

Thursday 5th October 2023

Whittaker Moss Primary School Newsletter 5



This week we have visited every class in every year group to observe lessons and talk to children about their learning. What has been really impressive is how confidently the children speak. They are able to tell us about what they have previously learned and how this is helping them with their learning now, which pieces of work they are proud of and why, the strategies they use if they are finding learning tricky (and knowing that this is where good learning happens), and also how the adults in their classrooms help them to learn. We have also watched Year 6 make pasta and pasta sauce from scratch and seen some excellent History and Geography. Lots to be proud of.

Next week we have world Mental Health Day and the PTA non-uniform day to raise money for the upcoming Halloween disco on 3rd November. The money will go towards buying prizes and treats for the disco. Please support our PTA if you can.

Can I ask that parents/carers dropping off at school using the carpark do not use the disabled bays unless you have and are displaying a blue disabled badge. We have a number of badge holders in school, both pupils and carers, who desperately need the spaces and are unable to use them as they are being parked in by non-badge holders. These spaces are needed and vital for the safety of some of our pupils. Please do not park there unless you are entitled too or you may find yourself blocked in whilst a parent ensures their disabled child gets into school safely.

Now the weather is getting colder and wetter, and it is darker at the start and end of the school day, please ensure all coats, hats, wellies and gloves etc have your child's name in them. We start to collect a lot of wondering items at this time of year and it would be nice to reunite them with their owners!

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

Mrs Backhouse.

Attendance

Whole School Target: 97%

Whole School Average Attendance to Date: 96.5%

This week's winning classes: 4M & 5W 99.3% Super!

Well done to 5W - three weeks in a row!

Harvest Assemblies 2023

Our Harvest assemblies will be led by Stuart Willis (ALM) and Rev. Jason on **Thursday 19th October**. We will be collecting Harvest donations on this day which will go to Rochdale Food Bank. A letter from the foodbank can be found at the end of this newsletter. Please send donations into school with your child.

World Mental Health Day - Tuesday 10th October

Please join us at 9am for a coffee morning on Tuesday 10th October, World Mental Health Day. There will be the opportunity to speak to Mrs Beswick, the school pastoral lead, about the range of mental health and wellbeing support available at Whittaker Moss.

Photographs

Individual and family photographs will be taken on Monday 30th October. All children should come to school in uniform. If your child has P.E. on this day, they may come to school in their trainers. The school will be open from 8.30am for photos with siblings who do not attend the school.

Mental Health & Wellbeing Update

If you have any concerns around your child's emotional wellbeing, there is a range of support that the school can offer to parents. For a wealth of resources, please visit the mental health and wellbeing section on the school website, within the parents' tab. If you would like to speak to someone, please contact Mrs Cadogan, the senior school mental health lead, on the school telephone number or by e-mailing

scadogan@whittakermoss.rochdale.sch.uk.

Whittaker Moss, along with over 30 other schools in the authority, is currently part of the Mental Health Support Teams Project. MHSTs are intended to provide early intervention on some mental health and emotional wellbeing issues, such as mild to moderate anxiety, as well as helping staff within a school or college setting to provide a 'whole school approach' to mental health and wellbeing. As part of the project, the school has access to an onsite NHS mental health practitioner, one day a week. Referrals to Katie, our practitioner, are through Mrs Cadogan.

Stars of The Week

Well done to the following children for winning our Star of the Week Award:

Nursery: Ava	5M: Tom
R1: Grayson	6W: Ijaz
R2: Maya	6M: Zara
1W: Annabelle	
1M: Liyana	
2W: Aleena	
2M: Raees	
3W: Harry	
3M: Rayaana	
4W: Zayd	
4M: Azka	
5W: Alyan	



Lunchtime Stars Golf Vouchers

We will be awarding up to ten vouchers per week for two free rounds of mini golf at Rochdale Putt Stars for children who display excellent behaviour at lunch times, both when they are eating and when they are playing outside. Congratulations to our winners for last week: Jamal, Rumaysaa, Inam, Owen, Theo, Azeem, Amaad, Esme, Ollie and Evie.

Thank you to Rochdale Putt Stars for offering this scheme to the school.

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School Council / Eco Council

The school council met on Friday to have their photographs taken for the school council display board and to decide roles and responsibilities for this academic year. When they meet next, they will vote on fundraising activities for the year.

Data Collection

Please let the ladies in the office know if you need to make any changes to your data collection sheet. It is very important that we have up to date telephone numbers to enable us to contact you quickly.

Dojo Winners

Well done to all our dojo points winners for last week:

Nursery: Frankie

R1: Idrees	5W: Imaan
R2: Isabella	5M: Jackson
1W: Maryam	6W: Maisie
1M: Archie	6M: Aahil
2W: Isabella	
2M: Jack	
3W: Oscar	
3M: Amelia	
4W: Faizaan	
4M: Alizah	



GB Athlete Visit

Your child will have come home with a sponsor form this week. All pupils will participate in a fun fitness circuit with a GB athlete on Monday 16th October. Please encourage friends and family to sponsor your child's participation in this event.

PTA News

PTA AGM

Our PTA AGM for the 2023-24 school year will be held at 7pm on Thursday 12th October at Millcroft Tea Gardens.

Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend. We will be electing members of the committee at the AGM and discussing the charity's accounts as well as planning fundraising events for the coming school year.

We encourage everyone to get involved as much as you can, but we promise you won't be roped into something you don't want to do or cannot commit the time to.

Every parent is automatically a part of the PTA and coming to our AGM is a great way to get to know all of the committee and have some input into fundraising ideas for our brilliant school children.

