

Friday 18th October 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

What a busy but great half-term we have had here at Dean Field. It has flown by and we have really enjoyed seeing the children engage with their learning and settle back into school routines after the summer break.

We are looking forward to our upcoming Parents' Evening on Wednesday 13th November—we hope to see you there!

I continue to be blown away by how remarkable our pupils are and what they achieve. Also, what a fantastic curriculum offer they have here at Dean Field. If you haven't already followed us on X (formerly Twitter) then please do. Only a small snapshot of each week can go into our weekly newsletter and if you follow us on X you will see all the amazing things that go on across all year groups.

A reminder that our main platform for communicating with parents is Seesaw. Unfortunately some children have missed out on things that have happened this half term because parents were not aware. In order to save paper and be environmentally friendly the majority of our letters and announcements to parents go out on Seesaw. Please ensure that you are active on Seesaw and check regularly to ensure you don't miss out.

Have a Spooktacular half term! We look forward to seeing you in November.

If you carve a pumpkin, go trick or treating or visit a bonfire over half term, I would love to see photos of this on Seesaw!

Mrs F. Pether

Staff Training

This week our staff met with other teachers from across the Trust to share expertise and plan opportunities for our children to collaborate and work together.

Miss Clay is supporting the staff at another trust school in her capacity as school SENDCo and has delivered training on Smart Targets.

Miss Brambani has supported the science leader at one of our trust schools to ensure the teaching of science is of the highest standard and pupils are knowing more and remembering more in science.

Also this week a group of TAs from Dean Field supported at Heptonstall in making their learning environment purposeful and attractive by putting up a selection of displays across the school.

It's great to see that the skills and expertise amongst our staff can be shared across the trust for the benefit of all of our pupils.

SAFEGUARDING

How to keep children safe this Halloween

Halloween can be an exciting time of year for children, dressing up and going out after dark. But, whilst Halloween is supposed to be spooky there are some horrors that families will want to avoid.

So, here are our top tips for a safe Halloween that you can remember for all the right reasons.

Remember Halloween costumes are highly flammable

Many fancy dress costumes are not manufactured to the same safety standards as normal clothing, meaning they can ignite almost instantly and burn far faster.

That's why it is crucial to ensure children wearing Halloween costumes are kept well away from naked flames and other heat sources at all times.

Encourage children to layer up

If children wear clothes under their dressing-up costumes, there is a layer of protection between the costume and their skin. This can help protect their skin if their costume catches fire.

Be visible

Visibility is important all year round. However, after the clocks go back, it gets dark much earlier. By Halloween it will be dusk by 5 o'clock, just when children are out trick or treating.

Reflective tape can make a fun addition to Halloween costumes and make children more visible to drivers at twilight, as it is picked up in car headlights.

Fluorescent glow sticks and glow jewellery can make good costume accessories and can also help make children more visible to drivers.

If you're going out earlier with little ones, then bright or fluorescent clothing is better for daytime visibility.

Stay safe near roads

Masks can make it harder for children to see or hear traffic. So, save the special masks for indoors and use face paint for trick or treating.

Encourage children to put mobile phones away when they are out trick or treating and crossing roads. Instead of using the phone as a light, carry a torch.

Children under 12 are best accompanied by an adult. Agreeing a pre-planned route for children over 12 and having a way of contacting a trusted adult if they need to offers freedom with less risk.

We hope you have a safe and spooktacular Halloween!



ONLINE SAFETY

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about **HORROR FILMS & AGE RATINGS**

The 'on-demand' availability of streaming platforms in many homes creates extra possibilities for young viewers to be exposed to age-inappropriate content. Material which features horror or violence can cause anxiety and nightmares for children, especially since it can be hard for young ones to grasp that what they're watching isn't real.

CLASSIFICATION BREAKDOWN

The British Board of Film Classification has the following age ratings:

U: Suitable for all ages

PG: For children aged 8 and above; this content shouldn't unsettle them

12A: Children under the age of 12 should not watch without an adult; this content potentially features bad language, nudity or sexual references

15: Suitable only for 15-year-olds and above

18: Exclusively for an adult audience, with potentially explicit themes of violence, nudity or sex

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

STREAMING IS EVERYWHERE

Modern mobile devices make it very easy for children to watch streamed films without the need for a TV. The availability of inappropriate content has risen significantly on streaming platforms, almost all of which host 18-rated content. If not restricted by parental controls, this could be viewed by children who aren't quite ready for such adult themes, concepts and imagery.

