



Meanwood Primary School Newsletter

Friday 19th June 2026



New This Week:



Tues 23.06.26	'Sponge the Teacher' event, during school hours (£1 for 3 throws)
Wed 08.07.26	Whole School Picnic (Reception to Year 6) at lunchtime



A total of **55** 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**.

SPONGE THE TEACHER EVENT

As the last activity for Year 6 Enterprise Week, Year 6 pupils will be hosting a '**Sponge the teacher**' event, (only for Years 1 –6).

This will be on **Tuesday 23.06.26**, during school hours, and will cost £1.00 for 3 throws of the sponge.

The funds will go towards buying further stock for the library.

Children are only allowed to bring £1.00 each, and this is the only event to spend money at.

There will be no other stalls.

Thank you for your support.



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 USERS ONLY, SIMILAR IMPROVMENTS WILL BE MADE FOR PARENTS USING THE ARBOR APP TOWARDS THE END OF THE MONTH

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!



FREE SCHOOL MEALS 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.

Please refer to the information on the next page for more details from Rochdale Council.

Further updates will be provided when school receive them.

Free School Meals



LOST PROPERTY

We have several items of clothing and bags in our lost property box.

The School Council will be in the KS2 yard after school on **Wednesday 24th June** displaying these items.

If your child has lost an item in the last academic year, please come and have a look.

If lost property is not claimed, it will be sent to Uniform 4 All to be re-used,



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.



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

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.

Important Reminders

BEFORE SCHOOL CLUBS—SUMMER TERM

The following Summer Term *'Before School'* Clubs can be booked via the Arbor App. Only children who are booked on to the clubs will be able to attend.

Your child must arrive promptly at school for 8.00am.

Monday	Rounders	Years 5/6
Tuesday	Unihoc	Years 3/4
Wednesday	Tennis	Years 5/6
Thursday	Handball	Years 3/4
Friday	Cricket	Years 5/6

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS—SUMMER TERM

The following Summer Term *'After School'* can be booked via the Arbor App. Only children who are booked on to the clubs will be able to attend.

Please note that there will be no after school Sports Clubs from now due to other sporting fixtures and tournaments taking place.

Monday	Karaoke	Years 5/6
Tuesday	Mindfulness	Years 3
Friday	Gardening	FULL

Nursery Visit to Spotland Library



Thursday 2nd July 10.30 am

Please come to the main EYFS door at 10.30am. From there we will be walking together to the library looking for signs and messages along the way!

We will return to Nursery together at home time.

Please bring your child's print and logo hunt learning challenge to the session to share with the class.

At the library, enjoy books and stories with your child. See what lovely activities the library has to offer. Find out how to get your child a free library card. Enjoy a nursery rhyme sing along session together.

PARENT / CARER SURVEY—JUNE 2026

We would like to work closely with all parents and carers across school and would really appreciate you answering 2 quick questions about what we are getting right here at Meanwood, and what you would like us to improve.

Please click on the link on the attached email to complete the questionnaire before the end of Friday 26.06.26.



Common themes will be shared before the end of term.

SEND

HOLIDAY HUB

HAF HOLIDAY CLUB

PAID PLACES AVAILABLE

AGES 4-11

DATES
23RD JULY TO 12TH AUGUST

WE ARE A CHILD LED ENVIRONMENT

ACTIVITIES

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

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!

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.



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



MEANWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL

PARENT CHAMPIONS

COFFEE MORNING

COME, CONNECT & MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Come and join us for a friendly, informal get-together! Meet other parents, share experiences, and enjoy a warm drink.

THURSDAY 25TH JUNE

9:00-10:00AM

THE TREEHOUSE

Making the difference

FREE FOOTBALL CAMPS WITH KELLOGG'S 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 designed 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

In partnership with EFL, FA, Celtic FC, Rangers FC

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

Dates for the diary

	<u>EVENTS</u>	
Tues 23.06.26	 <i>Sponge the Teacher Event (Years 1-6 only)</i> 	During School Hours
Thu 02.07.26	 <i>Nursery visit to Spotland Library</i> <i>Parents are asked to come along with their child</i>	Meet at 10.30am EYFS door
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	<i>Intra Health Flu Injections</i> 	During school hours