

HODGE CLOUGH

NEWSLETTER

24TH OCTOBER

Dear Parents and Carers,

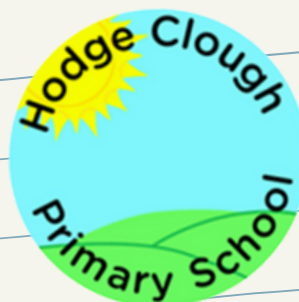
We're back — recharged, refreshed, and ready for the new half term - and it's always a busy one! Even this first week has been an exciting one with new staff joining, familiar staff returning and some fond farewells...!

We're delighted to welcome back Mrs Mills, who has returned from maternity leave to our Nursery team with her trademark warmth and enthusiasm. Mr Fitton, who has done a fantastic job at Wilkes Street, is now taking on the important role of Site Manager across both school sites — we know both teams will benefit from his hard work and dedication. We're also pleased to share that Mrs Wray is now working alongside Mrs Geith in Year 3, bringing her energy and experience to the classroom.

Of course, with new hellos come some goodbyes — and we are sad to say farewell to Mrs Howarth, who has been such a friendly and familiar face in our Conduit Street office. We wish her every success and happiness in the next chapter of her journey.

As we welcome new faces and say fond farewells, it feels like the perfect time to celebrate another exciting new chapter for our school — we're so excited to share something very special this half term: the launch of our brand-new vision and values!

After consulting our children, parents, carers, and staff, we've created a brand-new set of school values that truly reflect who we are and what we believe in at Hodge Clough. Using the acronym HEART helps us to remember what truly matters: **H**appiness, **E**xcellence, **A**ttitude, **R**espect and **T**ogetherness; but it also reflects the deep care, warmth, and sense of belonging that run right through the heart of Hodge Clough. At the centre of it all is **PRIDE** — the value that connects and strengthens all the others.



HODGE CLOUGH

NEWSLETTER

7TH NOVEMBER

These values will shape everything we do – from the way we learn and play to the way we treat one another and celebrate success. They capture the warmth, ambition, and sense of belonging that make Hodge Clough such a special place to be. We can't wait to see our new values shining through every classroom, playground, and corridor as we continue to take **PRIDE** in who we are and all we achieve together!

As our new values take centre stage, our school awards are also getting an exciting revamp to reflect everything we believe in at Hodge Clough. Each week, two children will now receive Proud Awards – one for progress and one for achievement – recognising the effort, determination, and excellence shown in their learning.

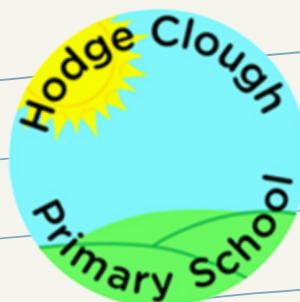
In addition, one child from each class will be chosen for a Values Award, celebrating those special moments when our pupils truly live out our **HEART** values of **H**appiness, **E**xcellence, **A**ttitude, **R**espect, and **T**ogetherness.

Of course, the ever-popular Dojo Points are here to stay! But this half term, we're giving them a new twist – instead of resetting each week, points will now build up over time. When children reach key milestones, they'll earn a stamp in their Dojo Passport and a certificate to show just how far they've come. We can't wait to launch our new-look Dojo Points next week and see our children's **PRIDE** shine through in everything they do!

As we begin this new half term with fresh faces, new values, and exciting plans ahead, there's a real sense of energy and togetherness around school. Thank you, as always, for your continued support – it's what makes Hodge Clough such a special place to learn and grow.

Have a lovely weekend, and we look forward to seeing everyone ready for another fantastic week of learning!

Warm wishes,
Mrs Hodgkinson





Notices



CALENDAR DATES

10.11.25 - Odd Socks Day / Anti-Bullying Week

10.11.25 - Year 4 trip to the Dewa Centre

14.11.25 - Crazy Hair Day in return for a £1 donation or chocolate for the Chocolate Tombola.

Today is also Children in Need so everyone is also invited to wear something spotty in return for a donation to this charity!

17.11.25 - Values Launch Day

18.11.25 - Year 3 trip to Tatton Park to enhance their learning about the Stone Age

18.11.25 - 24.11.25 is Parliament Week during which children will be engaging in activities linked to British Values and Democracy

21.11.25 - non-uniform day, in return for a £1 donation or unwanted gifts for the Tombola

28.11.25 - a crazy socks day, in return for a £1 donation or bottles for the stall.

1.12.25 - Pantomime at Conduit Street

2.12.25 - Pantomime Workshops at Wilkes Street - payment information available, soon!

5.12.25 - a non-uniform day in return for a £1 donation or cakes to sell that evening

5.12.25 - PTFA Christmas Fair after school

16.12.25 - Wilkes Street Christmas Dinner

17.12.25 - Conduit St Christmas Dinner

19.12.25 - Rock Steady Concert day

Further Christmas dates still to be confirmed!





Notices



TOGETHERNESS WEBSITE

The 'In Our Place' e-learning website (previously Solihull On line) for Oldham parents and families has now got a new name this Autumn - called Togetherness. All the resources and courses you currently use on 'In Our Place' have moved over to the new Togetherness website, and you'll still be able to log in with the same details and access code.

Togetherness includes the following:

- Courses for parents and carers from starting a family through to raising teenagers
- Helpful resources about emotions, resilience and healthy relationships
- Support for families who want to learn more about additional needs, trauma, and mental wellbeing
- Programmes for teenagers, including understanding the teenage brain and emotions

Togetherness will continue to be based on the Solihull Approach, which supports children's and families' emotional health and wellbeing.

Visit their website togetherness.co.uk

VALUES LAUNCH DAY

Come and join us on **Monday 17th November** to take part in some craft activities with your child to celebrate the launch of our new School Values.

All the children will be sharing with you their PRIDE in our Hodge Clough Primary School Values whilst remembering that 'Our children are at the **HEART** of everything we do!'. **H**appiness **E**xcellence **A**ttitude **R**espect **T**ogetherness.

Activities will take place in the school halls. Google forms will need to be completed so we know who to expect on the day.

<https://forms.gle/gfQTHvAkKBg97Fsp7>



Notices

ODD SOCKS DAY / ANTI-BULLYING WEEK



On Monday 10th November, we will be taking part in Odd Socks Day. Children are invited to come to school in their normal uniform wearing odd socks to celebrate what makes us all unique. (No special purchases are needed—any two different socks will do!)

Odd Socks Day marks the start of Anti-Bullying Week. Throughout the week, classes will take part in age-appropriate activities that:

- promote kindness, respect and inclusion,
- help pupils recognise different forms of bullying, and
- teach them what to do if they see or experience unkind behaviour.



CHRISTMAS FAIR PREPARATION

Christmas will soon be upon us and we are starting to prepare for our Christmas Fair on 5th December!

To help us gather items needed for the stalls, we will have a series of collection days in school:

Friday 14/11/25- a crazy hair day, in return for a £1 donation or chocolate for the Chocolate Tombola.

Friday 21/11/25 - non-uniform day, in return for a £1 donation or unwanted gifts for the Tombola

Friday 28/11/25- a crazy socks day, in return for a £1 donation or bottles for the stall.