FACT VS. FICTION

Many children have no trouble separating fact from fiction. However, with modern day technology making pretend violence and horror look ever more realistic, it's becoming harder for youngsters to tell the difference. For instance, consider remakes of older films, where dated special effects (making it easy to discern that something wasn't real) have been replaced by far more convincing monsters and gore.

PEER PRESSURE

Friends encouraging each other to watch the latest film featuring violence or horror can lead to children consuming content that they're not ready for. As 18+ content is available on many streaming platforms, youngsters can watch these together – potentially without their parents' or carers' knowledge.

CHILDREN SCARE DIFFERENTLY

It can be difficult to decide what content is appropriate for children. What's fine for one child could be extremely frightening for another. As many children admit to not sharing or discussing the content they watch with their parents, encouraging an open dialogue around the kind of media that young people consume can help avoid exposing them to any inappropriate content.

PSYCHOLOGICAL IMPACTS

Horror prides itself on its ability to startle or induce genuine fear in the viewer – so it's no surprise that this genre isn't usually intended for children. A natural side-effect of this is that 'jump scares' or a creepy, suspenseful atmosphere can have lasting effects on younger minds. The resulting anxiety can impact a child's sleeping patterns or eating habits.

Advice for Parents & Educators

WATCH THE FILM FIRST

If you're concerned that a film might be unsuitable for children (whether it's their first dive into the horror genre or a step up in age classification), then take a look for yourself. There's no better way to judge whether this content is something you'd deem appropriate for a child – and if a parent, for example, has actually seen the film (or at least a portion of it), they can construct a far more credible case if they decide it's inappropriate.

REMEMBER – IT'S NOT REAL

Emphasise to children that the content they're viewing is entirely fictional and has no chance of affecting them in real life. If a child is upset after watching a film, try to understand what exactly has unsettled them; this can help you approach the topic in a healthy and informative manner, to dispel any fears or anxieties they may have.

DISCUSS THE CONTENT OF FILMS

If a child has seen a film that you think may have exposed them to potentially uncomfortable themes and ideas, don't shy away from talking about it, and answer any questions they may have. This is especially important if they watched the film without an adult present. Ask them to summarise the story for you, as this will give you an understanding of what they've learned from watching it.

USE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Most streaming platforms have the option to put age ranges on children's accounts. This means that films and shows that are inappropriate for children won't be advertised while they're browsing and won't even appear if a child specifically searches for them. This can be changed any time at parents' discretion, but it's wise to protect these settings with a password, so a child can't alter anything on their own.

October Half Term Family Challenge

It's time for another Family Challenge! This half term there are prizes up for grabs! Post your creations on Seesaw or bring them in by **Thursday 7th November 2024** and there will be a prize for 1st 2nd and 3rd place entries.

Halloween Trail at the Piece Hall October 29th – 2nd November 11:00-2:00pm

Take a trip to the Piece hall to do a Halloween trail and join in with some crafts



Bonfire Crafts / Research

Create some bonfire inspired crafts or do some research on Guy Fawkes and the Gunpowder Plot.



Nature Wands

Go on a walk and look for signs of autumn. Choose some things carefully to make a nature wand. How many different coloured leaves can you find?



Autumnal / Halloween Cooking

As it is Autumn season, spend time in the kitchen making some delicious food for your family that uses them! This could be a pumpkin pie or soup or special Halloween creations! Share your recipe with your teacher and class so that they can try it!



Half-Term Values

Well done to all our children who won the values award for Honesty this half term!



Next half term's values are:



Author Visit - Tom Palmer

On Wednesday we had a visit from the Author Tom Palmer. He spoke to children about his journey as an author and shared his top tips about writing. He talked through the main themes in his novels which include football and war. He has written some very inspiring stories and we are really pleased about receiving some for our school library!



