

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a Fantastic Week at Dean Field!

It's been another brilliant week here at Dean Field! Our Reception children had a wonderful time exploring on their trip to Copley Woods with lots of smiles, muddy boots, and great adventures had by all!

We've also loved welcoming so many of you into school for our *Stay and Read* sessions. It was fantastic to see such a great turnout across all year groups – thank you for coming along and sharing in your children's reading—reading is such an important part of our curriculum offer here at Dean Field, it's great to see that parents also prioritise it too.

On top of that, our Year 5s cooking up a storm for their *Master Chef* session!

Well done to everyone for making this such a fun and memorable week at Dean Field!

If you haven't done already please follow us on **X** or **Facebook** to see a full round up of what has been going on and of course don't forget to regularly check your child's Seesaw feed.

A warm Dean Field welcome to Miss Shawmarsh who joined us this week as our new Pastoral Learning Mentor. Miss Shawmarsh has had a week of settling in and will begin getting in touch with parents next week about the mentoring work she will be starting.

Have a great weekend — don't forget the deadline for buying tickets for the Halloween Disco is Monday 20th October!

Mrs Fiona Pether



Staff Training

It's been a busy and exciting week for staff development! Teachers from all five schools in our Family of Learning Trust came together at Beech Hill to look at the maths curriculum, with a special focus on improving how we teach multiplication across all schools.

Miss Clay attended the *Mainstream Inclusion in Calderdale* launch event to find out more about the new initiatives and support available from the local authority for children with special educational needs.

Mrs Pether and Miss Brambani also joined the *North Halifax Cluster Headteachers' Meeting* this week, where they met with other school leaders from across North Halifax to share ideas and strengthen links between our local schools.

Pastoral Learning Mentor
Miss Shawmarsh



My first week!

Before I introduce myself, I just want to take this opportunity to thank every single child, colleague and parent for such a warm and friendly Dean Field welcome!

My name is Miss Shawmarsh and I am the new Pastoral Learning Mentor here at Dean Field Primary School. I've had a lovely week settling in and I am incredibly excited to work with some wonderful students and hopefully make their time at school more positive!

My role in school is to support students in their learning and to try to remove any barriers to learning that they may currently face. These include things such as having low confidence, friendships, recent family bereavements and a whole host of other things. It is my job to support your children through challenges with a gentle, supportive and nurturing approach.

Next week, I will be contacting parents regarding their child and what our focus will be in our mentoring sessions. I will be contacting parents via Seesaw. I'm really looking forward to getting to know everybody and building some really strong working relationships.

Thank you all again for such a welcoming first week. I will be around in the playground everyday at hand over times, so if you see me, please give me a wave and come and say hi!

Miss Shawmarsh

SAFEGUARDING



Calderdale District

Calderdale HQ
Halifax Police Station
Richmond Close
Halifax
HX1 5TW

Email: calderdale.npt@westyorkshire.police.uk
Website: www.westyorkshire.police.uk

10th October 2025

Dear Parent/Guardian

RE: Firework Safety and Legal Responsibilities

I hope this letter finds you in good health.

As we approach the Bonfire season, I want to take a moment to discuss an important matter that concerns the safety and well-being of your children. Fireworks, although thrilling, can pose serious risks when handled irresponsibly or without proper supervision. It is crucial for you, as parents and guardians, to ensure your children's safety and prevent them from misusing fireworks.

The use of fireworks is regulated by various laws and regulations to minimise the risks associated with them. The primary legislation governing fireworks is the Fireworks Regulations Act 2004, which restricts the sale, possession, and use of fireworks, especially among individuals under the age of 18. It is essential that you familiarise yourselves with these laws and regulations to uphold your responsibilities as parents and guardians.

