

### **DEAN FIELD NEWS**

### Friday 14th March 2025



Dear Parents / Carers,

This week has seen many visitors to Dean Field.

Earlier in the week, we were visited by Jemima Flintoff, Calderdale's Assistant Director for Education and Inclusion. It was a pleasure to walk Jemima around school and talk to her about what makes Dean Field special and unique. Jemima had heard lots of great things about Dean Field and in particular what an inclusive school we are.

Mrs Hussain, The Family of Learning Trust's CEO visited on Tuesday and carried out a learning walk through school with Miss Brambani. She commented on how calm and purposeful the learning environment was and the wonderful behaviour and manners of our pupils.

Finally, Mrs Gledhill our Health and Safety governor visited us to talk all things Health and Safety as well as carry out a health and safety learning walk with Mrs Edwards. We are grateful to have such dedicated governors who give us their spare time to support school.

Wishing you a restful weekend.

Mrs Pether



#### Staff Training

This week our staff have taken part in the following training 
Mrs Pether and Miss Brambani—cross trust maths monitoring

All teachers—SPaG follow up training and impact review

Mrs Pether—Calerdale Primary Headteacher's Association meeting

#### **ONLINE SAFETY**

### What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

## • JUSTALKKID

WHAT ARE THE RISKS? JusTalk Kids is a child's version of the JusTalk app — a highly popular social networking platform — designed for users up to 13 years of age, allowing them to video call, message and participate in group chats. While adults can link their own JusTalk account to their child's and make use of parental controls, it's important to understand the risks associated with the app.

### SUBSCRIPTION FOR PREMIUM ACCESS

While Jurian Rids is here, there's the option to subscribe to a kids' premium accourt or a premium family account, at a cost, this feature allows children to have access to more fun features such as games they can play with althers in a cost exclusive stickers; a badge denoting them as a premium subscriber; and accelurate ringtones and themes.

#### RESISTANCE TO CONTROLS

Justicity Kids endeavours to allow children
the sense of having a chair-based app white
allowing parents to set centrals (within the app
or from their own adult Justicity account). The
basis bothing this is positive; however, some
Children are challenging their parents by
refusing to use Justicity Kids, proferring to use the
adult version without any restrictions in place.

#### KNOWING THE PARENT PASSCODE

After deserted ding Justal Kilds, parents can set a possocia which users must enter to add contacts. The parental controls help to manage which content can be viewed and who children one add as a compact this then alless children to that with friends in a control the environment. Browner, prospective contacts don't have to know a specific username. In theory, someone could type in a random name and then add them as a hind.

#### POTENTIAL DATA LEAKS

Author and Auffalt tide stain to be secure and encrypted, going so for as to state that even the developers themselves won? access your data. However, a security lapse in 2022 highlighted that messages were not in fact encrypted — leading to concerns around the security of the app and the transparency of the development from.

#### CYBERBULLYING

Online chats can provide a write of anonymity, leading some users to post things which they wouldn't normally say in porson. Combined with the option of group chats, there's a risk that young people might job in with this kind of behaviour, escalating it further and potentially tuning what should be a fun experience into something descript in scattle.

#### TOO MUCH SCREENTIME



A report by the UK Parliament Education Committee highlighted a 62% increase in children's screen time between 3000 and 3002 as well as finding that 25% of children used their smoothybrines in a manner consistent with severe addiction, minoducing children to social networking apps when they re too young can lead to bad digital highlish and a reliance on technology from an early age.

### Advice for Parents & Educators

#### JUSTIFY THE CONTROLS

If parents allow their chief to use austicit Kids, they should explain that they're putting parental controls in place to make the caps safer. Make sure the child knows not to put their full mame on the account and decen't use a photo of themselves as their profile picture. This type of open discussions will finely be ensure that a child is aware of the app's potential risks and knows how to reduce them.

