

Thursday 19th March 2026

Whittaker Moss Primary School Newsletter 25



To all of our families celebrating Eid this week, whether it be on Friday or Saturday, we wish you a lovely day celebrating with your families and loved ones. We look forward to celebrating with you next week. Because we are uncertain at this point what day Eid will be called, we will authorise either Friday or Monday as an absence for religious observance. We just ask that families kindly let us know via message or email so we can use the correct code.

We are also looking forward to welcoming parents into school next week for our Parent Spring Art Skills afternoons. Please check the dates section to find out which year groups are on each day. It is a nice opportunity to spend some time in class with your child and work with them to develop their art skills (it is also good fun!).

Members of Year 6 attended the Magistrates' court Last Friday to take part in the heats for the upcoming Magistrates competition in the Summer term. There are certainly some budding lawyers in the making and they definitely looked the part too! As always, they represented the school marvellously and really showcased their knowledge of the judicial system. We are still waiting for the results and will let you know as soon as they land.

Our girls have been out and about this week taking part in both Football and Cricket competitions. Years 3 and 4 girls came second in the final after winning three football matches against other schools in the RUSC collaborative. Year 4 and 6 girls took part in a full day Cricket tournament. Well done everyone!

We have been asked to share important information from Rochdale's Parenting & Family relationship team about programmes they have running which are free for parents to take part in. We have shared the link and information out on our Facebook page.

Have a lovely weekend

Mrs Backhouse

Attendance

Whole School Target: 97%

Whole School Average Attendance to Date: 95.6%

This week's winning class: 3W 100% Amazing!

Last school week the total days of lost learning due to children being absent from school was **118 days**.



Easter Events

Pupils in Nursery, Reception and Year 1 are invited to enter our decorate an Easter bonnet competition and pupils in Years 2,3,4,5 and 6 are invited to enter our decorate an egg competition. Please ensure entries have names and classes on them. Entries are to be brought into school on **Wednesday 1st April 2026**. Prizes will be awarded for the best entries. We look forward to seeing them all!



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.



Red Nose Day

Children may come dressed in non-uniform on Friday 20th March for Comic Relief. Donations on the day are welcome but not necessary. Thank you.

TikTok Information Leaflet

Please read the information leaflet about TikTok at the end of this newsletter. This leaflet was created by Whittaker Moss School Council members as part of their online safety campaign. Councillors chose this platform due to its popularity across school, particularly with our older children.

Stars of the Week

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

Nursery: George	5W: Annum
R1: Musa	5M: Bobby
R2: Hayaa-Nur	6W: Azka
1W: Archie	6M: Zac
1M: Arthur	Mrs Cadogan: Iqra
2W: Lottie	
2M: Maryam	
3W: Ralph	
3M: Haniya	
4W: Zaina	
4M: Norah	

Lunchtime Stars

These certificates are awarded to pupils who display excellent manners and behaviour during lunchtimes. Pupils who received our Lunchtime Stars Certificates for last week were: Musa, Alfie, Wilfred, Ameliya, Norah, Isabella, Haris and Penelope.

Well done to them!



Polite Reminder

School has received several complaints from local residents about parents parking across driveways. May we respectfully ask parents to park considerately when parking on the estate. We have also received complaints about littering where parents are parking. Please take any litter home to dispose of it. Thank you.

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School Council News

Last week, some school council members attended a successful network event along with children from several other local schools. It was great to share ideas with one another. Photos of the event are on Engage Rochdale and the school website. The school council will be running an Easter raffle over the last two weeks of term (50p for two tickets or £1 per strip of tickets). Please send money into school with your child if you would like them to participate in this event. They will also be running a name the bunny or chick competition which is 50p per entry. The school council have voted that the money raised will go towards the purchase of new musical instruments for school.

Spring Art Afternoons

Parents/Family Members are invited to join us to complete an art activity with pupils next week. Please see below for the dates for different year groups.



