



Meanwood Primary School Newsletter

12th December 2025



New This Week:



CHRISTMAS PARTIES

Below are the dates for the Christmas parties in school.

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Children can come in party clothes on the day of their party but they must wear suitable shoes for school.

Mon 15.12.25	Years 3/4 Christmas Party	Afternoon
Thu 18.12.25	Nursery Christmas Party	Morning
Thu 18.12.25	Years 1/2 Christmas Party	Afternoon
Fri 19.12.25	Reception Party	During the Day
Fri 19.12.25	Year 5 Christmas Party	Afternoon
Fri 19.12.25	Year 6 Christmas Party	Morning

After School Clubs – *IMPORTANT*

After School **Sports Clubs** ALL finish this week. They will not run during the last week of term.

Monday After School Dodgeball has now finished.

Tuesday After School Table Tennis has now finished.

Wednesday After school Badminton has now finished.

Tuesday After School Sewing Club has now finished.

Wednesday After School 'School Council' has now finished.

Tuesday After School Mindfulness Club will continue until the end of term.

Before School Clubs—*IMPORTANT *

Before School **Sports Clubs** WILL continue until the end of term.

(Dodgeball, Badminton, Ten Pin Bowling, Table Tennis and Volleyball)

We've moved to...



Arbor
Parent Portal and App

1. Receive important information about the school.
2. Report your child's absence and view their attendance.
3. Sign up to Trips and Morning and After School Clubs.
4. Pay for School Meals and Trips.
5. Update your details.

Download the Parent APP for free

Apple



Android



Click Get to download the Parent App. Once installed, click Open.

Logging in

Please wait until you receive a welcome email from school to set your password. Please then follow the 'Logging in for the first time' instructions in the Logging in on the Parent Portal section.

Click in the link in your welcome email to set up your password.

Enter your email, select the school, then enter your password.

You will also receive a prompt to receive notifications from Arbor.

Make sure you select **Allow** to enable your school to send you push notifications

Need help using Arbor?

Please contact the school office if you have any questions about Arbor, the App or Parent Portal, on 01706 648197.



COMMUNICATION FROM SCHOOL



Arbor Parent App
Parent & Guardian Portal

Get

To enable school to communicate efficiently with parents, it is important that your device allows 'push notifications'.

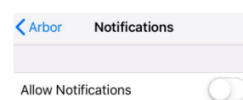
On IOS

When the Arbor App is downloaded you should receive a prompt to receive notifications from Arbor. Make sure that you select **Allow** to enable school to send push notifications. This will ensure you receive a notification when you have a new In-App message from school.



If you select Don't Allow, you can turn Push Notifications back on at any time by going to settings on your phone.

E.g Settings>Arbor>Notifications



On Android, select:

Settings>Apps>Arbor>Notifications

Spotlight on School Dinners

Do you have a child in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2?

Did you know that all pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to a free school dinner called a Universal Infant Free School Meal (UIFSM)? This is provided by the government to try to increase the number of children eating good food in schools.

If your infant child currently brings a packed lunch to school you might like to have a look at our menu for next week and choose a meal with them instead.

Just by taking up the offer of UIFSM you will help to boost school's funding. Even if your infant child is entitled to UIFSM, if you think that they are eligible for Free School Meals please apply as this further increases our funding through Pupil Premium. To check if you are eligible, please have a look at our website

<https://meanwood.rochdale.sch.uk/parents/free-school-meals>

Our menu for week commencing 15th December is:

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
* Cheesy pizza	Hot dog in a bun	Roast dinner	Chicken curry	Fish fingers or fishless fingers
With sides of	With sides of	With sides of	With sides of	With sides of
Potato wedges	Hash browns	Roast potatoes	Rice or nan bread	Chips
Mixed veg or cucumber/carrot sticks	Beans or Cucumber/carrot sticks	Mixed vegetables or cucumber/carrot sticks	Cucumber/carrot sticks	Peas & sweetcorn or beans
Alternative 1	Alternative 1	Alternative 1	Alternative 1	Alternative 1
Jacket potato	Beans/spaghetti on toast	Jacket potato	Jacket potato	Jacket potato
Cheese/beans		Cheese/beans	Cheese/beans	Cheese/beans
Alternative 2	Alternative 2	Alternative 2	Alternative 2	Alternative 2
Warm rainbow pasta	Jacket potato	Warm rainbow pasta	Warm rainbow pasta	Warm rainbow pasta
	Cheese/beans			

