

Thursday 16th January 2025

# Whittaker Moss Primary School Newsletter 17

It has been a busy week in school with children fully immersed in their new units of work. I have seen some fabulous writing, excellent spelling and some amazing modelling.

This week we have all started our new 'My Happy Mind' program. This is an important provision in school which all children and staff will participate in every week. There will also be information coming to parents in the coming weeks about ways in which you can also become involved to support your child.

My Happy Mind is a weekly session for all children from Nursery to Year 6. It is a proven program already used in a number of schools with measurable impact for children. The program is aimed at giving children the skills and strategies they need to thrive in a modern and changing world. It is a proactive approach that builds resilience, self-esteem and strategies to use when children are feeling anxious, worried or overwhelmed. Children will learn about how their brains and bodies work and processing feelings so they understand better why they feel as they do in different circumstances. The parent element of the program which is accessed via an app will also help you as parents to support your children outside of school so please do watch out for the information and sign up for the app. The program is most effective when we all work together with a common goal, understanding and language. Statistics for this program show that when it is embedded, schools see a significant reduction in CAMHS referrals, SEND needs and children requiring first level support in and outside of school. I believe it is one of the most important initiatives we will implement in school which will have lifelong benefits for all of our children and families and hope that all of us working together will give every child in school the toolkit and strategies they need to navigate this very complicated world that we live in.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend  
Mrs Backhouse

## Attendance

Whole School Target: 97%

Whole School Average Attendance to Date:  
96.14%

This week's winning class: 6M 99.3% Super!



## Clubs

Before and after school clubs will recommence from next week, the week beginning Monday 20th January 2025. A booking form was sent out via e-mail last week. Pupils will be informed of their club allocation by Friday 17th January. We have tried hard to accommodate first or second preferences but some clubs have proved very popular so your child may be on a waiting list for a club. Please inform the teacher running the club or the school office if your child is unable to attend a club for any reason. If your child is attending a sports club, they will need to bring sports kit to change in to. We thank you for your patience and understanding during the allocation of club places as we have had over 260 applications to sort through.



## PTA Penny Wars

Back by popular demand from our pupils, the PTA Penny Wars will run from Monday 27th January until Friday 7th February 2024. Each class will have a special jar that they can put any copper coins which they find at home, into. The class that fills their jar with the most pennies will win a film and snacks afternoon. All monies raised by the event will go to PTA funds which are used to buy resources or fund special events in school.

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### Stars of the Week

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

Nursery: Alayah	5W: Azeem
R1: Ismael	5M: Zac
R2: Aurelle	6W: Reggie
1W: Ava	6M: Aleeza
1M: Zac	Mrs Cadogan: Sulaiman
2W: Arnie	
2M: Ameliya	
3W: Jorge	
3M: Anees	
4W: Amelia	
4M: Aria	

### School Council News

Councillors met this week to discuss the upcoming Break the Rules Day for Springhill Hospice. Year 6 councillors will meet with Mrs backhouse later this week to finalise which rules pupils will be allowed to break on the day! Council members also discussed their ongoing Online Safety Campaign. They will shortly be sending out an information leaflet.

### Calendar Dates

Please see below for important dates for the Spring term. These may be added to as the term progresses.

### 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: Bella, Thomas, Aiva, Ibrahim, Ada, Zakariyya, Roxy, Liberty and Adam.

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



### Learning

Please look on your child's class page on the school website to find information about what they will be learning this term.

### Water Bottles

Please ensure that no glass water bottles are sent in to school for health and safety reasons.



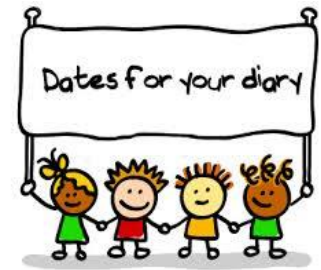
### Dojo Winners

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

Nursery: Fern	5W: Ayaan
R1: Amari	5M: Aiza
R2: Albert	6W: Hadi
1W: Rory	6M: Liberty
1M: Erin, Amber, Maryum	
2W: Sami	
2M: Eric	
3W: Josh	
3M: Adam, Owen, Nomi	
4W: Oscar	
4M: Amaya	

## Dates for the Diary Spring Term 2025

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 Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> January	Clubs recommence
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> January	Healthy Eating Assembly with School Nursing Team
W/C Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> January	PTA Penny Wars for two weeks
Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> January	School Council Break the Rules Day for Springhill Hospice
W/C Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> February	Children's Mental Health Week
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> February	Safer Internet Day
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 2 Theatre Trip
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 3 Local Walk - Norden and Greenbooth
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> February	PTA Non-Uniform Day
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> February	School closes for half-term
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> February	INSET Day
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> February	School re-opens after the half-term break
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 4 Trip to Liverpool World Museum
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> March	Whittaker Moss celebrates World Book Day. Theme - My Story. Dress in something to celebrate you.
W/C 10 <sup>th</sup> March	Science Week
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> March	Parents' Evening 1
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> March	Parents' Evening 2
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> March	Wonder Dome (inflatable planetarium) in school
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> March	Comic Relief Day: non-uniform
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> March 2.30pm - 3.30pm	Years 3/4 Parent & Child Spring Art Afternoon
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> March 2.30pm - 3.30pm	Years 1/2 Parent & Child Spring Art Afternoon
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> March 5 - 6pm	Year 1 Parents' Phonics Meeting
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> March 2.30pm - 3.30pm	Nursery & Reception Parent & Child Spring Art Afternoon
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> March 2.30pm - 3.30pm	Years 5/6 Parent & Child Spring Art Afternoon
Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> March 9.30am	Year 3/4 Spring performance for Year 3 parents
Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> April 9.30am	Year 3/4 Spring performance for Year 4 parents
Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April	Easter egg and bonnet entries into school
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> April 1.30pm	Pupil of the Term Assembly
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> April	Close for Easter Break