

# Meanwood CE Newsletter



Open Hearts



Open Minds



Open Arms



Newsletter: 9  
30.1.26

## CARE Champions

## CARE Champions

Reception: Amy.

Year 1: Alfie, Aira.

Year 2: Vincent.

Year 3: George.

Year 4: Flix.

Year 5: Reggie, Eleanor, Grace.

Year 6: Ciara.

## Next Week in a Nutshell

### Christian Focus: Open Arms: Taking Risks

Monday: Afternoon Tea for children with 30 CARE points- 2:30pm.

Year 3 Football tournament at Goals in Seacroft - 3:15pm - 4:45pm. (Children involved have been informed).

Tuesday: Normal day in school.

Wednesday: Cross Country Event at Temple Newsam- 12:00pm - 3:00pm. (Children involved have been informed).

Thursday: Year 4 at Harewood House- 9:00am - 3:00pm.

Friday: Year 5 Philosophy lesson from Leeds Uni- 10:30am - 11:30am.

## Attendance

Reception: 98.1% 😊

Year 1: 92.6% 😞

Year 2: 99.4% 😊

Year 3: 99.3% 😊

Year 4: 94.7% 😞

Year 5: 96.8% 😊

Year 6: 90.8% 😞

Whole School: 96.1% 😊

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

## Sustainable Travel to School

Top 3 Classes...

1<sup>st</sup>. Year 3 - 100% active travel.

2<sup>nd</sup>. Year 5 - 97% active travel.

3<sup>rd</sup>. Reception - 88% active travel.

We are the 2<sup>nd</sup> most active school in Leeds.  
We are the 39<sup>th</sup> in the country.

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

# General Notices

## Coffee Morning - Tuesday 10th February

We are delighted to invite all parents and carers to a Coffee Morning in school on Tuesday 10th February, from 8:50am - 10:00am.

We will be joined by Sarwat Akhbar, an Educational Psychologist, who will be speaking about ways to support children who experience anxiety. Representatives from MindMate and Cluster counsellors and key workers will also be available to chat with parents and carers.

This is a great opportunity to learn more, ask questions, and meet others in an informal and relaxed setting.

We look forward to seeing you there.



## World Book Day

We are excited to celebrate World Book Day on Thursday 6th March with a day full of creativity, imagination, and a love of reading.

**Dress Up for World Book Day - Dress as a Word**

This year, our theme for World Book Day is "Dress as a Word." Children are very welcome to come to school dressed as a book character, but we invite them to think of a word that links to their character. For example, this could be:

- A colour (Sparkly Silver, Midnight Blue)
- An adjective (Brave, Curious, Invisible)
- Any word inspired by their favourite stories

Please don't worry if you already have a book character costume planned or ready – simply choose a word that fits the character. We hope this gives everyone the chance to join in in a way that suits them.

**Book-Themed Bake Competition and Sale**

Following the great success of our last baking competition, we are inviting children to take part in a book-themed bake competition. Bakes should be inspired by a favourite book or character, for example:

- Matilda Muffins
- The Very Hungry Caterpillar Cake
- Harry Potter Golden Snitch biscuits
- Paddington Bear marmalade treats

There will be a £1 entry fee to take part in the bake competition. All entries will be displayed during the day, and we will then hold a bake sale after school.

All money raised will go towards buying new furniture for our school library, helping to create an even more inviting space for reading.

**KS2 Book-Inspired Art Exhibition**

To mark World Book Day, KS2 children will be creating a piece of book-inspired artwork on canvas, which will be proudly displayed in classrooms.

When you collect your child at the end of the day, parents are invited to come back into the classroom to view the exhibition and celebrate the children's creativity and hard work.

More details will follow soon, but we wanted to share our plans with you early. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask.

Thank you for your continued support,



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[www.meanwoodschool.co.uk](http://www.meanwoodschool.co.uk)

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# General Notices

## Flood Update

We are pleased to inform you that the flood damage restoration work is now underway. From Monday the front reception area and gates will be open, allowing children to move more easily around the school. This area will also once again serve as the main entrance for parents, staff, and children. Please note that the office area will not be occupied at this time, as it is still in the process of being dried. Mrs Tate has temporarily relocated further down the corridor. If you need to contact the school, please continue to use email or phone where possible. If you do need to speak to someone face to face, please come to the front entrance, and a member of staff will assist you. Thank you once again for your patience and understanding during this difficult time.