Dojo Winners

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

Nursery: Amelia	5W: Finn
R1: Grace	5M: Amelia
R2: Roman	6W: Jessica
1W: Charlie	6M: Is'haq
1M: Hagan	
2W: Ava	
2M: Iris	
3W: Farah	
3M: Rosie & Lamisah	
4W: Willem	
4M: Zahra	

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.



Friday 20 th March	Comic Relief Day: non-uniform
Monday 23 rd March 2.30pm - 3.30pm	Years 3/4 Parent & Child Spring Art Afternoon
Tuesday 24 th March 2.30pm - 3.30pm	Years 1/2 Parent & Child Spring Art Afternoon
Tuesday 24 th March 5 - 6pm	Year 1 Parents' Phonics Meeting
Wednesday 25 th March	Easter Assemblies
Wednesday 25 th March 2.30pm - 3.30pm	Nursery & Reception Parent & Child Spring Art Afternoon
Thursday 26 th March	Eid Party Day
Thursday 26 th March Highwood Hall 9.15am	Eid Coffee Morning
Thursday 26 th March 3pm St. Mary's School	Year 3 Boys Football Tournament
Friday 27 th March 2.30pm - 3.30pm	Years 5/6 Parent & Child Spring Art Afternoon
Monday 30 th March 9.30am	Year 3/4 Spring performance for Year 3 parents
Tuesday 31 st March 9.30am	Year 3/4 Spring performance for Year 4 parents
Tuesday 31 st March 3pm	Year 4 Boys' Football Tournament
Wednesday 1st April	Easter egg and bonnet entries into school
Wednesday 1 st April	Pupil of the Term Assembly
Thursday 2 nd April	School Council Easter Raffle Drawn
Thursday 2nd 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.



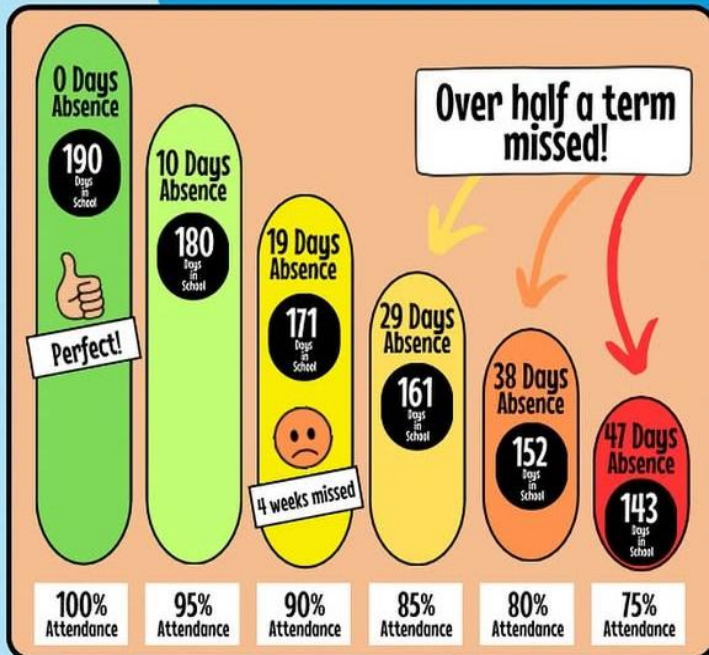
Building Confidence

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.





WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT TIKTOK (13+ FOR AN ACCOUNT)



AGE- INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

If a child engages with unsuitable content, more videos like it will follow. The sharing of inappropriate content is prohibited but the volume of content means that some unsuitable material slips through the net.



CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

With over one billion users of the app, the potential for contact from strangers is high. Content is set to public by default. Remember to change privacy settings.



DANGEROUS CHALLENGES

Some videos encourage children to participate in dangerous stunts and challenges. Unfortunately, some children have died as a result of these.



BE RESPONSIBLE

Enable family pairing so that restricted mode can be turned on.

Block in-app spending.
Discuss the potential dangers of the app.

