

10th July 2026

Dear Parents and Guardians,

A big well done to Miss Cliff's and Miss Leach/Mrs. Wallace's classes for getting the highest attendance this week. The class winners of the attendance award get a fun 30-minute 'Golden Time'! During this time, they can pick what they want to do—whether it's drawing, playing games, reading, or going outside to enjoy an extra play! It's a great way to celebrate their great attendance and give them some time to enjoy doing something they love.

This week's highlights:

What an incredible week it has been at school! We have celebrated sporting success, exciting educational visits and wonderful opportunities for our children to learn, grow and challenge themselves.

- Year 6 Return from PGL: On Monday, our Year 6 children returned from their fantastic PGL residential after spending the weekend challenging themselves on the zip wire, high ropes and many other adventurous activities. The children showed resilience, teamwork and determination throughout the weekend and made memories that will last a lifetime. A huge thank you to the staff who gave up their own weekend to make this amazing experience possible. The children had an unforgettable time!
- Year 5 Visit Edge Hill University: On Friday, our Year 5 children enjoyed an inspiring visit to Edge Hill University. They experienced what university life is like and explored the exciting opportunities that higher education can offer in the future. It was a fantastic day that encouraged our children to think about their aspirations and future ambitions.
- Dance for Rights: On Tuesday, our Key Stage 2 children took part in the live online *Dance for Rights* event, hosted by the Royal Ballet and Opera Schools in collaboration with UNICEF. Alongside thousands of children across the UK, they celebrated the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child through inclusive movement and a live-streamed classroom experience. It was an engaging and meaningful event that promoted children's rights through creativity and dance.
- WellFest 2026: Thursday saw the return of our annual WellFest, and what a fantastic success it was! It was wonderful to see so many families joining us after school to enjoy the activities together. The event raised over an incredible £1,000 for our school fund, which will be used to support future enrichment projects and activities for our children. A huge thank you to everyone who attended and supported the event, and an extra special thank you to all our staff whose hard work and dedication made the evening possible. We simply couldn't have done it without you.
- TriKidz Champions: Also on Thursday, a team of children from Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 represented the school at the competitive TriKidz event held at Locking Stumps Primary School. Despite the challenging conditions in the hot weather, our children demonstrated determination, teamwork and perseverance—and returned to school as first place winners! Congratulations to everyone who took part and thank you to the staff who supported the children throughout the event.
- Jack Case Cup Winners: Thursday also brought more sporting success as our Year 6 football team competed in the historic Jack Case Cup competition, one of the highlights of the Ashton-in-Makerfield sporting calendar. We are absolutely delighted to announce that Nicol Mere has won the Jack Case Cup for the first time since 1991! This is an incredible achievement for our Year 6 boys, who represented the school with pride, determination and excellent teamwork. We are so proud to have brought the trophy back to school. A special thank you to Miss Killick for her support and encouragement throughout the competition.

- Transition Week: Throughout this week, all children have enjoyed visiting their new classrooms and meeting their teachers for the next academic year. Some children who would benefit from additional transition support will receive invitations to attend an extra transition session on the INSET day in September. Parent information meetings will take place next week, giving families the opportunity to meet their child's new teacher and receive key information for September. If you are unable to attend, don't worry—we will share the presentation slides afterwards for everyone to access.

Upcoming events:

Warm Weather Reminder: The warm weather is forecast to continue next week. Please ensure your child comes to school with:

- Sun cream applied before school
- A named water bottle
- A sun hat
- Their PE kit if they would prefer to wear this during the hot weather

England Football Celebration

If England win their football match against Norway on Saturday, all children are invited to come to school on Tuesday 14th July wearing either:

- An England football shirt, or
- Red, white and blue clothing.
- Their school PE kit

We hope everyone has a wonderful weekend, and we look forward to another exciting week ahead!

Important Information

Medical Tracker: Over the next week, we will start using the medical tracker to send messages home about first aid incidents and medication administration. Email messages will be sent from donotreply@medicaltracker.co.uk. Please add this address to your email address books (or approved sender list) to prevent messages from being blocked by your SPAM/JUNK filters

School Uniform Changes: From September 2026, new DfE guidelines on branded school uniforms will come into effect. Our school uniform will now include only three branded items:

Main uniform:

- Yellow badged polo shirt
- Navy badged jumper/ cardigan
- Tartan skirt/pinafore or grey trousers

PE kits will be simplified to:

- Plain white t-shirt
- Navy shorts
- Plain navy tracksuit

These items can be purchased from supermarkets at a lower cost, helping to make uniform more affordable for all families. Children are free to wear any of the branded PE kit that has already been purchased for the time that it fits your child. Do not buy additional kit unnecessarily.

Free School Meals

Below is a letter you should have already received about the changes that the Dfe have made to how free school meals are allocated.

Early Finishes

Starting September 2026, school will no longer be having an early 2pm finish every half term break. Feedback from our recent Before and Afterschool Club survey has shown that many of our parents struggle arranging childcare

when there is an early finish. We will return to the traditional early finishes for the Christmas and Summer breaks. Do not worry – we will remind you of these.

Reminders:

- **Breakfast and After-School Club:** Please remember to book online **before midnight the day before** if you wish to reserve a place for your child. This helps us plan staffing and ensure a safe, fun environment for everyone.
- **Please be reminded** that scooters and cycles are not to be ridden on the school playgrounds and the paths around the school buildings. This is for the safety of pedestrians including small children.
- **We remind parents that fizzy drinks are not permitted at lunch time.**

Have a wonderful weekend and thank you for your continued support.

ATTENDANCE CLASS	ATTENDANCE % This week
Rec1	91
Rec2	98.3
Year 1D	97.9
Year 1N	97.6
Year 2B	97.1
Year 2H	95.7
Year 3A	97.5
Year 3S	96.6
Year 4D	98.7
Year 4R	98.7
Year 5M	98.7
Year 5R	96.7
Year 6K/S	95.6
Year 6L/W	98.9



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday 13 th July 2026	Y4 Trip
Monday 13 th July 2026	Y1 trip to Southport (re-arranged from 25.6.2026)
Monday 13 th July 2026	3.20pm – Y5 & Y6 meet the teachers for parents
Tuesday 14 th July 2026	Y6 Leaver's Assembly – 2.00pm
Tuesday 14 th July 2026	3.20pm – Y3 & Y4 meet the teachers for parents
Wednesday 15 th July 2026	3.20pm – Y1 & Y2 meet the teachers for parents
Thursday 16 th July 2026	Nicol Mere Talent Show (pm)
Friday 17 th July 2026	Break for Summer – finish at 2.00pm

18th June 2026

Dear Parent/Carer,

National Insurance checks for Free School Meal eligibility

From September 2026, the Department for Education are making some changes to the way that Free School Meals are allocated.

All families and children will need to be rechecked to see whether you can receive this entitlement. Please note, although all KS1 children receive 'Universal Free School Meals', we would ask that you still complete this process. This can open avenues of financial help towards the cost of some other trips/activities within school.

Please copy the link below into your search bar or scan the QR code. This will take you to an online form where you can enter your details which will enable a check to take place. You will need to enter your name, date of birth and national insurance details. This application process is simple and easy to use and takes less than 2 minutes.

To Apply for free school meals link: <https://forms.wigan.gov.uk/xfp/form/750>

Or scan the QR code.



Thank you for your co-operation.

Yours sincerely

Mrs E Hunter
Acting Headteacher