Friday 5/12/25 - a non-uniform day in return for a £1 donation or cakes to sell that evening



CHRISTMAS DINNER

School Christmas Dinner will be on Tuesday 16th December at Wilkes Street and Wednesday 17th at Conduit Street. If your child is usually on packed lunches, they can still join in the festive feast! Please refer to the ParentMails sent out earlier this week where you can access a Google Form to book your child's place. This needs to be completed by Friday 21st November, please.



Notices



THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS

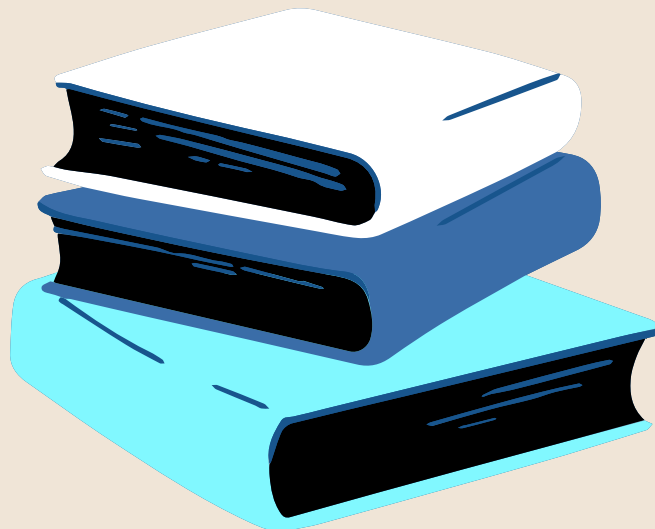
Keep your eyes open for information that has been sent home via Parentmail for two important Christmas messages.

The Oldham School Toy Gift appeal will again be taking requests from families who wish to receive a Christmas present for their child/children. It is open to everyone, and all who request will receive a present. This service is designed to ensure that every child in Oldham receives at least one present this Christmas.

Hope Restoration are also again arranging Christmas Food Hampers for those families who would benefit from one for the Christmas period.

Both of these services are designed to support families who would benefit from a little help this Christmas.

Please use the Google form (link available in the Parentmail message) to submit your information included in, if either of these are something you would wish to receive.



Notices



DINNER MONEY AND NURSERY FEES

Please can we remind parents/carers that dinner monies and nursery fees are to be paid in advance each Monday using our new School Gateway system here:

IOS Devices: schoolgateway.co.uk/iosdownload

Android Devices: schoolgateway.co.uk/androiddownload

NURSERY - 30 HOURS CHILDCARE PLACES

Please remember to check that your details are up to date every 3 months. Please go to:

<http://www.gov.uk/childcareaccount>

HODGE CLOUGH

NEWSLETTER

14TH NOVEMBER

Dear Parents and Carers,

What an incredible, jam-packed week it has been at Hodge Clough! Our school has been absolutely buzzing with learning, laughter and community spirit, and it has been wonderful to see our HEART values—Happiness, Excellence, Attitude, Respect and Togetherness—shining through in everything we've done.

Scholastic Book Fair – £504 raised in commission for the school!

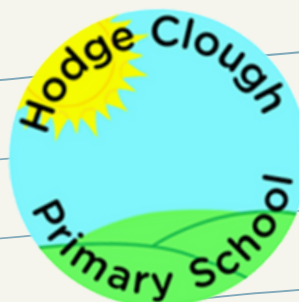
A huge thank you to everyone who visited and supported our Scholastic Book Fair. We are thrilled to share that we raised an amazing £504 in commission, which will go straight towards buying even more fantastic books for our children. What a wonderful example of Togetherness in action, helping us nurture a love of reading across school.

Starbooks Café

Our Starbooks Café was also open this week, and it was such a delight to see families enjoying stories together; the cosy atmosphere and shared reading moments reminding us how special it is to pause and enjoy a good book!

Odd Socks Day & Anti-Bullying Week Assembly

This week also saw us celebrating Odd Socks Day, a fun reminder that our differences make us unique and wonderful. Alongside this, our Anti-Bullying Week assembly encouraged pupils to show respect and kindness every day. Our assembly focused on this year's theme, "Power for Good" which is developed by the Anti-Bullying Alliance in collaboration with young people and schools. It encourages children (and adults) to recognise the influence they have, and to use it to stand up, support others and create inclusive spaces both face-to-face and online.



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NEWSLETTER

14TH NOVEMBER

We were proud to reflect this theme through our Odd Socks Day and assembly this week—celebrating uniqueness, encouraging unity and reminding pupils that together we can use our power for good.

Two Minutes' Silence

On Tuesday, our school came together to acknowledge Remembrance Day. As The Last Post played, it prepared everyone to observe a respectful Two Minutes' Silence. The maturity and reflection shown by our pupils demonstrated their respectful attitudes and empathy.

Michael Rosen Author Day

What a treat! As is now tradition, once every half-term, the children enjoy a cup of hot chocolate and a biscuit whilst learning about a famous author. Our Michael Rosen, Starbooks Author Day filled classrooms with poetry, rhythm and imagination. The children threw themselves into the activities with such enthusiasm and the day reminded us how powerful words, poetry and stories can be!

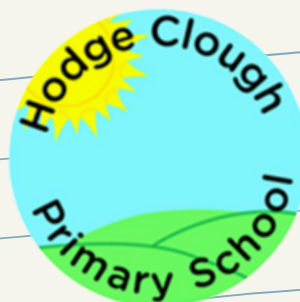
Children in Need – Crazy Hair Day

We ended the week on a high with our Children in Need celebrations with the children dressing in something spotty to raise money for this important charity. To provide the much needed donations for our Chocolate Tombola at the Christmas Fair, children could also come to school with Crazy Hair!! The wild hairstyles on display were absolutely fantastic with some real imagination going into them from both children and staff! Thank you for your generous donations—it's always heartwarming to see our community come together for wonderful causes.

Thank you once again for your ongoing support. Weeks like this show just how vibrant, caring and joyful our school community truly is. Have a lovely weekend, and we look forward to another exciting week ahead at Hodge Clough!

Best wishes

Mrs Hodkinson





Notices



CALENDAR DATES

17.11.25 - Values Launch Day

18.11.25 - Year 3 trip to Tatton Park to enhance their learning about the Stone Age

18.11.25 - 24.11.25 is Parliament Week - a special assembly will be held linking to British Values and Democracy

21.11.25 - non-uniform day, in return for a £1 donation or unwanted gifts for the Tombola

21.11.25 - last day to book Christmas Dinner if your child normally has packed lunches

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1.12.25 - Pantomime at Conduit Street

2.12.25 - Pantomime Workshops at Wilkes Street

5.12.25 - a non-uniform day in return for a £1 donation or cakes to sell that evening

5.12.25 - PTFA Christmas Fair after school

8.12.25 - 9.00 -9.45 Year 1 performance of Wiggly Nativity

9.12.25 - 9.00 -9.45 Reception performance of Wiggly Nativity

16.12.25 - Wilkes Street Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper Day

17.12.25 - Christmas Parties at Wilkes Street

17.12.25 - Conduit St Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper Day

19.12.25 - Rock Steady Concert Day

19.12.25 - 'Special Visitor' in school

Further Christmas dates still to be confirmed!





