

Dear parents/carers,

It's been another busy week here at Dean Field with so many wonderful things going on! I often sit on an evening after a busy day in school and look through each class Seesaw page and I am astonished at what I see. The mix of academic work along with creative opportunities to enhance the curriculum impresses me every time. We are so lucky to have the amazing pupils that we have at Dean Field but they equally are very, very lucky to have such dedicated teachers and support staff to make their learning so memorable.

I have felt very proud of the school this week, as I do most weeks but this week in particular.

### **School Council Event**

On Wednesday we were joined by the other schools in the Family of Learning Trust for a school council event (more about this later). The staff from the other schools commented on how well our children presented and how 'professional' it was. The children also showed all the other children and staff around Dean Field and talked so confidently about our school.

### **Monitoring of teaching and learning**

This week Miss Brambani and I, along with Miss Hussain our English Lead and Miss Lopuszniak our Maths Lead have carried out monitoring of English and Maths. We have looked through books, spoken with lots of different pupils and observed parts of lessons at the beginning of the week and then again at the end. Mrs Hussain our CEO also joined me on Wednesday to 'drop in' to English lessons across the school. This monitoring is important as it builds up a picture of what the quality of education across all classes looks like in the core subjects so we can celebrate this and also identify any areas that need developing. Mrs Hussain was particularly impressed with the calm and purposeful learning environments across all year groups and the level of independence seen from pupils.

Have a lovely weekend

Mrs Pether

### **Staff training**

This week teaching staff have had training on delivering our French curriculum from Ms Stevenson our MFL Lead. Teachers in Key Stage 2 refreshed their knowledge around the French curriculum and also made some plans for a French themed day in the summer term. Very exciting.

Miss Brambani has held her monthly RWI club for all staff who deliver phonics. Monthly refresher training allows staff to share good practice with each other and also ensures all staff are teaching correctly to the scheme.

## SAFEGUARDING—Positive Parenting

### 1. Get to the Root of the Behaviour

Positive parenting experts worldwide can agree on this: **there is always something motivating a child's negative or disruptive behaviour.** The thing to remember is **the behaviour itself is simply the symptom.** Our challenge as parents is figuring out what's really underneath that frustrating behaviour. When a child begins to act out, ask yourself "What is this child trying to accomplish through his/her actions?" If he/she had the verbal skills and emotional awareness, "What would he/she be trying to tell me with this behaviour?"

### 2. Be Consistent

While parents intellectually understand the importance of consistency, the truth is, life happens – school is cancelled, plans change, and last-minute additions are made to the calendar. While we can't always control life happening, it's best to maintain consistent routines, schedules, and expectations in your home the majority of the time. **PRO TIP:** Maintain the SAME schedule on weekends and holidays. That way, you won't have to experience the backslide that comes on Monday morning!

### 3. Say No to Rewards

Parenting is a marathon, not a sprint. When making discipline decisions for your kids, it's important to keep your long-term goals in mind. Think about rewards, maybe today you rewarded your child with a cookie for behaving well in the shop or school, but what will he/she expect next time? *At least one cookie, right? Maybe even two?* Or perhaps **you bribed your picky eater** to eat their vegetables by offering ice cream for dessert? Now that he/she knows vegetables can be sold for the price of ice cream, it only makes sense he/she would hold out on eating his greens until they've offered ice cream or another equally appealing sweet reward. Using rewards as a bargaining chip for the desired behaviour is a slippery slope to an attitude of entitlement.

### 4. Focus On What You Can Control – YOURSELF

Remember that there's always a REASON for the behaviour AND your children have free will, then you can begin to respond appropriately. After all, there is a level of emotional freedom that is found when parents realise "I can't always control my kids, but I can control my responses." So instead of overpowering children, or bribing, or shaming them into making good decisions, reframe your perception of the child. Instead of thinking of him/her as a misbehaving child, view him/her as a little person who simply hasn't been equipped with the right tools to behave appropriately in a given situation. By doing this, parents will be better prepared to handle the misbehaviours.

