

Meanwood CE Newsletter



Open Hearts



Open Minds



Open Arms



Newsletter: 2
10.10.25

CARE Champions

CARE Champions

Reception: Robin. P and Kai.

Year 1: Lenny.

Year 2: Maher.

Year 3: Theo.

Year 4: Harry.

Year 5: Beatrice and Charlie.

Year 6: Tia.

Next Week in a Nutshell

Christian Focus: accepting Responsibility (Open Hearts).

Monday: KS2 Inspire and Engage Athletics at John Smeaton- 1:15 - 3:35pm : children who are participating have been informed.

Tuesday: Student teacher interviews taking place in school- AM (Red Kite).

Wednesday: Photographs in school - AM. (See below for more details).

Reception parents and carers in topic lesson- 1:00 - 2:00pm.

Thursday: U'10 Football Match vs Farsley Farfield (away)- 3:15 - 5:15pm: children who are partaking have been informed.

Friday: Normal day in school.

Attendance

Reception: 96.3%

Year 1: 84.3%

Year 2: 99.4%

Year 3: 98.7%

Year 4: 96.1%

Year 5: 98.7%

Year 6: 87.7%

Whole School: 94.5%

Well done year 2 you are this week's attendance champions.

Sustainable Travel to School

Top 3 Classes...

1st. Year 4 - 89% active travel.

2nd. Year 1 - 87% active travel.

3rd. Reception- 84% active travel.

We are 3rd most active school in Leeds.

We are 125th in the country.

"Love one another as I have loved you" (John 15:12).

General Notices

Attendance Matters - Every Day Counts

We understand that life can be unpredictable and that children do sometimes fall ill. As a school, we always want to approach attendance with understanding and compassion. However, we also have a responsibility to ensure that every child receives the best possible education—and that starts with being in school.

Unfortunately, our current attendance levels are beginning to dip below the national standard, which needs to improve. Research shows that good attendance is irrefutably linked to improved academic success, mental well-being, and future life chances. Every day in school really does count.

We kindly ask all families to make every effort to ensure that your child attends school every day, unless they are genuinely unwell.

Important Attendance Information

If your child reaches 10 sessions (equivalent to 5 full days) of absence in a term, the school will follow up with you. This may include meetings, support plans, and in some cases, may result in a penalty notice (fine).

Please be aware that the following are considered unauthorised absences under our school policy:

- Being late after the registers have closed.
- Staying at home to care for younger siblings or sick relatives.
- Going shopping or having a haircut.
- No explanation provided by the parent/carer.
- Explanations that the school does not accept.
- Special occasions such as birthdays or weddings.
- Holidays or leave taken during term time.
- Taking the rest of the day off before or after a medical appointment.
- Translating for family members.
- Visiting sick relatives.
- Exceptional term time leave that exceeds what was agreed by the Headteacher.

We also want to highlight that repeated absences due to minor medical ailments (e.g. headaches, tummy aches) may begin to be classified as unauthorised unless supported by medical evidence.

We know this is a thorny and delicate issue, and we never want to cause distress. When children are ill, they are ill—and we will always support families through genuine health concerns. But we must also be clear: regular attendance is vital for your child's learning, friendships, and future.

Thank you for your continued support and for working with us to give every child the best chance to thrive.

A Note on Parent WhatsApp Groups

We know that parent WhatsApp groups can be a really helpful way to share reminders, updates, and support one another with day-to-day school life. They often play a valuable role in helping families stay informed and connected.

However, we kindly ask that these groups are used primarily for sharing information, rather than discussing concerns or issues. Sometimes, conversations around worries or frustrations—especially when typed quickly—can unintentionally become inflamed or misunderstood, which can cause unnecessary upset.

If you ever have a concern, question, or worry—no matter how small—please do speak directly to your child's class teacher. Most issues can be resolved quickly and calmly, and we're always here to help.

Thank you for your continued support and for helping us maintain a kind and respectful school community.

READ MORE ON..
www.meanwoodschool.co.uk

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General Notices

School Photographs - Wednesday 15th October

We're looking forward to welcoming the photographer to school on Wednesday 15th October for individual pupil photographs (please note: these are not class photos).

Weather permitting, photos will be taken outside on the grassed area between the playground and the school. If the weather is poor, the session will move inside the hall.