Notices

WEEKLY AWARDS



Each week, we give out awards to children in every class to recognise their hard work and fantastic achievements. Parents will be notified. These awards are given out in our Proud Assembly. Here are the children who have proudly received their awards this week:

	PROUD AWARD FOR PROGRESS	PROUD AWARD FOR ACHIEVEMENT	VALUES AWARD
Reception Red Pandas	Ivy-Joan	Ava B	Olivia
Reception Meerkats	Ronnie	Harry H	Theodora
Y1 Leopards	Harrison	Lukas	Hudson
Y1 Monkeys	Lucas	Ava F	Musa
Y2 TN	David	Rafiah	Emma
Y2 JW	Amelia	Matilda	Betsy
Y3 SH	Livvy	Noah	Charlotte
Y3 YG/RT	Cally-Jo	Max	Hattie
Y4 AM	Daisy	Isla	Rex
Y4 JR	Brooke	Harper	Amelia
Y5MO	Jude	Ava-Mae	Ronnie
Y5LM	Kacie	Aliysha	Zack
Y6SC	Rhys	Beau	Ayva
Y6 LL	Isaac	Isla	Bella



Notices

ATTENDANCE MATTERS



Every school day matters – it gives children stability, progress and connection with their learning and classmates. Research from the Education Endowment Foundation shows that children who attend regularly tend to perform better, socially and academically, and that good attendance is not simply about being in school, but also about belonging, feeling safe, and having the barriers removed.

At the same time we recognise that consistent attendance isn't always straightforward. Some children face particular challenges – illness, disability, emotional or social difficulties, transport or home circumstances – and for these children we must work together with families and external agencies to understand and address the causes, not simply the symptom of absence.

Here at Hodge Clough we believe that by encouraging every child, supporting every family, and creating a welcoming and inclusive environment, we give our pupils the best chance of being in school each day, on time, ready to learn and engage. Thank you for helping us build that partnership.



Here, every day, ready and on time

Minutes lost per day

5 minutes 10 minutes 15 minutes 20 minutes 25 minutes

equates to a yearly loss of:

3
days lost

6.5
days lost

10
days lost

13
days lost

19
days lost

Five minutes late per day adds up to three learning days lost in a school year

If 15 minutes late each day you will miss two full weeks of school in one year

Poor timekeeping means less chance of success!

Where does your child sit on the attendance mountain?





Notices



PANTO TIME!

We're excited to share that the festive season is bringing a burst of pantomime fun to Hodge Clough this year!

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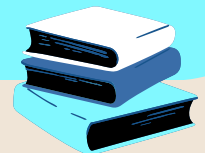
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Each class will explore the traditional tales of either Aladdin or Cinderella, discovering characters, actions and panto traditions — including the all-important “It’s behind you!”

Together, they will create a lively performance to share with their teacher at the end of the session!

What a way to start the festive season!

Payment details have been sent out to all classes via Parent Mail





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THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS

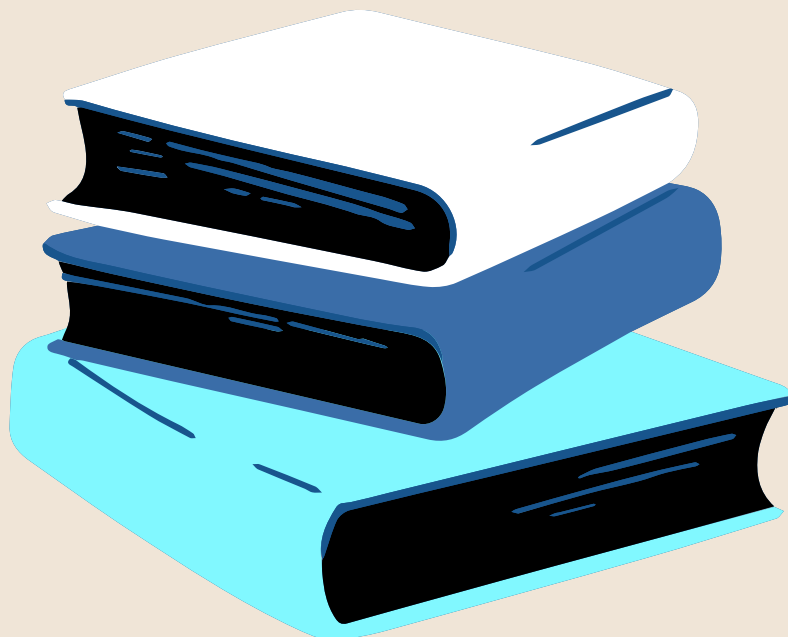
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HODGE CLOUGH

NEWSLETTER

21ST NOVEMBER

Dear Parents and Carers,

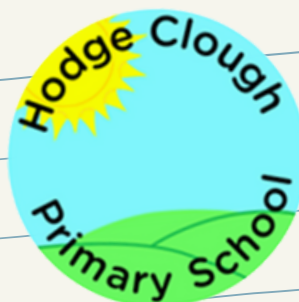
As we move through another busy and vibrant half-term at Hodge Clough, I continue to be incredibly proud of our children and grateful for the strong partnership we share with our families. Our school feels full of energy, kindness and creativity—and this week's special event was a perfect reminder of what makes our community so special.

We were delighted to welcome parents and carers from across the school to our Values Launch Day – a wonderful morning that truly placed children and families at the HEART of Hodge Clough.

The halls were filled with colour, creativity and connection as families joined their children in a series of craft activities, each one linked to our HEART values: Happiness, Excellence, Attitude, Respect and Togetherness. It was wonderful to see these values not just displayed, but lived out across both sites:

Events like this remind us of the strength and warmth that sit at the very heart of Hodge Clough. We are incredibly proud of our children and deeply grateful for the support, enthusiasm and positivity our families bring to school life. A huge thank you to all parents and carers who joined us, rolled up their sleeves, and contributed to a morning full of fun and creativity!

We are also excited to share that Mr Nokes has written a brand-new Hodge Clough Values Song, created especially for our school to reflect what it means to be part of Hodge Clough. The children have absolutely loved learning and practising it at Conduit Street and we are currently busy recording the song so that the children over at Wilkes Street can easily learn it too!



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21ST NOVEMBER

Alongside singing the song, we are also hoping to be teaching the children to sign along using simple British Sign Language actions. This is important to us in helping every member of our community, enjoy the song and re-enforces our value of Togetherness. Hopefully we can share it with you all, soon!

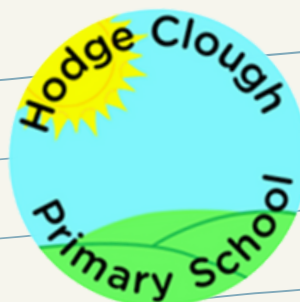
In preparation for Parliament Week, Mrs Walker led an assembly on the British value of Democracy. This is such an important value because it reminds our children that everyone has a voice, that we can share ideas and opinions and work together to make things better for all—and that at Hodge Clough we honour those principles in our everyday school life

As we look ahead to next week, we will be entering Assessment Week. This is a valuable opportunity for children to demonstrate just how far they have come this term and to show the progress they are making in reading, spelling, grammar and maths. We know they will approach the week with their usual determination, effort and positivity.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support—it makes such a difference to the confidence and success of our children.