Here are some key points to consider:

1. **Age Restrictions:** Under UK law, it is illegal for anyone under the age of 18 to possess category 2 and 3 fireworks in public places. Retailers are also prohibited from selling category 2 and 3 fireworks to individuals under this age limit.
2. **Responsible Supervision:** If your child is under 18 and wishes to enjoy fireworks, please ensure that they are always under the supervision of a responsible adult. Fireworks should never be left in the hands of children or teenagers.
3. **Noise and Nuisance:** Fireworks should not be used in a manner that causes distress to others or constitutes a nuisance. Misuse can lead to noise complaints and potential legal consequences.
4. **Legal Consequences:** The police take firework-related offences seriously. Robust action will be taken against anyone found committing offences such as underage possession, antisocial behaviour, or misuse of fireworks.

This Bonfire season let's work together to ensure children enjoy fireworks safely and responsibly. By doing so, we can help prevent accidents, protect our communities from unnecessary disturbances, and avoid any legal repercussions.

If you have any questions or concerns about firework safety or UK legislation, please visit the West Yorkshire Police website - www.westyorkshire.police.uk

Wishing you and your family a safe and enjoyable Bonfire season.

Sincerely,



Inspector 5238 James Graham
Halifax Neighbourhood Policing Team
Calderdale

SAFEGUARDING

Celebrate safely this Bonfire Season



Bonfires



Always

- ✓ Position your bonfire away from structures and flammable material.
- ✓ Have a responsible adult supervising the bonfire.
- ✓ Have access to water close by.
- ✓ Stand well back and keep pets and children away.

Never

- ✗ Burn hazardous materials.
- ✗ Use flammable liquids to light a bonfire.
- ✗ Light fireworks near a bonfire.
- ✗ Leave an unextinguished bonfire unsupervised.

Fireworks and Sparklers



Always

- ✓ Buy fireworks that are CE marked and from registered sellers only.
- ✓ Carefully read and understand the instructions on each firework or sparkler before use.
- ✓ Store your fireworks safely.
- ✓ Wear gloves when holding sparklers.

Never

- ✗ Return to a lit firework, even if it doesn't ignite immediately.
- ✗ Light more than one firework at a time.
- ✗ Throw fireworks.
- ✗ Put fireworks in your pocket.



#WYFRSBonfireSafe
#WYFRSFireworkSafe

To find out more scan the QR code or visit
westyorksfire.gov.uk/celebrate-safely

In an emergency, always dial 999.



PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT

STAY AND READ

A huge thank you to all the parents and carers who attended our Stay and Read sessions. It is really important to us that you are involved in your child's reading journey. Your support helps us to foster a lifelong love of reading and creates wonderful opportunities to welcome you into school.



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about MEMES

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Memes may look like simple jokes, but, for many teenagers, they form a shared cultural language. Quickly created and reworked, they spread across social media platforms as images with text or short videos. Nearly eight in ten teenagers share memes (78%, YPulse), making them part of daily life. While memes encourage creativity and participation, they can also spread misinformation or reinforce harmful stereotypes.

SPREADING MISINFORMATION

While memes help to communicate complex topics, they can also spread misinformation. Memes may sometimes include content presenting false facts or biased viewpoints, especially around health, politics, or current events and, as they're designed to be shared quickly, young people may not question their accuracy.

EXPOSURE TO INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Memes are widely circulated, and not always age-appropriate, meaning young people may encounter explicit language, sexual content, or graphic imagery, even without searching for it. As memes spread fast on platforms like Instagram, TikTok, or WhatsApp, it's nearly impossible to filter them completely.

MASKED MESSAGES

Some memes are designed to be confusing or layered with hidden meanings, making them hard for parents, and, sometimes, other young people to understand. Online groups often create these memes to look like inside jokes, but they can sometimes conceal offensive, harmful, or misleading content.

HIDDEN HARMS & LOSING SENSITIVITY

When serious topics like violence, racism, or mental health are turned into jokes, children and young people may become less sensitive to these issues over time. While a funny meme may seem light-hearted, it can carry messages that belittle certain groups, encourage risky behaviour, or mock personal struggles. Repeated exposure through memes can make harmful behaviour seem normal or less important. Over time, this can blur their understanding of what is funny versus what is discriminatory, harmful, or damaging to themselves and others.

