

Thursday 12th September 2024

# Whittaker Moss Primary School Newsletter 2

It's been a busy week in school. Everyone has started their units of work with lots of enthusiasm. We have been speaking with children about their learning and it is good to hear them talking about what they are learning and why, and also how their learning in one subject links to others. The children have settled very well into their new classes and routines. It is the same every year but always makes my heart warm to see it.

We have really enjoyed having KS1 and KS2 parents come into school for a few minutes after school this week to meet the teacher and have a look around their child's new classroom. It had been suggested by both children and parents and we are happy to bring this in. We do have parents' evenings booked in for later in the term but the chance to say hello and put a face to the name is always beneficial.

The link for extra-curricular clubs and activities went out last week and as always, we have had a tremendous response. Where we can, we will allocate children a place in a preferred club. If your child hasn't got a place this term, we will make them a priority for next term and offer them another club in the meantime. From next term, we will send the list out in advance prior to the request form going live so that parents have more time to speak with children and also consider pick ups etc before making a choice. Thank you to parents for your feedback and suggestions on this!

Lastly, please have a read of the PTA information in this letter. The PTA work really hard on a voluntary basis to provide some amazing experiences for children and funding for the school. They rely on members to make the magic happen, not just for helping at events (although this is always welcome) but more importantly to be part of the PTA as an organisation. Events are less likely to happen if there isn't a full committee to help plan and organise them.

If you are able to get involved, then please do - you would be most welcome!

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

*Mrs Backhouse.*



## Summer Reading Challenge

If your child completed the library Summer Reading Challenge, please send them into school with their certificate for their class teacher to see. Anyone completing the challenge will receive a reward from Mrs Cadogan early next week.

## Jeans for Genes Day Friday 20<sup>th</sup> September

Children may come dressed in their jeans (or non-uniform) for a silver donation on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> September. They may also wear their own top and sensible footwear. The school has supported this worthy charity for many years so please support this fundraising event.



## Reminders for the New School Term

Please remember that children are only allowed to wear simple stud earrings and a watch to school. On a games or PE day it would be helpful if your child **does not** wear their earrings to school. If they do have their earrings in, they need to be able to take them out themselves. If they are either unable to as they have just been pierced or cannot take them out by themselves, please send them in with some medical tape to place over the earrings.

## Water Bottles - Polite Request

It has come to our attention that a number of children are bringing juice to school in their water bottles. Unless there is a medical reason that has been discussed with your child's class teacher, please ensure that your child only has water in their water bottle. Any children bringing juice in their water bottle will be offered a cup of water as an alternative. We thank you for your support with this matter.

### House Captains

Congratulations to Zac, Zak, Emilia, Freya, Aila, Laibah, James, Aisha, Eliza and Zaara who are our new house captains. They all wrote excellent applications for the role. They will be responsible for announcing dojo points winners at assemblies and keeping the running totals of dojo points for our house teams.

### Outstanding Medical Information

Please ensure that any asthma, allergy or health care plans are returned to your child's class teacher as soon as possible so that we can ensure our medical information is up to date.

### Lost Uniform

School has been informed of several children losing new items of uniform. Please check that your child has brought the correct uniform home as many of the lost items are labelled. If you find your child has brought another child's uniform home, please return it to your child's class teacher.

### PTA News

Please see below for information about the PTA's latest fundraising.

## Thursday 12th September 2024

### School Council / Eco Council

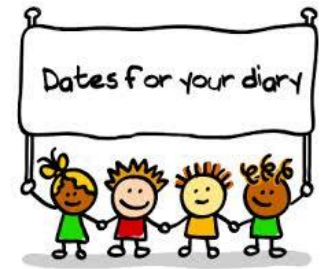
Voting for school and eco councillors will take place on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> September. A councillor will have the responsibility of taking ideas and suggestions from year one and the foundation stage to ensure that their voice is heard. Children will have the opportunity to make a speech in class or share a PowerPoint presentation during the week leading up to the voting day. Please encourage your child to put themselves forward for nomination if they are interested in being a school councillor or eco rep.