Warm wishes for a wonderful weekend

Mrs Hodkinson





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CALENDAR DATES

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8.12.25 - 9.00am - 9.45am Year 1 Performance of Wriggly Nativity

9.12.25 - 9.00am - 9.45am Reception Performance of Wriggly Nativity

10.12.25 - 9.00am - 10.00am and 2.00pm - 3.00pm Year 5/6 Christmas Cracker Cafe and Christmas Sing-a-Long

15.12.25 - 9.00am - 10.00am and 2.00pm - 3.00pm Year 3/4 Christmas Cracker Cafe and Christmas Sing-a-Long

16.12.25 - 9.00am - 10.00am Christmas Cracker Cafe and Year 2 Christmas Performance

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Y2 TN	Willow	Noah	Jensen
Y2 JW	Henry	Pippa	Kirsty
Y3 SH	Archie	Isaac	Eleanor
Y3 YG/LW	Archie	Harley	Winnie
Y4 AM	Grace	Effy	Iman
Y4 JR	Thomas	William	Daisy
Y5MO	Byron	Anna-Lee and Joseph	Pearl
Y5LM	Noah	Devinia	Shae
Y6SC	Ava-Lynn	Jacob	Isla
Y6 LL	Patrick	Leila	Skyler



Notices



PROUD ASSEMBLIES FOR PARENTS

For those who have attended one of our Parent Assemblies this half term, we hope you are enjoying the new look categories and certificates! To reflect our core value of Pride, we now have our Proud Awards for Achievement and for Progress. Each week, every class also chooses a child who has demonstrated one (or more) of our HEART Values - Happiness, Excellence, Attitude, Respect, Togetherness.

Recently, we have noticed that Conduit St parents, that also have children at Wilkes St, are sometimes needing to leave Parent Assembly early in order to still be on time to pick up from the other site. It is a shame for parents to miss any part of this special event for families. Therefore, from the **start of Spring Term (January)**, we will host **Conduit Street** Parent Assemblies **in the mornings, from approximately 9.05am**. Wilkes St Assemblies will continue to be held at the usual time on Tuesday mornings.

We hope this will help everyone to enjoy a relaxed and enjoyable occasion!





Notices



CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCES

The festive season will soon be well and truly underway at Hodge Clough, and our Christmas performances will start filling the school with sparkle and song!

Our very youngest children are saving their performance magic until later in the year — we're sure it will be worth the wait! Meanwhile, Reception and Year 1 are preparing to take to the stage with A Wiggly Nativity. Having already had past experience of this show, we can confidently promise plenty of joyful singing, enthusiastic actions, and at least one shepherd who just can't stop dancing. It's guaranteed to be delightfully wriggly from start to finish!

Over at Conduit Street, Year 2 will also be performing a special Christmas show, showcasing their hard work and wonderful enthusiasm.

Across the rest of the school, each year group will be hosting a Christmas Sing-a-Long, featuring a mix of modern favourites, iconic festive fun, and traditional classics. Parents and carers are warmly invited to join in, enjoy the atmosphere, and celebrate the season with us.

To make these moments even more special, our Christmas Cracker Café will be open before each Sing-a-Long, serving festive refreshments to enjoy with family and friends.

All dates and times for performances and cafés can be found on the Calendar Dates page, above — we can't wait to celebrate with you!





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Together, they will create a lively performance to share with their teacher at the end of the session!

What a way to start the festive season!

Payment details have been sent out to all classes via Parent Mail





Notices



A MESSAGE FROM OUR PTA

Our wonderful PTA would like to extend a huge thank you to all families who have already donated items for our upcoming Christmas Fair. Your generosity is what makes the event such a success each year, and we are incredibly grateful.

If you are able to continue supporting, the PTA would still warmly welcome donations of chocolate and unwanted gifts for our ever-popular tombolas. Every little contribution helps to make the fair even more exciting for the children.

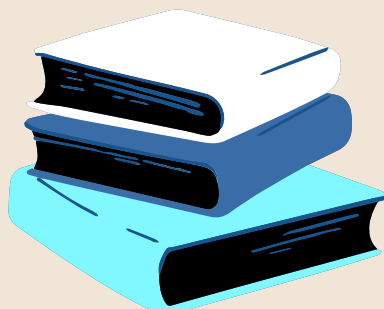
A quick reminder of our upcoming non-uniform days linked to the fair:

- Next Friday: Please bring a bottle for the Bottle Stall
- The Friday after: Donations of cakes for the Cake Stall (homemade or shop-bought treats are equally appreciated!)

We're also putting together a brand new stall - Sweet Treat Cups. If families have any spare sweets at home — perhaps even a few left over from Hallowe'en — we would be delighted to receive them. We kindly ask parents to fill decorated paper or plastic cups, ready to sell at the fair. Please send your filled cups into school during the week beginning Monday 1st December.

Any parents wishing to help run a stall would also be welcomed - please contact the PTA on their Facebook page (Hodge Clough primary PTA)

Thank you once again for your support — we really couldn't do it without you.



HODGE CLOUGH

NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents and Carers,

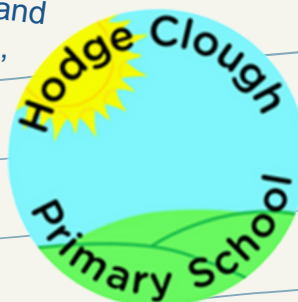
28TH NOVEMBER

Welcome to this week's newsletter! Across school, it has been assessment week, giving every child the opportunity to truly show off their learning and demonstrate just how far they have come. Alongside this, the children have also been out and about a lot too! Over the last week or so, our children have enjoyed some amazing educational visits that look to have been a lot of fun too! At Hodge Clough, we always love an opportunity to bring classroom learning to life!

As part of Year 3's history learning, the children enjoyed an exciting trip to Tatton Park, where they had a hands-on journey into early human history, exploring what life was really like in the Stone Age and beyond — from how people lived and worked to how their communities changed over time. They also learned how historians and archaeologists piece together the past using artefacts and other clues left by prehistoric people. The trip came alive the moment they stepped outside the classroom and gave them a real sense of how our ancestors lived, worked, and survived.

Year 4 also had an unforgettable day out in Chester visiting Deva Roman Experience — a journey that transported them back nearly 2,000 years to life as Roman soldiers in the fortress of Deva Victrix. Led by a real "Roman soldier", the children explored reconstructed Roman streets, bath-house, barracks, amphitheatre and marketplace, discovering how people lived, worked and defended the fort. The visit certainly gave the children a vivid, memorable understanding of Roman Britain that we hope will stay with them long after they returned to school.

Finally, Year 6 have visited JORVIK Viking Centre in York — and what an immersive day it was! As soon as they stepped inside, they travelled back in time to Viking-Age York: exploring excavated remains of the original settlement, then boarding the Centre's



HODGE CLOUGH

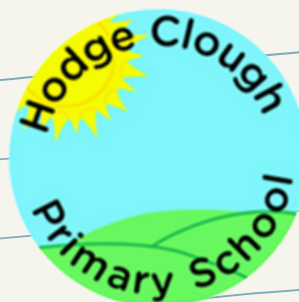
NEWSLETTER

28TH NOVEMBER

famous ride where lifelike Viking-age streets, homes, markets and daily life were brought vividly to life with sights, sounds — and even smells! The trip was made even richer by a stop at DIG where they stepped into the shoes of trainee archaeologists. Here, they underwent “archaeological training” — learning which types of materials survive over time and how finds from different periods are identified, giving them a fascinating insight into how archaeologists piece together clues from the ground to build a picture of life in the past — complementing what they saw in the Viking-era displays at JORVIK.

