

Our main aim is a love of life and learning Happiness is the key and our children's happiness, safety, security and love are at the heart of our achievements for each individual child.

## Shawclough Community School Newsletter

Issue 23  
Week ending 07/03/25



### AN EXCITING OPPORTUNITY



Our service is currently recruiting for both permanent and casual staff which are needed across the borough, we have various vacant points and we also need casual staff to cover absence as and when the need arises.

If you are interested or know of anyone that would be interested, please apply for these roles using the following link <https://www.greater.jobs/job/75687110>.

### IS YOUR YEAR 6 CHILD GOING TO CROMPTON HOUSE

Please find below the dates for transition meetings at Crompton House for the new cohort (2025-2026 academic year).

#### Welcome Evening - 7<sup>th</sup> OR 8<sup>th</sup> May (5.30pm)

This is for parents only and they will be contacted directly with the relevant date to attend

#### Fun & Friendship Day - 2<sup>nd</sup> June (8.30am - 3pm)

This is for any students who will be coming to Crompton House on their own and do not know anyone else

#### Intake Evening - 11<sup>th</sup> June (5.30pm)

This is for parents and students together - due to capacity we can only accept 1 student and parent/carer per family

#### Music Transition Day - 17<sup>th</sup> June (8.30am - 3pm)

Students who play musical instruments or are interested in learning to play an instrument at Crompton House

#### Borough Transfer Days - 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> July (8.30am - 3pm)

All students to attend Crompton House on both days

### PEEK AT THE WEEK – WHOLE SCHOOL



Competition entries from years 3,4,5,6, Rainbow and Rainforest

### WELL DONE RAINBOW

You may remember back in our Rainbow provision took part in a fun run to raise money for Rochdale Children's Moorland Home.



Moorland Home were recently in touch to thank them for raising a staggering **£652.16**.

**Well done Rainbow – making us proud AGAIN!**

You can follow us on

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

PTA are on



## LENT



March 5th is the beginning of Lent, a very important day in the Christian calendar. Lent is 40 long and represents the 40n days that Jesus spent fasting and praying in the desert before starting his own ministry.

During lent, just as Muslims do during Ramadan, Christians fast. However, they only given up certain foods/drinks that they enjoy for the period of 40 days and also pray and give to charity.

Lent has been celebrated by Christians all over the world for thousands of years. The first day of Lent is called Ash Wednesday and it finishes 40 days later on Holy Thursday.

Some Christians, will abstain from eating flesh meat on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday and each Friday. This is to honour Jesus sacrificing his flesh on Good Friday. Some just give up their favourite foods for the 40 days.

If you are observing Lent this year, Shawclough School wish you a successful and peaceful Lent.



## PEEK AT THE WEEK -RECEPTION

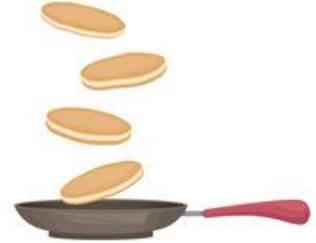


Reception have created a fairy world with mermaids and unicorns.

## SHROVE TUESDAY OR PANCAKE DAY

Did you know that Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March was Shrove Tuesday? Its gets its name from 'shrive' meaning going to church to confess your sins and being absolved by a priest. When the 'shriving bell' rang it was a call to people to come to church to confess.

Shrove Tuesday is also day before lent when people traditionally cleared their pantry of ingredient to start lent the next day. Some of these ingredients were used to make Pancakes – hence Pancake Day.



There's a famous legend that tells of a woman that a woman heard the shriving bell calling people to church on Shrove Tuesday whilst she was making pancakes – and she ran to the church still in her apron and holding her frying pan. It is not known if this legend is true but that's where the pancake races started.

***DID YOU KNOW*** – that the biggest pancake in the world was made right here in Rochdale?

It was made in 1994 outside the Town Hall on a huge frying pan. It measured an incredible 15.1 metres (2 and ½ times as tall as a giraffe on his side) in diameter and it was 2.5cm thick (nearly as tall as a bank card standing up).

The event was sponsored by The Co-Operative Union Ltd (which also started in Rochdale).



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## A PEEK AT THE WEEK – WHOLE SCHOOL



More entries for the 'Decorate a plate, competition. This time year 1, 2, nursery and reception.

## PTA MOTHERS DAY/EID GIFT POP UP SHOP

As per each year the PTA will be selling Mother's Day gifts for the children to buy.

This year Mother's Day coincides with Eid, so the PTA have decided to sell some Eid gift also.



The gifts will be priced approximately between £1 and £3, to make them affordable for the children – who might be using their own pocket money to buy them.

