

Thursday 4th September 2025

# Whittaker Moss Primary School Newsletter 1

Welcome back!

A very warm welcome back to all of our children and families, especially those new to school. It has been lovely to see the children return to school with such happy faces and settling into their new classes. Our youngest children have made a fabulous start to their time with us too. It has been lovely to share news of the holidays and also to hear all about what the children are looking forward to this year.

We welcome Miss Eccles who will be teaching class 4M this year and also Mrs Davies, Mrs Gander and Mrs Devereux who are working within our SEND team. All are very welcoming additions to the school and we are pleased to have them.

Please ensure we have all of your updated information, especially where you have changed telephone numbers or your GP surgery. Data sheets are being sent out this week; please return them as soon as possible.

We have started to put some dates in the diary for this term. This includes a 'Meet the teacher' opportunity next week for the parents of KS1 and KS2 children. Children have told us that they would like to show their parents their new classrooms at the start of the year and parents have also said they would like the opportunity to put a face to the name for teachers. The sessions are straight after school for 15 minutes and are an opportunity to say hello. We have more formal parent/teacher consultations planned for later in the term which will cover academic/settling in information. KS1 parents are welcome to pop in on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> September and KS2 parents on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> September.

**Important notice for Parents of Dragons Den:**  
There will be no after school session on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> November. All staff have to complete statutory training on this day as it is the only availability the Local Authority had. Please make alternative arrangements on this day for your child. We apologise for any inconvenience but wanted to give as much advance notice as possible.

We look forward to another successful and productive year at Whittaker Moss, working in partnership with our families and providing the very best for all of our children.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

*Mrs Backhouse.*



## Reminders for the New School Term

Please remember that children are only allowed to wear simple stud ear-rings 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.

## P.E. Kits

Children are asked to come to school dressed in their Games kit on their P.E. days. Class teachers will inform you on what day(s) P.E. is. We ask that children leave their pumps in school in a small carrier or pump bag for indoor P.E. Please label all items of clothing, including pumps and coats. Please do not purchase P.E. kit with logos, it is an unnecessary expense - the school P.E. kit is a plain white t-shirt with plain black or navy-blue jogging bottoms / shorts, which can be purchased cheaply from supermarkets.

## Parking

Please can parents/carers remember to park considerately on the car park and ensure that cars are parked in the designated bays only. Do not stop and drop off at the front of the school office. Please do not park in disabled bays unless you are a blue badge holder. Highwood car park also has a one-way clockwise system - please could you ensure that you follow this to prevent any accidents.



## Parent Pay

Please can parents/carers of children new to the school activate their Parent Pay accounts. Please speak to the ladies in the office if you are having trouble accessing your account.

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.

## Uniform Appeal

A massive thank you to everyone who has supported the PTA's uniform appeal over the summer term. There is still lots of good-as-new uniform left if you would like to purchase any spares for a small donation. Please speak to one of our PTA committee members to find out more.

## Thursday 4th September 2025

### Collecting After School

Please inform the office if an adult different to the adults on your named list is going to collect your child after school. Please let us know before two o'clock on the day they are collecting.

### European Day of Languages

We will be participating in European Languages Day on 26<sup>th</sup> September 2025. Please see the end of the newsletter for further information about this event.

### Awards

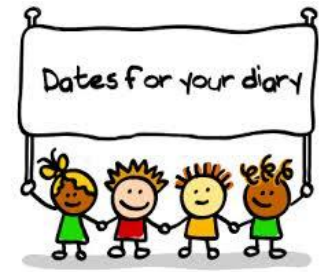
Dojo winners will be announced on the newsletter from next week. Every child in school has been assigned a virtual Dojo monster. Dojo points will be awarded for excellent effort, good manners, reading at home, great homework and super behaviour. The child with the most Dojo points each week will be awarded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

### Year 6 Mount Cook Meeting

We will be holding a meeting for parents of children attending the Mount Cook residential in October at 5.30pm on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> September.

## Dates for the Diary Autumn 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.



Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> September 2025	Springhill Hospice Assembly
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> September 2025 3.30pm - 3.45pm	KS1 Meet the teacher (In classrooms straight after school)
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> September 2025 5.30pm	Mount Cook Residential Meeting for Year 6 Parents
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> September 2025 3.30pm - 3.45pm	KS2 Meet the teacher (In classrooms straight after school)
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> September 2025	Neeli Mosque Assembly
W/C 15 <sup>th</sup> September 2025	Before and after school clubs commence
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> September 2025	Jeans for Genes Day (non-uniform), small donation, please.
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> September 2025	School Council and Eco Council Voting Day
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> September 2025	European Languages Day
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> September 2025 9.15am	Macmillan Coffee Morning in Highwood Hall
Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> September 2025	Year 3 Stone Age Workshop Experience
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> October - Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> October	Year 6 Mount Cook Residential
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> October 2025	World Mental Health Day
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> October 2025	Group of Year 5/6 Children - Writing Day
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> October 2025	PTA Halloween Disco
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October 2025	Harvest Assemblies - please send in donations for Rochdale Food Bank
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October 2025	Individual & Sibling Photographs from 8.30am
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> October 2025	School Closes for Half-Term
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November 2025	School Re-Opens
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> November 2025	Remembrance Assemblies
W/C 10 <sup>th</sup> November 2025	Anti-Bullying Week
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> November 2025	Parents' Evening 1
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> November 2025	Parents' Evening 2
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> November 2025	Children in Need - non-uniform, small donation, please.
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> November 2025	Prospective New Parents' Evening 5.30pm
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> November 2025	Open morning for prospective Reception parents 9.30am
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> November 2025	Open morning for prospective Reception parents 9.30am

## *Christmas Activity Dates To Follow*



## European Day of Languages

On Friday 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 (blue, white, red)**

**Years 1/2 - Germany (black, red, gold)**

**Years 3/4 - Spain (red and yellow)**

**Years 5/6 - Italy (green, white, red)**

The official theme this year is 'Languages open hearts and minds' to reflect that language learning involves both the emotions and the brain.

Thank you for your support with this event.

Mrs Orley (MFL Lead).