

25th September 2026

Dear Parents and Guardians,

It has been another busy and positive week at Nicol Mere. With the nights beginning to draw in and autumn definitely making itself known, it feels like we are now well and truly settled into the new school year. It has been lovely to see the children enjoying school, working hard and making the most of all the opportunities on offer.

No Car Tuesday

A huge thank you to everyone who got into the spirit of the event. It was fantastic to see our bike rack so full and so many families choosing to walk, cycle or find an alternative way to travel to school.

Hopefully, this is something that some families may feel able to continue, even if it is just occasionally. Small changes can make a real difference by helping the environment, improving fitness and wellbeing, and reducing the amount of traffic around school at our busiest times.

Thank you for helping us make the event such a success!

Cansfield Visit

On Wednesday 23rd September, we welcomed visitors from Cansfield High School to speak to our Year 6 children about life at high school and what they can expect as they prepare for the next stage of their education.

It was particularly lovely to welcome back two of our previous Year 6 pupils, who had been selected to talk to the children about high school from their own perspective. It is always a very proud moment to see former Nicol Mere children returning, looking so smart in their uniforms and confidently representing their new school as positive role models.

Applications for high school places are now open, with the deadline for applications being 31st October. Applications can be completed online at:

 [Apply for a high school place online](#)

Class Photographs

Our class photographs have now been taken, and families should have received a letter via ClassDojo explaining how to purchase them. The letter contains the link to the website and the individual code you will need to view your child's class photograph.

Please remember that the deadline for orders is Monday 5th October.

Reception 2027 Visits Begin

Our walk-around visits for our September 2027 Reception intake started this week. I had the pleasure of taking prospective parents, extended family members and children on tours around our school.

It is always a wonderful opportunity to show off our wonderful school, and our visitors were particularly impressed by the children, our facilities and, most importantly, our Nicol Mere family philosophy.

Our school tours will continue throughout October. If you know anyone who has a child due to start Reception in September 2027, please encourage them to give the school office a call to arrange a visit. Our Open Evening is on Thursday 22nd October and we would love to welcome as many prospective families as possible to show them what makes Nicol Mere such a special place.

Attendance Award

A big well done to Miss Clayton's, Mrs. Stevenson's and Mrs. Dennis' 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.

Upcoming Events:

- **Tuesday 29th September:** Year 5/6 football team will play their first friendly match of the year against St Oswald's at 3:00pm. We are really excited to see the children representing Nicol Mere and putting their teamwork and football skills into action. We hope this will be the start of another fantastic year of school sport. Good luck, team!
- **Thursday 1st October:** Our Year 6 children will spend the whole day at Cansfield for their **Taster Day**. Building on this week's visit, the day will give the children a real taste of what life at high school might be like, including experiencing the school environment and taking part in different activities. It is a great opportunity to help make the move to secondary school feel **exciting, familiar and something to look forward to**.

Reminders

- **School Car Park**
Please can we remind parents that they should not use the school car park at morning drop-off. Only the small number of parents who have specific permission to park should access the car park. The start of the school day is an extremely busy time, and there simply is not enough room for additional vehicles to enter, manoeuvre and leave safely. Please help us to keep the area as safe as possible for our children and families by parking away from the school site and walking the final part of your journey.
- **Ordering School Lunches**
This week, we had 41 lunches that had not been ordered in advance. Please make sure that your child's school lunch is ordered before 9:30am on the day at the very latest. That is a significant number of additional meals for Mrs Magee and our kitchen team to find at short notice. We want every child to receive the hot meal they have chosen, but when meals have not been ordered, the kitchen has prepared food based on the numbers and choices showing on the system. This can mean that a child's preferred option is no longer available. Please help Mrs Magee and the team by making sure lunches are ordered on time. Thank you.
- **Changes to Contact Details**
Just a little reminder to keep the school office updated if you change your address, telephone number or any other contact details. Having the right information means we can always get in touch with you quickly when we need to.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. Have a **lovely weekend**, and we look forward to seeing everyone on Monday for another busy week at Nicol Mere.

Mrs. Hunter

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday 29 th September	Football friendly against St. Oswalds
Thursday 1 st October	Cansfield Taster Day for Y6
Monday 5 th October	Y6 Cup Football
Thursday 8 th October	Byrchall Taster Day for Y6
Friday 9 th October	Celebration of Languages Day
Monday 12 th October	Parents Evening
Tuesday 13 th October	Parents Evening
Tuesday 13 th October	Y3 trip to Llandudno
Wednesday 14 th October	Y2 trip to The Lowry
Thursday 15 th October	KS2 Wheelchair Day
Monday 19 th October	Halloween Disco – Y1-Y6
Tuesday 20 th October	Y4 trip to Chester
Thursday 22 nd October	New Intake 2027 Open Evening – 5.00pm
Friday 23 rd October	Break for half term – Please note normal finishing time of 3.20pm
Monday 2 nd November	Back to school
Wednesday 4 th November	Y5 trip to Jodrell Bank
Thursday 5 th November	Guy Fawkes Day

ATTENDANCE CLASS	ATTENDANCE % This week
Rec1	97.7
Rec2	97.5
Year 1D	98.3
Year 1M	97.2
Year 2B	97.2
Year 2C	100
Year 3A	95.7
Year 3S	100
Year 4D	100
Year 4R	97.5
Year 5M	99.3
Year 5C/B	98.1
Year 6K/S	96.7
Year 6L/W	96.7



TAKE ON RESPONSIBILITY

Make a difference in our school!



1 Develop leadership and responsibility

by taking ownership of tasks and being a positive role model.



2 Build confidence and communication skills

through sharing ideas, organising activities, and working with others.



3 Represent pupil voice

by helping to make decisions and improvements within the school.



4 Contribute to the school community

by supporting initiatives that promote learning, wellbeing, inclusion, health or sustainability.



5 Prepare for future opportunities

by developing teamwork, problem-solving and organisational skills.



If you're interested see...

Miss Clayton
School Council

Miss Clift
and Mrs Robinson
Eco Council

Mrs Charnock
Active Leaders

Miss Shield
Mental Health
Champions

Miss Leach
Digital Leaders



Reading Ambassadors
Mrs Dennis

Nicol Mere Family

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