Have your children told you about our weekly Picture News assembly? Picture News is a weekly resource used in school to help our children explore current events in a safe, age-appropriate way. Each week, they discuss a real-world news story, learn new vocabulary, and consider different viewpoints. It supports key areas of our curriculum, including: British Values (Individual Liberty, Mutual Respect & Tolerance, Democracy & Rule of Law) and Protected Characteristics (understanding differences eg in religion or belief, age, disability and other characteristics). Take a look at our Picture News section below to find out what we have covered, each week!

Finally, today we said a very fond farewell to Miss McGarry in one of our Reception classes, and we know many families will want to join us in thanking her for everything she has given to our school. We feel incredibly lucky to have had Miss McGarry as part of the Hodge Clough family. Our children have truly been in the very best hands because of her genuine love, care and dedication — not just to her role, but to every single child she has worked with. She has brought so much to our Reception Team, and both the children and staff will miss her greatly. We wish her every happiness and success as she begins her next chapter.



HODGE CLOUGH

NEWSLETTER

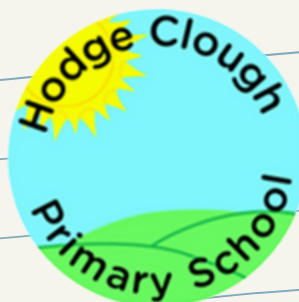
28TH NOVEMBER

At the same time, we are excited to welcome back Mrs Broadhurst, who will be returning to the EYFS team on Monday. Mrs Broadhurst has already visited the children and spent time working alongside Miss McGarry to ensure a smooth and successful handover. She returns with great enthusiasm and dedication for her role, and we look forward to giving her a very warm welcome back to school.

Until next week, I wish everyone a happy weekend!

Best wishes

Mrs Hodgkinson



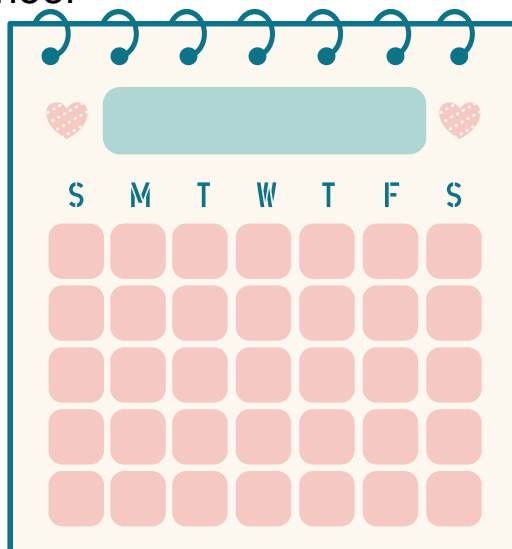


Notices



CALENDAR DATES

- 1.12.25** - Pantomime at Conduit Street
- 2.12.25** - Pantomime Workshops at Wilkes Street
- 5.12.25** - a non-uniform day in return for a £1 donation or cakes to sell that evening
- 5.12.25** - PTFA Christmas Fair after school
- 8.12.25** - 9.00am - 9.45am Year 1 Performance of Wriggly Nativity
- 9.12.25** - 9.00am - 9.45am Reception Performance of Wriggly Nativity
- 10.12.25** - 9.00am - 10.00am and 2.00pm - 3.00pm Year 5/6 Christmas Cracker Cafe and Christmas Sing-a-Long
- 15.12.25** - 9.00am - 10.00am and 2.00pm - 3.00pm Year 3/4 Christmas Cracker Cafe and Christmas Sing-a-Long
- 16.12.25** - 9.00am - 10.00am Christmas Cracker Cafe and Year 2 Christmas Performance
- 16.12.25** - Wilkes Street Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper Day
- 17.12.25** - Christmas Parties at Wilkes Street
- 17.12.25** - Conduit St Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper Day
- Conduit St Christmas Parties to be confirmed next week!
- 19.12.25** - Rock Steady Concert Day
- 19.12.25** - 'Special Visitor' in school
- 19.12.25** - Last day of term
- 5.1.26** - Return to school





Notices



WEEKLY AWARDS

Each week, we give out awards to children in every class to recognise their hard work and fantastic achievements. Parents will be notified. These awards are given out in our Proud Assembly. Here are the children who have proudly received their awards this week:

	PROUD AWARD FOR PROGRESS	PROUD AWARD FOR ACHIEVEMENT	VALUES AWARD
Reception Red Pandas	Harry	Isla	Daisy
Reception Meerkats	Zeyaan	Logan	Arabella
Y1 Leopards	Sulaiman	Hattie	Jack F
Y1 Monkeys	Emilia	Tommy	Kai
Y2 TN	Winter-Rose	Raven	Coby-Lee
Y2 JW	Callum	Reggie	Emily
Y3 SH	Robert	Max	Ivy-Mae
Y3 YG/RT	Aria	Ruby	Hallie
Y4 AM	Eliza	Adalynn	Ralphie
Y4 JR	Aisha	Edward	Vinny
Y5MO	Alfie	Rose	Phoebe
Y5LM	Aveah	Maisie	Hasanah
Y6SC	Joseph	Adila	Millie-Rae
Y6 LL	Jenson	Jude	Millie-Mae



Notices



PICTURE NEWS

McDonald's has trialled new plain Happy Meal boxes for children to colour and design, encouraging creativity and helping children express their feelings. Children discussed:

- Different ways we can be creative (art, music, dance, writing, drama).
- How creativity helps us share feelings and ideas.
- How packaging is changing to be more eco-friendly.



British Values this week:

- Individual Liberty and Mutual Respect – recognising that everyone expresses themselves differently.
- Protected Characteristic highlighted: Religion or belief – understanding that people may express feelings through their beliefs, and everyone should be included.

PANTO TIME!

We're excited to share that the festive season is bringing a burst of pantomime fun to Hodge Clough this year!

On 1st December, the children from Years 2–6 will enjoy a special performance of Dick Whittington and His Cat. With laughter, music and plenty of audience participation, it promises to be a wonderful pantomime experience to kick off the festive month.

Then, on 2nd December, children in Nursery, Reception and Year 1 will have a more active pantomime experience when they take part in West End in Schools' Pantomime Dance Workshops.

Each class will explore the traditional tales of either Aladdin or Cinderella, discovering characters, actions and panto traditions — including the all-important “It's behind you!”

Together, they will create a lively performance to share with their teacher at the end of the session!

What a way to start the festive season!

Payment details have been sent out to all classes via Parent Mail



Notices



PROUD ASSEMBLIES FOR PARENTS

For those who have attended one of our Parent Assemblies this half term, we hope you are enjoying the new look categories and certificates! To reflect our core value of Pride, we now have our Proud Awards for Achievement and for Progress. Each week, every class also chooses a child who has demonstrated one (or more) of our HEART Values - Happiness, Excellence, Attitude, Respect, Togetherness. Recently, we have noticed that Conduit St parents, that also have children at Wilkes St, are sometimes needing to leave Parent Assembly early in order to still be on time to pick up from the other site. It is a shame for parents to miss any part of this special event for families. Therefore, from the start of Spring Term (January, we will host Conduit Street Parent Assemblies in the mornings, from approximately 9.05am. Wilkes St Assemblies will continue to be held at the usual time on Tuesday mornings. We hope this will help everyone to enjoy a relaxed and enjoyable occasion!



CHRISTMAS FAIR

A reminder that next Friday is a non-uniform day in return for a donation of cakes for the Christmas Fair that will be held after school on Friday 5th December



Notices



CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCES

The festive season will soon be well and truly underway at Hodge Clough, and our Christmas performances will start filling the school with sparkle and song!