#### TALK ABOUT ONLINE FRIENDSHIPS

Young children could be excited to use this app. However, highlight that they must do so in a positive, respectful and responsible manner. While it can be easy to get caught up in a group chat, it is important to talk to others politiely and call out any unphresont behaviour. Discuss the importance of limiting their contracts to people they know in real life and use parental controls to enforce this.

#### Meet Our Expert

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

#### DOS AND DON'TS OF SHARING

Some children might not understand the potential dangers of oversharing online. Set clear guidelines around what it and lan't safe to share on the internet, and discuss the cencept of a digital hosprint. Children need to understand that the things they say and share online can never be completely erased. Even If they delete it themselves, it can be saved and distributed by others.

#### ENCOURAGE OPEN COMMUNICATION

Apps like Justaik can sometimes lend themselves to bullying behaviours. Parents should monitor what their child is sending and receiving, check in with them regularly and encourage them to share their feelings (both positive and negative) at home. Remind them that they can block a contact if someone is treating them disrespectfully.



The National College

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#### **BOOST YOUR READING SKILLS**

For further guides, hints and tips, please visit national college.com.

# 10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators USING TECHNOLOGY TO BOOST READING SKILLS

The way we engage with text has changed dramatically over the years. Whether reading captions on social media, instructions in a video game or an e-book on a digital device, technology plays a major role in modern literacy. While traditional books remain invaluable, digital tools can enhance reading skills by making text more accessible, interactive and engaging.

### O CHOOSING THE RIGHT

Before integrating becknology, consider the Types of text that a child engages with, if they need help on accasion, digital reading pens can assist by seaming and reading words or sentences. These tooks are especially useful for students with reading difficulties, and can even be used in seams if they're part of their reutine learning process. Proper training and practice are required, but they can be a great help when tackling printed text.

#### READING ON SCREEN

Many devices now allow users to customize toot for botter neadebility. Adjusting font type, size and backglound celeur can significantly enhance comprehension. For many readers, white test on a black background is the cosion to see, whereas other styles – such as dystelial-hierally foots – are designed to help those who are struggling. Teaching children how to personalize text settings on their devices empowers them to read more comfortably and with greater confidence.

#### 3 ACCESSIBILITY TOOLS

Most modern devices include built-in tools designed to support readers. These features one be found in Settings under Accessibility and may include text-to-speech, speech-to-text and screen magnification functions. Enabling these tools one make digital reading more user friendly, especially for children with learning difficulties or visual impairments, who might have an easier time with opener language than the written word, or who might simply require a closer look at the text.

### INTERACTIVE READING PROGRAMMES

Many digital reading devices, such as Kindle and other e-readers, effer features like word highlighting, adjustable seat speed and built-in dictionaries. These tools help learners to break deen compton words and phrases white maintaining on appropriate reading pace. Some programmes even allow users to track their progress, making reading a more structured and motivating experience.

#### 5 VIDEO GAMES AND READING SKILLS

Many video games require players to read instructions, character distingues and mission objectives, making them an unespected but effective literacy tool. Games that insolve ctorytelling, suzzles or problem-solving other include large amounts of test -encouraging children to read these tests aloud or discuss them can improve their comprehension and vecabulary is a fun, engaging seey.

#### Meet Our Expert

Catrina Lowri is a qualified special needs teacher and experienced 5ENCO. She recently launched her own site, Neuroteachers, which offers a literary of short. There-to: and explanation videos for educators. Catrina also writes and delivers online training and events for multi-academy trusts, businesses, schools and training arganisations.

### 6 SUBTITLES AND CLOSED CAPTIONS

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Watching videos with subtities or closed captions is on effective way to enhance reading stiffs. As children watch their levourite shows or online videos, they can folioe atong with the text, gaining a better understanding of how written words sound when apoken about. This is particularly beneficial for reluctorin readers, as it expects them to words in a familiar, engaging contest. Supposedly watching content with subtition reinforces word recognition and comprehension.