Please watch this space for further information about where the 'gift' shop will be.

Depending upon availability we may use Thrum Hall church or the school yard to set up our shop. We will advise you closer to the time. The shop will be in the last week of March, possibly the Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> and Friday 28<sup>th</sup>.

## PEEK AT THE WEEK - RECEPTION



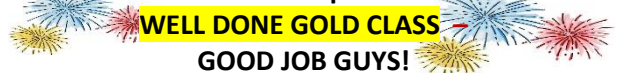
Reception set up all their ingredient for pancake cooking and learned about Shrove Tuesday

## ATTENDANCE

Attendance (%) for week ending 28/02/25

<b>GOLD</b>	<b>100.0</b>
1L	99.6
6S	99.0
5C	97.6
RUBY	97.5
RT/3L	95.4
6R	95.2
SAPPHIRE	95.0
4Y	94.2
3A	93.8
2C/2S	93.3
1P	92.8
5P	91.2
4O	88.8
RB	86.7
NO	85.1
NS	80.0

Please note that attendance figures are *always* for the week prior.



## EVERY SCHOOL DAY MATTERS

### Penalty Notice Fines for School Attendance are Changing!

With the introduction of the new National Framework for Penalty Notices, the following changes will come into force for Penalty Notice Fines issued after 19th August 2024.

#### Per Parent, Per Child

Penalty Notice Fines will now be issued to each parent, for each child that was absent.

For example; 3 siblings absent for term time leave, would result in each parent receiving 3 separate fines.

#### 5 Consecutive Days of Term Time Leave

Penalty Notice Fines will be issued for Term Time Leave of 5 or more consecutive days. INSET training days are school days and can be included in the 5 or more consecutive days where there was intent to be absent for term time leave.

#### 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10-week period

Penalty Notice Fines will be considered when there has been 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10 week period.

#### First Offence

The first time a Penalty notice is issued for Term Time Leave or irregular Attendance, the amount will be:

- £160 per parent, per child paid within 28 days.
- Reduced to £80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days.

#### Second Offence

The second time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time Leave or irregular Attendance the amount will be:

- £160 per parent, per child paid within 28 days.

#### Third Offence and Any Further Offences (within 3 years)

The third time an offence is committed for Term Time Leave or irregular Attendance a Penalty Notice will not be issued, and the case will be presented straight to the Magistrate's Court. Magistrates' fines can be up to £2500 per parent, per child. Cases found guilty in Magistrates Court can show on the parent's future DBS certificate, due to 'failure to safeguard a child's education.'



**SUCCESS DOESN'T COME TO YOU, YOU HAVE TO GO TO IT. SUCCESS = SCHOOL**



## A PEEK AT THE WEEK – Reception



Reception have been building with corks, kapla and lolly sticks. The aim was to build as high as possible. See other pictures further down for their progress

## IS YOUR CHILD OFF DUE TO ILLNESS OR AN APPOINTMENT?

Please make sure the teachers are aware you are taking your child. If your child is off due to illness **YOU MUST** inform the office first thing in the morning. You can leave a message on the answering system and then call to follow up. Alternatively, you can email or text in. **THIS INCLUDES NURSERY.**

If your child has been **vomiting** they must stay off school for 24 hours from the last time they are sick. It is 48 hours for diarrhoea.



**IF WE ARE NOT INFORMED ABOUT YOUR CHILDS ABSENCE FOR ANY REASON – IT WILL GO IN THE REGISTER AS UNAUTHORISED.**

## GAMES/PE KIT

Please ensure that you child has a games/PE kit in school at all times.

Your child will need a white t-shirt, black shorts and black pumps, for indoors and for outdoors tracksuit bottoms or leggings, a top and trainers.

If you don't have the correct colours please do not worry, ANY COLOUR WILL DO – it is **more important** that the children have a PE/Games kit in school.



## A PEEK AT THE WEEK - RAINFOREST



Just in time for Pancake Day – we have a new chef, Reina the 'Cuire la crepe Chef de Cuisine!' All the way from the Rainforest! (That's Reina the pancake chef from Rainforest!)

## PICK UP ARRANGEMENTS

If anyone other than parents are picking up a child/children please ensure that they are on the pickup arrangements list, if it is a permanent arrangement.

**Any other pickup changes need to be reported to the office before 3pm.**

**Only year 6 children can walk home but parents must inform the school via email or fill out a form in the office.**



## EARLY PICK UPS & APPOINTMENTS

We are aware that occasionally this isn't possible but in most cases appointments should be made after 3.15pm. Too many parents are picking up children early and as a result of this, children are missing valuable topic work and learning time in the afternoon.