Our very youngest children are saving their performance magic until later in the year — we're sure it will be worth the wait!

Meanwhile, Reception and Year 1 are preparing to take to the stage with A Wiggly Nativity. Having already had past experience of this show, we can confidently promise plenty of joyful singing, enthusiastic actions, and at least one shepherd who just can't stop dancing. It's guaranteed to be delightfully wiggly from start to finish!

Over at Conduit Street, Year 2 will also be performing a special Christmas show, showcasing their hard work and wonderful enthusiasm.

Across the rest of the school, each year group will be hosting a Christmas Sing-a-Long, featuring a mix of modern favourites, iconic festive fun, and traditional classics. Parents and carers are warmly invited to join in, enjoy the atmosphere, and celebrate the season with us.

To make these moments even more special, our Christmas Cracker Café will be open before each Sing-a-Long, serving festive refreshments to enjoy with family and friends.

All dates and times for performances and cafés can be found on the Calendar Dates page, above — we can't wait to celebrate with you!





Notices

ATTENDANCE MATTERS



Every school day matters – it gives children stability, progress and connection with their learning and classmates. Research from the Education Endowment Foundation shows that children who attend regularly tend to perform better, socially and academically, and that good attendance is not simply about being in school, but also about belonging, feeling safe, and having the barriers removed.

At the same time we recognise that consistent attendance isn't always straightforward. Some children face particular challenges – illness, disability, emotional or social difficulties, transport or home circumstances – and for these children we must work together with families and external agencies to understand and address the causes, not simply the symptom of absence.

Here at Hodge Clough we believe that by encouraging every child, supporting every family, and creating a welcoming and inclusive environment, we give our pupils the best chance of being in school each day, on time, ready to learn and engage. Thank you for helping us build that partnership.



Here, every day, ready and on time

Minutes lost per day

5 minutes 10 minutes 15 minutes 20 minutes 25 minutes

equates to a yearly loss of:

3
days lost

6.5
days lost

10
days lost

13
days lost

19
days lost

Five minutes late
per day adds up to
three learning days
lost in a school year

If 15 minutes late each day
you will miss two full weeks
of school in one year

Poor timekeeping means less chance of success!

Where does your child sit on the attendance mountain?





Notices



THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS

Keep your eyes open for information that has been sent home via Parentmail for two important Christmas messages.

The Oldham School Toy Gift appeal will again be taking requests from families who wish to receive a Christmas present for their child/children. It is open to everyone, and all who request will receive a present. This service is designed to ensure that every child in Oldham receives at least one present this Christmas.

Hope Restoration are also again arranging Christmas Food Hampers for those families who would benefit from one for the Christmas period.

Both of these services are designed to support families who would benefit from a little help this Christmas.

Please use the Google form (link available in the Parentmail message) to submit your information included in, if either of these are something you would wish to receive.



HODGE CLOUGH NEWSLETTER

5TH DECEMBER 2025

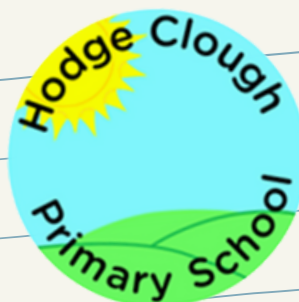
Dear Parents and Carers,

The festive season has truly begun at Hodge Clough, and the school is already full of Christmas cheer! Our Christmas trees are up, bringing a warm, seasonal sparkle to both sites!

We started off the week with a theatrical festive treat for the children. Conduit Street pupils enjoyed a lively performance of Dick Whittington, while children at Wilkes Street watched Aladdin on the big screen before taking part in exciting dance workshops inspired by the story.

Also, we've just packed away the last few bits from our Christmas Fair, and my first experience of this HCP extravaganza was amazing! The atmosphere was fantastic from start to finish. Families enjoyed a brilliant range of stalls — from candy floss and hot dogs to tombolas, creative crafts, fun-filled games, and a wonderful gift stall. And of course, we can't forget Santa in his incredible grotto, which truly captured the magic of the season! I felt so proud to be part of this event and to see our school community supporting one another with such warmth and enthusiasm. We hope everyone who came along had a fantastic time. Your support means so much to us, and we are genuinely grateful for the wonderful turnout and the kindness shown throughout the afternoon.

This week I have also have heard Wilkes Street Wiggly Nativity practices going well and Conduit St children are are busy preparing to perform a wonderful mix of modern and traditional festive classics.



HODGE CLOUGH

NEWSLETTER

5TH DECEMBER 2025

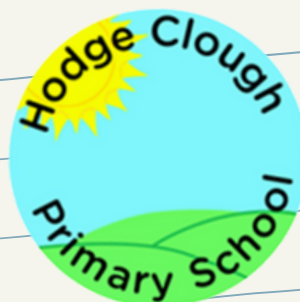
Across the curriculum, there has of course still been lots going on too: a Year 6 pupil was talking me through their latest DT project. I was especially impressed by the way pupils have been using their design skills so effectively to , build strong, stable pieces of model playground equipment including slides, swings and much more. It has been fantastic to see their creativity and teamwork in action! Our Nursery children have had an exciting week continuing to explore their topic, People Who Help Us. This week's focus was on the police, and the children loved taking their own fingerprints and learning how officers help to keep us safe.

In Reception, Mrs Pollitt and Mrs Broadhurst have been delighted with how confidently the children are tackling their Rainbow Challenges in Provision. Did you know that if they complete all their challenges, they earn a special visit to the Rainbow Café at the end of the week? It's proving to be a wonderful motivator and a lovely celebration of their hard work.

Year 1 have been busy in Maths with lots of subtracting, building confidence in using practical methods and written strategies to find the difference.

Meanwhile, in Year 5, the children have been diving into their History unit, learning all about how Christianity came to Britain—exploring early beliefs, key figures and how religion shaped life in the past.

At the moment, the whole school are engaged in Traditional Tales writing - perfect for the panto season - so I'm looking forward to reading the wonderful stories, characters and imagination this inspires!



HODGE CLOUGH

NEWSLETTER

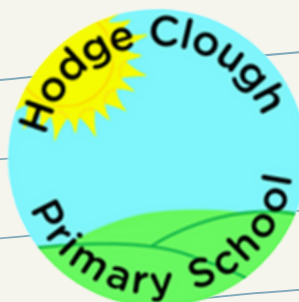
5TH DECEMBER 2025

The other big news this week is the welcome return of our site manager at Wilkes Street, Mr Kirk, who has been very much missed by staff and pupils alike - it has been great to have him and all the warmth and expertise he brings, back on site!

It really has been a magical start to December, and we're looking forward to sharing many more festive moments together over the coming weeks.

Best wishes

Mrs Hodkinson





Notices



PICTURE NEWS

This week's Picture News was a fantastic opportunity to re-inforce our value of Togetherness. It was inspired by the upcoming annual carol service hosted by Princess of Wales. Pupils reflected on how kindness, compassion and community can bring people together, even when the world feels divided. Through discussion and real-life examples, children explored how small actions—such as welcoming someone new or including others in play—can help everyone feel valued and that they belong. The message encouraged pupils to think about how they can show togetherness at school, at home and in the wider community through everyday acts of care and respect.



