

Thursday 16th October 2025

# Whittaker Moss Primary School Newsletter 7



As we enter the final two weeks of half term, things at school are as busy as ever. The learning atmosphere around school is good and we have been particularly pleased this week with the level of engagement in learning and the conversations children are having about their learning which show us they are actively engaged and also retaining what they have been taught.

On Monday pupils from Years 5 and 6 took part in a whole day Gifted Writers event with pupils from four other schools. They worked collaboratively with the other students and produced some amazing pieces of work!

Later this week, Miss Harrison and her running club will be going to Bamford to compete in an inter-school cross country event. Pupils from Years 2, 3 and 4 will be taking part and it is always a real test of grit and determination which the children rise to. Good luck everyone!

Next week we have our photographer in school. Please bear with us on the day if you are having younger sibling photographs taken as it can get quite busy first thing and it does take some organising to get everyone through in good time! We will organise sibling pictures where the children are in our school. Unfortunately, we are unable to take any wider family pictures with cousins etc.

Finally, Friday is our annual Halloween disco which is always THE most popular event of the year! Thank you for supporting our very hard-working PTA with this event, being so enthusiastic about it and patient whilst all tickets were allocated. All children can come to school dressed up on Friday, but please can we ask for sensible shoes and no additional 'props'. Many thanks.

Have a lovely weekend  
*Mrs Backhouse.*

## Attendance

Whole School Target: 97%

Whole School Average Attendance to Date: 96.5%

This week's winning class: R1 99.3% Fantastic!

## Photographs

Individual and family photographs will be taken on **Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> 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 **8.00am** for photos with siblings who do not attend the school.

## SEND and SALT Padlet Links

Please visit the parents' section of the school website to find links to useful Padlets created by the LA SEND and Speech and Language teams. Both padlets contain lots of useful information about provision and services in the Rochdale borough.

## Harvest Assemblies 2025

Our Harvest assemblies will be led by Stuart Willis (ALM) on **Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October**. We will be collecting Harvest donations on this day which will go to Rochdale Food Bank and the Rochdale Food Bus. Please send donations into school with your child. We thank you for your support with this - all donations are much appreciated.

## Halloween Dress Up Day

On Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October all pupils are invited to come to school in a costume, which may be Halloween themed. No scary masks or accessories, please. If they prefer, they may come in non-uniform. This is a fun event, so no donation is required.



## Scholastic Book Fair

This will take place between the 7<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> of November. We are asking that money to purchase a book is sent in an envelope with your child's name on. Please indicate if you do **not** wish your child to purchase stationery items. Each class will be assigned a day to bring their money in. The average price of a book is £7. Class days are as follows:

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> November: R1, R2, Nursery  
Monday 10<sup>th</sup> November: 6W, 6M, 5W, 5M  
Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> November: 2W, 2M, 3W, 3M  
Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> November: 1W, 1M, 4W, 4M  
Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> November: Last chance for all pupils

### Stars of The Week

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

|              |                    |
|--------------|--------------------|
| Nursery: Ivy | 5M: Theo           |
| R1: Seth     | 6W: Isla           |
| R2: Jacob    | 6M: Poppy          |
| 1M: Bobby    | Mrs Cadogan: Lucas |
| 1M: Zahlie   |                    |
| 2W: Freddie  |                    |
| 2M: Ani      |                    |
| 3W: Aayan    |                    |
| 3M: Lamisah  |                    |
| 4W: Connie   |                    |
| 4M: Zayn     |                    |
| 5W: Jack     |                    |



### Lunchtime Stars

These certificates are awarded to pupils who display excellent manners and behaviour during lunchtimes. Pupils who received our Lunchtime Stars Certificates last week were: Sienna, Zakariya, Hagan, Izzy, Sumayyah, Norah, Adam, Arya and Insiyah.

Well done to them!



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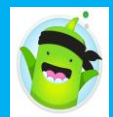
### School Council / Eco Council

School council members met on Wednesday to decide which charities to raise money for this year. They have voted for Manchester Children's Hospital for the chosen local charity and Cancer research for the national charity. They also voted to raise money for new musical instruments for school.



### Poppy Appeal

The school council is selling poppies and poppy-related merchandise for the Royal British Legion over the next week and the first week after half-term. Please send your child with a donation into school if you would like them to support this worthy cause. There is a minimum donation of £1 for wrist bands and £1.50 for slap bands.



