



Newsletter

Week 4

Friday 28th September 2018

Monday 1 st October	Music lessons: Ukulele and Brass After School: Choir
Tuesday 2 nd October	Music lessons: Keyboard and Woodwind After School: Football (Years 4, 5 and 6)
Wednesday 3 rd October	Music lessons: Violin Class 4 welcome meeting for parents at 3.30pm
Thursday 4 th October	Music lessons: Guitar Class 4 welcome meeting for parents at 3.15pm Parent Workshop 2.00pm on how talk underpins education and how you can help at home. After School: Football (Years 1, 2 and 3) and 'Beatlets' Samba Band (Years 3, 4, 5 and 6)
Friday 5 th October	Harvest Festival in Church at 9.15am (see below)

Attendance Trophy

This week's winners are Class 2 with 99.29% attendance.

Class 1 – 94.67%

Class 3 – 98.33%

Class 6 – 96.25%

Class 5 – 90.31%

Average class attendance this week is **95.77%**.

Attendance is a collective responsibility. Parents have a statutory duty to ensure that their children are attending school regularly.

★ Stars of the Week ★

Kobe Sharma, Ben Hadfield, Amelia Bollard-Wilkes, Helena Boardman, Kellan Duggan, Sophia Petrillo, Fyn Boyes and Amber Robinson



Health and Wellbeing



PARK RUN

Milnrow are starting a Junior Parkrun from Sunday 14 October in the memorial park.

A junior parkrun is 2k and will be held every Sunday at 9am. Children need to register for free at <http://www.parkrun.org.uk/events/juniorevents/>. They will get a barcode which they should print off and bring with them, which will then record the time of their run at the end. For any parents or children that have done the 5k parkrun, it is exactly the same process and those already registered will not need to register again. **It's not too late to sign up!**

Active lunchtimes

Our new playground equipment has arrived and the children have started using it. It has been really nice to see all children engaging in activities that promote healthy bodies, team building skills and promote positive mental wellbeing.

Parental Engagement

Parents Forum

This will be an opportunity to speak with Mrs Williams and Miss Hobbs about anything to do with school. It could be an idea you've had, an issue that you feel needs addressing or it could just be for a general chat about school. These will be held once every half term either in School or in the Church. This term, the forums will be held on Wednesday 17th October and Thursday 29th November. Both will start at 2.00pm.

Workshops for Parents

This term there will be two workshops for parents to attend. The first will be on Thursday 4th October and will focus on the acquisition of language and the importance it plays in a child's education. The second will be based on helping your child with reading and writing and this will take place on Thursday 6th December. Both sessions will start at 2.00pm.

Volunteers

Thank you to those who have volunteered to help listen to children read. It is not too late to sign up to help. All volunteers will be required to complete an enhanced DBS check.

Welcome meetings

Welcome meetings are held to allow you to meet your child's teacher and to give you an insight into how their class runs and what the expectations are. All parents are welcome. Any children present will be looked after by a member of staff in an alternative classroom.

Safeguarding of Children

Keeping children safe

The school website has an excellent link to 'Parent Zone' via the internet safety tab at the top of the page. This site contains lots of invaluable information on keeping your child safe, including bullying, online activity, self-esteem in addition to advice around the law.

Reporting Concerns

If you have any concerns about a child you can report it to school. The Designated Safeguard Lead is Mrs Williams and Miss Hobbs is the Deputy Designated Safeguard Lead.

Digital Parenting Magazine

The latest addition has been ordered and will hopefully be in school soon to hand out.

Faith

Harvest Festival Service

Our annual Harvest Festival Service takes place in Church on Friday 5th October at 9.15am. As part of our celebrations and service of thanks, we will be collecting food donations for the Booth Centre and Rochdale Food bank. We particularly need: tins, rice, pasta, tea, coffee, long-life milk, sugar and other non-perishable items. Children will take these items up to Church with them. This is a community event and you are welcome to join us.

Faith in School

Our theme for this half term is new beginnings and Creation. We have been sharing ideas about how we can make fresh starts along with the creation of God's beautiful world. There is a new reflection space in school, near the school office. This area has painted pebbles to support with reflection and prayer and other items to support those moments when we need to take time out.

Admissions

Admission to Secondary School 2019

The Secondary School application process is now open. You can apply for a place up until **31st October 2018**. It is an easy process – but if you need help, please contact Mrs Whittles or Mrs Milne who can support you with the process. Applicants can also call 0300 3030340 or call into any library in the borough.

The information and forms needed can be found on www.rochdale.gov.uk.

Missing the deadline for applications can have consequences for families, as it can mean not being allocated a place at your preferred school. It is also really important that parents use all preference places as only putting one will not mean that your child will definitely be allocated a place at that school – you will be offered the nearest available place if you do not get offered your first choice and alternatives haven't been listed.

The competition for places in the Pennine area has been fierce over the past couple of years and it is expected that there will be fierce competition again this year. It is really important that you put yourself in the best position possible to get the place at the secondary school you want.

Admission to Primary School 2019

The application process will open shortly. However, prospective parents are invited to make an appointment to look around St. Thomas' or alternatively there is an open afternoon on **Tuesday 30th October from 2.00pm**. The closing date is usually the middle of January. Primary school applications open on **October 1st**.