#### USING AUDIOBOOKS

Audiobooks are an escellent way to develop its tening and reading skills simultaneously. Children can follow along with the test while isstening to a narrator, reinforcing word recognition and fluency, for struggling readers, listening to an audiobook before attempting to read the test independently can boost their confidence and comprehension.

### TEXT-TO-VOICE TECHNOLOGY

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Best-to-voice software reads digital text aloud, making it easier for learners to follow along. Most smartphones, tablets and computers come with this function but in. When enabled, users can highlight a passage or sentence and press Pay to hear it read aloud. This tool is particularly helpful for auditory learners and those who struggle with decoding written words.

### NOICE-TO-TEXT FOR WRITING AND READING

Voice-to-fext tools oflow seems to dictate words, which are then transcribed into text. This feature helps children see the connection between spoken and entitles inarpuope. By using text to-voice to have their dictated words read book to them, teamers can identify mistakes and improve their reading and enting skills simultaneously.

### SOCIAL MEDIA AND PARENTAL CONTROLS

While social media provides apportunities for reading, most piotforms have age restrictions of 13-16 years old, mosting perentual guidence assentiel. Many social media videos include captions and comments that can encourage reading. However, it's important to use the platforms parental centrols (such as time limits and centern litters) to create a soft and educational online environment for shidten, the ouraging responsible social media use can ensure a balanced and productive approach to digital itteracy.



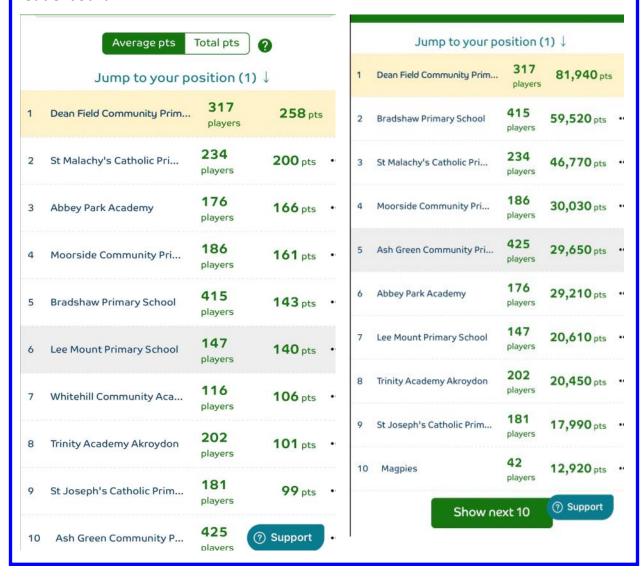
#### **BEAT THE STREETS**

Last week, Beat the Street was launched for North Halifax. All the children and their adults have to scan the beat boxes that are scattered around North Halifax. Children can win individual or school prizes. One of the main school prizes is £500 for PE equipment for the school. Each week, we will share the leaderboard for average points and total points.

#### Go Travel!

Beat The Streeters this week is **Go Travel** from Wed 12 March - Tue 18 March it's time to ditch the car! Walk, cycle or wheel to school or work this week. All Beat Boxes will be giving out **double points from 7am - 9am and 3pm - 6pm** each weekday up to and including 18th March 2025.

#### Leaderboard:



#### **ANCIENT GREECE FAMILY LEARNING WORKSHOP**

On Wednesday, children from year 5 and their parents attended an Ancient Greece family workshop. They looked at different Greek symbols and designed their own Greek pot. Once they had designed their pot, they created their own Greek style plant pot to use at their home.



#### **WORLD BOOK DAY**

We had a brilliant morning celebrating World Book Day last week!





Everyone looked absolutely fantastic and so cosy in their pajamas!

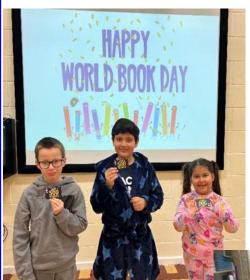




#### **STAY AND READ**

Thank you to all the parents and carers that attended our stay and read sessions last week. It was lovely to see you all sharing the love of books we have here at Dean Field! Thank you to those that also entered the prize draw by completing the book quiz! Last Friday, in a special WBD assembly, we picked three winners out of a hat!

