of the monster in our new book.
	Colin P	For working really well and independently during English.
Kenya Year 4	Amelia H	For supporting others in maths.
	Kayson T	For his outstanding attitude to his learning.
Brazil Year 5	Jacob Bo	For putting 110% into everything this week.
	Jacob Br	For writing an excellent poem about stars.
Ireland Year 6	Sofie H	For a brilliant session with Mr Winston.
	Gracie-Mai FO	For always doing the right thing.