Stay and Read

Thank you to all the parents who joined us for our Stay and Read sessions this week! It was lovely to see you all reading with your children!



Wellbeing Warriors

Meet our 'Wellbeing Warriors'

At Dean Field, we understand how important it is to support and foster the mental health of our children. Our Year 6 Wellbeing Warriors - Ollie, Theo, and Lucas are responsible for promoting and supporting the general welfare of our school community. Their responsibility is to ensure that everyone is happy and feels safe at school.

The Wellbeing Warriors will assist Miss Dinsmore in the Wellbeing Zone and take turns monitoring the playground - playing games, mindful activities and supporting children. They are caring, welcoming and a support system for anyone in need.

Their role will include -

- To be a positive role model
- Promote positive wellbeing
- Encourage children to talk and show kindness to each other
- Be a good listener and offer support
- To share good advice about wellbeing



Halloween Discos

Thank you for all of the superb entries to the first ever pumpkin carving competition. We were blown away by everyone's efforts! It was extremely difficult to choose the winners. Through lots of deliberation, these are winners from Reception, year 1 and 2 and 3, 4, 5 and 6. Well done everyone!



House Winners

Well done to Charlotte Bronte, green house team who have one the house point competition this half term! Children will receive a sweet treat for their efforts this half term.



Poppy Appeal

When we return on Monday 4th November we will be selling Poppies and other items for the Remembrance Day Poppy Appeal. If you would like any items please bring 50p into class. All items can be bought at the school office before or after school or children can come at break and lunch time only. Every item is 50p or a higher donation. Thank you.



Newsletter Promotion - School

Parentkind – the charity that supports school PTAs - have teamed up with Asda, who is making millions of pounds available to donate to primary schools across the UK through their 'Cashpot for Schools' initiative – all you have to do is, opt in through the Asda Rewards app, choose our primary school and shop and scan in store or shop online at Asda.com, between 2nd September and 30th November 2024

Asda will donate 0.5% of the value of your shop to our Primary school. Also, every time somebody opts in, Asda will give an additional £1 to the school Cashpot. Plus, it doesn't stop there – Asda are also giving £50 to every school to get them started.

The supermarket has joined forces with Joe Wicks to support the initiative – look out for the TV advert, radio ads and social media coverage

Asda does the rest, all money raised will be donated to schools to spend on the things they need the most.

**INTRODUCING
CASHPOT FOR
SCHOOLS**

Download and opt-in with Asda Rewards
and we will donate **££s** to schools.

**CASHPOT
FOR
SCHOOLS**

Only with
**ASDA
Rewards**

Download and
opt-in today

With
Parentkind

HERE'S HOW

- 1** Download the Asda Rewards app & sign up today
- 2** Opt-in to Cashpot for Schools and follow the steps in your app
- 3** Shop, scan and we donate

Selected stores. Minimum spend £2+. Exclusions apply including Asda Express & George.com. Subject to availability. UK 18+. App & Opt in required. 0.5% of the value of a customer's eligible shop is donated. Publicly funded primary schools must register with Parentkind charity 4079911. Opt in to Asda Rewards at asda.com/cashpotforschools. Shop in Asda at asda.com/rewards/terms. Ends 30/11/24

Week commencing Monday 4th November

2		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Hot Meal Option		Southern Fried Chicken Goujons 1, 5	Homemade Beef Curry Naan Bread 5	Battered Fish 2, 5	Roast Chicken Dinner Yorkshire Puddings 5, 10, 12	Pizza 5, 10
		Tomato Pasta 5, 10	Homemade Onion Bhaji Samosas 5 Savoury Rice	Homemade Cheese & Onion Pie 5, 10, 12	Quorn Sausages 5	Homemade Macaroni Cheese 5, 10 Garlic Bread 5, 10, 14
Vegetables		Potato Puffs Spaghetti 5 Peas	Potato Wedges Broccoli Sweetcorn	Chips Mushy Peas	Roast Potatoes Broccoli Carrots	Potato Cubes 5 Beans Sweetcorn
Served Daily	Jacket Potatoes with various fillings Salad Bar Selection of Sandwiches Allergies for the daily items available on request					
Dessert		Assorted Biscuits 5, 10, 12	Iced Cake 5, 10, 12	Cupcakes 5, 10, 12	Jam Sponge 5, 10, 12 Custard 10	Assorted Fresh Baking 5, 10, 12
		Strawberry Swirls 10	Jelly	Cornflake Buns 4, 5, 10	Angel Delight 10	Chocolate Ice Cream 10

