Meanwood CE Primary School

Open Hearts | Open Minds | Open Arms

Proudly supporting: Leeds Hospitals Charity

Newsletter: 6
20.11.26



CARE Champions

Reception: Rory and Riley.
Year 1: Robyn P.
Year 2: Caleb.
Year 3: Cole and James.
Year 4: Alfie.
Year 5: Finn
Year 6: Grace W and Charlie.

Next Week in a Nutshell

Christian Focus: Open Minds: Debate

Monday: Ultimate Frisbee Sessions for year 5 and 6 (Leeds University)- 1:00-3:00pm.
Year 5 Residential meeting - 6:00 - 6:30pm. Please enter via the Green Road Door.
Tuesday: Rescheduled year 4 trip to Otley- 9:30am - 2:30pm.
Fran from Holy Trinity Church in Year 1: 1:30 - 2:30pm.
Wednesday: Year 3 trip to ledstone Hall- 9:00 - 3:00pm.
Forst School at Meanwood Valley urban Farm 1:00 - 2:30pm. Children involved have been informed.
Thursday: Year 5 sports event at Notre Dame College- 1:00 - 3:00pm. Children need to come to school in school P.E kit.
Rock and Roll Bingo at The Myrtle- 7:00pm onwards.
Friday: PTA Christmas Fair - 3:15- 5:15pm.

Attendance

Reception: 95.2% ☹️
Year 1: 96.1% 😁
Year 2: 91.6% ☹️
Year 3: 98.8% 🤩
Year 4: 97% 😁
Year 5: 86.7% ☹️
Year 6: 93.6% ☹️
Whole School: 94.2% ☹️

Well done year 3, you are this week's attendance champions.

Sustainable Travel to School

Top 3 Classes...
1st: Year 4 97% active travel.
2nd: Year 5 92% active travel.
3rd: Year 2 79% active travel.
We are the 2nd most active school in Leeds.
We are the 74th most active school in the country.

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

General Notices

Family Evening

A huge thank you to everyone who attended our Family Evening on Wednesday. It was wonderful to see so many families in school and to have the opportunity to celebrate the fantastic learning taking place across our classrooms. We were delighted by the excellent turnout and it was lovely to see so many parents and carers sampling the delicious food that our children enjoy every day.

Thank you also to everyone who has already taken the time to complete our parent survey. Your views really do matter to us, and we carefully consider your feedback when planning future improvements and priorities for the school. If you have not yet completed the survey, there is still time to have your say. The survey will remain open until Sunday 22nd November.

We greatly value the strong partnership between home and school and appreciate your continued support.



School Council News

Our School Council met this week and, as always, they were full of fantastic ideas about how we can help others and make a positive difference in our community.

The first idea is a Pyjama Day to raise money for our Charity of the Year, Leeds Hospitals Charity. On the last day of term, Friday 18th December, children are invited to come to school wearing their pyjamas, onesies, dressing gowns or other cosy sleepwear. We will be asking for a donation to support Leeds Hospitals Charity, with a minimum suggested donation of £2. Donations will be opened on Arbor within the next few weeks, and we hope this will be a fun way for our school community to support a very worthwhile cause.

The School Council have also been inspired by their recent visit to the Meanwood Pantry and would like our school to make regular donations to support local families. From next week, there will be a donation trolley in the front office where families can leave non-perishable food items and other suitable donations. Every fortnight, members of the School Council will help to deliver these contributions to the Pantry.

These are wonderful ideas that demonstrate the compassion, responsibility and community spirit of our School Council members. They are living examples of our school vision and values of Open Hearts, Open Minds and Open Arms, showing how even small actions can make a big difference to the lives of others. We are incredibly proud of their commitment to helping both local and wider communities.