Babes in arms are welcome and tea, coffee and cake will be provided.

Non-Uniform Day Friday 13th October 2023

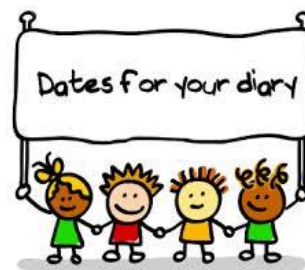
Pupils may come dressed in non-uniform on Friday 13th October 2023 for a small donation. Monies received will go towards purchasing prizes for the upcoming PTA Halloween Discos.

Pumpkin Carving Competition

This will take place on Monday 30th October 2023. £1 to enter. Please leave entries on the school field. Prizes for winning entries.

Dates for the Diary Autumn Term 2023

We try to include as many useful dates as we can but suggest that you keep checking this list over the following weeks as dates may be added or amended. Please contact school if you have any queries relating to dates of events or holidays.



W/C 2nd October 2023	Black History Week
Tuesday 10 th October 2023	World Mental Health Day. Coffee Morning 9am - Highwood Hall
Thursday 12 th October 2023	PTA AGM 7pm Millcroft Tea Gardens
Friday 13 th October 2023	PTA Non-uniform day for a small donation
Monday 16 th October 2023	GB Athlete Visit to School
Thursday 19 th October 2023	Harvest Assemblies - please send in donations for Rochdale Food Bank
Thursday 19 th October 2023	School Closes for Half-Term
Monday 30 th October 2023	School Re-Opens
Monday 30 th October 2023	Annual pumpkin carving competition. £1 to enter. Please leave entries on the school field.
Monday 30 th October 2023	School Photographs from 8.30am
Thursday 2 nd November 2023	Flu Vaccines Reception to Year 6
Friday 3 rd November 2023	Halloween Dress Up Day & After School Discos
Monday 6 th November 2023	Remembrance Assemblies
W/C 6 th November 2023	Scholastic Book Fair in School
Tuesday 7 th November 2023	Prospective New Parents Open Evening 6pm - 7pm
W/C 13 th November 2023	Anti-Bullying Week
Tuesday 14 th November 2023	Parents' Evening 1
Wednesday 15 th November 2023	Parents' Evening 2
Friday 18 th November 2023	Children in Need - non-uniform, small donation, please.
Tuesday 21 st November 2023	Open morning for prospective parents 9.30am and 11am
Friday 24 th November 2023	PTA used uniform sale after school
Friday 1 st December 2023	Advent Assemblies
Monday 11 th December 2023	PTA Christmas Event Day in school
Tuesday 12 th December 2023	Reception Christmas Concert 9.30am
Wednesday 13 th December 2023	Year 1 Christmas Concert 9.30am (please note change of date)

Thursday 14 th December 2023	Year 2 Christmas Concert 9.30am (please note change of date)
Friday 15 th December 2023	Christmas Dinner & Jumper Day
Tuesday 19 th December 2023	Nursery Christmas Concert 10am
Tuesday 19 th December 2023	KS2 Christmas Carol Service St Paul's Church 10am
Wednesday 20 th December 2023	Whole School Christmas Party Day
Thursday 21 st December 2023	Star of the Term Assembly
Thursday 21 st December 2023	Pupils finish for the Christmas break



SCHOOLS
OUT

BREW BOX

Friday at the Farm

Kids after school special 3pm - 4.30pm

Kids hot chocolate
& kids bake

£3

Kids bake
& can of pop

£2



*Marshmallows &
whipped cream included

**Kids only



**ROCHDALE BOROUGH FOODBANKS
HELPING THOSE IN NEED IN OUR BOROUGH**

**Heywood Foodbank
Middleton Foodbank
Rochdale Foodbank**

13th September 2023

Dear Headteacher

September 2023

It's the start of another school year and one which will present significant challenges to you and your staff. However, as we approach the **Harvest Festival Season**, would you please consider collecting non-perishable food and toiletry items to donate to our local foodbanks in Rochdale, Middleton and Heywood.

We are very conscious that parents will be experiencing severe financial pressures due to the continuing high energy costs and the significant increase in the cost of living. Please therefore stress that even one tin or packet will be very welcome, or even a 'bag for life'.

The same pressures are causing demand for our services to continue to rise considerably. Regular donations are vital to meet this demand and the Foodbanks rely on the generosity of the people of the borough. Even so, sometimes food has had to be purchased to meet demand, which is not a sustainable situation.

So, please help! **If you want to help, please contact us by telephone or email.** The names, addresses and contact details of the foodbanks are given below. Each of our foodbanks is grateful for the support given to them by you, your staff and pupils as well as local people, community groups and Rochdale Borough Council, who see and understand the needs of families in our area and are willing to stand with them by donating food so generously.

Rochdale Foodbank: 14-16 Newgate, Rochdale OL16 1BA. Open Mon – Fri 11am- 12.30pm

Email: info@rochdale.foodbank.org.uk Phone: Cath on 07840 701428 for more Harvest information and resources

Heywood Foodbank: Heywood Baptist Church, Chapel St, Heywood. Open Monday and Friday 10am-12noon

Email: info@HeywoodFoodbank.co.uk Phone: 07396 071193 for more Harvest information and resources

Middleton Central Foodbank: The Lighthouse Project, Middleton Shopping Centre, Limetrees Rd Middleton. Open Monday and Thursday 11am – 1pm

Email: info@middletoncentral.foodbank.org.uk Phone: 0161 643 1163 for more Harvest information and resources

Yours sincerely,

Wendy Fell
Schools' Coordinator (Rochdale Foodbank)
On behalf of all the foodbanks