



Greenbank Primary Newsletter



School details:



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<https://greenbank.rochdale.sch.uk>

Headteacher's Message – September 2026

Welcome back to a new school year. It has been wonderful to see everyone settle into their new classes especially our new Reception and Nursery children.

Thank you to everyone who attended the Meet the Teacher sessions last week. We hope you found the sessions useful and informative as well as enjoying the opportunity to meet the teachers in your child's year group. Over the next couple of weeks you will be able to book a Parents' Evening appointment to discuss your child's start to their new year group, look at your child's books and discuss what your child needs to focus on in their learning this term.

This year we continue to have a focus on attendance and the importance of your child being in school everyday to support with their learning and friendships. Let's make this year a great year and remember that good attendance is one of the strongest foundations for success!

Mrs L-J Walsh

DAIRY DATES

Friday 25th September 2pm	Macmillan Coffee Afternoon
Tuesday 6th October 2026	Parents' Evening 1
Wednesday 7th October 2026	Parents' Evening 2
Thursday 15th October 2026 9:05am	Thinking Thursday for Years 4, 5 and 6
Thursday 22nd October 2026 9:05am	Thinking Thursday for Years 1, 2 and 3
Friday 23rd October 2026	School closes at 3:15pm for half term
Monday 2nd November 2026	School reopens at 8:45am for Autumn 2 Term
Monday 2nd November 2026	Swimming starts for Year 4
Monday 9th – Wednesday 1st November 2026	Y4 Residential to Derbyshire
Friday 13th November 2026	Children in Need Day

RUSC Competitions

Our school works in a network called RUSC (Rochdale Urban Schools Collaboration). Staff and children have the opportunity to work with other schools.

Over the year we will be having PE Competitions in a variety of sports. Your child may be picked to represent Greenbank in these competitions. PLEASE can parents/carers check their Arbor emails regularly as you may receive a notification to say your child have been selected to take part in the competition.

If parents/carers wish to come along to watch the competitions we will let you know in the email where the event will be taking place.

ATTENDANCE	
Year Group	3 rd – 18 th September 2026
Reception	92.66%
Year 1	92.69%
Year 2	96.17%
Year 3	94.72%
Year 4	97.22%
Year 5	94.53%
Year 6	92.62%
Overall	94.43%

CELEBRATING SUCCESSES

At Greenbank we have lots of opportunities to celebrate fantastic behaviour and the achievement of children in school. Here are a couple of ways we celebrate your child's success.

Captain's Table

Each week we celebrate children who have followed our 4 Promises (Be ready, Be kind, Be respectful and Believe in yourself), shown fantastic behaviour and good manners by inviting them to have lunch with a member of the Leadership Team. Overall behaviour at Greenbank is excellent and the children all have an opportunity to attend Captain's Table over the year. Please look out for a message on Arbor on Fridays to inform you if your child has been invited to Captain's Table for the following week.

Child of the Week

In our weekly assemblies we share the successes of our children by choosing a child from each class who is awarded with the Child of the Week Award. Your child will receive a certificate explaining why your child has been chosen as Child of the Week. Children celebrate their achievement by wearing a Child of the Week badge over the week.

Well done to Year 2 and Year 4 for having the best attendance for the start of the term!

We are aiming for at least 96% attendance this year. Please remember for your child to be successful in school they need to attend regularly. Support is available if you are struggling to get your child into school by contacting the School Office.

ATTENDANCE - Term Time Absences

Please can we remind parents that Term Time Absences will be unauthorised and if your child's absence is 5 days or more in a 10 week period this absence will incur a fine. This is not just for children taken out of school on holiday or visiting family. A fine can be issued for absences where school does not authorise the reason or school is not informed of the absence. If your child is late after the register closes these unauthorised marks can add up to 5 days and incur a fine.

In a 3 year period the following fines will be issued:

1st Term Time Absence both parents will be fined £160 each. This will be reduced to £80 each if paid within 28 days.

2nd Term Time Absence both parents will be fined £160 each. NO REDUCTION.

3rd Term Time Absence both parents will be referred to the Magistrates Court where a fine up to £2500 can be issued.

If you are planning on taking your child out of school during term time please speak to the school office to make an appointment with the headteacher and complete our paperwork.