### 5. Discipline, Don't Punish

One of the biggest differentiators between positive parenting techniques and other parenting methods is the focus on discipline over punishment. Discipline means "to train by instruction and exercise" while punish means "to inflict a penalty for (an offense, fault, etc.)" or "to handle severely or roughly." By teaching our children the appropriate ways to behave without using blame, shame, and pain forms of punishment, we equip and empower them to be competent and capable young adults. When you are considering a response to mis-behaviours – just like with rewards – think long-term.

### Final Thoughts

Parenting is hard, but with the right tools, all parents can become the parents they've always dreamed of being.

## Smartest Class of the Week

This week Year 2, Australia Class are smartest class of the week!



### ONLINE SAFETY

# MANAGING SCREEN TIME

According to the latest stats, people aged between 8 and 17 spend four hours on digital devices during an average day. Obviously, a new year is ideal for fresh starts and renewed efforts – so lots of families are trying to cut down their combined screen time right now, creating more moments to connect with each other and relying less on gadgets to have fun. Our top tips on reducing screen time are for everyone, so you can get your whole family involved in turning over a new leaf this year!

**GET OUT AND ABOUT**

If the weather's decent, spend some time in the garden or go for a walk. Even a stroll to the local shop would do: the main thing is getting some fresh air and a break from your screen.

**TRY A TIMED TRIAL**

When you're taking a screen break to do a different activity or a chore, turn it into a game by setting yourself a timer. Can you complete your task before the alarm goes off?

**GO DIGITAL DETOX**

Challenge yourself and your family to take time off from screens, finding other things to do. You could start off with half a day, then build up to a full day or even an entire weekend.

**LEAD BY EXAMPLE**

Let your family see you successfully managing your own screen time. You'll be showing them the way, and it might stop some of those grumbles when you do want to go online.

**AGREE TECH-FREE ZONES**

Nominate some spots at home where devices aren't allowed. Anywhere your family gathers together, like at the table or in the living room, could become a 'no phone zone'.

**HOLD A SCREEN TIME AMNESTY**

As a family, agree specific windows when it's OK to use devices. This should help everyone to balance time on phones or gaming with enjoying quality moments together.

**BE MINDFUL OF TIME**

Stay aware of how long you've been on your device for. Controlling how much time you spend in potentially stressful areas of the internet – like social media platforms – can also boost your wellbeing.

**'PARK' PHONES OVERNIGHT**

Set up an overnight charging station for everyone's devices – preferably away from bedrooms. That means less temptation for late-night scrolling.

**SWITCH ON DND**

Research shows that micro-distractions like message alerts and push notifications can chip away at our concentration levels. Put devices on 'do not disturb' until you're less busy.

**TAKE A FAMILY TECH BREAK**

Set aside certain times when the whole family puts their gadgets away and enjoys an activity together: playing a board game, going for a walk or just having a chat.

**SOCIALISE WITHOUT SCREENS**

When you're with friends, try not to automatically involve phones, TVs or other tech. Having company can be loads more fun if your attention isn't being split.

**WIND DOWN PROPERLY**

Try staying off phones, consoles, tablets and so on just before you go to sleep. Reading or just getting comfy in bed for a while can give you a much more restful night.



## 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...



## The Family of Learning Trust School Council Meeting

On Wednesday, some of the school councillors from across the trust gathered for another meeting. Prior to this, they were all tasked with the job of creating a presentation about their school and they delivered this on the day. It was wonderful to find out about the history and cultures of the other schools in our trust!

Our head and deputy boy/girl and some of our school councillors did an outstanding job delivering a presentation about Dean Field. They spoke confidently, enthusiastically and were really polite and well-mannered as usual. They shared all the amazing things we do at Dean Field and also performed our school values song. We are incredibly proud of them!



## Easter Raffle

Our exciting Easter Egg Raffle is back! We have already been kindly donated some excellent Easter eggs by lots of different companies and people.

