



Meanwood Primary School Newsletter

Friday 3rd July 2026



New This Week:



Tues 07.07.26	Transition Day for ALL pupils
Wed 08.07.26	Whole School Picnic (Reception to Year 6) at lunchtime
Wed 08.07.26	Nursery Teddy Bear Picnic during nursery hours (children only)
Thu 16.07.26	Year 6 Leavers Celebration at 2.00pm

A total of **47** children were **late this week!!** A big 'thank you' to those who arrive on time every day!!

The main gates open at **8.30am**. Your child needs to enter the classroom at **8.45am**.

The classroom doors close at **8.51am**. If your child arrives after this time, they are **LATE**.

TRANSITION DAY FOR ALL PUPILS—TUESDAY 7TH JULY 2026

Next Tuesday 07.07.26, our Year 6 children will be going up to their new high schools for the day. The high school should have contacted you with details about this day but please contact them directly if you have not received any information.

Also on this day, **All of our children from Nursery to Year 5** will be 'moving up' during the morning to meet their new class staff and become familiar with their new classroom. Please try and be on time on Tuesday as this will make moving up much easier.

You received a letter a couple of weeks ago letting you know who your child's new teacher and their class are for September and they will be spending the morning with that teacher.

Please take your child to their NEW class door at 8:45 and then collect your child at 3:15 from their CURRENT class door.

Lunch arrangements will stay the same as children will be moving back to their current class before lunchtime.

New class doors are as follows - staff will be outside directing you to their new doors but all children will have visited their new lining up places in preparation for move up morning.

Key Stage 1

1W and 1/2S In through the door at the very back of the school through the KS1 playground

2C Through the door on the KS1 playground

Key Stage 2

3C and 3/4B Through the main entrance in KS2 by the Office

4J Up the ramp opposite the Treehouse

5Q Through the door at the back of KS2 on Churchill Street

5/6 C and 6H Through the Year 6 door at the front of school

YEAR 5 TASTER DAY AT OULDER HILL LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

Year 5 pupils have been invited for a Taster Day session within the Science Department at Oulder Hill Leadership Academy on **Tuesday 14.07.26**, from 1.30pm to 2.45pm. They will be taking part in some practical Science Work. Pupils should arrive back at school for 3.15pm.

Letters will shortly be sent home for parents.



Important Reminders

Teddy Bear's Picnic Party



Nursery end of year Teddy Bear's Picnic Party.

Wednesday 8th July

Snacks and drinks, music, party games! ☺

This is an end of year celebration for all our lovely Nursery children.

Children can bring their own bear or soft toy and blanket if they wish.

Don't worry if you don't have one, we have lots of cuddly toys in Nursery who need a special friend to look after them.

Please note, in the event of bad weather, this will be postponed to a different day.

WISE OWLS—'AFTER SCHOOL' CLUB

Please note that on the last day of term (Friday 17.07.26)

Wise Owls will close at 5.00pm.

Please ensure that your child is collected before this time. Thank you.

Thank you.



ARBOR PAYMENTS

School are making it easier for parents to pay by card in Arbor. Whether parents are topping up an account, purchasing an item from the school shop, or paying for a trip—you can now enter and save your card details and also by **Apple** or **Google Pay** on your desktop. (Similar improvements will be made for parents using the Arbor App shortly).

When entering card details in the MIS or Parent Portal, you will be taken to a new, more intuitive page (powered by ultra-secure **Stripe**).

Simply follow the instructions and you will be taken back to the Parent Portal once your transaction is complete.

PLEASE NOTE THIS IS FOR DESKTOP USER ONLY, SIMILAR IMPROVEMENTS WILL BE MADE FOR PARENTS USING THE ARBOR APP TOWARDS THE END OF THE MONTH



Eliza says SEND HOLIDAY HUB
AGES 4-11
HAF HOLIDAY CLUB
PAID PLACES AVAILABLE

DATES
23RD JULY TO 12TH AUGUST

WE ARE A CHILD LED ENVIRONMENT

ACTIVITIES

- Multi Sports
- British Sign Language
- Arts & Crafts
- Karate
- Outdoor Fun
- Sensory & Messy Play
- Baking
- Furry Animals
- Yoga
- Mini First Aid

VENUE
CROSSGATES PRIMARY SCHOOL
KILN LANE
OL16 3HB

HAF BOOKING LINK:
<https://haf-rochdale.co.uk/>

TO BOOK EMAIL:
elizasays@hotmail.com

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!
We are a friendly, inclusive holiday hub supporting a wide range of needs.
A safe space where every child can shine, play, and belong! ✨

ANNUAL SCHOOL PICNIC—WEDNESDAY 08.07.26

We will be holding our annual whole school picnic for children in Reception—Year 6, on **Wednesday 08.07.26**.