House Points

Oak: 1975 Elm: 1767 Holly: 2026 Sycamore: 1800

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General Notices

Football Matches

It has been another busy and successful week for our football teams.
Our Year 3 team attended a mini-tournament at 5ives in Seacroft, playing three matches in total. The children were absolutely terrific, winning two games and narrowly losing one by the finest of margins. Throughout the tournament, they worked brilliantly together, showing great teamwork, determination and resilience in every match. Their efforts this season continue to pay off, and they currently sit second in the league, just two points from the top spot and four points clear of third place.
Our girls' team also enjoyed an excellent afternoon of football at a Leeds United tournament hosted at Dixons Academy on Tuesday. The girls produced another outstanding performance, playing five matches, winning three and drawing two. Even more impressively, they conceded just one goal across the entire tournament. These fantastic results mean the team have progressed to the next round. Well done to all of the girls who took part. We are incredibly proud of your achievements and wish you the very best of luck in the next stage of the competition.
Football continues to be a huge part of life at Meanwood, and we are extremely proud of the opportunities it provides for our children. This term alone, more than 50 children have represented the school across a range of teams and competitions. While we may not always be the team that wins every trophy, we are the school that believes sport should be accessible to as many children as possible. We are committed to providing opportunities for children of all abilities to participate, develop their skills and enjoy being part of a team. After all, football is for everyone.

Knife Crime Talk - Year 6

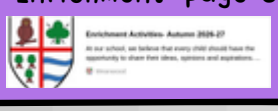
This week, PC Meek, our school's Community Officer, visited Year 6 to deliver an important talk about the dangers of knife crime.
Whilst this is a sensitive subject, we recognise the importance of helping children develop an awareness of the risks and challenges they may encounter as they grow older. The session was carefully tailored to the age of the children and focused on making safe choices, understanding the consequences of carrying a knife, and knowing where to seek help and support if needed.
The Year 6 children represented the school brilliantly throughout the visit. They listened attentively, engaged thoughtfully with the discussion, and asked a number of mature and well-considered questions. Their curiosity, respect and willingness to learn demonstrated just how responsible and reflective our older pupils are becoming.
We would like to thank PC Meek for taking the time to speak with our children and for continuing to support our school community with such valuable and informative sessions.

Thank You for Your Chocolate Donations

A huge thank you to everyone who supported our Dress Down Day today by sending in chocolate donations for the Christmas Fair.
We have been overwhelmed by the generosity of our families, and the donations received are greatly appreciated. The chocolate stall is always one of the most popular attractions at the fair, and your contributions will help us create a fantastic event for our community.
Most importantly, these donations will help us raise much-needed funds for the PTA. The money raised will be used to support the school and provide additional opportunities, experiences and resources for our children throughout the year.

Enrichment Activities

At Meanwood we are very proud of all the enrichment opportunities we offer. Sometimes it is difficult to communicate all that we do in a newsletter. To see a comprehensive summary, please click on the link below which will take you to our new 'Enrichment' page on the school website.



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General Notices

Christmas Performances

We are delighted to be able to share the dates for our Christmas performances and look forward to welcoming families into school to celebrate this special time of year with us.

Reception Nativity

- Tuesday 9th December at 2:00pm

Year 1 and Year 2 Christmas Performance

- Tuesday 15th December at 2:00pm
- Tuesday 15th December at 5:30pm

Year 3 and Year 4 Christmas Performance

- Wednesday 16th December at 2:00pm
- Wednesday 16th December at 6:00pm

Year 5 Christmas Celebration

Originally, it was planned for Year 5 to lead our Christmas Service in church. Unfortunately, the heating system at the church is currently not working, which means we are unable to attend as a school. As an alternative, the Year 5 children will be joining Meanwood Pre-School for an afternoon of Christmas carol singing. This is planned to take place on Thursday 10th December at 2:30pm.
Please note that this date and time are still provisional, as we are waiting for final confirmation from the pre-school. Parents and carers of Year 5 children will be very welcome to attend and support the children. We will provide further details and keep families informed of any changes as soon as arrangements are confirmed.