*Our pizza is handmade using part whole-grain flour so you can be sure that it contains fibre, vitamins and minerals in line with UK School Food Standards guidelines. It is topped with tasty tomato sauce and cheese.

You can use the Arbor app to choose and pay for your child's dinner in advance and if you have any queries or comments about our menu please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Our delicious dinners are only £2.50 daily!

Week 1 Winter Menu

MONDAY

MAIN COURSES: Choice of

- Cheese Pie
- Oven Baked Jacket Potato - With either Cheese, Baked Beans or Both (V)
- Warm Savoury Wholegrain Rainbow Pasta with Salad, Bread



TUESDAY

MAIN COURSES: Choice of

- Sausage and Gravy (H)
- Oven Baked Jacket Potato - With either Cheese, Baked Beans or Both (V)
- Warm Savoury Wholegrain Rainbow Pasta with Salad, Bread

WEDNESDAY

MAIN COURSES: Choice of:

- Roast Chicken Fillet (H)
- Oven Baked Jacket Potato - With either Cheese, Baked Beans or Both (V)
- Warm Savoury Rainbow Wholegrain Pasta with Salad, Bread

THURSDAY

MAIN COURSES: Choice of:

- Sweet Chilli Chicken (H) Baguette
- Oven Baked Jacket Potato - With Cheese, Baked Beans or Both (V), or Curry (H)
- Warm Savoury Rainbow Wholegrain Pasta with Salad, Bread

FRIDAY

MAIN COURSES: Choice of:

- Breaded Fish Fingers, Fishless Fingers
- Oven Baked Jacket Potato - With either Cheese, Baked Beans or Both (V)
- Fish Fingers on a roll

Week 2 Winter Menu

MONDAY

MAIN COURSES: Choice of

- Cheese Pizza and Tomato Pizza (V)
- Oven Baked Jacket Potato - With either Cheese, Baked Beans or Both (V)
- Warm Savoury Wholegrain Rainbow Pasta with Salad, Bread



TUESDAY

MAIN COURSES: Choice of

- Wholegrain Pasta Bolognese (H)
- Oven Baked Jacket Potato - With either Cheese, Baked Beans or Both (V)
- Warm Savoury Wholegrain Rainbow Pasta with Salad, Bread

WEDNESDAY

MAIN COURSES: Choice of:

- Roast Chicken Fillet (H)
- Oven Baked Jacket Potato - With either Cheese, Baked Beans or Both (V)
- Warm Savoury Rainbow Wholegrain Pasta with Salad, Bread

THURSDAY

MAIN COURSES: Choice of:

- Meanwood Meat Pie
- Oven Baked Jacket Potato - With Cheese, Baked Beans or Both (V), or Curry (H)
- Warm Savoury Rainbow Wholegrain Pasta with Salad, Bread

FRIDAY

MAIN COURSES: Choice of:

- Breaded Fish Fingers, Fishless Fingers (V)
- Oven Baked Jacket Potato - With either Cheese, Baked Beans or Both (V)
- Fish Cakes

Week 3 Winter Menu

MONDAY

MAIN COURSES: Choice of

- Cheese and tomato Pizza (V)
- Oven Baked Jacket Potato - With either Cheese, Baked Beans or Both (V)
- Warm Savoury Rainbow Wholegrain Pasta with Salad, Bread



TUESDAY

MAIN COURSES: Choice of

- Hot Dog (H) or Quorn Dog (V) on a Soft Warm Bun
- Oven Baked Jacket Potato - With either Cheese, Baked Beans or Both (V)
- Beans or Spaghetti on Toast