PERMANENT DIGITAL FOOTPRINT

Unlike spoken jokes, memes leave a trail. Created or shared memes can resurface later and be misunderstood, even if intended as harmless. Once online, memes may be copied, saved, or spread beyond a young person's control - digital actions can follow them into their future, shaping how they are perceived by peers, teachers, or even employers long after the original meme has been shared.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ENCOURAGE OPEN CONVERSATIONS

Talk regularly with young people and try to understand their online world - discuss what they find funny about the memes, and why. By listening without judgement, you build trust, making it easier for them to come to you if they see something harmful. Open conversations also help children and teens think critically about the messages behind memes rather than simply accepting them at face value.

MODEL HEALTHY BOUNDARIES

Show children and teens positive online behaviours, such as taking breaks from screens, avoiding late-night scrolling, and engaging in offline activities. Setting clear routines around screen time at home can help to reinforce healthy boundaries and reduce the risks of overuse. By modelling balanced technology use, adults can help children and young people see that digital entertainment, including memes, should be just one part of life.

TEACH DIGITAL LITERACY

Help children and young people learn to question where information comes from and whether it's reliable - developing media literacy skills prepares young people to understand and navigate through their future online lives. Show them how memes can sometimes exaggerate or misrepresent facts for laughs, and encourage them to check credible sources when memes claim to present truth.

FOSTER EMPATHY ONLINE

Remind children and young people that memes should never come at someone else's expense. Encourage them to think about how a meme might make another person feel before sharing or creating it. Highlight examples of positive memes that celebrate creativity without hurting others. Fostering empathy, respect, and kindness in digital spaces will help them become more aware of promoting a safer, more supportive online culture.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Cristina Moreno-Almado is a Senior Lecturer in Digital Culture at Queen Mary University of London. She specialises in memes, online networks, and youth culture, examining how digital spaces shape identity and everyday life.



The National College

MASTERCHEF!

Year 5 enjoyed making Brazilian carrot cakes for their MasterChef lesson. They linked their cooking to their class country Brazil. We measured out our ingredients, stirred, grated and chopped the ingredients before cooking them in the oven. They tasted delicious!



What a fantastic DF MasterChef afternoon with year 4 making Kenyan Yoghurt Cake . They showed off their mixing and baking skills. We created two cakes to cater for all the children in the class, one with yoghurt and one with lactose-free yoghurt.



EDUCATIONAL TRIPS AND VISITS - COPLEY WOODS

This week, our Reception class had a fantastic time exploring the great outdoors during their visit to the woods! The children were full of excitement as they ventured into nature, eager to discover what the woodland had to offer.

From spotting insects under logs to imagining who might live in the trees, there was no shortage of curiosity. The children showed amazing behaviour throughout the trip — walking sensibly, listening carefully, and showing great respect for the natural environment.

There was lots of rich discussion about animals and their habitats, with the children asking thoughtful questions and sharing what they already knew. We talked about how different creatures find food and shelter in the woods and even imagined what it might be like to live there ourselves!

It was a truly magical experience, full of learning, laughter, and exploration. Well done, Reception — we're so proud of you on your first ever reception trip!





Dean Field
Community Primary School

DEAN FIELD NURSERY

We are now accepting children the day after the child's 3rd birthday if a parent is in receipt of either the working parent 30 hour entitlement or 15 hour disadvantaged funding.



Register Now -
Contact the school office:



01422 258 258

FREE UNIFORM!

Christmas Artwork Competition



Get creative and create your finest Christmas artwork!

It must fit on an A4 piece of paper.

The winning design will be featured on our official card and shared with our school community.

Judging will be carried out by our Arts Ambassadors.

Deadline for entries: Friday 7th November

Bring your festive spirit, imagination and artistic flair - we can't wait to see your designs!

SEND ACTIVITIES IN THE COMMUNITY

SEND INFLATABLE FAMILY FUN SWIM

Brighthouse Pool & Fitness Centre

Date: Sunday 2nd November 2025

Session time: 2.30-3.30pm

The main pool will be dedicated to the session, having inflatable and float fun swim sections available.