Children who are on school dinners will be asked for their sandwich choices for that day, and children who are on packed lunches can bring them in as normal.

Let's hope that the sun shines for us!



CHILDRENS BOOK CHARITY

School have partnered with the Children's Book Project charity and we are now a designated book off point. We welcome donations of carefully used books which we will be donating to the children throughout the coming year. Please bring any donations to the School Office. Further details about the charity can be found at www.childrensbookproject.co.uk. Thank you.



MEANWOOD'S SCHOOL UNIFORM

The school uniform at Meanwood is:

- Grey skirt or grey trousers
- White shirt or polo shirt
- School sweatshirt or cardigan with Meanwood school logo, or plain navy jumper, sweatshirt or cardigan
- Black shoes
- In summer, blue gingham dresses or grey shorts can be worn.



You can purchase Meanwood branded uniform from the following local stores:

[Moses Schoolwear](#)

[Ziggy's Schoolwear](#)

21-23 Oldham Road

101 Yorkshire Street

Rochdale OL16 1UA

Rochdale OL16 1DW

01706 644447

01706 655141

Unbranded uniform (no logo) is also available from supermarkets and other clothing retailers and is welcomed at Meanwood and it is often cheaper than the branded alternatives.

Please see the flyer below that has some great school uniform offers on for July 2026

Save these predicted school uniform sale dates for June and July 2026.

For **INDOOR PE** children will need plain dark coloured shorts/leggings and a plain white t-shirt.

For **OUTDOOR PE** children will need dark plain coloured shorts/leggings, a plain white t-shirt and trainers.

For **OUTDOOR PE** (colder months) children will need a plain dark coloured tracksuit/fleece bottoms, plain jumper and trainers.

Children will need a **pump bag** to store their PE kit.

Children will also need a **bag** as they will be bringing a reading book, and a reading record home every day, plus homework and letters from school. It helps your child to be organised and independent if they get into a good habit of bringing their book bag every day.

Please also ensure that your child's uniform and belongings are clearly labelled with their name on

Finally, for safety reasons, children are not permitted to wear jewellery except for plain stud earrings. These will need covering for PE if they cannot be removed by the child.





For family or friends who step up to raise a child.



Are you a kinship carer in Rochdale?

Kinship carers are friends or family who step up to raise a child when their parents aren't able to.

Get FREE support and be part of a national research trial

Kinship, the national charity for kinship carers is funded to provide support to 40 kinship carers in Rochdale over the next year.

What this means

We're looking for **40 kinship carers** to receive our 6-month Kinship Connected programme.

This is **absolutely free** and you'll receive independent support from a charity worker called a Kinship Navigator.

They'll work with you to:

- understand you and your family needs
- develop your own personalised and practical toolkit and plan
- help you to advocate for kinship child or children
- help you to access and understand things like the schools system or applying for an EHCP and much more

Want to find out more?

Go to this website to read about the research trial and what that might mean for you: www.kinship.org.uk/Rochdale

For more information, please contact navigator@kinship.org.uk

Charity Registration: 1093975



For family or friends who step up to raise a child.

Sign up to our free information event

You can meet the Kinship team and our Rochdale Kinship Navigator at a special event on **Tuesday 9 June 2026** at:

Castlemere Community Centre
60 Tweedale St
Rochdale
OL11 1HH

Public transport

The venue is accessible by public transport, with regular bus lines servicing Tweedale Street and nearby Moore Street and Norman Road. The Community Centre is a 7 minute walk from Rochdale Station.

Accessibility

Castlemere has wheelchair accessible areas.

What to expect

We are running 2 sessions on the day, 1 in the morning and 1 in the afternoon with a **FREE delicious lunch at 12pm** for all kinship carers.

Book your free place

You must be a kinship carer to attend. This programme is for all kinship carers except kinship foster carers. This is event is filled on a first come basis.

Book
10.30am - 12pm



Book
12.30pm - 2pm



FREE FOOTBALL CAMPS WITH KELLOGGS THIS SUMMER

Kellogg's wish to share a great opportunity with families for over the school holidays.

They are offering free places at professionally run football camps for children, led by FA qualified coaches and delivered in partnership with the English Football League (EFL), Manchester City, Celtic FC and Rangers FC.

