

Thursday 7th May 2026

Whittaker Moss Primary School Newsletter 30

There has been so much to pack into a short week this week!

Our Year 1 pupils had a marvellous day at Smithills farm learning all about the different animals and how to care for them. The weather was kind to them, and they are all eager to put what they have learned into their work back at school. As always, behaviour was exceptional with staff at the farm being particularly complimentary about children's manners and engagement.

Back at school, the animal theme continued with a visit from Emma's Crazy Creatures. A whole host of interesting animals came to visit. The children were able to handle the animals, listening carefully about how to treat them kindly and safely whilst also asking some excellent questions. Coconut the talking parrot was a firm favourite! Please keep an eye on our Facebook page and class website pages where staff will shortly upload pictures of the visits.

We wish our Year 3&4 handball team the very best of luck for their upcoming match on Thursday. The enthusiasm from the children to get involved with events with other schools is high. What is equally impressive is the resolve and respect they show for themselves and other teams when participating, whatever the outcome. Good luck Y3&4, we are rooting for you!

Next week, our marvellous Year 6 pupils are going to have a few busy mornings completing assessments. They have brought a letter home inviting them to have breakfast with us every morning with a celebration breakfast on Friday. We are proud of you all Year 6, you are amazing individuals and we know you are going to take the week in your stride. You've got this!

Have a lovely weekend everyone.
Mrs Backhouse

Attendance

Whole School Target: 97%

Whole School Average Attendance to Date:
95.4%

This week's winning class: 6M 100% Great!



Clubs

Clubs have now commenced for the summer term. Please let the teacher who is running the club know if your child is unable to attend a session. If your child is attending an after-school sports club, they will need to bring kit to school to change into.

There are still spaces in some clubs. Please speak to Mr Chapman if your child has not been assigned a club but would like to attend one.

There is a list of the clubs running during this term at the end of this newsletter.

Water Bottles

As we hopefully enter some warmer weather, please ensure that your child comes to school with a water bottle each day. School water bottles can be purchased from the school office for £1.20. Please ensure that water bottles sent in are of an appropriate size.

KS2 SATs Week

Good luck to all our year 6 pupils who will undertake their SATs exams next week. All year 6 pupils are invited to join us for SATs breakfast each day at 8.15am. The timetable for the week is as follows:

Monday: Grammar and Spelling

Tuesday: Reading

Wednesday: Maths Arithmetic and Reasoning 1

Thursday: Maths Reasoning 2.

Please inform the office if your child is going to be late on any day as we can delay the start of the test until they arrive.

Mental Health Support

Please look in the mental health section of the school website (bottom of the home page), to access links to parent and child Padlets that contain a wealth of information and support on a range of mental health topics.

Stars of the Week:

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

Nursery: Layla	5W: Duke
R1: Ibrahim	5M: Ollie
R2: Hayat	6W: Hamza
1W: Bobby	6M: Eiliyah
1M: Teddy	Mrs Cadogan: Sarah
2W: Jonah	
2M: Nelly	
3W: Remi	
3M: Gilya	
4W: Nathan	
4M: Thea	

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: Roman, Heidi, Qays, Matilda, Oliver, Annabel, Zaynab and Ibrahim. Well done!



Author Visit

Please see below for information about a parent reading workshop with author, Neil Griffiths, on Tuesday 19th May 2026.

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School Council News

Councillors met this week to begin to have a look at the musical instruments they would like to purchase with the money they have raised this year. They also began to discuss plans for their upcoming Break The Rules Day for Cancer Research, their chosen national charity for this year. More details about this are to follow.

Inclusive Attendance

Alongside our established reward systems for good attendance such as the weekly winning class attendance certificate and draw for cinema tickets for those pupils who achieve less than five days off in the year, we have introduced weekly attendance shout outs. These are in recognition of attendance efforts.



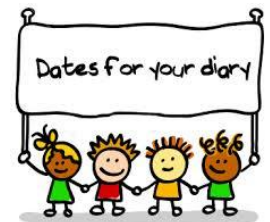
Dojo Winners

Well done to all our dojo points winners for last week. We are really impressed with your efforts.