The music system will not be in use during the session.

The pool venue will provide swimming aids on the day however, it would be advisable for participants to bring their own swim aids where possible to ensure ease of fitting etc.

Arrival on site should be a minimum of 15 minutes prior to the fun swim commencing to try and ensure that all participants are ready and on the poolside for the start of the safety talk which will commence 5 minutes prior to the start of the session.

Cost: FREE

To book places on the session, please call
Brighthouse Pool 01422 288068 or email

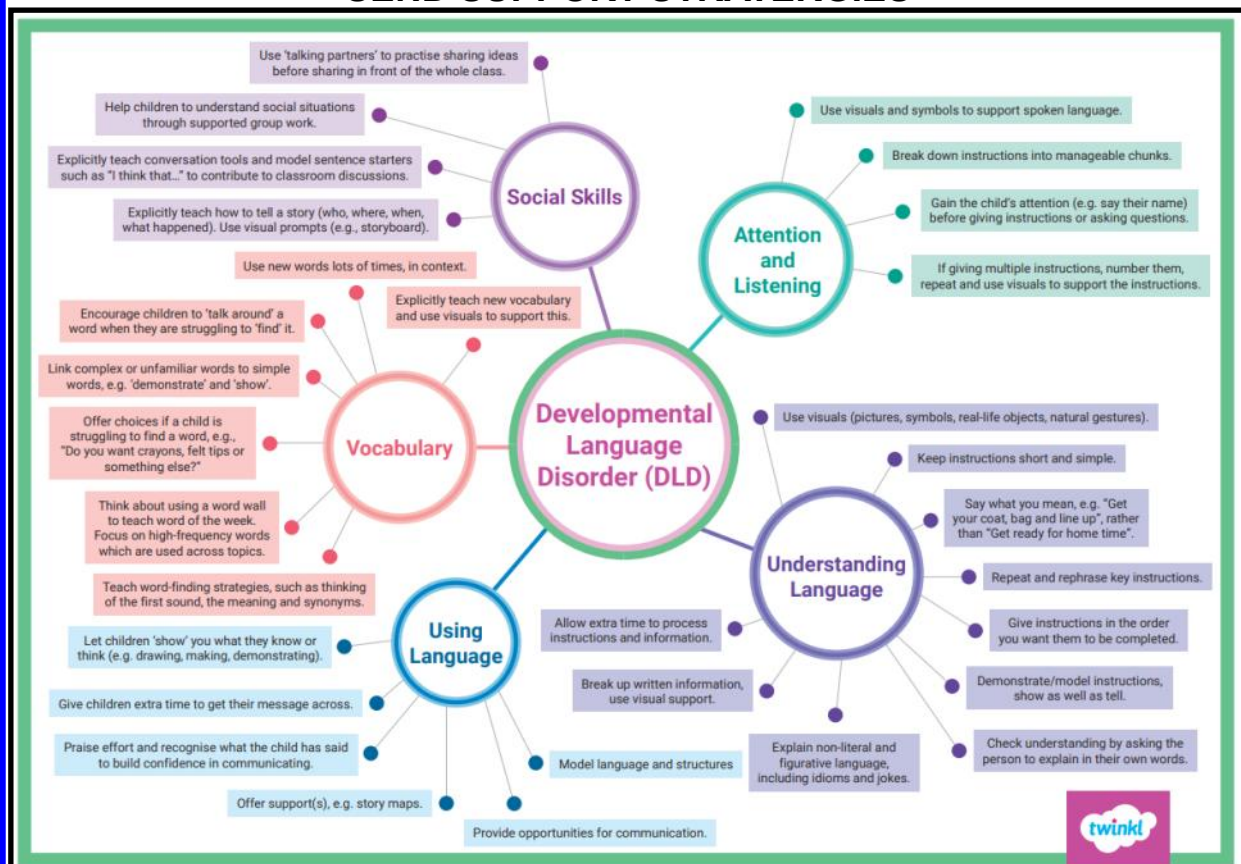
Reception.brighthouse@calderdale.gov.uk

(please note that due to the nature of the session places are limited)