## Attendance

I know it may feel like I am banging the drum again about attendance, but it truly is one of the biggest factors in children being successful at school. While 90% attendance sounds good, it actually means a child misses around 19 days of learning each year – almost four weeks of school. Those missed lessons are difficult to recover and can have a real impact over time. Recent Department for Education research (2025) shows just how important good attendance is. Children with attendance of 95% or above in Year 6 are around 30% more likely to achieve the expected standard in Reading, Writing and Maths in the KS2 SATs than children with attendance between 90–95%. Even missing just 10 days across the year significantly reduces a child's chances of achieving their best. We absolutely understand that illness happens, but wherever possible, aiming for 95% attendance or better gives every child the strongest chance of success.

- 100% = 0 days missed – Best chance of success
- 95% = 9 days missed – Already 2 weeks lost
- 90% = 19 days missed – Nearly 4 weeks of learning

## PTA

We hope everyone has a great time at the disco tonight. Reception and KS1 combined (4.30pm – 5.30pm) and KS2 (5.45pm – 7pm).

## Upcoming events for your diary

### Meanwood Marvel Bar:

Full details to be announced when launched before half term and it will run through to World Book Day on Thursday 5 March. Think Willy Wonka and the hunt for the Golden Tickets....

### Break the Rules Day:

Thursday 2 April

### Cake Sales:

Year 3 – Friday 13 February  
Year 2 – Friday 13 March



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# General Notices

## Diversity Week - Good to Be Me

### Week Beginning: 9th February

We are excited to be celebrating Diversity Week: Good to Be Me, a special week focused on inclusion, individuality, and celebrating what makes us all unique. We have a wonderful timetable of events planned for the children:

#### Monday:

An introductory whole-school Collective Worship, using the story 'All Are Welcome' to launch the week.

#### Tuesday:

Little Voices will be working with all classes across school, creating drama and singing pieces linked to the theme of diversity.

#### Wednesday:

Sign language lessons for Years 5 and 6, led by Aftab.

#### Thursday:

Sunshine and Smiles, a Down syndrome support charity, will deliver a whole-school assembly, followed by signing and singing workshops for Years 1 and 2.

All classes will also enjoy presentations from Mrs Ratcliffe, Miss Johnson, and Mr McManahan, who will be sharing their hobbies and interests.

#### Friday:

Children are invited to come to school wearing their favourite outfit—something that reflects who they are. This could be a football kit, religious or cultural dress, a princess costume, or anything else that represents them.

We are really looking forward to a fun, meaningful, and celebratory week for everyone.



## School Book Drop - Starting Next Week!

We are excited to share that a wonderful new Book Drop Project is launching in school next week! A group of enthusiastic parents and children have come together with a brilliant idea: to collect pre-loved books from our school community and redistribute them to families across the school.

From next week, plastic donation containers will be placed around the school for you to drop in any books you no longer need at home. We kindly ask that donated books are:

- Age-appropriate for primary school aged pupils
- In reasonably good condition (no torn pages or heavy damage)

The aim of this project is twofold:

- 1.To give books a new life in another family's home, helping promote a love of reading across our community.
- 2.To raise much-needed funds during Author Week, where the donated books will be sold to support the restocking and improvement of our school library—including new books and updated furniture.

Details about how the book reselling will work during Author Week will be shared with parents soon. For now, the most important step is to gather as many donated books as possible.

Please keep an eye out for the containers around school—and thank you in advance for your support in helping build a richer reading culture for all our children.

## House Totals

Oak: 1012

Holly: 1142

Elm: 942

Sycamore: 896

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# Open Arms

Dear Lord, May we come together with open hearts and willing hands. Help us see that we are stronger when we lift one another up, that every act of kindness—no matter how small—creates ripples of hope throughout our community.

Guide us to work as a true team, supporting each other in moments of need, celebrating each other's joys, and recognising the beauty that lives not only around us, but within every person we meet. Let unity be our foundation, compassion be our language, and cooperation be our shared path forward.

May we build a community where everyone feels seen, valued, and loved.

Amen.

## Class page links

[Reception](#)

[Year 1](#)

[Year 2](#)

[Year 3](#)

[Year 4](#)

[Year 5](#)

[Year 6](#)

## A note from Mr Chapman

Thank you to all our parents and carers for your kind offers of help and support this week. It has certainly been a bit of a nightmare at times, but we will get through it together. There are always worse things that can happen, and when challenges like this arise, it's important that we roll with it and make the best of it. As the saying goes, when life gives you lemons, make lemonade.

Please continue to keep an eye on our Facebook page and class pages to see all the lovely things happening in school. Perhaps we should shout a little more about the amazing offer we have at Meanwood and how the whole community helps to make it such a special place—although being humble is, of course, a wonderful quality.

Have a lovely weekend, everyone.

Mr Chapman

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