Eco Council

Our Eco-Council met this week to focus on our environmental pledge for this term: Use Less, Waste Less.
The children have been discussing the amount of waste that is produced in school and have come up with an exciting initiative called "Waste Not, Want Not Day", which will take place on Thursday 7th January. The entire day will be dedicated to exploring the waste we create in school and thinking about what we can do to reduce it. Children will be considering how we can create a more cyclical mini-economy within our school community by reusing, repurposing and making the most of the resources we already have.
The Eco-Council have lots of exciting plans in development, and we look forward to sharing more details with you as we get closer to the event.
It is wonderful to see our children identifying positive actions that can help tackle a real and ongoing challenge in society. Their enthusiasm, creativity and determination to make a difference are inspiring and demonstrate how young people can play an important role in caring for our environment. We are incredibly proud of the leadership they are showing and the commitment they have made to building a more sustainable future for everyone.



KS1 Agility Event

We had a lovely morning on Monday this week at the KS1 Agility event with Year 2.
Children thoroughly enjoyed a carousel of activities that developed agility and teamwork skills, having lots of fun and working well together.
We also had 4 sports ambassadors from Year 6 who did an incredible job in leading some of the activity stations.
Everyone represented school really well! Well done Year 2 and Year 6.



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General Notices

Year 5 Careers Afternoon

Year 5 recently enjoyed an exciting Careers Afternoon led by visitors from Leeds City College. The session gave children a valuable insight into the world of further education, careers and future opportunities.

During the afternoon, the children learned about what life is like at Leeds City College and discovered some of the many training pathways and qualifications available to young people as they move through their education. They also explored the wide range of careers that exist in today's world and discussed the skills and qualities needed for different professions.

One of the highlights of the session was a fun and interactive activity called Career Detectives, where the children worked together to identify and match different careers to the roles and services that support society. From healthcare and construction to technology and education, the children were surprised to learn just how many different jobs help our communities function every day.

The event was a fantastic opportunity to broaden the children's horizons, encourage them to think about their future aspirations and help them understand the many pathways available to them. We would like to thank Leeds City College for delivering such an engaging and informative afternoon.

Reminder: Meanwood Park Christmas Festival - Choir Performance- Thursday 3rd Dec

Just a quick reminder that our school choir will be performing at the Meanwood Park Christmas Festival!

Performance time: 5.00pm

Please meet Mrs Johnson and Mrs Monk at 4.55pm by the stage, ready for the performance. The children will then sing on stage for approximately 20 minutes. At the end of the performance, the children will be brought off the stage and handed back to their parents/carers. Children can wear their own clothes, wrap up warm and any Christmas accessories are encouraged to be worn!

Thank you in advance for supporting the children and joining us for what promises to be a wonderful occasion. We are delighted to be part of the very first Meanwood Park Christmas Festival and look forward to helping make it a special event for our community.

If your child isn't in the choir, please do still come along and support this wonderful new community event. There will be plenty to enjoy!

We look forward to seeing lots of you there!

Important Notice: Green Road will be closed from 3:00pm on Thursday. If you usually park on or near Green Road when collecting your child, please make alternative arrangements to avoid disruption. Please note that school will remain open as normal and children will be dismissed at the usual time of 3:15pm.



Heating Update

Over the last couple of weeks, our heating system has been creaking a little, but thankfully it is still hanging on! As you can imagine, in a beautiful old school building like ours, the heating system is never quite perfect. However, we have now reached the point where we need to take action before it decides to give up completely.

It may be necessary over the coming weeks for the school to close for a single day so that the heating system can be switched off and essential repairs carried out. I am hopeful that we can nurse the system through to the end of term, but if this is not possible, I will provide families with as much notice as possible. Our plumber has advised that the repair work should take no longer than one day. As soon as I have a definite plan and timescale, I will let you know. Should we need to close for a day, online learning will be made available to all children. However, we will cross that bridge if and when we come to it.

For now, the good news is that we are warm, the heating is still working, and our fingers are crossed that it will keep going until Friday 18th December!