Rory – year 5 Zoraiz – year 3 Isabella – year 2





#### FEBRUARY HALF-TERM FAMILY CHALLENGE

Congratulations to Drake and Nilaani for their entries in the last family challenge. They both received their prizes on World Book Day!





#### Support | Influence | Transform

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.



#### 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.



#### JUNIOR LEGO CLUB

@ St Peter's Community Centre, Sowerby

Join our Junior LEGO Club, a creative and inclusive space designed for children to explore, build, and connect with others! Our club provides a supportive environment where kids can enhance their social skills, boost their creativity, and have fun through the imaginative world of LEGO.



#### **ADULT BOWLING**

@ Electric Bowl

Attention autistic adults! Come join us at Electric Bowl for an evening of bowling, laughter, and great times. Whether you're aiming for strikes or just here to enjoy the social atmosphere, this is the perfect opportunity to connect, unwind, and have fun in a welcoming, supportive community.



#### **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.



#### JUNIOR BOWLING

Last Tuesday/Wednesday of the month @ Electric Bowl Join us for Junior Bowling on the third Friday of every month! Head to Electric Bowl for a fun evening filled with laughter, bowling, and new friends. This is a great chance to learn the game, celebrate every roll, and enjoy time with others in a friendly, welcoming space!



#### 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. 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.



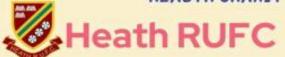








WEST YORKSHIRE'S CHILDRENS AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S MENTAL HEALTH CHARITY FUNDRAISER!





Heath RUFC North Dean, Stainland Rd, Greetland, Halifax HX4 8LS

**SUNDAY25TH MAY** 1PM TIL LATE!

IS OUR TH Birthday!

LIVE MUSIC, GOOD FOOD, FREE KIDS' ACTIVITIES AND MUCH MORE.

ADULT - £10 STUDENT - £5 CHILD 12-15 - £5 UNDER 12'S - FREE



Early bird 20% discount code: BIRTHDAY



Would you and your family like to participate in our Invictus Inflatable fun run to help raise vital funds for our charity? Would you be able to raise £150 per person? This would also mean you would be able to race for free. This a fun event with many inflatable obstacles to go at. Suitable for children aged 5+



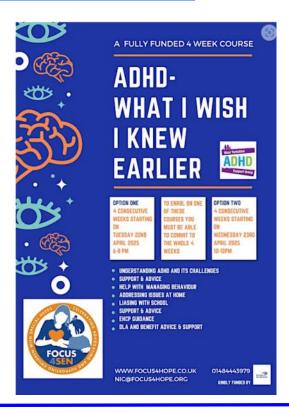
PLEASE USE THINK LINK BELOW TO BOOK A PLACE

https://form.jotform.com/243053813602044

Another opportunity to take part in their fantastic course. Run in collaboration with ADHD West Yorkshire. Please follow the links below for booking. This is a fully funded course but really important you can commit to the 4 weeks to get the full benefits. Both courses are run in person from our community hub within Brighouse town centre.

June 3rd 6-8pm <a href="https://www.eventbrite.com/e/copy-of-adhd-what-i-wish-i-knew-earlier-tickets-">https://www.eventbrite.com/e/copy-of-adhd-what-i-wish-i-knew-earlier-tickets-</a>

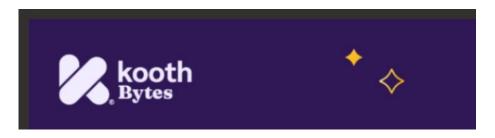
June 4th 10am-12 midday <a href="https://www.eventbrite.com/e/copy-of-



### How Kooth and Qwell meets the needs of SEND & neurodivergent young people

Join us on this 30-minute webinar designed for families, exploring how Kooth - with its 'out of hours' availability, anonymous digital chat support and asynchronous messaging - is well placed to meet the specific needs of neurodivergent young people.

connect.kooth.com



#### **Whole School Values**

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

### Our School Values

Tolerance

Honesty

Respect

Caring

earning Without Linner **Dean Field** Community Primary School

Perseverance

Friendship

Determination

This half term's value is





I care for myself, for others and our school community.