Debbie Greenwood, Disability Sports Development Officer
email debbie.greenwood@calderdale.gov.uk



SEND SUPPORT STRATEGIES



ACTIVITES IN THE COMMUNITY

HALLOWEEN TRAIL

THE
PIECE
HALL

TRAIL SPONSORED BY FLOCKITT & BROOM. TRICK OR TREAT SWEETS PROVIDED BY AL'S EMPORIUM

11AM - 2.30PM
£3.50 PER CHILD

MONDAY 27 OCTOBER TO FRIDAY 31 OCTOBER

Take off on the terrifying trail at our visitor centre. Upon finishing the frightful fun, feast upon your prize, 'witch' you will claim at our spooky learning studio.

Here you will find a host of hair-raising free Halloween crafts.

Freaky face paint and ghostly glitter tattoos come with additional charges.

thepiecehall.co.uk



Tickets will go live on the Ovenden Illingworth Facebook page Saturday 11th October 8.00pm

HALLOWEEN SPOOKY TRAIL & CINEMA

Are you ready for a night of frights, thrills, and chills? This Halloween, we invite you to our Halloween Spooky Trail & Cinema for an unforgettable movie experience. Fancy dress encouraged (but totally optional) come spooky or come as you are! Tickets are limited to 60 children and 50 adults only.

BOOKING is essential. The event is for children aged 0-12 years and a snack box will be provided for under 12's

Venue FORREST Cottage (main Hall)

 FRIDAY 24th October 2025	 Time TRAIL 5.20PM MOVIE 6.00 PM
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 ovenden.illingworthresidents@gmail.com 

PUPKIN CARVING COMPETITION

DEAN FIELD'S GREAT PUMPKIN SHOWDOWN



Spooky, silly, or stunning – all carvers welcome!

**Bring your pumpkin to school on
Wednesday 22nd or Thursday 23rd October**

**£1.50 per entry – please pay on school money
by Monday 20th October**

**Winners to be announced at
the Halloween Disco**

HALLOWEEN DISCO



DEAN FIELD'S



**HALLOWEEN
DISCO**

THURSDAY 23RD OCTOBER

RECEPTION - YEAR 2: 3PM - 4PM

YEAR 3 - YEAR 6: 4:15 - 5:15

TICKETS £3

**PAY ON SCHOOL MONEY BEFORE
MONDAY 20TH OCTOBER 9AM**

**PLEASE NOTE: IN ORDER FOR US TO SAFELY RISK ASSESS
FOR THE DISCO, THE DEADLINE FOR THE TICKET SALE
IS MONDAY 20TH OCTOBER**

DRINKS AND SNACKS PROVIDED



PHONICS CORNER

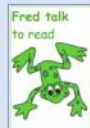
Phonics Corner



Can you read the sounds and words at home?
Scan the QR codes to watch the interactive videos. Your teacher will tell you the correct sound to focus on, if you are unsure.

Fred Games

Give children extra practice to learn to blend orally.



Word Time

mad	at
dad	sad
mat	sat



Set 1 Reading

a



Set 2 Reading

ee



Set 3 Reading

oi



READ WRITE INC

More information about the phonics scheme we use in school, Read Write INC, can be found here:

<https://www.ruthmiskin.com/parentsandcarers/>



Home About Us Training MATs Hubs SEND Families International



Learning to read at home



Parents, carers and families

We support our schools to work in partnership with you at home. This includes books for home reading, information booklets and a Virtual Classroom with films for children to practise.

Using the Virtual Classroom



02:57

See how to support your child at home with our Virtual Classroom.

