



Nicol Mere Newsletter

Week ending: 30th November 2018

number 3

Dear Parent/Carer,

Attendance Winners Reception - Year 6

Friday 12th - Thursday 18th October 2018

Infants Reception (Mrs Roberts) with 97.7%

Juniors Year 3 (Mrs Smith) with 100%

Friday 19th October - Thursday 1st November 2018

Infants Year 2 (Miss Waters) with 99.3%

Juniors Year 3 (Mrs Sedman) with 98.8%

Friday 2nd - Thursday 8th November 2018

Infants joint winners Year 1 (Miss Rutter) and

Year 2 (Miss Waters) both with 100%

Juniors Year 6 (Mr Wallace) with 99.2%

Friday 9th - Thursday 15th November 2018

Infants Year 1 (Miss Rutter) with 100%

Juniors Year 5 (Mrs Parkinson) with 98.7%

WELL DONE to the winners - please keep it up.

Playground before school and Punctuality

Teachers will be available at 8.50am on the yard for any urgent messages etc. As a measure of security, please do not wander around school and check with a member of staff on the yard before entering school. If you should wish to make an appointment to see a member of staff, please speak to Mrs Shield in the main school office first.



- The school bell will ring at 8.50am and the school doors will open and pupils can start going into school.
- At 8.55am the bell will ring again to indicate that all pupils should now be in school and the doors will be closed.
- Anyone who is not in school by this time should enter school via the main Reception Office to be marked in the late book.

End of term Attendance and Punctuality Award (Y1-Y6)

As you are aware, we have a termly Attendance & Punctuality Award for Y1-Y6 pupils. The details were decided by a Working Party made up of Governors, Staff, Parents and Pupils (not the school SLT).

If your child has over 96% attendance and less than 5 lates each term then he/she will qualify for the termly Attendance Award. This is an extra reward for those children who qualify. Those children who do not qualify will do class work as normal, ie this is not a punishment. If a child does not qualify one term, they have a chance to receive the award next term.

Previous awards have included a visit to Kidz Kingdom, a visiting climbing wall, cinema trip etc. If you value your child's education, they should only go on holidays during the 14 weeks that we have off each year.

CHILDREN WITH 100% ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY BY THE END OF THE SCHOOL YEAR WILL BE ENTERED INTO A DRAW TO WIN A SCOOTER!!!

Pupil Absence/Sickness/End of Year Award

Each week we run reports for attendance in infants and juniors. The attendance results are posted on our newsletter.



If your child does not attend school for any reason (eg sickness), or they are going to be excessively late, please ring or call into the Main School Office to inform Mrs Shield of the reason on the first morning of the absence, even if you have 'mentioned' it to other members of staff, as they are not always able to pass on the message immediately. Absence from school will affect your child's eligibility for the end of term attendance and punctuality reward. Thank you.

Penalty Warning Reminders

Under the Education Act 1996, parents and carers have a duty to make sure their children regularly attend school. If parents or carers fail to do this, they can/will be prosecuted. The Local Authority can/will issue a penalty notice to parents or carers if a child has missed a number of sessions without permission from the school. Please value your child's education.

Payments for school trips etc

When sending in payments for school trips and events, please send the **exact money in a sealed, named envelope** as requested on the letters. Some schools assume overpayments are donations to school. **Could you please ensure all payments to school, are sent in with your child, to put through the class money wallet procedure.** We cannot split cheques for different trips or for siblings; accept money for more than one trip/event or more than one child at a time and we cannot give change for dinners - please keep this separate. Failure to do this means the administration of monies gets very complicated and is time consuming.



Please note - we are not allowed to accept money over the counter in our main Reception. Thank you.

Equality and Accessibility

Our Equality Accessibility Policies are very high on our agenda and these procedures permeate throughout school at all times. If you would like to contribute please speak to the main school office.

2019 New Intake

The online application service opens on Monday 5th November 2018 until 15th January 2019. Please apply for your child's place, even if you already have a child in this school to avoid disappointment. Thank you.



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E-Safety

It has come to our attention that some children are playing on the games Roblox and Fortnite at home. Fortnite has an age rating of 12 due to the 'frequent scenes of mild violence'. Both of these games have been highlighted as they present risks to young children, mainly including the exposure to inappropriate content and advertisements and the ability to befriend and talk to strangers in voice or on-screen chat where they may be exposed to swearing and offensive language.

