Thursday 26th November 2026

Whittaker Moss Primary School Newsletter 12

Year 5 have had an incredibly exciting week! They enjoyed a trip to the cinema on Tuesday and are looking forward to spending the day at Jodrell Bank on Thursday. As always, their behaviour and manners have been fantastic, and they have represented the school brilliantly. In between all the excitement and visits, they have also managed to squeeze in their Autumn assessments – a very busy week indeed!

This week, I was also delighted to welcome Ms Sonja Hatlapa, a high school teacher visiting us from Bielefeld in Germany. Sonja is spending time in Rochdale finding out more about our education system and meeting our wonderful learners. She was incredibly impressed by the work the children were doing, the confidence with which they talked about their learning and the sense of responsibility they demonstrated. It was fascinating to hear about the similarities and differences between our two education systems, and we are keeping our fingers crossed that Sonja will visit us again next year when she hopes to return with some pupils from her school.

Following Sonja's visit, we were delighted to welcome lots of families into school on Tuesday and Wednesday for our Reception 2027 open mornings. It was lovely to see some familiar faces alongside families who were visiting us for the first time. Everyone had the opportunity to tour the whole school and chat with children and adults from across all year groups. Our children were absolutely wonderful ambassadors for the school, confidently explaining how we do things and sharing what makes our school such a special place to learn. We were incredibly proud of them – well done, everyone!

Just a little reminder that this is the final week of school clubs before the Christmas break. The stage is going up, and from next week we will be getting into full Christmas mode as preparations for the festive season begin in earnest!

Mrs Backhouse

Attendance

Whole School Target: 97%
Whole School Average Attendance to Date: 96.66%
This week's winning class: 4W 98.6% Great!



PTA News

The PTA have a stock of Nativity costumes if you need one and have not found one yet. Please see Mrs Beswick on the back playground before school.

Back by popular demand, the PTA Elfridges shop will be opening its door from **Monday 7th December.** Children will be able to purchase pre-wrapped gifts for loved ones priced between £2 and £5. If you would like your child to purchase some gifts, please send money into school in an envelope with their name on. The timetable for classes to visit the shop will be published in next week's newsletter.

Christmas Craft Afternoons

Please join us between **2.30pm and 3.30pm** next week and the following Monday to make a Christmas craft with your child in class. Year group afternoons are detailed below:
Wednesday 2nd December: Years 5 and 6
Thursday 3rd December: Years 1 and 2
Friday 4th December: Nursery and Reception
Monday 7th December: Years 3 and 4

Parents' Survey

Thank you to all parents who completed our recent parents' survey. The results of this survey will be published shortly on the school website under the Parents' tab.

Thursday 26th November 2026

Before and After School Clubs

Before and after school clubs will finish on Friday 27th November until after the Christmas break due to the stage going up for Christmas productions. We will send out a new club booking form early in the new year for the Spring term clubs. If your child is on a waiting list, they will automatically receive a place in the club of their choice.

Stars of The Week

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

Nursery: Amaal
R1: Dottie
R2: Amaal
1W: Fern
1M: Hayaa-Nur
2W: Ari
2M: Willow
3W: Hattie
3M: Oliver
4W: Rosie
4M: Gilya
5W: Jessica
5M: Skye
6W: Aria
6M: Olive
Mrs Cadogan: Aleena

Lunchtime Stars

Lunchtime star certificates are awarded to pupils who display excellent manners and behaviour during lunch times. Pupils who received our Lunchtime Stars Certificates last week were: Layla, Reyah, Liyana, Ammarah, Isabella, Jax, Pearl, Bruce and Penelope.

Well done to them!



Christmas Jumper & Dinner Day

This will take place on **Tuesday 15th December**. Pupils have voted for a traditional Christmas dinner this year. If your child normally has a packed lunch and would like a school lunch on that day, please look out for a letter that will be sent home shortly.

School Council Christmas Trolley

Back by popular demand, the School Council Christmas Trolley will be wheeled out again next week. Children can purchase Christmas themed toys and stationery items priced between 50p and £2 from it. Please send your child in with up to £5 if you would like them to purchase any items from it. Class days are detailed below:

Monday 30th November: Nursery and Reception
Tuesday 1st December Years 1 and 2
Wednesday 2nd December: Years 3 and 4
Thursday 3rd December: Years 5 and 6
Friday 4th December: All children who forgot earlier in the week.

All monies raised by this event will go towards the purchase of an outside library.

A huge thank you in advance of your support!



Dojo Winners

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

Nursery: Alisha
R1: Malaikah
R2: Annabelle
1W: Daisy
1M: Nell
2W: Thomas
2M: Nahla
3W: Rumaysaa
3M: Darcy & Ava
4W: Jax
4M: Liyana
5W: Oliver
5M: Ava
6W: Thomas
6M: Rayyan

Dates for the Diary Autumn 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 26th November 2026	Year 5 Trip Jodrell Bank
Thursday 26th November 2026	Year 6 Dodgeball Competition
Friday 27th November 2026	Staff INSET Day. School Closed.
Tuesday 1st December 2026	Advent Assemblies / EYFS Christingles
Wednesday 2nd December 2.30pm – 3.30pm	Years 5/6 Christmas Craft Afternoon
Thursday 3rd December 2.30pm – 3.30pm	Years 1/2 Christmas Craft Afternoon
Friday 4th December 2.30pm – 3.30pm	EYFS Christmas Craft Afternoon
Monday 7th December 2.30pm – 3.30pm	Years 3/4 Christmas Craft Afternoon
Monday 7th December	KS2 Darts Competition
Tuesday 8th December 9.30am -10.30am	Reception Christmas Performance
Wednesday 9th December 9.30am - 10.30am	Year 2 Christmas Performance
Wednesday 9th December	Year 4/5 Pickleball Tournament
Thursday 10th December 9.30am – 10.30am	Year 1 Christmas Performance
Friday 11th December 10am - 11am	Nursery Christmas Performance
Friday 11th December 10am - 11am	KS2 Christmas Carol Service St. Paul's Church
Monday 14th December 9.30am – 11am	Choir Singing At Beechwood Lodge
Monday 14th December	Year 5/6 Table Tennis Tournament
Tuesday 15th December	Christmas Dinner and Jumper Day
Wednesday 16th December	Christmas Party Day
Thursday 17th December	Star of the Term Assembly
Friday 18th December	School Closes for Christmas Break

School Council Christmas Trolley

30th November – 4th December 2026

Prices between £1 & £3

Bring up to £5.

Monday 30th November: Nursery & Reception

Tuesday 1st December: years 1 & 2

Wednesday 2nd December: years 3 & 4

Thursday 3rd December: years 5 & 6

Friday 4th December: All classes