### Awards

Dojo winners will be announced on the newsletter from next week. Every child in school has been assigned a virtual Dojo monster. Dojo points will be awarded for excellent effort, good manners, reading at home, great homework and super behaviour. The child with the most Dojo points each week will be awarded a certificate in class. The child in each class who receives the most dojos for the term will receive a reward. Star of the Week certificates and Lunchtime Golf Vouchers will also be announced from next week.

## Dates for the Diary Autumn 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.



W/C 16 <sup>th</sup> September 2024	Before and after school clubs commence
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> September 2024	Jeans for Genes Day (non-uniform), small donation, please.
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> September 2024	School Council and Eco Council Voting Day
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> September 2024	Year 3 Stone Age Experience In School
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> September 2024	European Languages Day
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> September 2024 9.15am	Macmillan Coffee Morning in Highwood Hall
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> October 2024	Poetry Workshop for a group of Year 5/6 pupils
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> October 2024	Year 6 Crucial Crew
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> October 2024	World Mental Health Day
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> - Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> October 2024	Year 6 Bikeability
Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> October 2024	Individual & Sibling Photographs from 8.30am
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> October 2024	Harvest Assemblies - please send in donations for Rochdale Food Bank
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> October 2024	School Closes for Half-Term
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> November 2024	School Re-Opens
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> November 2024	Year 6 Red Cross First Aid
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> November 2024	Remembrance Assemblies
W/C 11 <sup>th</sup> November 2024	Anti-Bullying Week
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> November 2024	Parents' Evening 1
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> November 2024	Parents' Evening 2
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> November 2024	Olympic Athlete Visit
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> November 2024	Children in Need - non-uniform, small donation, please.
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> November 2024	Prospective New Parents' Evening 5.30pm
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> November 2024	Open morning for prospective Reception parents 9.30am
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> November 2024	Open morning for prospective Reception parents 9.30am

*Christmas Activity Dates To Follow*

Dear Parent/Carer

We've got some exciting news to share with you.

Parentkind - a 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. To support our PTA, all you have to do is opt-in through the Asda Rewards app, choose our school, shop and scan in store or shop online at Asda.com.

Between 2<sup>nd</sup> September and 30<sup>th</sup> November 2024 - every time you shop with Asda using your Asda Rewards app, Asda will donate 0.5% of the value of your shop to your chosen Primary school. Also, every time somebody opts-in to support our Primary school, 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!

It's as easy as 1,2,3

1. Download the Asda Rewards app, register and opt-in to Cashpot for Schools (make sure you have the latest version of the app installed)
2. Choose our Primary School - either searching by name or postcode
3. Shop instore across Asda and George, or online at Asda.com and start filling your Cashpot as you shop

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

Remember, anyone can sign up - so start spreading the news and raising funds for our school.

This initiative is on top of the existing Asda Rewards benefits you get as a shopper - so you won't lose out on any of your own earnings or Cashpot, so everyone is a winner!

For more details, visit [asda.com/cashpotforschools](https://asda.com/cashpotforschools)

Thank you so much for your support!

WMPTA



## European Day of Languages

On Thursday 26th September we will be taking part in the European Day of Languages. Each year group will be focussing on a different country where they will research the language spoken, landmarks, famous/significant/inspirational people, food, music and flag etc. We will all come together via Zoom at the end of the school day to share our research with each other. The children can come into school/ nursery in non-uniform on this day and, if possible, it would be great if they could wear the colours of the country flag they are researching.

**Nursery /Reception - France FR (blue, white, red)**

**Year 1/ 2 - Italy IT (green, white, red)**

**Year 3/4 - Germany DE (black, red, gold)**

**Year 5/6 - Spain ES (red and yellow)**

The official theme is also 'Languages for peace' to convey messages of unity and understanding across different languages.

Thank you for your support with this event.

Mrs Orley (MFL Lead).