If you would like to enter the raffle and be in with a chance of winning some extravagant Easter prizes please return your letter along with your payment to school.

Raffle tickets will be sent home, please keep them safe. No ticket no prize.

The raffle will close on Wednesday 20th March.

Good luck!



## Year 3 Murton Park Trip

On Monday, Year 3 went on our trip to Murton Park in York to experience life as an Anglo Saxon! We practised writing in Anglo-Saxon style, made our own beeswax candles, learned an Anglo-Saxon dice game and were trained to defend our village from Vikings! It was a fantastic day! Everyone was so well behaved and both adults and children had a great time!



## Reception Master Chef

For their Master Chef challenge, Mexico class had to make cornflake buns. We discussed the process of melting the chocolate and worked hard to master the techniques required for this task, such as pouring, mixing and the oh so tricky job of getting the mixture into the bun cases. Great teamwork and a tasty treat for snack time!





## Easter Bonnet Parade

It's time for your children (and you of course) to get creative and make some Easter bonnets! Nursery and Reception will be taking part in their own Easter bonnet parades to showcase their hard work. Tickets will be released next week - 2 tickets per pupil. Have a cracking time creating your masterpieces. We can't wait to see them.

# Easter Bonnet Parade

**Nursery:**  
**Tuesday 19th March**  
**- 9-9:30am**



Please sign in via the  
school hall door on the  
day of the event.

**Reception:**  
**Wednesday 20th March**  
**- 9-9.30am**



Please keep hold of your  
tickets and bring them  
with you on the day.



Limited to 2 spaces  
per child.

Make your Easter  
Bonnet as creative as  
possible!



If your child doesn't attend  
this day you are welcome to  
bring them to the event.

**Please bring completed Easter Bonnets in to school  
before Friday 15th March .**



# Stay and Read



On **Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup>** and **Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March** we are welcoming parents and carers to come and read with their children in class! Classroom doors will open from 8:30 to 9:00 and all parents, carers and grandparents are welcome!

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March - Nursery, year 1, 3 and 5  
Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March - Reception, year 2, 4 and 6

All parents can enter classroom doors via the playground. If you wish you visit more than one class, please use the same doors to enter and exit classrooms as you wish.