APPLYING FOR A RECEPTION PLACE

A reminder for parents of our current Nursery children and anyone who wishes to apply for a place in our Reception class for September 2026: the application period is open from 01 September 2025 to 15 January 2026. You must apply online at https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/200327/apply_for_a_school_place/3289/submit_an_application_for_a_school_place

Please remember that a place in our Nursery does not, unfortunately, guarantee a place in our Reception class and you must still apply online.





Notices



CHRISTMAS PARTIES

Our much-loved Christmas Party Days are just around the corner, and the children have lots to look forward to! These special days are a wonderful chance for pupils to celebrate the festive season with their classmates through games, treats and fun activities. Children are welcome to come to school in their own party clothes on their party day. Here are the details for each year group – we're sure the children will have a fantastic time!

Nursery, Reception and Year 1 will all have their Party Days on 17th

December

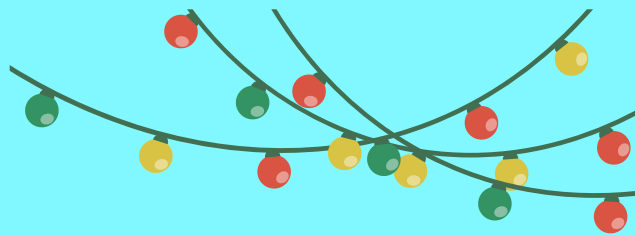
Year 2 -

Year 3 - 18th December

Year 4 - 17th December

Year 5 - 18th December

Year 6 - 19th December





Notices

As you may already know, all children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are currently entitled to Universal Infant Free School Meals. This means your child can enjoy a free, nutritious meal in school each day, without the need for applications. However, we would like to encourage all eligible families to also complete an application for Free School Meals (FSM).

You may be wondering why this is important if meals are already free. The answer is that registering for Free School Meals provides significant benefits both for families and for us at school including:

- additional funding for our school – for every child registered, the school receives extra funding known as Pupil Premium. This funding helps us to enhance learning opportunities, provide extra support, purchase resources, and improve the environment for all pupils.
- Holiday food vouchers – families who qualify for Free School Meals may receive supermarket vouchers over school holidays, helping with food costs when school meals are not available.
- Continued support beyond Year 2 – Free School Meals entitlement carries on into Key Stage 2, meaning your child can continue to receive free meals in later years.

Even if your child already receives a universal free meal, simply completing an application could make a real difference to us. The process is quick, confidential, and can help us provide the best support and opportunities for every child. Please use the link here to apply

https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/200231/grants_and_allowances/161/school_meals

If you think you may be eligible, or if you would like any help with the form, please don't hesitate to contact us — we are more than happy to assist.

Thank you for your continued support.



Notices

COMMUNITY EVENTS



At Hodge Clough, we are proud to be at the heart of our community and are always keen to share opportunities that bring our families together. We're delighted to let you know about two exciting upcoming events taking place at Sholver Community Centre this December.

On Thursday 11th, the Hope Restoration Event will be held as a free family event, offering entertainment, crafts and food for everyone to enjoy. This fantastic evening is being run by a small team of dedicated volunteers (including one of our own!) and is kindly supported by members of our PTFA and Oldham Play Action Group. The only optional cost on the night is a raffle, which will be raising funds to help Sholver secure a new defibrillator for the community.

Then on Saturday, the centre will be hosting a Christmas Fair, featuring chargeable gift stalls and the chance for children to meet Santa, all organised by the volunteer committee at the centre.

We hope many of our families will be able to attend one or both events and continue to help us strengthen the wonderful community spirit that makes Hodge Clough such a special place.





Notices



CALENDAR DATES

8.12.25 - 9.00am - 9.45am Year 1 Performance of Wiggly Nativity

9.12.25 - 9.00am -9.45am Reception Performance of Wiggly Nativity

10.12.25 - 9.00am -10.00am and 2.00pm - 3.00pm Year 5/6 Christmas Cracker Cafe and Christmas Sing-a-Long

15.12.25 - 9.00am -10.00am and 2.00pm - 3.00pm Year 3/4 Christmas Cracker Cafe and Christmas Sing-a-Long

16.12.25 - 9.00am - 10.00am Christmas Cracker Cafe and Year 2 Christmas Performance

16.12.25 - Wilkes Street Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper Day

17.12.25 - Christmas Parties at Wilkes Street

17.12.25 - Conduit St Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper Day

17.12.25 - Year 4 Christmas Party Day

18.12.25 - Year 3 and Year 5 Christmas Parties

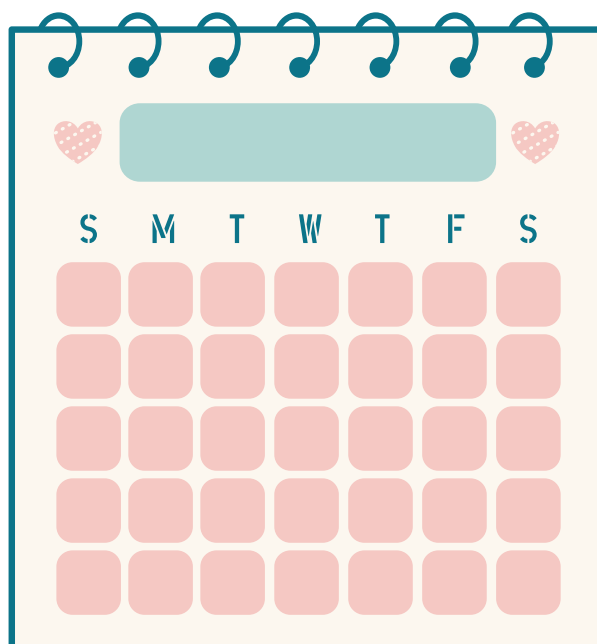
19.12.25 - Rock Steady Concert Day

19.12.25 - Year 6 Christmas Party

19.12.25 - 'Special Visitor' in school

19.12.25 - Last day of term

5.1.26 - Return to school





Notices



WEEKLY AWARDS

Each week, we give out awards to children in every class to recognise their hard work and fantastic achievements. Parents will be notified. These awards are given out in our Proud Assembly. Here are the children who have proudly received their awards this week:

	PROUD AWARD FOR PROGRESS	PROUD AWARD FOR ACHIEVEMENT	VALUES AWARD
Y2 TN	Amelia	Raees	Oscar
Y2 JW	Ralphie	Annie	Vinny
Y3 SH	Demi	Amayah	Inaya
Y3 YG/RT	Grace	Ellis	Ted
Y4 AM	Alyssia	Charlie	Noah
Y4 JR	Wyatt	Jenson	Tyrese
Y5MO	Emilyrose	Charlie	Edith
Y5LM	Jack	Annie	Adam
Y6SC	Kasper	Jaxon	Yusuf
Y6 LL	Annabel	Isaac	James

HODGE CLOUGH NEWSLETTER

12TH DECEMBER 2025

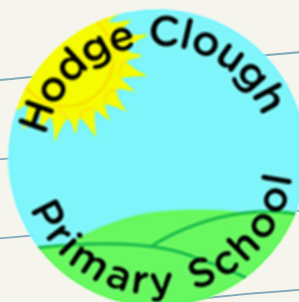
Dear Parents and Carers,

As we move through the final weeks of term, it has been a real joy to feel Hodge Clough once again filled with the magic of Christmas. Classrooms, corridors and the hall have been alive with excitement, creativity and festive cheer, creating a wonderful atmosphere for our children, staff and families.

