



The Thursday Green 'Un

Autumn 2 November 2025

Welcome Back

Welcome back to school after the October half term. The weather was beautiful, 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.

Mrs Bibby

Lots of families have asked after Mrs Bibby in recent months and we have kept her up to date with your well wishes. Due to health reasons, Sue is very sad that she will not be returning to Watercliffe Meadow. We know she will miss our families, many of which she's known for several years. Sue previously worked at Shirecliffe Junior before joining Watercliffe Meadow from the very start in 2008. We will miss her very much but know she is being very well looked after by her family.

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 1st December**, times to follow.

Nativity – This will take place in the week beginning **8th December**. Tickets will go on sale in late November.

Christmas Fayre – Our Christmas Fayre will take place on **Wednesday 3rd 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, **15th 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 17th 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.

Changes to Our Reception Area

Some of you may have already noticed the changes we've made to our reception area over the holiday.

Our reception area inside school can get extremely busy and we've created the new hatch in our foyer after looking at entrances to other Sheffield schools.

Our priority is always to keep our children safe and this gives us an extra layer of security and will hopefully enable us to be more efficient in dealing with different times of the day.

Anti-Bullying Week

ABA are official organisers of Anti-Bullying Week and Odd Socks Day in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. Anti-Bullying Week 2025 will take place from Monday 10th - Friday 14th November, with the theme: Power for Good. The week will kick off with Odd Socks Day on Monday 10th with adults and children being encouraged to wear odd socks to celebrate what makes us all unique.

The theme of **Power for Good** has come about following consultation with teachers and pupils by the Anti-Bullying Alliance which coordinates Anti-Bullying Week every year in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. Teachers and children wanted a theme that empowered them to do something positive to counter the harm and hurt that bullying causes.

Anti-Bullying Forum

We would like to say an enormous thank you to the families who came along to our Anti-bullying Forum this week. The turnout was great and the session was very positive. It was lovely to share with you the systems we have in school. We would like to say a big well done to the children who came along to support us with the session. They spoke very clearly about what we have in place and what to do if things go wrong in school. As ever if you have any worries about this topic or any other, please get in touch to talk it through with us.

Children In Need

Children in Need is **Friday 14th 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 if you want to check the menu it can also be found on our website under Parents / School Meals.

<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 happen 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 Street

Thank you very much for your continuing support with the 'School Street' road closure on Boynton Road. So many of you have commented on how much safer it now feels.

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.

Applying for a Reception Place 2026

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

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

Closing date – **15th January 2026**

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

Shirecliffe Community Centre

We have been contacted by the Community Centre; they have asked that families not park in their car park at drop off and pick up times as this has been causing problems for their service users and staff.

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 3 days and we spent a lot of the time playing outside getting very muddy.

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 School Gateway 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)

Inset Days

Our next INSET Day is Wednesday 26th November and school is closed to children.

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>