Early Morning Sibling Photos - 8:00-8:40am

The photographer will be ready from 8:00am to take photos of children and their younger siblings who may not be in school. This session will finish promptly at 8:40am, so please arrive early if you'd like to take advantage of this opportunity.

Important Information for Year 4 Families

As Year 4 will be going swimming on Wednesday morning, we need to ensure their photos are taken promptly.

- Year 4 children should NOT line up on the top playground as usual.
- Instead, please drop your child off at the Year 4 classroom door as soon as you arrive. The door will be open from 8:40am.
- Year 4 pupils may bring their PE kit to change into after swimming.

Uniform Reminder

All children should come to school in their full school uniform on the day. Although many pupils have PE lessons on Wednesdays, for this occasion, all children will take part in PE in their school uniform. Thank you for your support in helping the day run smoothly—we're excited to capture some lovely photos of our pupils!

School Community Gardening Afternoon - 22nd October

We're excited to invite you to our School Community Gardening Afternoon on Tuesday 22nd October, from 1:30pm to 3:00pm. This is a wonderful opportunity to come together, get our hands a little muddy, and help make our school grounds even more beautiful and welcoming.

A huge thank you to all the parents who have already volunteered to help—you are very welcome to join us on the day!

To make the most of this event, we're also putting out a gentle appeal for donations of gardening supplies. If you're able to contribute any of the following, we'd be incredibly grateful:

We're looking for:

- Peat-free compost
- Spring bulbs (daffodils, tulips, crocuses, fritillaria, alliums)
- Herb plants (creeping thyme, sage, lemon balm, curry plant, mint, rosemary)
- Pots of all sizes
- Shade-loving perennials (ferns, hostas, cyclamen, Japanese anemone, geranium)
- Bamboo canes
- Materials to help build bug hotels (twigs, pinecones, bark, small bricks, etc.)

Whether you're joining us to dig, plant, or simply cheer us on, we'd love to see you there. Thank you for helping us grow something special—together!

PTA

The PTA is now on Instagram! Follow us for event updates, fun family activities and ways to get involved and support our school: @meanwood.primary.pta

Dates for your diary:

Family Quiz Night - tomorrow night! Saturday 11 October, 4.30pm, Holy Trinity Community Hall

Thank you to everyone who is coming along and supporting the event - it has sold out. Please remember it is being held at the Holy Trinity Community Hall and NOT at the school.

Christmas Rock and Roll Bingo, Myrtle Pub (Adults only) - Thursday 27 November

Christmas Fair - Saturday 29 November

Cake Sales:

Year 6 - Nov 14th

Year 5 - Dec 12th

House Totals

Oak: 174 Holly: 185 Elm: 184 Sycamore: 189

READ MORE ON..
www.meanwoodschool.co.uk

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Open Hearts

This week, we've been exploring the powerful and sometimes challenging theme of forgiveness with the children. We've talked openly about how hard it can be to forgive someone who has hurt us – and how natural it is to hold on to those feelings. But we've also discovered that when we choose to forgive, we're not just helping the other person – we're setting ourselves free from the pain and weight of resentment.

Dear God,

Help us to forgive even when it's hard. Fill our hearts with peace and love so that we may always see the good in others.

Amen.

Class page links

[Reception](#)

[Year 1](#)

[Year 2](#)

[Year 3](#)

[Year 4](#)

[Year 5](#)

[Year 6](#)

A note from Mr Chapman

As we wrap up our sixth week in school, it's truly amazing to reflect on just how much we've accomplished together in such a short time. From class trips that sparked curiosity, to football, rugby, and multi-sport events that built teamwork and resilience, and a wide range of after-school clubs that nurture passions and talents – it's been a vibrant and enriching start to the year.

We are also proudly celebrated Black History Month, deepening our understanding and appreciation of the diverse stories that shape our world. All of this has taken place alongside a full and packed curriculum, delivered with dedication and care.

I am incredibly proud to lead a staff team who consistently go above and beyond, ensuring that our school values – Open Hearts, Open Minds, and Open Arms – are not just words, but the foundation of everything we do.

A heartfelt thank you to all our parents and carers for your continued support. Your partnership makes all the difference.

Here's to the next chapter of our journey together!

Mr Chapman

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