Illnesses, doctors appointment and staying off school

We have already had a number of parents who have taken their children out of school during the school day for doctor's appointments. Please can parents book these appointments before and after school rather than interrupt your child's school day.

If your child is well enough to be in school they will not necessarily need a doctor's appointment.

Please see at the end of this newsletter a list of illnesses that your child should or should not be in school for.

If we feel that children are having regular absences we will invite parents into a meeting in school to support the family. If absences continue then these may be unauthorised and could result in a fine.

As a school we want to support families in having their children in school with their friends.

PE

Mondays	Year 3 and Year 5
Tuesdays	Reception
Wednesdays	Year 2
Thursdays	Year 1
Fridays	Year 4 and Year 6

On PE days children come in to school in their PE kits; Y1 – Y6 black joggers, black leggings or black shorts, black hoodie White t-shirt, Black pumps (Year 1 and Year 2) and black Trainers where possible (KS2 – Year 3, 4 5 and 6). All clothing items should have no logos if possible.

No jewellery should be worn on PE days.



APPLYING FOR A SECONDARY SCHOOL PLACE

The time has now come for Y6 parents and carers to begin the process of applying for your child's secondary school place for September 2027. It is a parents' responsibility, not school, to apply for a secondary school place however if you need help with your application school is happy to help. To apply for a secondary school place you need to log onto Rochdale Council Website - School Admissions and they have a series of steps to help you. Please note you will need a valid email address to complete the online process. You will need this email address and password to find out the result on the National Offer Day so please keep this information safe. Here is a reminder of the deadline dates

Tuesday 1 st September 2026	The online admissions system opens for secondary school places.
Saturday 31 st October 2026	Closing Date for Applications. Ensure your secondary school application is submitted before this date.
Friday 11 th December 2026	Last date for any changes to the address in your application.
Monday 1 st March 2027	National Offer Day.

ILLNESSES: As a parent you know your child but there are times where you may not be sure if they should be in school or not. In the case of vomiting if you believe that it is due to something your child has eaten or drank then the 48 hour rule may not apply – please speak to school to discuss these incidents. **Colds and coughs are common in the colder months BUT children can still attend school. As a school if your child is ill we will send them home.**

Your child may feel warmer at times. For advice on high temperatures or fevers please see the following NHS information [High temperature \(fever\) in children - NHS](#).

IS MY CHILD TOO ILL FOR SCHOOL?

yes

until...



CHICKENPOX	At least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over.
DIARRHOEA AND VOMITING	48 hours after their last episode.
HIGH TEMPERATURE	If your child has a high temperature, keep them off school until it goes away.
IMPETIGO	Their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics.
MEASLES	4 days after the rash first appeared.
MUMPS	5 days after their swelling started.
SCABIES	They've had their first treatment.
SCARLET FEVER	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics.
WHOOPING COUGH	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics.



NO



CONJUNCTIVITIS	You don't need to keep your child away from school if they have conjunctivitis. Do get advice from your pharmacist. Encourage your child not to rub their eyes and to wash their hands regularly.
COUGHS & COLDS	It's fine to send your child to school with a minor cough or common cold.
HAND, FOOT & MOUTH	If they seem well enough to go to school, there's no need to keep them off. Encourage your child to throw away any used tissues straight away and to wash their hands regularly.
HEAD LICE	There's no need to keep your child off school. You can treat head lice and nits without seeing your GP.
THREADWORMS	Speak to your pharmacist, who can recommend treatment.
SORE THROAT TONSILLITIS	You can still send your child to school if they have a sore throat. But if they also have a high temperature, they should stay at home until it goes away.
SLAPPED CHEEK	You don't need to keep your child off school if they have slapped cheek syndrome because, once the rash appears, they're no longer infectious.

Pharmacy or Doctors? When your child is ill they do not always need to go to the doctors. Please see below the illnesses that a pharmacy (chemist) can help you with. Support our NHS by visiting the chemist if your child has one of the following illnesses – this will free up millions of doctor appointments! **Also this means you can take your child to the chemist for advice after school or at the weekends.**



HM Government

NHS

PHARMACY FIRST

services available
without a prescription

For patients in eligible age ranges

Earache

1 to 17 years

Impetigo

1 year and over

Infected insect bites

1 year and over

Shingles

18 years and over

Sinusitis

12 years and over

Sore throat

5 years and over

**Uncomplicated
urinary tract
infections**

Women 16-64 years