### **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







#### **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.



### Week commencing Monday 17th March



### 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	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	Jelly	Strawberry Ice Cream	

A few reminders of the Apps we use in school which can also be accessed at home to enhance your child's learning.

#### **EYFS-Nursery and Reception**



https://tentown.co.uk/login-page-class

Please ask your class teacher for a login

Year 1 and 2



https://numbots.com/#

Please ask your class teacher for a log in

Year 1 to 6



https://play.ttrockstars.com/auth/school/student

Please ask your class teacher for a log in



Year 2 to 6

https://www.spellingshed.com/en-gb/

Please ask your class teacher for a log in

#### **DIARY DATES**

DATE	EVENT
Tuesday 17th March	Year 1 Trip To Manor Heath
Tuesday 17th March	Year 4 VR Workshop
Tuesday 24th March	Year 1 Trip To Manor Heath
Thursday 27th March	Year 2 Piece Hall Trip
Friday 4th April	SCHOOL WILL BE CLOSING AT 1:10PM FOR EVERYBODY—THERE WILL BE NO FRIDAY CLUBS NOR ANY OUT OF SCHOOL CLUB (Dean Field Den )

REMINDER: All school fees, dinner money, extended provision and

**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.



AS HUMAN BEINGS, WE EACH HAVE A
RESPONSIBILITY TO CARE FOR HUMANITY.

EXPRESSING CONCERN FOR OTHERS BRINGS INNER
STRENGTH AND DEEP SATISFACTION. AS SOCIAL
ANIMALS, HUMAN BEINGS NEED FRIENDSHIP, BUT
FRIENDSHIP DOESN'T COME FROM WEALTH AND
POWER, BUT FROM SHOWING COMPASSION AND
CONCERN FOR OTHERS.

#### Accelerated Reader – Reading Achievements this week



Australia 94% Poland: 78% Kenya: 66% Brazil: 80% 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 <a href="https://www.myon.co.uk/login/">https://www.myon.co.uk/login/</a> to start reading!

#### **Evolve First Aid System**

The new first aid system is now live so please check your junk email and update us if you change your email address.

Bumped head texts will no longer be sent as every incident will be emailed to parents and no paper slips will be sent home.

School will continue to ring parents if we feel further information needs passing on or in the event of further medical treatment needed.

Thank you for your cooperation.

**EVOLVE***accidentbook* 

# Group % Attendance Congratulations to Australia class who had the high-

Group	% Attendance
Mexico	93.7%
China	95.5%
Australia	99.3%
Poland	91.7%
Kenya	92.2%
Brazil	91.7%
Ireland	99.1%
Total	94.6%

est 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



### **GOLD BOOK**



# Dean Field CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY Dean Field Correctly Prince School

Mexico Reception	Elsie B	Independently created the lifecycle of a but- terfly
	Paige W	Described and labelled correctly all the different parts of a flower.
China Year 1	Evie R	For being a super scientist this week!
	Scarlett T	For being a good friend to others.
Australia Year 2	Kaleesi F	For focusing very well in science week and joining in lots.
	Aiden M	Having a really good week and trying really hard in all areas.
Poland Year 3	Conner- Junior C	For being a superstar scientist!
	Freddie W	For a huge improvement in your behaviour and attitude
Kenya Year 4	Lennon W	For an excellent explanation of the work-ings of the inner ear!
	Charlotte H	For a sensible, mature and focused attitude
Brazil Year 5	Rory C	For his enthusiasm during all science lessons.
	Conor M	For his FANTASTIC attitude towards his learning.
Ireland Year 6	ΖG	For producing an excellent twisted tale in English.
	Ollie C	For putting 110% into science.