

Thursday 15th February 2024

Whittaker Moss Primary School Newsletter 21

As we break for the half term holiday, I wanted to say thank you to all of our parents and carers for your support this half term. It has been busy, and we have been hampered by both the weather and staff absence, but we have made it!

A big congratulations this week to those Year 6 pupils who have received their Whittaker Moss Ambassador black jumper. We once again have been in the very difficult position of having far more children worthy of a jumper than we can order at any one time. We will hopefully be able to award a further set before the end of the school year.

Although the school will be closed to pupils next week, we have a number of works taking place on site. Our reception classes will be getting new carpets, and our Year 3 classrooms will be having new flooring. Towards the end of the week, bike/scooter shelters will be installed in both playgrounds. Whilst we know that not all children are able to ride/scoot to school, we are hoping those that can, will, and maybe a few others would have time to park a couple of streets away from school and scooter the remaining distance into school. Every little helps! Please be aware that although the shelters will be secure behind our locked gates during the day, they won't be secure at the start and end of the school day so parents might wish to purchase a lock for these times.

As yet there is no further update on carpark repairs. We are still waiting to hear from the council and local councillors to see if/when they will be able to assist in making the surface safer. I will update as soon as I hear anything.

Wishing you all a lovely half term holiday and we will look forward to welcoming you back when the school re-opens on Monday 26th February.

Mrs Backhouse

Attendance

Whole School Target: 97%

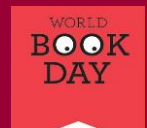
Whole School Average Attendance to Date: 95.47%

This week's winning class: 1M 100% Amazing!



PTA Penny Wars

Thank you to everyone who supported the PTA Penny Wars. The winning class was 4W. Well done to them! They will receive a movie and snacks afternoon as their reward. The event raised over £700 for PTA funds.



World Book Day Thursday 7th March

Our theme for World Book Day this year is 'Bedtime Stories'. Children are invited to come to school dressed in their pyjamas for a donation to Manchester Children's Hospital, the school council's chosen local charity for this year. Children may bring slippers to wear inside but they must have shoes or trainers to wear outside. Children may bring their favourite bedtime story to share on the day. Children will bring home a voucher to purchase a special World Book Day book or use it for money off a full price book.

Science Week 2024

Please see below for information about Science Week.

Eco News

The school Eco Council has registered to take part in the Duracell Big Battery Hunt this year. Please send any used batteries into school during the first two weeks after the half-term break. The class who recycles the most batteries will receive a prize.

Stars of The Week

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

Nursery: Lily	5W: Laurie
R1: Oliver	5M: Mia
R2: Ani	6W: Saima
1W: George	6M: Aahil
1M: Sam	Mrs Cadogan: Arfa
2W: Zayyan	
2M: Scarlett	
3W: Harriet	
3M: Amelia	
4W: Isla	
4M: Freya	

Lunchtime Stars Golf Vouchers

We will be awarding 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 this week: Florence, Ava, Rory, Owen, Dawood, Sulaiman, Oliver, Madihah, Ibrahim and Duke.

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



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School Council News

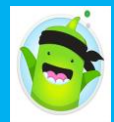
The school council delivered their Mental Health assembly to the whole school last week. The posters they prepared about ways to improve wellbeing are now displayed in all classrooms. The school council have voted to run an Easter raffle and a name the giant bunny competition after the half-term break. More details to follow.

Polite Reminder

Only guide and assistance dogs are allowed on school grounds, including the car park. Thank you for your support with this matter.

Half-Term Break

School closes for the half-term break on Friday 16th February 2024. School re-opens on Monday 26th February 2024. We wish all our families a lovely break.



Dojo Winners

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

Nursery: Ishaq	4M: Eliza
R1: Isma'il	5W: Oliver
R2: Zander	5M: Aila
1W: Rosie	6W: Ismail
1M: Liyana	6M: Zara
2W: Jessica	
2M: Yusuf	
3W: Safaa	
3M: Eva	
4W: Riley	

Dates for the Diary Spring Term 2024

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.



Friday 16 th February	School closes for half-term
Monday 26 th February	School re-opens after the half-term break
Thursday 7 th March	World Book Day - Bedtime Story Theme. Dress in pyjamas for donation to Manchester Children's Hospital - School Council Local Charity for 2024
W/C 11 th March	Science Week In School
Tuesday 12 th March	Parents' Evening 1
Wednesday 13 th March	Parents' Evening 2
Friday 22 nd March	PTA School Discos 6pm - 7.30pm
Monday 25 th March 9.15am	Year 3/4 Spring performance for Year 3 parents
Tuesday 26 th March 9.15am	Year 3/4 Spring performance for Year 4 parents
Wednesday 27 th March 5pm - 6pm	Year 1 Parents' Phonics Meeting
Wednesday 27 th March	Easter egg and bonnet entries into school
Thursday 28 th March 1.45pm	Pupil of the Term Assembly
Thursday 28 th March	Close for Easter

Dear Parents/Carers,

British Science Week is here again!

We are going to be celebrating British Science Week in school from 8th to 17th March. Science Week is a ten-day celebration of science, technology, engineering and maths. This year marks the 30th anniversary of British Science Week and so the theme for this year is 'Time'. We aim to inspire our pupils to investigate and discover elements of time, in a variety of ways. Throughout the week, children will take part in a range of activities based around the theme of 'time'. We will also be joined in school by Professor Dan Tastic, who will deliver 'Science Week Spectacular' workshops to all classes from nursery to Year 6.

We would like to invite pupils to get creative and enter the British Science Week annual, UK-wide poster competition! To enter, they simply need to create a poster which fits in with the theme of 'Time'. Students could create a poster showing how a certain type of technology has changed over time, or even the advancement of time-telling technology itself. Budding poster makers could also go futuristic show us how they think the world might look in years to come, or perhaps look at nature – lifecycles, lifespans, evolution and hibernation – nature is full of timely topics.

The poster must be on A3 or A4 paper. Children can use pop up pictures, pull out tabs or materials such as pencils, paints, crayons and paper to create their posters. We will then select the 5 best creations and submit them for a chance of winning an array of prizes.

Your poster must be submitted to your child's class teacher by Monday 18th March 2024.

Information from British Science Association...

How will the posters be judged?

We wish that everyone could be a winner, but we only have a limited number of prizes. So, here's the lowdown on what the judges will be looking for:

Creativity in approach – Innovative angle on the content or creative interpretation of the theme – don't be afraid to think outside the box.

Content – Clear, accurate and informative about a STEM topic.

Effective communication – presented and communicated in an engaging way.

What are the prizes?!

Prizes for the 2024 competition winners include:

- Cool Cat Chem Cards
- 15-minute STEM books
- Shape Aliens Game
- At the museum jigsaw
- A Day in the Life...books
- Shroot pouches
- Memberships for My Science Club
- MegaWatt Games
- A collection of Science Works books