



The Thursday Green 'Un

Spring 1 January 2025

Welcome Back

Welcome back to school after the Christmas holidays. We hope you had a lovely time together with your families. This term sees the beginning of a new year at Watercliffe Meadow and an important term for learning. Now the excitement of Christmas has passed we can use this term to focus in on learning and help all our children make the best progress they possibly can. Together we can help your child reach for the stars and achieve to the best of their ability!

On the Blogs you will find your child's newsletter sharing with you what is happening in their class and ways you can support learning at home. If you need any guidance on ways to support your child, please see their teacher.

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, than let issues grow.

Welcome to WCM...

We have been joined by new staff in the Spring Term:

Rachel Brown (Tuesday - Thursday) Learning Mentor to cover Danielle's Mullen's maternity leave.

Shazia Tanveer (Mon - Wed) / Jen Wilson (Wed - Fri) in Nursery to cover Danielle Page's maternity leave.

Felix Donnison - Nursery

Toni Mortimer - Nursery

Hayley Cherry - F2/Y1

Attendance

Attendance has always been important but through COVID routines changed and attendance across the country has never recovered. Our school target is 96%. Every week we have class competitions to see who gets the highest % and half termly prizes for

classes who have the best attendance. There are also individual prizes and Attendance Bronze, Silver and Gold badges are given out in July if attendance is above 96%.

This NHS website will help if your child is not well and you need guidance to decide if they can attend school:

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

Or you can give us a call and we can help you decide.

There is clear evidence that children with good attendance, above 96%, achieve more in their school life. This year we have linked attendance at the Y6 Prom to attendance in school. Children below 90% will not be able to attend and letters were sent out to families of Y6 children letting them know if their child is on track to attend.

Let's try together to hit 96%

100% Attendance

On the last Friday of the Autumn Term there was a special draw for 8 £10 Book Vouchers. To be in the draw you needed to have had 100% attendance for the Autumn term.

Across school there were 79 children that achieved this, well done to you all. We will repeat the draw at the end of the Spring term.

Parent's Evening

This discussion will be based around your child's progress, next steps in learning and any gaps there may be in learning. Meetings are in your child's classroom and you will be able to look at learning in books as well as in their University folder.

The sessions are:

Tuesday 26th January 3:30 - 5.00pm

Wednesday 27th January 3.30pm - 7.00pm

A letter will be sent out with further detail about how to book.

Contact Numbers

If you have a new telephone number or email address over Christmas, please let the office know so we can update our records for when we need to contact you. This will also ensure that you get any texts, letters or information sent out from school.

Bronze Badges

On the last day of the Autumn Term Mr Read and Mrs Bradley visited Y2-Y6 classrooms to give out Bronze Golden Time Badges. To earn a bronze badge, children need to have not lost any Golden Time from September until Christmas, a whole term. Altogether, altogether 189 children earned these badges, to the point, we ran out so some children will be getting their actual badge as soon as they arrive in January! This is fantastic and shows how great the children are at making the right choices and following our Golden Rules. If your child did not manage to get a badge, they can try again this term and aim for the badge at Easter, there were quite a number of children who only lost 5 minutes in the whole term! All those children who did get a badge are aiming for silver! A big well done to you all!



WCM Got Talent

Yes, another year, another **Watercliffe's Got Talent** contest! Auditions for the 2025 show are on **Thursday 23rd January!** Semifinal date is **Thursday 30th January.** Entry details will be shared with children in the coming week.

We are looking forward to seeing how previous acts have improved and we are hoping to see some new and fresh talent. The show is looking for talented individuals and groups from Y2 to Y6!! The final will take place on **Friday 14th February.**

Snow

As the winter is now well and truly here there will be every possibility of it snowing. If we do get snow like last weekend, we will make every effort to open as usual, we have only ever closed twice in all the years we have been open because of snow. Please do not ring school to find out if we are open, we will announce it on Radio Sheffield and Hallam and text you all. We will also keep you up to date on Facebook. Let's hope we are lucky enough to only have snow at the weekends!

Residentials

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 can pay towards your child's residential on Schoolcomms. If you need help with this please call and see a member of the office team. 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 Thornbridge (July)
Y4 2 nights/3 days at Thornbridge (March)
Y5 1 night/2 days in London (June)
Y6 4 nights/5 days in Castleton (May)

Dates for your Diary

Thursday 23rd January - WCMGT Auditions
Thursday 30th January - WCMGT Semi Finals
Tuesday 28th & Wednesday 29th January - Parents' Evening
Friday 14th February - WCMGT Final
Friday 14th February - Finish for half term
Monday 17th February - Friday 21st February Half Term Holiday
Monday 24th February - Spring 2 starts
Wednesday 5th March - World Book Day @ WCM
Monday 17th and Tuesday 18th March - D&T exhibition in the Hall
Wednesday 12th March - INSET 3/5 school closed for children
Friday 21st March – Red Nose Day
Monday 24th - Thursday 28th March - Easter Activities, more information to follow
Friday 28th March - Finish for Easter Holidays
Monday 14th April - Summer 1 starts

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.