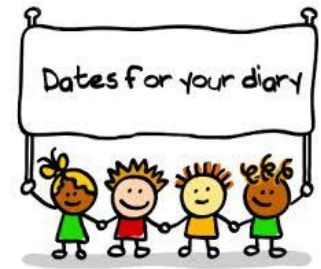
### Dojo Winners

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

|                      |           |
|----------------------|-----------|
| Nursery: Arhaam      |           |
| R1: Anaya            | 5W: Safaa |
| R2: Zaviyar          | 5M: Ethan |
| 1W: Florence & Alice |           |
| 1M: Teddy            |           |
| 2W: Oliver           |           |
| 2M: Emily            |           |
| 3W: Ava              |           |
| 3M: Lamisah          |           |
| 4W: Liza             |           |
| 4M: Isabella         |           |

## 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.



|  |  |
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| Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> October 2025   | Years 2,3 & 4 Cross Country Competition  |
| Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> October 2025   | PTA Halloween Disco  |
| Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> October  | School Council Network Event   |
| Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October 2025  | Harvest Assemblies - please send in donations for Rochdale Food Bank and Rochdale Community Food Bus |
| Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October 2025  | Years 5 & 6 Cross Country Competition  |
| Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October 2025   | Individual & Sibling Photographs from 8.00am   |
| Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> October 2025   | School Closes for Half-Term  |
| Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November 2025   | School Re-Opens  |
| Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> November 2025  | <b>No Dragon's Den After School</b>  |
| Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> November 2025  | Wellbeing Ambassadors Training Event   |
| Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> November 2025   | Year 6 Dodgeball Competition   |
| Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> November 2025   | Year 6 Height and Weight   |
| Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> November 2025   | Remembrance Assemblies with Rev. Margaret Smith, Rochdale Chaplain                                   |
| Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> November 2025 - Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> November 2025 | Scholastic Book Fair   |
| W/C 10 <sup>th</sup> November 2025   | Anti-Bullying Week   |
| Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> November 2025  | Year 5 Dodgeball Competition   |
| Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> November 2025   | Parents' Evening 1   |
| Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> November 2025   | KS1 Visit to Cenotaph for Remembrance Day  |
| Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> November 2025                                       | Parents' Evening 2   |
| Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> November 2025  | Year 2 Opera Session In Class  |
| Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> November 2025  | Year 4 Dodgeball Competition   |
| 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  |
| Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> November 2025                                       | Year 3 Dodgeball Tournament  |
| Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> November 2025  | Year 5 Jodrell Bank Trip   |
| Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> November 2025   | Open morning for prospective Reception parents 9.30am  |
| Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> November 2025   | Year 3 Ten Pin Bowling Competition   |
| Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> November 2025                                       | Open morning for prospective Reception parents 9.30am  |

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December 2025                | Advent Assemblies                             |
| Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December 2.30pm - 3.30pm   | Years 5/6 Christmas Craft Afternoon           |
| Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> December 2.30pm - 3.30pm    | Years 3/4 Christmas Craft Afternoon           |
| Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> December                    | Year 4 Ten Pin Bowling Competition            |
| Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> December 2.30pm - 3.30pm      | EYFS Christmas Craft Afternoon                |
| Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> December 2.30pm - 3.30pm      | Years 1/2 Christmas Craft Afternoon           |
| Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> December                      | Year 5 Ten Pin Bowling Competition            |
| Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> December 9.30am -10.30am     | EYFS Christmas Performance                    |
| Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> December 9.30am - 10.30am | Year 2 Christmas Performance                  |
| Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> December                  | Mixed Age Ten Pin Bowling Competition         |
| Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> December 9.30am - 10.30am  | Year 1 Christmas Performance                  |
| Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> December 10am - 11am         | Nursery Christmas Performance                 |
| Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> December 10am - 11am         | KS2 Christmas Carol Service St. Paul's Church |
| Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> December                    | Christmas Dinner and Jumper Day               |
| Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December                  | Christmas Party Day                           |
| Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> December                   | Star of the Term Assembly                     |
| Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> December                     | School Closes for Christmas Break             |

## PTA News

Hello everyone!

We'll be holding our Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November at 7pm in the Norden Old Library.

This is an important meeting for our PTA, where we'll review the past year, share plans for the year ahead, and elect our committee for the next term.

Our current committee members are happy to stand again, but as all roles are open for election each year, any parent or carer is welcome to put themselves forward. If you're interested in joining the committee or would like to know more about what's involved, please get in touch or come along to the meeting.

Even if joining the committee isn't for you, there are plenty of other ways to get involved – from helping at events to supporting planning and preparation (think discos, shopping, tickets, and set-up). Every bit of help really does make a difference.

We'd love to see as many parents as possible at the meeting – it's a great chance to hear what we've achieved together and what's coming up next.

Thank you for your continued support,  
WMPTA



# ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Monday 3rd November  
7pm start  
Norden Old Library,  
Edenfield Road



# PUMPKIN CARVING Competition

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2025

Get ready to show off your pumpkin carving skills! There will be a prize for the winner in each year group, plus a special Parent's Category – so grown-ups, get carving too!

Make sure to pop the creator's name and class on your pumpkin.

Drop off will be in the morning on the field, by the small playground next to the car park. Don't forget to collect your pumpkin at pickup!

£1 per entry