Any appointment made during the day must be an **emergency only**. Also, children cannot be 'ready' for you in the reception area. You must come into school, fill out an appointment slip – only then will your child/children be brought from classrooms and released to you. We therefore request that you manage your time carefully. Our school is a big school and it takes time to get around – not all classrooms have phones.

Any reason other than an emergency appointment for picking up children early, will require an email to the **head teacher** directly and **only** she can **authorise** this.

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## SCHOOL GATEWAY/COMMS PARENT GUIDE

**If you are not already on the GATEWAY APP – get it sorted now!**

We would just like to remind you that school use the GATEWAY APP as a means to communicate events and activities and provide a portal for parents to pay/book for items such as tea time club, early start club, trips, dinners, school equipment etc.

Please ensure that you have the app on which ever device you use. Please see below how to register for the app.

**If you know of other parents that are not on the GATEWAY App, please urge them to register – it is of benefit to everyone.**

**To register for the school GATEWAY account** you will need to download the school gateway app via App store for Apple devices and/or Play Store for Android devices.

- Go to the login screen on the app
- Enter the same email address and mobile number that is registered with the school
- You will receive an PIN through text
- Enter the 4 digit PIN
- Once logged in, the home screen will be displayed.

### SIMs

Similarly, SIMs is used for midterm/end of term reporting. Please ensure you also have SIMs downloaded on your device.

You can only log in to SIMs after an email invitation from school. If you are still not on the SIMs app, please come to the school office and seek assistance.

**Please check your email and text and SCHOOL GATEWAY APP regularly. We can send out a number of messages during the day to notify you of changes in collections, letters going out, trips, payments, etc. Not ALL letters are sent via email.**



**Please advise the office (in writing/email) if you have had a change in email addresses or phone numbers.**

Picking up children from school early should be avoided at all costs. **Appointments should be arranged out of school hours.**

## EARLY START & TEATIME CLUB

For safeguarding reasons, please may we remind parents and carers, that *all* children who are attending Early Start Club, **should** be brought inside and signed in by an adult.

Any child dropped off before 8:30am will be placed into Early Start Club *and you will be charged for this.* If you are late picking up your child, he/she will be taken to teatime club *and you will be charged for this.* Teachers will only wait by the door for a short while after pick up time.

If you arrive late in the morning (8.40am and doors will be closed) you need to bring your child through the main reception area to be signed in and choose their lunch. Please do not sign in yourself using the screen – the office staff will do this for you **Class teachers/TAs will close the doors at 8.40 regardless of if the bell has gone.**

## PEEK AT THE WEEK - YEAR 2



This week in art Year 2 have been making simple impressed prints

## NUT ALLERGIES

**\*\*HIGH IMPORTANTANCE\*\***

Please be advised that children are prohibited from bringing to school any nuts or any foods/products containing nuts.

We have a few children at our school that suffer from severe nut allergies meaning they cannot even come close to someone who has consumed or is consuming nuts. This can be life threatening for those children.



Please ensure you check and check again what your children are bringing into school or what it is you are packing in their lunches



## MOBILE PHONES

For safeguarding reasons please ensure that you are **NOT on your mobile phone when you are in the school reception area**. Please do not be offended if you are asked to switch off or leave the premises to continue on a call.

Only year 6 children are permitted to bring in a phone, HOWEVER, permission is required from the head teacher. Phones must be handed to the office for safe keeping at the beginning of the day. If children are found with phones in the classroom they will be prohibited from bringing them in at all.

## PLAYGROUND AREAS – OUT OF HOURS

Please be reminded that the playground areas around school are **STRICTLY** out of bounds, out of school hours.



The equipment at the back of the main yard/playground, the muddy area next to reception (with the big slide) and the nursery garden at the back of

school, are all areas that must not be used by children before 8.30am and after 3.15pm. Please also be aware that if your child were to have an accident or injure themselves in anyway there may not be a first aider onsite

Any resources left out in playground areas are the property of the school and will be collected in when it is convenient for staff to do so. It is NOT ok for your children/child to take it.

If you believe that your child has 'found' something in the playground that doesn't belong to them, please hand it in to the office.



## PEDESTRIAN GATES

We kindly request that when entering and leaving the site that the pedestrian (electric) gate is **NOT pulled or pushed**. Please let the gate close and open automatically. On occasion the gate has been jammed due to people pushing it, this compromises the safety of all our children.

If you encounter any problems, please let the office know.

## PEEK AT THE WEEK - YEAR 1



Year 1 took a trip to ChristChurch Healey. They looked at the church and met with the vicar.