WEDNESDAY

MAIN COURSES: Choice of:

- Roast Chicken Fillet (H)
- Oven Baked Jacket Potato - With either Cheese, Baked Beans or Both (V)
- Warm Savoury Rainbow Wholegrain Pasta with Salad, Bread

THURSDAY

MAIN COURSES: Choice of:

- Chicken Curry (H)
- Oven Baked Jacket Potato - With Cheese, Beans or Both (V) or Curry (H)
- Warm Savoury Rainbow Wholegrain Pasta with Salad, Bread

FRIDAY

MAIN COURSES: Choice of:

- Breaded Fish Fingers, Fishless Fingers
- Oven Baked Jacket Potato - With either Cheese, Baked Beans or Both (V)
- Fish Finger on a roll

NEW SPRING TERM (BEFORE SCHOOL) CLUBS

These will be available to book through the Arbor App from 01.01.26.

Children must arrive promptly for 8.00am at the Year 6 gate.



Monday	Badminton	Years 5&6
Tuesday	Hockey	Years 3&4
Wednesday	Aerobics	Years 3,4,5&6
PE kit must be worn		
Thursday	Table Tennis	Years 5&6
Friday	Volleyball	Years 5&6

NEW SPRING TERM (AFTER SCHOOL) CLUBS

These will be available to book via the Arbor App from 01.01.26.

Monday	Pickleball	Years 3&4
Tuesday	Boys Football	Years 5&6
Wednesday	Girls Football	Years 5&6

There will be 20 places only for each club.



Important Reminders

WRAPAROUND CARE

We have now extended our wraparound care provision.

Early Birds Before School Club

This is from 7.45am to 8.45am each day and for £1 per session we offer a healthy breakfast and a range of activities. Children are then escorted to their classroom after the session.

Bookings **must** be made on the Arbor app in advance and must be booked at the latest by 7:15am before the session for that day. Please note that pupils must arrive at the club before 8.15am.

Wise Owls After School Club

The club runs from **3.15pm to 5.30pm** every day.

For £6 per session we offer childcare with a healthy snack and drink and a range of activities. Bookings **must** be made on the Arbor app by 2:30pm the day before the place is required e.g. book by 2:30pm on Tuesday for a place at the club on Wednesday.

Please note that children must be collected by 5.30pm or your child's place may be withdrawn.

You can now only book these sessions on the Arbor App.

If you have any questions about our wraparound care or the Arbor app please contact the office on 01706 648197.

The Early Birds and Wise Owls Clubs both run on a first come, first served basis. If you are not able to book a session, this is because the session is full and we will not be able to accept any other children that day. Please do not turn up if you have not booked a place.

PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL PLACES ARE NON REFUNDABLE



Economy & Place

Russell Manger of
Facilities Management, MPS & SCP Service

School Crossing Patrol Service
Number One Riverside
Floor 2
Smith Street, Rochdale, OL16 1XU

Enquiries: Nicola McIlvenny 01706 924603
E-mail: nicola.mcilvenny@rochdale.gov.uk
Web Site: www.rochdale.gov.uk

Your Ref.
Our Ref. Roch/Nicola McIlvenny
Date: 10th December 2025



Are you the missing piece?

School Crossing Patrol Service

Edenfield Rd/Churchill St

Dear Parent,

I am writing to inform you that there will be no School Crossing Patrol at the above site on from Monday 5th January 2026, Joanne's last day with us will be Friday 19th December 2025.

Can you all please wish Joanne good luck in her new job.

Unfortunately we are unable to provide cover.

Whilst immediate cover cannot be offered, this post will be advertised and recruited to as a matter of urgency.

If you are interested or you know of anyone who would be interested in working as a school crossing patrol please contact the School Crossing Patrol Service, telephone **01706 924603**, for details of pay and conditions or email nicola.mcilvenny@rochdale.gov.uk, we have various locations available within the borough.

Please apply for the role of School Crossing Patrol online via <https://www.greater.jobs>.