## World Book Day Prize Draw!



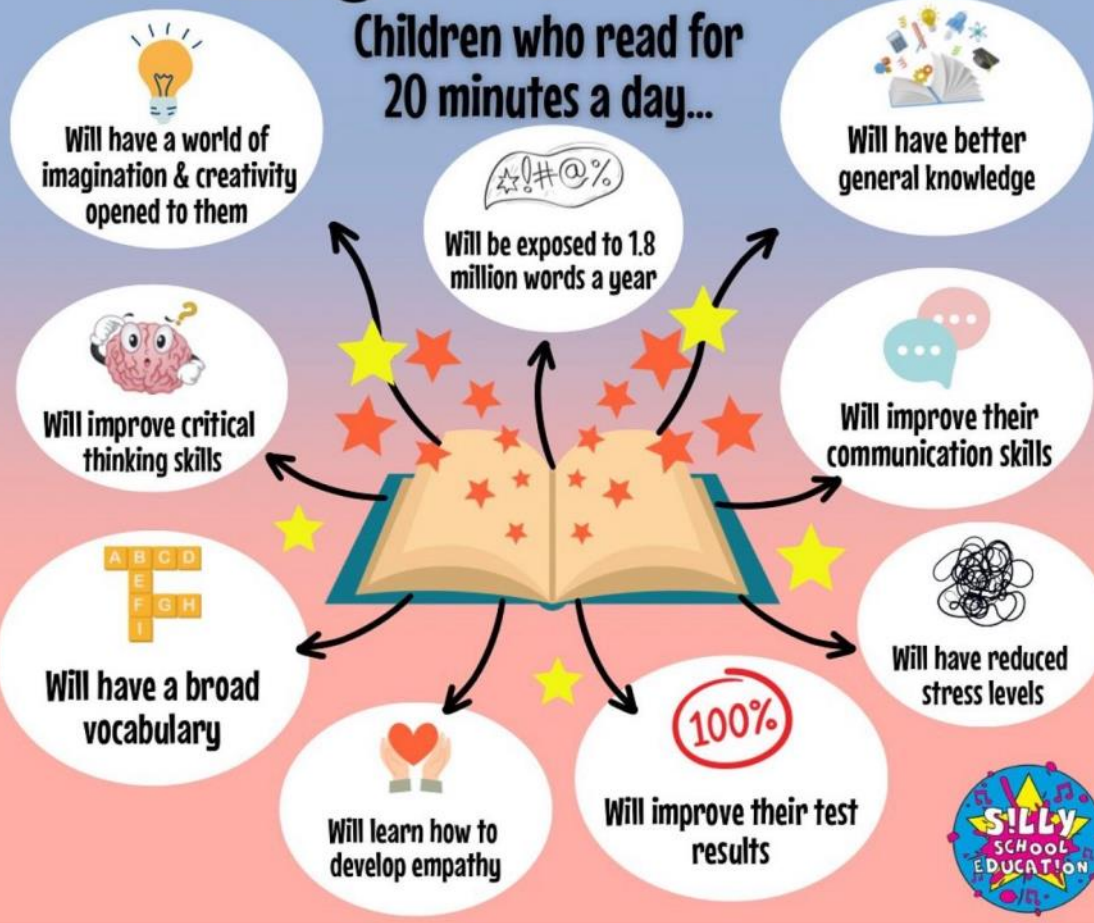
All parents that attend the Stay and Read sessions will be in for chance to win a large hamper of books! All you must do is, complete the World Book Day quiz with your child on the day.

The winner will be drawn on World Book Day (Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March) and will be announced at the end of the week.

Good luck!

# 20 is plenty!

Children who read for  
20 minutes a day...





## 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.



- Tickets cost just £1 a week
- Chance to win up to £25,000
- Play weekly, or just play the Super Draw!
- Win £1,000 to spend in Sainsbury's

**BUY TICKETS**



**Dean Field**  
Community Primary School



**YOUR  
SCHOOL  
LOTTERY**



**GambleAware**

See website for Terms & conditions. Enter by 30/03/24

# EASTER CAMPS

DEAN FIELD  
COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL  
COUSIN LN,  
OVENDEN,  
HALIFAX  
HX2 8DQ



MONDAY 25TH MARCH -  
THURSDAY 28TH MARCH  
10AM - 2PM  
AGE 5 - 11



**FREE**  
TO CHILDREN WHO ARE ELIGIBLE  
FOR BENEFIT-RELATED SCHOOL MEALS

ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:  
NERF, FOOTBALL, DODGEBALL, BOXERCISE,  
PLUS MANY MORE!

TO BOOK  
[HTTPS://HEALTHYHOLIDAYS.CALDERDALE.GOV.UK](https://healthyholidays.calderdale.gov.uk)

Project Sport are using our facilities again this Easter to run a holiday club.

This is free to all children who are eligible for benefited related to free school meals.

Please contact them to book on.

## FREE Easter Trail at Shroggs Park

Saturday  
30th  
March  
11am

Meet by the play area  
Collect items along the Shroggs  
Park Trail and exchange them  
for a chocolate egg.

Booking required!

Email  
[Tracey.Chambers@nhpltd.org.uk](mailto:Tracey.Chambers@nhpltd.org.uk)







**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)



# Ovenden Juniors Youth Club Open day

**NEW  
YOUTH  
CLUB**

@Osca's  
Cousin Ln,  
Halifax HX2 8AD

**Friday 1st March (3.30 - 5.30pm)**

**Come and meet the team and find out what will be on offer at your new Juniors Youth Club.**

We provide a safe space for school year 4 - 7 to meet friends, have some fun and access help and support from our trained youth workers.

