



Email:enquiries@wharncliffeside.sheffield.sch.uk Website: <u>www.wharncliffeside.org.uk</u>

> Headteacher: Mr M Gaughan Chair of Governors: Mrs S Brookes Admin Officer: Mrs T Daglish

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Weekly Newsletter: 24th March 2025

Reach More

Thank you to everyone who has signed up to our new 'Reach More' parents app. At the time of writing, we are up to **81% of primary carers** (68% of all carers). I understand there may have been some confusion over different versions of the app; some people have one with the Peak Edge logo on it and others have the standard pink version. I don't believe this matters too much as they both do the same job! Please remember to turn your notifications on though so you do not miss important messages.

Meanwhile, we have been advised that the system should be fully integrated with Parent Pay next week so we will be able to start using it to pay for dinners etc. Look out for an update towards the middle of next week!

Chicken Pox

We have had a few cases of chicken pox in the past week (affecting children in Nursery / lower school). If you are pregnant and think you may have been in contact, please consult your GP. Meanwhile, please let us know if your child is affected. More advice about chicken pox can be found here: <u>https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/chickenpox</u>.

Things to do

- Reminder: the deadline for the **British Science Week competition** is this Thursday. Posters should be on A4 or A3 paper and on the theme of 'Change'.
- The latest **Children's University Newsletter** is <u>here</u>. It features a wide range of things to do over the holidays; such as Easter Egg Hunts, Dance Camps and the Festival of (April) Fools!
- Meanwhile, **Stocksbridge Leisure Centre** are running an 'Ultimate Activity Camp' for £20 per day during the holidays; see the attached flyer for more information.
- Interested in learning to dive at Ponds Forge? Find out about FREE taster sessions here <u>https://cityofsheffielddiving.co.uk/learn-to-dive</u>

Free School Meals

- Sheffield City Council will once again be providing food vouchers (to the value of £30 per child) for the Easter holiday. These should be with you during this week and claimed in the usual way. Please get in touch if you have any issues redeeming your voucher.
- Meanwhile, we are hosting our very-first 'Holiday Activities with Food' (HAF) event on Wednesday 9th April. Children on Free School Meals* can come up to school for a fun-packed day of yoga, games and more (with food provided). See attached flyer or speak to me for more information. Places are limited so don't delay!
- URGENT: We have been informed about a forthcoming change in the rules about applying for FSM. From the 1st April, all new applications will be subject to termly eligibility checks (i.e. rather than having it guaranteed until the end of Y6 like now). This only applies to new claims but is worth thinking about if you think you may qualify (especially for children in KS1 who do not currently pay). Note: you must apply for each child separately so younger siblings do not automatically qualify. Please take a look at https://forms.sheffield.gov.uk/form/auto/apply_school_meals for more information of pop in to see us before the end

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Mr Gaughan

Nurturing confidence, nurturing potential, nurturing success.



Celebrating Achievement



Well done to the following children:

- ★ Bronze: Felicity, William, Violet (Ash); Lucy (Willow); Jacob S (Oak)
- Silver: Macie (Ash); Koby (Willow); Oscar SF, Holly (Rowan); Lily K, Leela (Sycamore); Alyssa, Gretchen (Oak)
- ★ Gold: Thomas P (Willow); Jake (Rowan); Will HS, Alfie R (Oak)
- * Nursery Stars of the Week: Honey & Albert (Saplings); Amara & Dante (Seedlings)
- ★ Attendance winners: Attendance was 94.1% overall last week. Ash & Willow shared the KS1 trophy with 93.1% each; whereas Oak won the KS2 one with 96.1%.
- **House Point winners:** Americas won for the 1st time this half-term
- ★ Great work from all the children who completed Mrs. Harrison's **Reading Challenge**. The lucky winners of the draw were William R, Franklin and Willow G.
- ★ Well done to all the children who did Learn to Ride with Paula last week. They did a brilliant job!
- The following children have just received bronze awards / certificates from the Children's University: Henry J, Alfie J, William R, Polina, Leo C, Isla, Eser, Joseph B, Jude, Willow G and Esme.



This week's birthdays: Molly (7), Thomas P (7), Teddy R (5)

Birthdays over the holiday: Max (9), Henry (8), Hope (9)

This week's 'School Standard' is: Be reflective

What's Happening?

Little Seedlings & Saplings have been learning to care for their tadpoles - and enjoying watching them grow!

Ash are doing wild flower identification in their science lessons.

Willow performed their version of 'The Moon' by Robert Louis Stevenson in Friday's assembly.

KS1 children in The Learning Zone are writing their own versions of a familiar story: 'Handa's Hen' by Eileen Browne.

Rowan received a special letter from Lily Fern-Flames (a dragon). She hatched because of their amazing writing!

Sycamore have been doing data logging in their computing lessons.

Oak are multiplying decimals in Maths. Meanwhile, they have been preparing for a 'flag football' competition against other schools on Thursday.



Wharncliffe Side Primary School is part of Peak Edge, which is an exempt charity and a company limited by guarantee, registered in England with company number 11650747