Week commencing Monday 20th October 2025

 School Meals Menu - Week 2 					
2	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Hot Meal Option	Chicken Goujons 5	Homemade Lasagne 5, 10 Shredded Chicken 4, 5	Fish Fingers 2, 5	Homemade Chicken Curry Rice	Pizza 5, 10
	Tomato Pasta 5, 10	Vege Nuggets 5	Homemade Cauliflower & Broccoli Cheese 5, 10	Quorn Dippers 5	Homemade Cheese & Onion Pie 5, 10, 12
Vegetables	Chips Beans Peas	g/f Waffle Fries Broccoli Mixed Veg	Chips Peas Sweetcorn	g/f Wedges Broccoli Carrots	Chips Beans Sweetcorn
Served Daily	Jacket Potatoes with various fillings Salad Bar Selection of Sandwiches <i>Allergies for the daily items available on request</i>				
Dessert	Jam Doughnuts 4, 5, 10, 14	Jam Sponge 5, 10, 12 Custard 10	Cupcakes 5, 10, 12	Treacle Sponge 5, 10, 12 Custard 10	Assorted Fresh Baking 5, 10, 12
	Ice Cream Cake 4, 5, 10, 12	Jelly	Assorted Biscuits 5, 10, 12	Angel Delight 10	Ice Cream 10

UNIFORM

Children should only be wearing one pair of stud earrings in school. No other jewellery is permitted. School can not be held responsible for loss or damaged jewellery.



Stay tuned for the revised uniform policy coming soon!

DIARY DATES

DATE	EVENT
Friday 24th October	Half term Holiday—1 Week
Monday 3rd November	School reopens
Wednesday 5th November	Reception Parent and Carers RWI meeting 8:45-9:15am
Wednesday 5th November and Thursday 6th November	Year 1 Trip to Manor Heath

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.

This half term's focus value is ...



Accelerated Reader – Reading Achievements this week



Australia	95%
Poland	79%
Kenya	82%
Brazil	91%
Ireland	93%

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 and Numbots Stars of the Week



TTRS Star of the Week

Elliott in Year 5



NumBots Star of the Week

Zarmish in Year 2

This Week's Attendance

Group	% Attendance
Mexico	95.2%
China	98%
Australia	95.9%
Poland	94.5%
Kenya	95.7%
Brazil	98.4%
Ireland	89.7%
Total	95.3%

Congratulations to **Brazil** class who had the highest attendance in the school this week. Well done to class **China** for coming second. **All classes above 96% will receive £5 for their jars this week! Well done to Brazil, and China who are the only classes. Can we have more next week?** We have fallen below 96% this week and we need to get back there or above! 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



Learning without Limits Leadership Award



The award recognises outstanding leadership, dedication and commitment to fostering a culture of 'Learning Without Limits' and helping others to do their best and believe in themselves. Recipients of the award also show great courage, creativity and kindness, making our school a better place.

Winners this week:

Connor Canning

For being a great leader in PSHE.

Aria Franks and Dakota Ashman

For keeping themselves and their friends safe in PE.

Bonnie Holroyd

For encouraging her peers to follow the rules by demonstrating how to sit and listen.

CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY

Mexico Reception	Heidi K	AMAZING writing and perfecting her letter formation.
	Xiong J	For his enthusiasm on the trip and remembering facts about the woodland.
China Year 1	Isaac T—M	For making a huge effort in his reading and writing — excellent perseverance in and determination.
	Amina Noor	For growing in confidence and believing in herself.
Australia Year 2	Hunter W	For staying focused in lessons and growing in confidence.
	Alex K	For always trying his best and gaining confidence.
Poland Year 3	Aiden M	For a significant improvement in managing his emotions and for brilliant effort and attainment in reading.
	Franklin L	For always being kind, patient, positive and helpful
Kenya Year 4	Elijah P	For being a maths superstar.
	Lilly—Jo F	For always being a role model .
Brazil Year 5	Penelope C	For her effort in writing during English.
	Harlen M	For his enthusiasm in Masterchef .
Ireland Year 6	CJ C	For outstanding reading this week.
	Kapilash A	For and excellent first week at Dean Field .