The sessions are deigned to be fun, inclusive and confidence building , helping children stay active, meet new friends, and enjoy a positive experience during the holidays. They also provide a valuable free childcare option for families over the break, with supervised sessions taking place at a range of clubs nationwide.

How to book your FREE place :

Scan the QR code below to find your local club, enter the code **SCHOOL**, and book a FREE day of football fun.

REQUEST A CODE FOR A FREE DAY AT A KELLOGG'S FOOTBALL CAMP

Get your code to book a place at one of our Kellogg's Football Camps. Plus, enter for the chance to win fantastic footie experiences! Purchase a valid Kellogg's product and scan the QR Code below to get started.

Scan the QR code to claim a free day at a Kellogg's Football Camp

* 18+. GB only. Enter between 01/04/26 - 27/08/26. Read all T&Cs

Upcoming Changes to Free School Meals (FSM) and Universal Credit Eligibility

Free school meal eligibility is changing.

More parents will become eligible in September with the new government rules.

Any child whose household is in receipt of

Universal Credit will qualify for a free school meal.



Dear Parents and Carers,

We are writing to inform you about important national changes to Free School Meal (FSM) eligibility that will come into effect from the start of the 2026/27 school year.

The UK Government has confirmed that, from September 2026, all children in England whose households receive Universal Credit will be entitled to Free School Meals, regardless of their overall household income.

What is Changing?

Under current rules, families must earn below £7,400 per year (after tax and not including benefits) to qualify for free school meals. From September 2026, this earnings threshold will no longer apply — any family receiving Universal Credit will be eligible. This change is expected to support over half a million additional pupils across England.

What This Means for Your Family

- No income cap: If your household receives Universal Credit, your child will be eligible.
- Financial savings: Families could save up to £500 per child per year on school lunches.
- Support for wellbeing: Access to a nutritious daily meal has been shown to improve children's health, concentration, and learning outcomes.

When Will This Happen?

The new entitlement will begin at the start of the school year in September 2026. Schools nationwide are preparing now to accommodate the increased number of children who will receive meals.

Do Parents Need to Apply?

Yes. Although eligibility will cover all families on Universal Credit, parents will still need to apply for free school meals so the school can process and confirm entitlement.

Applications are expected to open before the start of the 2026 school year, typically requiring your National Insurance Number and Universal Credit Reference Number.

We are awaiting an update from Rochdale Borough Council regarding how to apply.

Why Is This Change Being Made?

This expansion aims to:

- Reduce child poverty — estimates suggest around 100,000 children will be lifted out of poverty.
- Ease living costs for families during a period of rising expenses.
- Ensure fair access to healthy school meals for all children on Universal Credit.

THE
READING
AGENCY

UNIVERSAL
UNIVERSAL MUSIC GROUP
UNITED KINGDOM



READ to the BEAT

Help Your Child Discover the Joy of Reading This Summer!

This summer, give your child the chance to fall in love with reading! The Summer Reading Challenge, created by The Reading Agency and delivered in partnership with public libraries, is a FREE, fun-packed way to keep kids reading and learning all summer long.

This year's theme, **Read to the Beat**, and is powered by Universal Music Group UK. The Challenge will celebrate the joy of music and the power it has to move, inspire, and connect us – all through the magic of reading. The Challenge is being brought to life with illustrations by award-winning author and illustrator, Harry Woodgate.

Why join?

- It's FREE! Available at local libraries and online
- Inspires a lifelong love of reading
- Boosts confidence, creativity, and imagination
- Earn rewards, certificates, and prizes
- Fun for the whole family. Visit your local library together
- 95% of children said they read more after joining!
- Children choose their own books to read, collect rewards over the summer and receive a certificate or medal when they complete the challenge.




Visit your local library or go online at
summerreadingchallenge.org.uk
to get started from 4 July 2026.

Help your child start their reading adventure today!

Illustrations © Harry Woodgate 2026. Read to the Beat © The Reading Agency 2026, registered charity number 1085443 England and Wales.

Dates for the diary

	<u>EVENTS</u>	
Tues 07.07.26	 <i>Transition Day for ALL pupils</i>	Morning
Wed 08.07.26	<i>Whole school picnic (Reception—Year 6)</i> 	Lunchtime
Thu 16.07.26	 <i>Year 6 Leavers Celebration</i>	2.00pm
Thu 17.09.26 (Next Academic Year)	<i>Intra Health Flu Injections</i> 	During school hours