

Friday 8th November 2024

Dear Parents/Carers.

What a fantastic first week back we've had!

This week members of our team have supported colleagues from another school in our trust who are new to introducing the Read Write Inc phonics scheme. We are using a coaching model whereby staff from Dean Field are delivering live phonics sessions for the children to model and coach to the staff how to deliver the phonics scheme effectively. It's lovely to see Dean Field staff be able to now impart their knowledge and skills and support others within the trust just as we were supporting some years ago.

Parents' Evening

Just a reminder that next Wednesday 13th November is our autumn term parents' evening. We hope to see as many parents and carers at this event as possible. As you know the communication between home and school is something we pride ourselves on here at Dean Field and so if you have not made an appointment we encourage you to do so—please contact your child's class teacher or the office. We can be flexible if needed, so if for any reason you cannot attend next week please let us know and we will do our best to find a time suitable.

Finally, on Wednesday I carried out a learning walk looking at behaviour for learning. I spent time in most classrooms and observed children going into and out of assembly and the dining hall. As usual I was blown away by the children's impeccable behaviour and manners. In lessons children were all engaged in their learning and showed great independent learning skills.



Staff Training

This week staff have carried out a whole school curriculum showcase. Staff looked at a sample of books from every year group, in every subject. This is always super valuable to staff so they can see the progression across the school as a whole, in every subject and learn from one another.

Staff have also completed training around a new Ofsted Publication: 'Strong foundations in the first years of school'. This is something which we are looking to develop even further over the course of this year.

SAFEGUARDING

What does the law say about school?

To make sure every child has the support they need to learn, schools, parent/carers and the local authority have different responsibilities – from finding a child a place at primary school to making sure they attend regularly and on time to learn everything they need to.

What age should a child be in school?

Children don't legally have to go to nursery, they can stay at home with you or in childcare, but if you choose to take your child to nursery and have applied for funding to allow this to happen, then they must attend the set hours you have chosen, otherwise this funding will be withdrawn by the local authority which will result in your child being withdrawn from the nursery role.

All children must be in full – time education by the beginning of the first term after their 5th birthday.

What rights does school have?

Schools are responsible for keeping children safe at school, and for providing the best education they have.

- All school grounds are private and the headteacher controls who is allowed in and when. The headteacher can also bar parents/carers from the school site.
- Schools can also discipline pupils to ensure every pupil is safe and able to learn in a positive environment.
- School can use reasonable force in certain circumstances. This will be a last measure to protect all children, staff and school property.
- School can search pupils for dangerous or inappropriate items.
- School can suspend pupils or permanently exclude pupils where a serious breach of the school's behaviour policy has been made.

School is a warm safe environment for all our staff pupils and parents, let's keep it that way!



ONLINE SAFETY

We are proud to announce we are a National Online Safety Certified School. The certification highlights our commitment to a whole school community approach to protecting our children in the online world.



ENCOURAGING CHILDREN TO CHOOSE RESPECT

Sometimes, differences between children can escalate into bullying, potentially impacting their mental health in a way that can persist into adulthood. While it's natural to disagree sometimes, teaching children the importance of respect is essential – especially in difficult situations. This guide provides strategies for encouraging considerate behaviour, even during a dispute, to foster a kinder, more inclusive environment for everyone.

1 LEAD BY EXAMPLE

As adults, we play a crucial role in modelling respectful behaviour for children: they observe and learn from our actions every day. Be mindful of the way you interact with others in front of children. Keep in mind that you should always approach others with an attitude of mutual respect, even if you disagree with them. Demonstrating this behaviour can influence young people and help them to handle their own conflicts in a healthy way.

2 AGREE TO DISAGREE

Make sure children know that it's fine to have differing opinions – and that disagreeing with someone doesn't mean you can't get along or respect each other's point of view. Help them understand that sometimes we can 'agree to disagree'. Using active listening skills when doing this can also help to build empathy and understanding of others.

3 PROMOTE ACTIVE LISTENING

Teach children about the importance of active listening: that is, making a genuine effort to listen to the other person's perspective without interrupting, before responding in a way that shows you understand their viewpoint, even (or perhaps especially) if you disagree with it. This makes people feel respected and allows for a better comprehension of their point of view, which in turn can make it easier for you to communicate your own opinions to them.

4 ENCOURAGE THE USE OF "I" STATEMENTS

If a child finds themselves in a disagreement with someone, it can be useful to encourage them to use "I" statements during the discussion. Framing their thoughts and feelings using statements like "I feel ..." or "I think ..." can help them avoid an accusatory tone and encourages them to take responsibility for their own emotions.