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General Notices

PTA

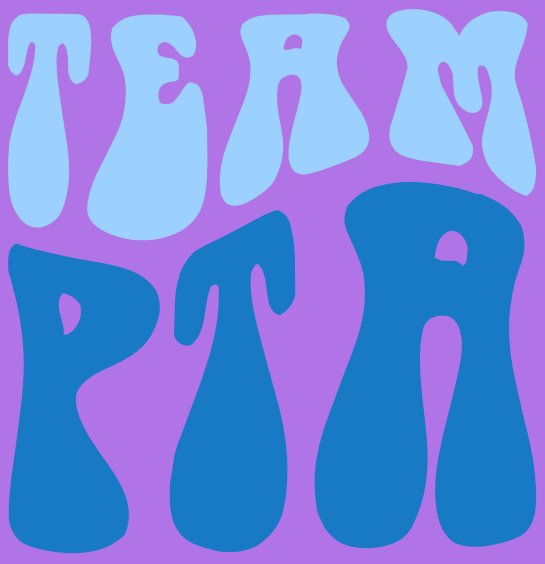
Pre-loved School Uniform
Does your child need a new jumper or cardigan for winter following a growth spurt? We don't have a unform sale planned before Christmas however if you are in need of anything please email the PTA on pta@meanwood.leeds.sch.uk

Rock and Roll Bingo (at the Myrtle Pub) - Thursday 26 November
Only 2 tickets left, please contact Linzi on 07731 160573.

Christmas Fair - Friday 27 November 3.30pm
NEXT WEEK!!!
Help make the Christmas Fair magical
Thank you for all the donations towards the Santa Sacks and of teddies and chocolate.
Raffle tickets are on sale on Arbor, we have some great prizes already including a top prize of £100.
Please see attached poster.
Volunteers - Thanks to all who have volunteered already!
There are a few spaces left, either in advance doing some baking, or on the day. If you can help please sign up! https://volunteersignup.org/XWFLD

Wreath Making - Monday 7 December, 7pm, School Hall, £38
After the success of last year's event, our PTA Christmas Wreath Making Evening is back – and this year we're making it even more special!
Join us for a cosy, festive evening of wreath making, live music and Christmas cheer. The perfect excuse to get together with friends, enjoy a drink and get into the Christmas spirit!
What's included?
Everything you need to create your own beautiful Christmas wreath, with plenty of gorgeous foliage, decorations and friendly guidance – no experience necessary!
A complimentary welcome drink.
Live music from our wonderful singer, creating the perfect festive atmosphere while you get creative.
Our PTA bar will also be open throughout the evening, with additional drinks and snacks available to purchase.
Whether you're coming with friends or fancy meeting some new faces, we promise a lovely, relaxed evening – and you'll leave with a gorgeous handmade wreath to proudly hang on your door!
Tickets on sale on Arbor, spaces are limited, so be sure to book early!
We can't wait to kick off the festive season with you!

Cake Sales:
Yr3 - 11 Dec



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Open Minds- Diversity

This week, our collective worship theme has been Diversity. Across school, the children have been thinking about how every person is unique and special, and how our differences make our community stronger, richer and more interesting.
As part of our reflection, we explored our school value of Open Minds. The children discussed how having an open mind means taking the time to listen to others, understand different perspectives and learn from people whose experiences may be different from our own. By showing curiosity, kindness and respect, we can build friendships, challenge stereotypes and help create a society where everyone feels valued and included.
Dear God,
Thank you for making each of us unique and special. Help us to be open-minded, to listen to others with kindness and to celebrate our differences. May we always show love, respect and understanding to everyone we meet.
Amen.

Class page links

Reception

Year 1

Year 2

Year 3

Year 4

Year 5

Year 6

A note from Mr Chapman

As I walk around school each day, I am constantly reminded of what makes Meanwood such a special place. It was wonderful to see so many families at our Family Evening on Wednesday. The fantastic level of participation demonstrated the strength of our school community and the genuine partnership that exists between home and school.
I have also been touched by the many kind comments I have received about the school and our staff. Hearing such positive feedback fills me with immense pride. We are incredibly fortunate to work with such wonderful children and families, supported by a dedicated team who strive every day to make a difference.
Of course, as with any community, there will always be occasional bumps in the road, relationships that are sometimes tested, and situations that can stir strong emotions. However, what makes Meanwood special is that, even during challenging times, we continue to pull in the same direction. Together, we remain committed to living out our school vision: to ensure that every person is valued, nurtured and empowered to achieve their full potential.
Have a lovely weekend.
Mr Chapman

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