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Weekly Newsletter: wb 7th September 2026

It was great to see so many happy, smiling faces last week when we returned to school after the summer. We have lots of new children around school and they have all been made to feel very welcome. Welcome to the first newsletter of the new school year. As in previous years, this will be sent out at the start of each week via ReachMore. For your convenience, there are always paper copies in reception too. I hope you find it useful... if there is ever anything you would like clarifying, please do not hesitate to get in touch; either in person or via email:

headteacher@wharncliffeside.sheffield.sch.uk

Attendance

Across the whole of 2025-26, our attendance was a disappointing 93.5%; this was lower than the previous year and some way short of our target. As a school with an IR, we have a higher percentage of children with complex medical needs when compared to other schools and of course some absences cannot be helped; but I am sure we can do better... As mentioned in a previous edition of this newsletter, there is a very clear link between attendance and attainment. See the table below for a breakdown of our school's Y6 SATs results (July 2026); organised by attendance (excluding the IR pupils). This shows the percentage of children achieving the expected standard in all subjects:

Assessment	Children with < 90% attendance	Children with > 90% attendance
Reading	83%	100%
Spelling, Punctuation & Grammar	67%	100%
Maths	33%	100%

Wraparound Provision & other clubs

- Following feedback from parents, we have introduced a new booking system for our 'wraparound provision' (breakfast club & after school club). This enables you to book for a half-term in advance to secure your child's place and potentially save some money. For your convenience, you can still book ad-hoc sessions using ParentPay (see our website for more information: www.wharncliffeside.org.uk/wp)
- Other 'activity-based' clubs are now live for booking (Art Club, Gardening Club, KS1 Football, KS2 Multisports) but these often need to be booked directly with external providers (due to the way PE funding has changed from September).

PE

PE lessons start this week and we would like to remind parents that children should be dressed appropriately for PE. This means wearing suitable footwear (e.g. trainers), having long hair tied back and NOT wearing earrings. If children cannot remove their own earrings, they should ideally not wear them at all on PE days. Please get in touch with the office if this is a problem. For your information, PE days are: Ash (Mon & Fri); Willow (Mon & Thurs); Rowan (Mon & Tues); Sycamore (Tues & Thurs); Oak (Tues & Fri). Thank you!

Miss Burgess → Mrs Burgess

Following her wedding in the summer, Miss Burgess would now like to be known as Mrs Burgess. She is keeping Burgess as her 'teacher name' but is changing the prefix to Mrs. Many children called her that anyway and she won't be offended if you forget!

Supervision before / after school

We would like to remind parents / carers of their responsibility to supervise children on the yard before / after school. They should NOT be running up and down the concrete steps or playing in the trees. This is to keep everyone safe (this week's school standard); we have had a few 'near misses' when children are not being supervised appropriately. Thank you for your co-operation.

Mr Gaughan (Headteacher)

Nurturing confidence, nurturing potential, nurturing success.



Celebrating Achievement



Well done to the following children:

- ★ As the children were only back in two days last week, we didn't award any certificates in assembly. Staff will be looking out for children setting a good example from this week onwards... this week's 'School Standards' are 'Be Kind' and 'Be Safe'.
- ★ Congratulations to last year's trophy winners: Violet, Poppy, Ella, Celeste, Caleb F, Xander, Skyla-Grey, Rory, Eloise, Ford, Charlie M, Ameera, Alfie J, Raydan, Mazikeen, Lily K, Felicity & Oscar SF (as well as EVERYONE who received a nomination of any kind - this means you were spotted!).
- ★ **Attendance:** A HUGE well done to Sienna B, Astrid, Erica & Fearne who each got 100% throughout the whole of 2025-26. In addition to these 4, we had a further 27 children who achieved 98% or over.
- ★ **House Points:** All our new children have now been allocated a house team (Europe, Asia, Africa, Oceania or Americas) and have started collecting points for their team (note: siblings are always placed in the same house!). Who will win the first trophy of the year?



This week's birthdays:
Ruby (10), Fearne (9),
Erin (9)

This week's 'School Standard' is:
Be Kind / Be Safe

What's Happening?

Little Seedlings will be talking about their families.

Saplings are starting their new 'Superheroes' topic.

Ash will be settling into routines, exploring the school and starting their first Forest School sessions (on Thursdays).

Willow are starting their new Art topic all about portraits.

The Learning Zone's first topic of the year is 'Myths, legends, castles and knights'.

Rowan are learning about Diamanté poems in their English lessons.

Sycamore are learning about the work of Ed Ruscha in Art.

Oak are learning about the creative sub-conscious part of the brain.

Meanwhile, Y6 children will be starting their 'Bikeability' lessons on Monday 14th September. Please give permission for this via the QR code that was sent home on Friday. This must be done ASAP to confirm your child's place.