Nursery: Cihan	4M: Hawa
R1: Wilfred	5W: Oscar
R2: Rory	5M: Adam
1W: Harper	6W: Khadijah
1M: Lily	6M: Adam
2W: Rory	
2M: Ni'mat	
3W: Adeem	
3M: Jessica	
4W: Skye	

Dates for the Diary Summer 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.



Tuesday 5 th May	Clubs recommence
Tuesday 5 th May	Year 1 Trip to Smithills Farm
Thursday 7 th May	Year 3/4 6 a side handball tournament
W/C 11 th May	Year 6 SATS Week
Monday 11 th May	Year 5/6 handball tournament
Wednesday 13 th May	KS2 Boules Competition
Tuesday 19 th May	Year 6 Trip to Imperial War Museum
Tuesday 19 th May	Neil Griffiths Author Visit
Tuesday 19 th May	Year 3/4 Unihoc Tournament
Wednesday 20 th May	Year 5 Nurse Talk
Thursday 21 st May	Year 5/6 Unihoc Tournament
Friday 22 nd May	School Closes For The Half-Term Break
W/C Monday 1 st June	Year 6 Bikeability For Two Weeks
W/C Monday 1 st June	Year 4 Tables Check Week
Tuesday 2 nd June 5.30pm	New To Reception Meeting
Wednesday 3 rd June	Year 5 Trip To The Mosque
Thursday 4 th June	PTA Bags To School
Friday 5 th June	School Council Fundraiser For Cancer Research
W/C 8 th June	Year 1 Phonics Screening Week
Tuesday 9 th June	Year 5 Geography Fieldwork Trip
Wednesday 10 th June	Year 3/4 Boules Tournament
Thursday 11 th June	Year 5 Boules Tournament
Friday 12 th June	Year 3 Trip To Ribchester
W/C 15 th June	Sports Week
Monday 15 th June 2.30pm	Year 5/6 Parents' Sports Afternoon
Monday 15 th June 5.30pm	New To Nursery Parents' Meeting
Tuesday 16 th June 3.30pm	PTA Summer Fair
Wednesday 17 th June 2.30pm	Year 3/4 Parents' Sports Afternoon
Thursday 18 th June 2.30pm	EYFS Parents' Sports Afternoon
Thursday 18 th June	KS2 Girls' 5 A Side Netball Tournament
Friday 19 th June 2.30pm	Year 1/2 Parents' Sports Afternoon
Friday 17 th July	Year 4 Trip To Manchester Museum
W/C 22 nd June	New To Nursery Stay and Play Sessions For Two Weeks
Monday 22 nd June	Year 6 Geography Fieldwork
Tuesday 23 rd June	Year 5/6 Boys' Tennis Tournament
Wednesday 24 th June	Year 5/6 Girls' Tennis Tournament
Wednesday 24 th June	Children's University Graduation - Rochdale Town Hall

Friday 26 th June	Staff INSET Day
Monday 29 th June	Staff INSET Day
Thursday 2 nd July	Year 5/6 Girls' Cricket Tournament
Monday 6 th July	Neeli Mosque Assembly & Hajj Workshop
Monday 6 th July	KS2 Boys' Cricket Tournament
Tuesday 7 th July	Whole School Transition Day
Tuesday 7 th July	New To Reception Visits
Thursday 9 th July	School Council Network Event
Thursday 9 th July	KS2 Mixed Rounders Tournament
Friday 10 th July	Stuart Willis, St. Paul's Church, Assembly
Friday 10 th July 6.30pm-8.30pm	Year 6 Red Carpet Event
Monday 13 th July 2.45pm	KS2 Childer Assembly
Monday 13 th July	Year 3/4 Athletics Tournament
Tuesday 14 th July	End Of Year Reports Out
Tuesday 14 th July	New Reception Visits and Coffee Morning
Wednesday 15 th July	KS2 Swimming Gala
Wednesday 15 th July	Year 5/6 Show For Year 5 Parents
Wednesday 15 th July	Year 5/6 Athletics Tournament
Thursday 16 th July	Year 5/6 Show For Year 6 Parents
Friday 17 th July	KS1 and KS2 Sunshine Assemblies
Monday 20 th July	Star Of The Year Assembly
Tuesday 21 st July	Year 6 Leavers' Assembly
Tuesday 21 st July	School Closes For The Summer Break

