



The Thursday Green 'Un

Autumn 2 November 2024

Welcome Back

Welcome back to school after the October half term. Although the weather was a bit soggy, we hope you had a lovely break together with your family and that you are now rested ready for the mad rush up to Christmas. As the weather turns cooler, please remind your child about wearing their coats, although they run around so much outside, they do not feel the cold like us adults! Please write names in coats, this should make them easier to reunite if they get lost. We have made more indoor space available for children who prefer to be inside in the warm at lunchtime. Don't forget if you have anything on your mind that you want to discuss, call in to the office and make an appointment to see us or email office@watercliffe.sheffield.sch.uk. We would rather talk things through with you and work together to find a solution.

Christmas @ WCM

Step into Christmas – Start Christmas with a sprinkle of glitter making decorations in your child's class. This will be happening on **Monday 2nd December**, times to follow.

Nativity – This will take place week beginning **9th December**. Tickets will go on sale in late November.

Christmas Fayre – Our Christmas Fayre will take place on **Wednesday 4th December 2.00 – 4.00pm** in the Hall. Look out for a letter coming home with ways you can contribute and join in the fun!

Christmas Jumper Week – Children can wear any Christmas Clothes across the last week of term, **16th December** onwards.

Christmas Parties – Party Days will be sometime in the last week of term. Once they are organised, we will let you know the details.

Christmas Lunch – This will be on **Wednesday 18th December**. There will be no pick and mix or jacket potatoes on this day but children can bring packed lunch from home if they do not want the Christmas Dinner.

Halloween at WCM

Thank you for all the effort put into dressing up for Halloween Friday before half term, the children looked amazing. They also enjoyed a Spooky Cosy Read and lots of spooky fun in school.

Anti-Bullying Week

The Anti-Bullying Alliance are official organisers of Anti-Bullying Week and Odd Socks Day in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. Anti-Bullying Week 2024 will take place from **Monday 11th - Friday 15th November**, with the theme: Choose Respect. Odd Socks Day is taking place on Tuesday 12th November, with adults and children being encouraged to wear odd socks to celebrate what makes us all unique.

From playgrounds to parliament, our homes to our phones, this Anti-Bullying Week let's 'Choose Respect' and bring an end to bullying which negatively impacts millions of young lives. This year, we'll empower children and young people to not resort to bullying, even when we disagree and remind adults to lead by example, online and offline.

Imagine a world where respect and kindness thrives — it's not just a dream, it's in the choices we make. Join us this Anti-Bullying Week and commit to 'Choose Respect'. What will you choose?

Children In Need

Children in Need is **Friday 15th November**. Children will be able to come dressed in something yellow and/or spotty or children in need merchandise, we will ask for a 50p contribution for this. We are also selling Pudsey ears, badges and wristbands, which can be bought from the office.

Menu

Please remember there has been a change to the menu for hot dinners. This was emailed out to families before half term and it can also be found here:

<https://www.watercliffemeadow.com/page/?title=School+Meals&pid=37>

Punctuality

Please make every effort to arrive at school on time. Doors close at 8.55 every morning and if you arrive after this time you will have to go through the main office. Late marks are put in the register after 9.00am. If your child is late regularly, they will miss important learning. Read Write Inc and guided reading happens first thing every morning and missing this will seriously impact on your child's ability to make progress in their reading. We need to be closing gaps not growing them by having more missed learning.

School Streets

Thank you very much for your overwhelming support with the School Street road closure on Boynton Road. So many of you have commented on how much safer it now feels. We even made it on Sheffield city Council news! https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y2Aqubg_QFs

If you would consider giving up some of your time to be a volunteer road marshal with a member of staff, even for an hour each week, it would be greatly appreciated. Please contact Rachel Stone on rstone@watercliffe.sheffield.sch.uk if you would like to help.

The new School Street is a great opportunity for the whole school community to make healthier travel changes. Parents and staff are invited to download the free Better Points Sheffield App to earn rewards for walking, wheeling, cycling and using public transport. The points collected can be exchanged for hot drinks at 30 cafes, donated to charity or spent online. Enter code **watercl** and you can earn a £10 gift card to celebrate the new School Street. sheffield.betterpoints.uk

Volunteer in School

Would you like to volunteer your time and help the WCM family while gaining experience of working in a school? We are looking to recruit volunteers to support school activities. An enhanced DBS check will be needed which school will pay for. Please note you will not be able to volunteer in your child's year group. Please see Rachel in the office for more information.

Residentials

Our first residential of the new school year took place before the half term break at Whiteley Woods with the Y2 children. It was a great week and we spent a lot of the time in t-shirts as the weather was so beautiful.

Residentials are a big part of the additionality we add to our curriculum at WCM. We heavily subsidise all the residential visits but we also realise that paying for them can be difficult. We will not be able to let any child go who has not paid by the 'cut off' date for the residential. To help with this we have put the residentials on the Parent Pay App so you can start saving towards them now. Please note we will not be allowing any children to sign up for residentials if there is a debt owed to school.

Our other planned residentials are:

Y3 1 night/2 days camping at Bakewell (July)

Y4 2 nights/3 days at Thornbridge (March)

Y5 1 night/2 days in London (awaiting dates)

Y6 4 nights/5 days in Castleton (May)

Applying for a Reception Place 2025

Families can apply online for a school place for children at:

<https://ems.sheffield.gov.uk/CitizenPortal/en>

Closing date – **15th January 2025**

Please remember all families need to apply for a place for their child and just because a child attends our Nursery, they will not be guaranteed a place in Reception. The Reception Admissions Team can be contacted on 01142735766 or by email at ed-admissions@sheffield.gov.uk

Dates for your Diary

The remaining 3 INSET days for this year are:

Day 2 **Wednesday 27th November**

Day 3 **Wednesday 12th March**

Day 4 **Wednesday 2nd July**

Day 5 **TBC**

Term Dates for September 2025 academic year can be found at

https://www.sheffield.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2024-03/school_calendar_and_bank_holiday_2025-26.pdf

Contact Us...

- email office@watercliffe.sheffield.sch.uk
- phone 01142326603
- in person via a member of the Office Team
- a pre arranged meeting with your child's class teacher
- for a quick question/chat see a member of staff from your child's class every morning or evening on the door
- Check out our website for up to date information, dates, letters and lots more!
<https://www.watercliffemeadow.com>