- Register your child to attend
- Buffet and refreshments
- Fun activities

**We look forward to seeing you.**

Email: [hello@newground.co.uk](mailto:hello@newground.co.uk)

Tel: 0300 330 5535

[newgroundtogether.co.uk](http://newgroundtogether.co.uk)



NT Youth Team Calderdale



Funded by  
UK Government

POWERED BY  
**LEVELLING  
UP**



West  
Yorkshire  
Combined  
Authority

Tracy  
Brabin  
Mayor of  
West Yorkshire



Calderdale  
Council

newground  
together

# JOIN THE FUN THIS SPRING AND ENJOY A HEALTHY HOLIDAY!

## HEALTHY HOLIDAYS CALDERDALE SPRING PROGRAMME

This Spring, during the Easter school holidays, children and young people aged 5-16 eligible for benefits-related free school meals are invited to take part in a range of exciting and fun activities through the 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.



To book scan the QR code or visit [healthyholidays.calderdale.gov.uk/](https://healthyholidays.calderdale.gov.uk/)

You will need to register your child on the booking system before booking your place directly through the provider. There may also be sessions available for fee-paying children who are not eligible for free school meals.



Book your place now to join the Healthy Holidays Calderdale fun, taking place this Spring across Calderdale.

To book scan the QR code or visit: [healthyholidays.calderdale.gov.uk/](https://healthyholidays.calderdale.gov.uk/)

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

**Facebook:** @HealthyHolidaysCalderdale

**Twitter:** @HAFCalderdale

**Website:** [www.calderdale.gov.uk/healthyholidays](https://www.calderdale.gov.uk/healthyholidays)

**Email:** [healthyholidays@calderdale.gov.uk](mailto:healthyholidays@calderdale.gov.uk)



## DIARY DATES

DATE	EVENT
Tuesday 5th March	SEND Panathlon Festival
Tuesday 5th March	Parent Stay + Read—Nursery, Year 1, 3 + 5
Wednesday 6th March	Parent Stay + Read—Reception, Year 2, 4 + 6
Wednesday 6th March	Year 2 Manor Heath Park Trip
Wednesday 6th March	Parent Sleep Tight Course
Thursday 7th March	World Book Day—dress as any book character
Friday 22nd March	School closes for Easter at <b>1:10pm</b>

**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.



“

Be nice to each other.  
You can make a whole  
day a different day  
for everybody.

RICHARD DAWSON





## Accelerated Reader – Reading Achievements this week



China	96%
Australia	93%
Poland	78%
Kenya	85%
Brazil	78%
Ireland	97%

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 – Drake C

Year 3— Lillie-Paige K

Year 4 – Kayson T

Year 5 – Jacob Bo

Year 6 – Kylan T



## This Weeks Attendance

Group	% Attendance
Mexico	94.5%
China	96.3%
Australia	87.9%
Poland	90.8%
Kenya	92.7%
Brazil	87.6%
Ireland	96.1%
Total	92.4%

Congratulations to China class who had the highest attendance in the school this week. Well done to Ireland 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	Vanessa A	For always being willing to take on a challenge.
	Lacey-Mae C	For being an 'always' child. For always doing the right thing and being an amazing role model.
China Year 1	Lucy W	For a huge improvement in maths and mastering ordering numbers to 20.
	Freddie W	For excellent writing in English lessons.
Australia Year 2	Lilly-Jo F	For being an 'always' child.
	Amelia FO	For your efforts in English this week.
Poland Year 3	Elliot R	For supporting his partner during our topic lesson this week.
	Harper B	For the scariest warrior face during training session on our trip!
Kenya Year 4	Alyssa G	For trying hard with your presentation.
	Joshua G	For always showing fantastic teamwork.
Brazil Year 5	LJ G	For impressive computing skills this week.
	GG S	For a fantastic start at Dean Field.
Ireland Year 6	Lucas B	For his superb effort in science.
	Leo O	For his effort and perseverance in maths.