Whittaker Moss Summer Term 2026 Extra-Curricular Clubs

Mondays

8.00-8.45am KS2 Mindfulness Club - Mrs Boughton
8.00-8.45am KS1 & KS2 Running Club - Miss Harrison
8.00-8.45am Reception & KS1 Craft Club - Mrs Hemmings
12.30-1.00pm Nursery Multi-Skills Club - Mrs Orley
3.30pm-4.30pm KS2 Gardening Club - Mrs Ashton
3.30pm-4.30pm KS2 Choir - Miss Buckley
3.30pm-4.30pm KS2 Athletics Club - Mrs Buck

Tuesdays

8.00am-8.45am KS2 Netball - Mrs Mellor
12.30pm-1pm KS1 Library Club - Miss Lane
3.30pm-4.30pm Year 2 & KS2 Rugby - Manchester Rugby Club

Wednesdays

8.00-8.45am KS2 Choir - Mrs Murphy
8.00-8.45am Reception & KS1 Messy Play - Mrs Beswick & Miss Eccles
12.30pm-1pm KS1 Creative Writing - Mrs Shoukat
12.30pm-1pm KS1 Art Club - Miss Lilley
12.30pm-1pm Reception & KS1 Mindfulness - Mrs Wilmot
3.30pm-4.30pm Years 5 & 6 Cricket Club - Mr Humphreys
3.30pm-4.30pm KS2 Computing Club - Mrs Cadogan
3.30pm-4.30pm KS2 Tennis - Mr Greenhalgh

Thursdays

3.30pm-4.30pm Years 1 & 2 Cricket Club - Edstart
3.30pm-4.30pm Years 3 & 4 Cricket Club - Edstart

Fridays

8.00am-8.45am KS2 Rounders Club - Miss Collier
3.30pm-4.30pm Reception Multi-Skills Club - Edstart



What Our Pupils Think About School Attendance



We don't like being late because everyone looks at you as you walk through the classroom and you feel embarrassed.

We should be in school five days a week. If we have a cold, teachers can look after us and give us medicine if we need it.

I feel upset if I am absent from school because I miss my teachers and friends and I might miss something exciting.

We come to school to play with friends, to see our teachers, to enjoy fun lessons, to take part in clubs, to enjoy special days and weeks such as Eid Party Day and Science week, to go on fun trips and enjoy special events such as parent craft afternoons.

If you miss a day's learning, you struggle to catch up.



Justin Axon
Training & Consultancy Ltd

Free Workshops for Parents & Carers of Children & Young People with SEND/SEMH in Rochdale

'Communication Through Play'

Wednesday 20th May 2026 @ 9:30am-12pm

'De-Escalate, Regulate & Recover'

Tuesday 16th June 2026 @ 9:30am-12pm

'Communication & Wellbeing for SEND/SEMH Families'

Tuesday 29th September 2026 @ 9:30am-12pm

'Lifeskills and Independence'

Tuesday 20th October 2026 @ 9:30am-12pm

'E-Safety for SEND/SEMH Families'

Tuesday 17th November 2026 @ 9:30am-12pm

'Friendships, Puberty & Safe Choices'

Wednesday 9th December 2026 @ 9:30am-12pm



Scan QR Code for more & to book!



READ ALL ABOUT IT!

Creating a community that loves reading



Parent Reading Session with Neil Griffiths.

Tuesday 19th May
2:30pm–3:30pm

Join us for a special parent reading session!

Learn how to support your child's reading at home in fun and simple ways.

Discover exciting ideas to bring stories to life, build your child's confidence and love of reading, and pick up easy storytelling techniques you can use every day.

This interactive and inspiring session is designed especially for parents.

 Straight after school, stay for a
book sale and signing
with Neil Griffiths.



"Not to be missed!"

All parents/carers welcome!

WHITTAKER MOSS SCHOOL