We are hoping to post a new job Advert over the Christmas break.

Mrs N McIlvenny


School Crossing Patrol Supervisor

Christmas Cycle

Sunday 14 December
1 - 3pm

St Martin's Church

Free for families of all ages



Bring bikes and scooters to St Martin's Church and bling them for a cycle with Santa.

All children who enter the fancy dress competition will receive a prize.

Active Travel
ROCHDALE

www.ActiveTravelRochdale.co.uk

yourtrust

For more information please contact
activetravel@yourtrustrochdale.co.uk
01706 922437



The NEW Evouchers app is here!

Available now on both the App Store and Google Play!

We're excited to announce the launch of the new Evouchers mobile app, making it even easier for you to access, manage, and redeem your vouchers on the go.



New, improved look and feel, and experience!



Search and sort your vouchers



Check voucher balance



Manage your profile and settings

...and much more!

Download the Evouchers app today and simplify the way you use your vouchers!



Primary School Applications for September 2026 – Nursery Children



This is the timetable which shows the important dates you need to know about when applying for a primary school place for your Nursery child.

This is done via the Rochdale Council Website.

<https://www.rochdale.gov.uk/school-admissions-appeals/apply-primary-school-place>

Monday, 15 September 2025	The online admissions system opens for primary school places starting in September 2026.
Thursday, 15 January 2026	Closing date for applications Ensure your reception class application for a primary school is submitted before this date. Otherwise, you will need to apply for a late application.
Friday, 13 February 2026	Last date for any changes to the address in your application.
Thursday, 16 April 2026	National offer day.
Sunday, 10 May 2026	Closing date for Round 2 applications.
Friday, 5 June 2026	Round 2 offers are sent.
Saturday, 6 June 2026	Online applications re-open. The online admissions system re-opens for primary school places starting in September 2026.
Monday, 31 August 2026	Final closing date for applications.



Dates for the diary



	<u>EVENT</u>	
Monday 15.12.25	<p><i>Years 1/2 Christmas Crafts and Songs (Parents and Carers are welcome to attend)</i></p>  <p><i>Years 3/4 Christmas Party</i></p>	<p>2.15pm to 3.15pm</p> <p>Afternoon</p>
Tuesday 16.12.25	<p><i>Reception Christmas Songs</i></p> <p><i>Years 3/4 Christmas Crafts and Songs (Parents and Carers are welcome to attend)</i></p>	<p>2.30pm to 3.15pm</p> <p>2.15pm to 3.15pm</p>
Wednesday 17.12.25	 <p><i>Christmas Dinner</i></p>	<p>Lunchtime</p>
Thursday 18.12.25	<p><i>Nursery Christmas Party</i></p> <p><i>Years 1/2 Christmas Party</i></p>  <p><i>Years 5/6 Christmas Crafts and Songs (Parents and Carers are welcome to attend)</i></p>	<p>Morning</p> <p>Afternoon</p> <p>2.15pm to 3.15pm</p>
Friday 19.12.25	 <p><i>Year 6 Christmas Party</i></p> <p><i>Year 5 Christmas Party</i></p> <p><i>Reception Christmas Party</i></p>	<p>Morning</p> <p>Afternoon</p> <p>During the Day</p>

Late Arrivals This Week:

DAY	NUMBER OF LATE CHILDREN
Monday	10
Tuesday	8
Wednesday	5
Thursday	4
Friday	7

A total of **34** 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 class room at **8:45am**. The class room doors close at **8:51am**. If your child arrives after this time they are **LATE**.

Attendance



School fines for unauthorised absence have changed.

The government (Department for Education) has introduced a new national framework for penalty notices which parent/carers must pay if they take a child out of school during term time, for holidays or unauthorised absence. The changes came into effect for fines issued after 19 August 2024. We urge parents/carers not to interrupt their children's schooling and talk to the office staff before booking leave of absence.



2025 – 2026 Term Dates and other useful information is on our website:
www.meanwood.rochdale.sch.uk