

Thursday 5th March 2026

# Whittaker Moss Primary School Newsletter 23

Thank you to those who have booked their parents evening appointments for next week, we look forward to seeing you all on Tuesday and Wednesday evening. A quick reminder for those still to book, please remember that you will need use your child's Google account information to book an appointment, the system will not let you in otherwise. For appointments, please enter school through the main hall doors.

We are looking forward to sharing lots of exciting reading opportunities with our children on World Book Day on Thursday. Teachers will be visiting different classrooms to share their favourite stories and we have lots of interactive and exciting tasks and activities which the children will enjoy. This year is the National year of reading and we have lots of fun and interesting activities planned across the year. Keep an eye on our social media page for upcoming details!

Our Year 6 pupils received their High School offers this week. This year our children will be going far and wide to 10 receiving high schools who are very lucky to have them joining them. If parents are happy with the school they have been allocated and haven't done so already, please log into the portal to formally accept the offer. This is helpful to the admissions team who can then work on appeals and late place offers and also to us as we can start the preliminary transition conversations with high schools to ensure they have all of the information they need to support our pupils as they move on from us.

Have a lovely weekend  
Mrs Backhouse

**Reminder: There will be no after school Dragons Den session on 31 March 2026. This is so staff can complete statutory training**

## Attendance

Whole School Target: 97%

Whole School Average Attendance to Date: 95.6%

This week's winning class: 5M 99.3% Amazing!

Last school week the total days of lost learning due to children being absent from school was 91.5 days.



## World Book Day Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March

Our theme for World Book Day this year is 'Wonderful Words!' Children are invited to come to school dressed in an outfit that represents their word. If they come as 'sporty' they could wear the kit they wear for the local sports team they play for or they could choose a colour as their word and wear clothes in that colour. We just request that children wear sensible footwear. There will be an individual prize of a book of choice for the most inventive interpretation in each year group.



## Marie Curie Daffodils

Throughout the month of March, the school council will be selling Marie Curie daffodils. If you would like your child to purchase one in aid of this worthwhile charity, please send a £1 donation in to school with them. At Whittaker Moss, we are proud to support many different charities, and we thank parents for their continued generosity.

## Parents' Evenings

This term's Parents' Evenings will be held on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March between 4pm and 7pm. A letter was sent out last week, explaining how to book an appointment through your child's school Google account. Please indicate in the confirmation box if you would like a virtual or face-to-face appointment when booking.

## British Science Week 2026

Next week is British Science Week. This year's theme is 'Curiosity: what's your question?' To celebrate, some KS2 pupils will participate in a live animal workshop on Monday. All classes will attend a STEM workshop led by Nova Science on Thursday. Thank you to the PTA for helping to fund these experiences. Pupils will also be completing a range of practical science activities in class during this week.

### Stars of the Week

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

Nursery: Albie	5W: Isabella
R1: Anaya	5M: Eva
R2: Rex	6W: Elizabeth
1W: Ava	6M: Bella
1M: Hattie	Mrs Cadogan: Yusuf
2W: Eileen	
2M: Evie	
3W: Ayaan	
3M: Sumayyah	
4W: Jack	
4M: Saafa	

### Lunchtime Stars

These certificates are awarded to pupils who display excellent manners and behaviour during lunchtimes. Pupils who received our Lunchtime Stars Certificates for the week before the break were: Amelia, Jacob, Henry, Zac, Finley, Anees, Annum, Chase and Noah.

Well done to them!



## Thursday 5th March 2026

### School Council News

Councillors met this week to discuss ideas for their ongoing Online Safety Campaign. Some councillors will take part in a network event with other schools next week. They will present their online safety leaflet. Councillors will be selling daffodils for Marie Curie during March for a suggested donation of £1.

### Red Nose Day



Children may come dressed in non-uniform on Friday March 20<sup>th</sup> 2026 for Comic Relief. Donations are welcome but not necessary. We thank you for your support.

### Dojo Winners

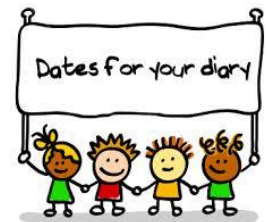
Well done to all our dojo points winners for the week before the half-term break.

Nursery: Esme	5W: Thomas
R1: Daisy	5M: Noah
R2: Musa	6W: Hattie
1W: Hira	6M: Riley
1M: Zahlie	
2W: Idrees	
2M: Caleb	
3W: Alf	
3M: Rosie	
4W: Ava	
4M: Norah	



## Dates for the Diary Spring Term 2026

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.



Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> March	World Book Day ( <b>Please Note Change of Date</b> ) - Dress as a word for our 'Wonderful Words' theme.
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> March 3pm Matthew Moss High School	Year 5 Pickleball Tournament
W/C 9 <sup>th</sup> March	Science Week
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> March	Live Animals Science Day - group of KS2 children
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 3 Greenbooth Walk ( <b>Please Note Change of Date</b> ).
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> March	Parents' Evening 1
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> March	Healthy Eating Assembly
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> March	Parents' Evening 2
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> March	KS2 Mixed Football Competition
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> March	Nova Stem Science Workshops In School
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> March 3pm St. Mary's School	Year 3/4 Girls' Football Tournament
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> March	Comic Relief Day: non-uniform
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> March 2.30pm - 3.30pm	Years 3/4 Parent & Child Spring Art Afternoon
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> March 2.30pm - 3.30pm	Years 1/2 Parent & Child Spring Art Afternoon
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> March 5 - 6pm	Year 1 Parents' Phonics Meeting
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> March	Easter Assemblies
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> March 2.30pm - 3.30pm	Nursery & Reception Parent & Child Spring Art Afternoon
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> March	Eid Party Day
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> March Highwood Hall 9.15am	Eid Coffee Morning
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> March 3pm St. Mary's School	Year 3 Boys Football Tournament
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> March 2.30pm - 3.30pm	Years 5/6 Parent & Child Spring Art Afternoon
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> March 9.30am	Year 3/4 Spring performance for Year 3 parents
Tuesday 31 <sup>st</sup> March 9.30am	Year 3/4 Spring performance for Year 4 parents
Tuesday 31 <sup>st</sup> March 3pm	Year 4 Boys' Football Tournament
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> April	Easter egg and bonnet entries into school
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> April	Pupil of the Term Assembly
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April	School Council Easter Raffle Drawn
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April	Close for Easter Break

# School Attendance

Every day counts...



## Good attendance helps with...



### Academic Achievement

Regular attendance helps children stay on track with the curriculum and achieve stronger academic results.



### Social Skills

Being in school every day helps children make friends, develop important social skills and feel part of the school community.



### Routine & Responsibility

Attending school regularly teaches the importance of commitment, routine and responsibility, helping children build valuable life skills.



### Focus & Engagement

Children who attend school regularly are more likely to stay engaged in their learning and develop a positive attitude towards education.



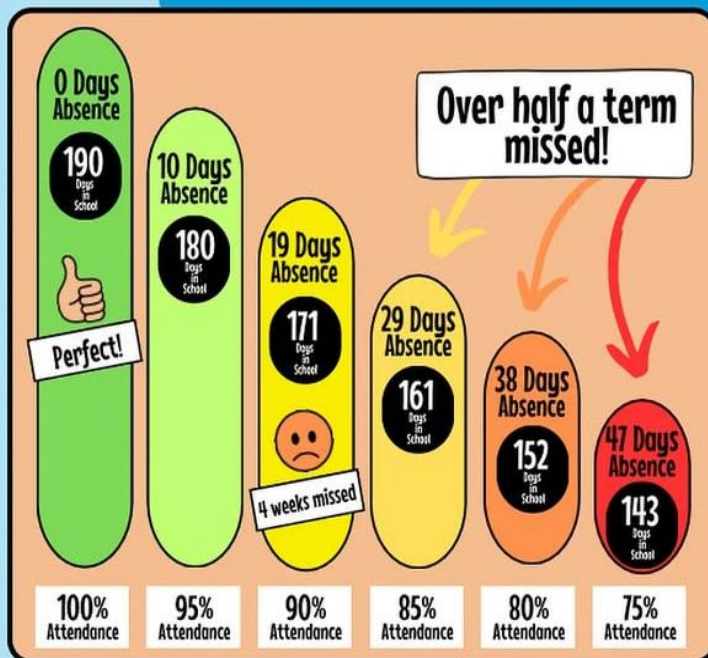
### Building Confidence

Regular attendance can boost a child's self-esteem and confidence, as they see their progress and achievements over time.



### Enhanced Learning Opportunities

School offers more than academic learning - it provides clubs, activities and enrichment opportunities that help children discover new interests and talents.



## Did you know there are...

- 365 Days in a Year
- 190 School Days
- 175 Non School Days

Having 90% over 5 school years, is half a school year's work missed!

## Tips for Supporting Good Attendance...

### Set a regular routine

A consistent bedtime and morning routine helps children feel ready for school and reduces last-minute stress.

### Aim for every day

Try to make school attendance the default. Only keep your child off if they are genuinely unwell.

### Plan appointments carefully

Where possible, book medical or dental appointments outside school hours so your child doesn't miss lessons.

### Talk positively about school

Ask about your child's day and celebrate the little things they enjoy. Your positivity helps them look forward to school.

### Stay in touch

When a child is struggling, early communication with the school helps everyone find solutions and makes things easier for the child.

### Prepare the night before

Pack bags, lay out uniforms and check homework in the evening to make mornings smoother and less stressful.