May we also remind parents that most social media platforms including Facebook, Instagram and Snapchat have age restrictions of 13! Children going on such sites, obviously is a safeguarding concern. For more information, the Thinkuknow website provides advice for parents and carers on many of these topics.



Sport

"It's not about being the best.....it's about trying your best"

This Wednesday (14th November) saw our girls football team crowned as winners after taking part in an after school tournament at Cansfield High School. Competing against the local Ashton primary schools the girls won every game, and only conceded one goal! Our girls' football team have worked very hard over the last year at lunch time clubs and after school clubs, and earned their reward through some fantastic performances. 'Well done girls'. A big 'thank you' too, for all the parent helpers who came and supported the team.



A Message from the School Governors

You may have seen in the local press recently Nicol Mere has been voted in the top 10 state primary schools in England.

The governors at Nicol Mere are extremely proud of the excellent outcomes achieved over many years, by all children at the end of year 6. We would like to thank our staff and parents for all their support and hard work.

Although we believe league tables are not the 'be all and end all', it is nice to celebrate all the many and varied successes of the school and we are delighted to see it ranked in the top ten of the Sunday Times 2019 Parent Guide.

The children at Nicol Mere benefit from an enriched, skill-based curriculum which is complemented by our school values, along with a traditional focus on the 3Rs. We have a 'no excuse culture' for why children can't succeed.

Quality-first teaching is paramount to ensure all pupils excel and are equipped with strong values and the basic skills for life. Many of our children are from disadvantaged backgrounds but and we have a 'Whole school ethos of attainment for all'.

Mrs. Jane Baines & Mrs. Annette Kerner - Chair of Governors

Congratulations!

We would like to congratulate Sebastian Kelly (Year 1) who has completed a 7.2km sponsored walk to raise money for children in need. The walk took him just over 4 hours to complete, which was quite a challenge for his little legs! He has raised £350.00 so far!



We would also like to congratulate Olivia Walker (Year 3) who has won medals for coming 1st in Morris Dancing Championships; Niamh Donelan (Year 4) who has been selected to play for Manchester City under 10s; Caleb Anders (Year 4) who has signed his first contract with Wigan Athletic and also, Tesia Seddon (Year 6) who has been selected for Lancashire County Cricket Trials!

We are very proud of your achievements. Well done!

Thank you for donations for Children in Need Mufti, a total of £285.00 was raised.

Remembrance Garden 2018

Thank you to all parents for empty bottle donations. The children and staff worked long and hard to prepare the display in memory of 100 years Armistice Day. If you have not yet seen the display at the side of the long path, please take a look - we think it is awe inspiring! Thank you to everyone involved.



Christmas Food Bank

The School Council have set up a food collection box in the main school office foyer, to collect food for 'The Brick' Charity in Wigan. If you would like to donate any tins, packets, toiletries or anything 'long lasting' to this very thoughtful cause, please bring items to the main school office reception area and put them directly into the Christmas box **no later than the morning of Monday 17th December**, as the donations will be taken to the food bank on Monday afternoon. Thank you for your support.



Christmas Jumpers

Children are invited to wear a Christmas jumper every day during December with their school uniform, if they wish to. If they do not wish to wear Christmas jumper then the normal school sweatshirt/cardigan should be worn. Thank you.



Design a Christmas Stocking Competition

School Council are holding a 'Design a Christmas Stocking' competition - 50p per entry. Designs can be on paper or on an old sock. All entries are to be sent into school by 19th December and handed to class teachers. There will be one winner from each year group. Good luck!





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Christmas Holidays

Please note school will finish on **Friday 21st December at 2pm** for the Christmas break. Please ensure arrangements have been made to collect your child at this earlier time. Thank you.

Dates for your Diary	
December	
Thursday 6th	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Y5 Cinema trip - Polar Express
Wednesday 12 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reception Assembly for parents
Thursday 13 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Christmas Bingo - 6pm
Friday 14 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Christmas Market - more info to follow
Tuesday 18th	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• KS1 Assembly for parents• Carol Concert after school
Wednesday 19 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Christmas Lunch
Thursday 20 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Christmas Hat Competition• Christmas parties in afternoon
Friday 21 st	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• School closes for Christmas - 2pm
January	
Tuesday 8 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• School re-opens