Enter our

Super Draw

Win a £1,000 Sainsbury's Voucher

OR £1,000 CASH PRIZE





**YOUR
SCHOOL
LOTTERY**



Dean Field
Community Primary School



West Yorkshire
Fire & Rescue Service



West Yorkshire
Fire & Rescue Service

Celebrate Safely: Follow **The Firework Code**

- Plan your firework display; making it safe and enjoyable, and make sure it finishes before 11 pm.
- Only buy fireworks that are CE-marked. Keep them, in a closed box, and use one at a time.
- Always read and follow the instructions on each firework. (Use a torch if you need to).
- Keep an arms-length distance with a taper and stand well back when lighting fireworks.
- Keep naked flames like cigarettes, away from fireworks.
- Never return to a firework once it has been lit.
- Do not put fireworks in your pocket, and never throw them.
- Fire any 'rocket' type fireworks well away from spectators.
- Never use paraffin or petrol on a bonfire.
- Make sure that any bonfires are out and the surroundings are made safe before leaving it unattended.

For more information scan the QR code on the front of this flyer or visit:
westyorksfire.gov.uk/bonfire-night-safety



SCARECROW Trail AND MONSTER RAVE

JOIN US FOR OUR SPOOKY SCARECROW TRAIL AND GLOW IN THE DARK DISCO!

HALLOWEEN CRAFTS, TRAIN RIDE, FACE PAINTING, GAMES AND LOTS MORE...

FRIDAY 25TH OCTOBER - FRIDAY 1ST NOVEMBER 2024*

Please note our glow in the dark disco is on the 28th Oct-1st Nov only



TICKETS ON SALE NOW
WHISTLESTOPVALLEY.CO.UK



Walks for Wellbeing

North Halifax

Boost your mood in the great outdoors by joining your friendly and caring local walking and peer support group.

We run a variety of walks to suit everyone - a free cuppa always included on the way!

You MUST book to join the group.

Healthy
Minds

Calderdale Wellbeing

Shroggs Park



Call 01422 345154 for enquiries

To book email: likeminds@healthymindscalderdale.co.uk

Or visit: healthymindscalderdale.co.uk/walksforwellbeing

  @HealthyMindsCalderdale |  @HealthyMindsCW

DIARY DATES

DATE	EVENT
Monday 4th November	School reopens
Tuesday 5th November	Rec + Y6 Height and Weight check
Thursday 7th November	Reception Open Morning 10:30-11:15am
Thursday 7th November	Reception Open Afternoon 1:30-2:15pm
Wednesday 13th November	Parents Evening 1:20-6pm

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	93%
Poland	72%
Kenya	89%
Brazil	84%
Ireland	83%

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 3— Drake C

Year 4 – Mia E

Year 5 – Isaac P

Year 6 – Leo H



This Weeks Attendance

Group	% Attendance
Mexico	92%
China	89.3%
Australia	92%
Poland	93.3%
Kenya	92%
Brazil	88.3%
Ireland	100%
Total	92.1%

Congratulations to Ireland class who had the highest attendance in the school this week. Well done to Poland 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	Fraser R	For always making good choices and being honest.
	Christina M	For always making good choices and being honest.
China Year 1	Zarmish B	For always being honest.
	Kristopher BH	For always being honest.
Australia Year 2	Libby H	For always being honest and telling the truth.
	Aria R	For always being honest and telling the truth.
Poland Year 3	Alexa A	For always being honest.
	Drake C	For always being honest.
Kenya Year 4	Rogan M	For being a fantastic role model.
	Alex W	For being a fantastic role model.
Brazil Year 5	Joshua G	For always being an honest role model.
	Kadie-Mai G	For always being honest with her learning.
Ireland Year 6	Vihaan P	For demonstrating honesty in everything he does.
	Levi N	For being a fantastic, honest role model.