5 FOCUS ON BEHAVIOUR, NOT CHARACTER

When disagreements happen, encourage children to focus on critiquing and addressing the specific actions or behaviours that caused this upset, rather than attacking the person's character. For example, "I didn't like how you interrupted me" is better than "You're so rude". This can help children avoid hurting someone's feelings, which is likely to inflame the situation.

6 STAY CALM AND TAKE BREAKS

It's perfectly normal to feel upset during a disagreement – especially if it's getting heated. Remind children that if they feel overwhelmed, they should try to take deep breaths or even go for a short break to help them stay composed. If a conversation becomes too intense, remind them it's OK to suggest continuing it later or in a different setting. This can prevent things getting out of hand, allowing cooler heads to prevail.

7 START CONVERSATIONS ABOUT RESPECT

Talk openly to children about what respect means – to you and to them. Discuss how they might show respect to each other, to friends, to strangers and even to people we might disagree with. You could use examples of considerate or inconsiderate behaviour in books, films or TV to open discussions about the importance of giving others due regard.

8 SEEK COMMON GROUND

When a disagreement has occurred between children, they may find it hard to move past it. You can support them in finding a more positive way forward by helping identify areas of agreement or common ground with the other party. This can help to build bridges between differing opinions and foster a more cooperative atmosphere, as well as preventing those involved from demonising each another.

9 AVOID MAKING THINGS PERSONAL

It's important that we make it clear to children they must avoid name-calling, swearing or derogatory remarks in a disagreement with others. Respectful language sets a positive tone and helps keep the conversation productive. Reminding children to stay calm and take breaks – as mentioned previously – can help them avoid getting too emotional and saying or doing something hurtful.

10 REFLECT AND LEARN

After a child has had a disagreement, encourage them to reflect on the experience and think about what they can learn from it. What did they handle well? How might they improve their communication skills to handle conflicts more effectively in the future? You could use role play, writing and drawing pictures, or hypothetical examples to further develop their skills in showing respect during a disagreement.

Whole School Values

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



This half term's focus value is ...

Tolerance and Respect



Remembrance Day

Here is our whole school art work to commemorate Remembrance Sunday which will take place this Sunday and Armistice day which is on Monday 11th November. We are super proud of all of the children across the school for creating this captivating piece. We will also be having a 2 minutes silence at 11am on 11/11/24.



Anti-Bullying Week 2024

Next week, we are going to be raising awareness about Anti-Bullying Week where we will focus on this years' theme of 'choose respect.' Bullying is not tolerated at Dean Field therefore we think it is crucial that pupils understand what bullying is and how to deal with it if it occurs. This year, pupils will discuss what respect means and how we can choose and show respect to others.



Orienteering

On Thursday, 8 children from year 5 and 6 attended the School Games orienteering competition. They had to use a map to find the different markers, which then allowed them to find the following markers.

The children came in 2nd place with a time of 19 minutes 27 seconds.



Last half term, 11 children competed in the School Games orienteering competition. The children represent Dean Field to a high standard and showed outstanding perseverance.

Two children qualified for the finals in December:

Harper - year 5

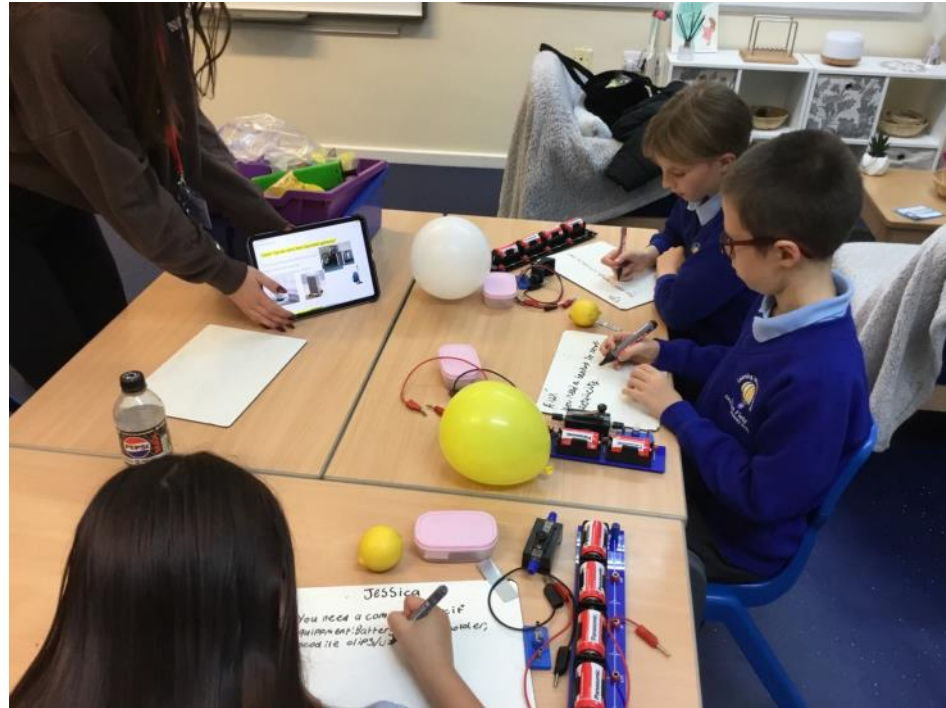
Joshua - year 5



Science Masterclass from NHGS

On Wednesday, three students from North Halifax Grammar School came in to deliver three mini science lessons to 11 children in year 6.

The children either completed a space, renewable energy or electricity practical lesson. The children had fun learning in a practical way.



Christmas 2024

Christmas raffle tickets are now on sale for £1 per strip. Please return the slip to school with money attached. The raffle will close at the Christmas Fair on Monday 9th December and prizes will be drawn that week. Prizes will only be given out when the winning raffle ticket is handed in at the school office. So please look after your tickets!

Prizes so far include:

- Harveys vouchers
- Tesco vouchers
- Activity Vouchers
- Toys
- Pamper Hampers
- Wine, Spirits and Beer
- Christmas Hampers
- Mamas and Papas rocking horse
- And many more!



Merry
Christmas

A stylized illustration of a Christmas tree with green branches, red and yellow ornaments, and a white star on top. The tree is positioned to the right of the word 'Merry' in the 'Merry Christmas' text.



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**

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**

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.

Week commencing Monday 11th November

| | | School Meals Menu - Week 1 | | | | | |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|--|--|
| 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 Bolognaise 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 | | |

Please join us!

CHRISTMAS Market

4TH DECEMBER

6-9pm

ALL MONIES RAISED GOES STRAIGHT BACK INTO OFFERING 1-2-1 MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING SUPPORT FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AT

INVICTUS
well-being

HEATH RUFC, STAINLAND RD,
GREETLAND, HALIFAX HX4 8LS

Free entry a donation on the door is gratefully appreciated

For more information, contact
Katie 07562242429
fundraising@invictuswellbeing.com

DIARY DATES

| DATE | EVENT |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Tuesday 12th November | Year 3 Family Learning 1:15-2:45pm |
| Wednesday 13th November | Parents Evening 1:20-6pm |
| Thursday 14th November | Individual Photo Day |
| Tuesday 19th—Wednesday 20th November | Year 2 Residential Trip |
| Thursday 21st November | Year 4 Cliffe Castle Trip |

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.

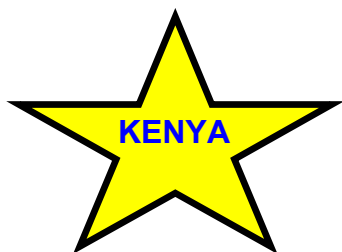
REMINDER: We are a nut free school and we would appreciate that any lunchboxes do not include nut products to protect the children in school with nut allergies.



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 | 89% |
| Poland | 82% |
| Kenya | 91% |
| Brazil | 55% |
| Ireland | 85% |

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—Kaira-Jade L

Year 3— Tommy D

Year 4 – Mia E

Year 5 – Nico G

Year 6 – Lilly-Rose C



This Weeks Attendance

| Group | % Attendance |
|--------------|--------------|
| Mexico | 96.1% |
| China | 98.2% |
| Australia | 93.1% |
| Poland | 95% |
| Kenya | 92.5% |
| Brazil | 95.4% |
| Ireland | 90.3% |
| Total | 94.5% |

Congratulations to China class who had the highest attendance in the school this week. Well done to Mexico 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 | Amina N | For amazing progress in letter formation and name writing. |
| | Blake H | For making his needs known to familiar staff using language skills. |
| China Year 1 | Alex K | For super progress in maths. |
| | Lacey-Mae C | For always trying her best and growing in confidence. |
| Australia Year 2 | Aiden Mc | For a fantastic week and following grown ups instructions! |
| | Lucy W | For impressing me with your writing, amazing progress! |
| Poland Year 3 | Freddie W | For a fantastic first week back! |
| | Chad H | For your outstanding effort in every lesson this week. |
| Kenya Year 4 | Hannah R | For amazing maths and rugby passing skills. |
| | Colin P | For a great week in English and trying really hard. |
| Brazil Year 5 | Lucy H | For persevering with her maths work. |
| | Blakley R | For always engaging in every lesson. |
| Ireland Year 6 | Jacob Br | For excellent engagement in English this week. |
| | Alfie B | For impressive drama skills in English. |