## STAFF CARPARK

The staff carpark is off limits to everyone other than staff, delivery drivers, buses, (for our Rainbow/rainforest Unit) and emergency services.

**PARENTS ARE STOPPING STAFF FROM ACCESSING THE CARPARK IN THE MORNING – please park outside and walk your children in to early start club. Or collect from Teatime club.**

If you have been given permission by the head teacher to use the car park, can you please get in touch with the office to ascertain whether or not this is still permissible.

**NO  
PARKING**

## PEEK AT THE WEEK - Reception



Reception Classes – World Book Day

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## VOLUNTEERS

Calling ALL parents – PTA needs YOU!

PTA raise much needed funds for

extracurricular

activities AND funds to support things going on in school too. Without the PTA we wouldn't have the

extra money for the fun stuff. If

Join the PTA!

you have any spare time/ideas or would like to volunteer, please get in touch with Mrs Choudhry in the school office.



## A PEEK AT THE WEEK – Year 2



Year 2 Coral -World Book Day

## FUN WITH TIMESTABLES

Have a look on the TTRockstars webpage below to see how to best support your child with their continuous timetables practice whilst having fun!

[trockstars.com/parents/](http://trockstars.com/parents/)

[What's included?](#)

[Importance of timetables](#)

[TTRS intro video](#)

[Parent guide PDF](#)

[FAQs answered](#)

[Free downloadables](#)



## HEAD LICE

Every so often there is an outbreak of Head lice in a class. **There's no need to keep your child off school if they have head lice.**

If you find that your child has head lice, please follow the advice below:



You can treat head lice without seeing a GP.

Treat head lice as soon as you spot them.

Treating anyone who has head lice on the same day.

*Wet combing:*

*Lice and nits can be removed by wet combing. You should try this method first.*

You can buy special fine-toothed comb (detection comb) online or from pharmacies to remove head lice and nits. There may be instructions on the pack, but usually you:

- wash hair with ordinary shampoo
- apply lots of conditioner (any conditioner will do)
- comb the whole head of hair, from the roots to the ends

It usually takes about 10 minutes to comb short hair

, and 20 to 30 minutes for long, frizzy or curly hair.

Do wet combing on days 1, 5, 9 and 13 to catch any newly hatched head lice. Check again that everyone's hair is free of lice on day 17.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Unfortunately, our school does not have an onsite nurse to check regularly for head lice. It is therefore it is parental responsibility to check regularly and treat appropriately.

## PEEK AT THE WEEK – World Book Day



This is definitely cuteness overload. This little family are picture perfect for Goldilocks and the 3 bear's



## PEEK AT THE WEEK - NURSERY



Our lovely nursery staff and children – do you the feeling the adults are having more fun than the kids>?

## PARKING

This has become a huge issue over the last year. The school is constantly receiving calls of complaints by our neighbours who live around the school, parents experiencing threats of violence by other parents, bad language, being aggressive towards school staff – the list goes on. The worst thing is, our children are witnessing all of this.



The safety and wellbeing of our children is one of our utmost priorities, in and around our school.

**We request that parents understand that their negative behaviour effects the children – IT IS NOT OK.**

Traffic police periodically come to our school and will issue tickets. The school **will not** intervene on your behalf. Waiting in the turning circle, parking on yellow lines – will get you a parking fine.

There is plenty of parking on Whitworth Road and Paton Street and it is barely a 5 minute walk. The church has kindly offered us their carpark to use but please do not abuse this permission by parking dangerously and blocking the entrance/exit.

**WARNING: The residents of The Spinney (small road opposite the school) are now working with a private company to clamp any cars that block the entrance/exit. You have been advised to park away from The Spinney.**

**If you are clamped, the school have no power or say in removal of any clamp.**

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## PPEK AT THE WEEK - STAFF

Dorothy and the Wicked Elphba came to World Book Day



Definitely no Room on this Broom – but why's Shakespeare allowed?



## PEEK AT THE WEEK – YEAR 3

Year 3 World Book Day costumes.



## PEEK AT THE WEEK – YEAR 2

Year 2 Sunshine – World Book Day Costumes.















## PEEK AT THE WEEK - RECEPTION















Big Dorothy, little Dorothy and a cowardly lion.





## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

MARCH			
11th	Bolton Museum Trip 		Year 4
11th	Bedtime Story Event 		Reception
13th	Parent breakfast 		Year 1
13th	Cinema Trip 		Year 5
17th	Parent breakfast 		Year 5
21st	Downs Syndrome Day – Odd Socks Day 		Whole school
21st	Red Nose Day (no event as yet) 		Whole school
21st	World Poetry Day (no event as yet) 		Whole school
24th	Circus skill day 		Year 3
25th	Big Telescopes Workshop (via Zoom) 		Year 5
25th	Rocksteady Concert (Parents who's children are in Rocksteady only) 		
28th	Egyptian Day 		Year 4

APRIL			
TBC	Eid Parties 		Whole school
2nd	Autism Awareness Day (no event as yet)		Whole school
4th	<b>End of term – 1pm Finish</b> 		Whole school
22nd	<b>Back for new term</b> 		Whole school
MAY			
19th	Sports Day 		Year 1-6
TBC	Parent Breakfast 		Reception
22nd-23rd	Year 6 residential 		Year 6
23rd	<b>Half term – Normal finish</b> 		Whole school
2nd	<b>Back from Half term</b> 		Whole school
JULY			
1st	Transition Day 		Whole school
4th	Parent Breakfast 		Year 3
4th	Sleepover 		Year 5
4th	Sporting event 		Year 6
15th	<b>Final Performance</b> 		Year 6
18th	<b>End of term – 1pm finish</b> 		Whole school
18th	Year 6 leavers party – hosted by PTA (To be confirmed)		Year 6

### PEEK AT THE WEEK - YEAR 5



Year 5 World Book Day costumes.

### PEEK AT THE WEEK – YEAR 6



Year 6 – World Book Day Costumes



## PEEK AT THE WEEK - RAINBOW



Another very busy week for Rainbow, they been making and designing aliens and alien landscapes. Their also pictured in their World Book Day costumes.

## OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS



Rochdale Child & Educational Psychology Service Advice Line for Parents/Carers  
First Wednesday of every month 1-4pm  
01706 926400

Do you as a parent or carer at home have concerns about your child and feel that you need someone to talk to?

Rochdale Child & Educational Psychology Service is providing a telephone helpline for any parent or carer of a child or young person between the ages of 0-25, who feel they would benefit from a discussion with a psychologist to support them with any concerns arising.

The concerns can be related to education or family life and might include:

- Stress and Anxiety which may be impacting on your child's ability to feel able to attend school
- Low self-esteem
- Conflict and relationship difficulties within the family
- Difficulties/anxieties related to learning and/or exams
- Concerns about friendships, bullying and social isolation
- How to best look after yourself so you can support your children

Your child does not already need to be open to the Child & Educational Psychology Service for advice to be provided.

Please ring our business support team on 01706 926400 anytime on the first Wednesday afternoon of the month between 1 and 4pm and ask to speak to an Educational

Psychologist.

Dates:  
5<sup>th</sup> March 2025  
2<sup>nd</sup> April 2025  
7<sup>th</sup> May 2025  
4<sup>th</sup> June 2025  
2<sup>nd</sup> July 2025

*(if the phone lines are busy, please leave a message and a member of the team will get back to you.)*



**NHS**  
Northern Care Alliance  
NHS Foundation Trust

## Speech, Language and Communication Advice Sessions for Parents / Carers (Age 6-11)

### Where?

THE ADVICE SESSIONS FOR THE PARENTS/CARERS OF PRIMARY AGED CHILDREN AGED 6-11 WILL BE HELD:

- In various locations across our borough
- Within a Family Hub or a community library
- For children aged 6-11 who live within the borough of Rochdale
- See dates, times and locations below

### Why go?

- If you are concerned about your child's speech, language and communication skills and you would like advice and support then these sessions could be for you

### What to expect

- These sessions are drop ins so no need to book. This may mean a short wait until the therapist is available
- These are information and advice sessions focusing on speech, language and communication skills and do not replace any clinic appointments
- You do not need to bring your child to the session. You will have an opportunity to discuss the concerns about your child, and receive advice and support from a Speech and Language Therapist

### What happens after the session?

At the end of the session, the Speech and Language Therapist can:

- Signpost to any key services in the borough that may be able to offer further support
- Provide ideas for how you can support your child's speech and language development through everyday activities and routines

Wednesday 29th January 2025	1pm - 4pm	Boarshaw Family Hub, Stanycliffe Lane, Boarshaw, Middleton, M24 2PB
Friday 14th February 2025	9am - 12pm	Heywood Library, Lance Corporal Stephen Shaw MC Way, Heywood, OL10 1LL
Wednesday 26th February 2025	9am - 12pm	Newbold Family Hub, Moss Street, Rochdale, OL16 5NL
Thursday 20th March	1pm - 4pm	Wardle Library, 448 Birch Road, Wardle, Rochdale, OL12 9LH

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