I would like to extend a huge thank you to our PTA for their hard work and dedication in organising last week's Christmas Fair. It was a fantastic event, thoroughly enjoyed by the whole school community. We will share how much money was raised as soon as the final total has been confirmed.

This week, we were treated to two delightful performances of Wiggly Nativity by our Reception and Year 1 children. These were of course my first Hodge Clough nativities, so they were really special to me and I hope our families enjoyed them as much as I did! The children clearly loved being on the stage and, for such a young age, they delivered their lines with confidence, joining in the songs with huge enthusiasm and plenty of smiles!

Later in the week, it was lovely to welcome families to our very first Christmas Cracker Café at Hodge Clough. Parents enjoyed chatting over mince pies and coffee while waiting for the children in Years 5 and 6 to come in and entertain them with their Christmas songs. There really was something for everyone – from traditional to modern pieces, some fun, some tear-jerking, and even some dance moves to add to the festive spirit!



HODGE CLOUGH

NEWSLETTER

12TH DECEMBER 2025

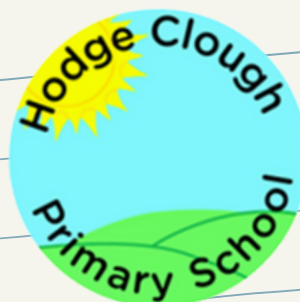
Next week it will be the turn of Years 2, 3, and 4 to bring on their own versions of festive cheer - if the practices I've heard are anything to go by, families should be in for some great performances!

We are also pleased to introduce a new weekly attendance reward to help celebrate and promote good attendance across school. Any class achieving 96% attendance or above will be rewarded with an extra 10 minutes of playtime that week. In addition, the class with the highest attendance at Conduit Street will earn the chance to proudly keep our attendance trophy in their classroom for the week. Over at Wilkes Street, the class with the highest attendance will be joined by our brand new Attendance Bear, who will spend the week in their classroom. All he needs now is a name - we look forward to hearing the children's suggestions!

Next week is of course our final week of term and there's lots to look forward to with Christmas Parties and our 'special visitor'! Have a wonderful weekend, and we'll see everyone on Monday!

Warm wishes

Mrs Hodgkinson





Notices

NEW SYSTEM FOR PE DAYS



From January, on the day when your child has PE, they must come to school wearing their PE kit **for the whole day**. This includes:

- the usual blue t-shirt
- navy blue shorts
- black pumps for indoor PE / non-branded trainers for outdoor PE

However, for the winter months, children must wear the following:

- plain black or navy tracksuit bottoms
- the usual blue t-shirt
- black PE pumps for indoor PE / unbranded trainers for outdoor PE
- a plain navy or black sweatshirt / zip-up sweatshirt to keep warm.

Please ensure that no branded items or football shirts are worn as part of the PE kit. It is still important that children look smart and part of the Hodge Clough family.

Having children arrive in their PE kits helps to save valuable learning time that would otherwise be spent changing and allows us to maximise the time available for the PE lesson itself. Thank you for your continued support in helping PE lessons run smoothly and effectively.





Notices



CAR PARK SAFETY

I would like to politely remind parents and carers about arrangements for driving onto the school site. Unless you have been given special permission, please do not drive onto Conduit Street or onto the school car park after 8.30am or after 3.00pm.

A number of parents have contacted me with concerns about this, which I fully echo. These times are particularly busy, with children arriving, leaving and moving around the premises, and our shared priority must always be to keep everyone safe. Reducing vehicle movement on and around the site at these times plays an important role in supporting that aim.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation in helping us maintain a safe environment for all our children.

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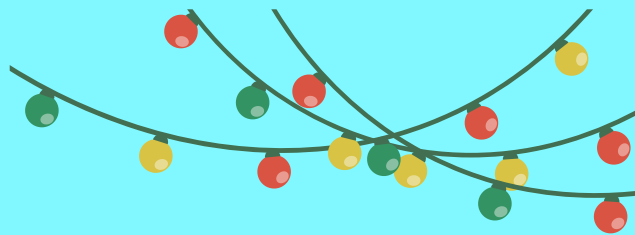
Year 2 - 17th December

Year 3 - 18th December

Year 4 - 17th December

Year 5 - 18th December

Year 6 - 19th December





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If you think you may be eligible, or if you would like any help with the form, please don't hesitate to contact us — we are more than happy to assist.
Thank you for your continued support.



Notices



CALENDAR DATES

15.12.25 - 9.00am -10.00am and 2.00pm - 3.00pm Year 3/4
Christmas Cracker Cafe and Christmas Sing-a-Long

16.12.25 - 9.00am - 10.00am and 2.00pm - 3.00pm Christmas
Cracker Cafe and Year 2 Christmas Performance

16.12.25 - Wilkes Street Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper
Day

17.12.25 - Christmas Parties at Wilkes Street

17.12.25 - Year 2 Christmas Party

17.12.25 - Conduit St Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper
Day

17.12.25 - Year 4 Christmas Party Day

18.12.25 - Year 3 and Year 5 Christmas Parties

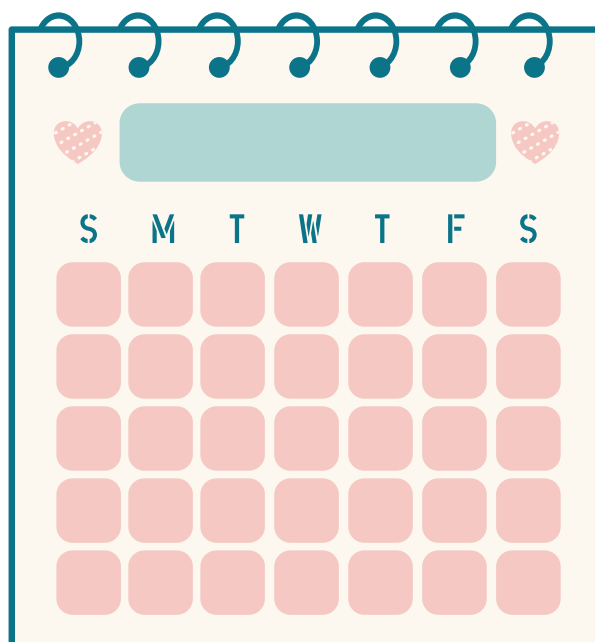
19.12.25 - Rock Steady Concert Day

19.12.25 - Year 6 Christmas Party

19.12.25 - 'Special Visitor' in school

19.12.25 - Last day of term

5.1.26 - Return to school



HODGE CLOUGH NEWSLETTER

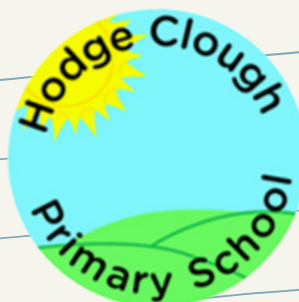
19TH DECEMBER 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

The magic of Christmas has certainly continued this week with another wonderful Christmas Cracker Café, led by our talented Year 3 and Year 4 pupils. They entertained everyone with a selection of fun and festive favourites, including *I Want a Hippopotamus for Christmas*, a brilliant rendition of *Twas the Night Before Christmas*, and an energetic performance of *The Twelve Days of Christmas*! It was an absolute joy to watch and listen to them and it looked like the parents thoroughly enjoyed the chance to see their children shine!

This was followed by a fantastic performance of *Santa Saves the Day* by our Year 2 pupils and it really did have us all tapping our feet and swaying to the beats of their brilliant songs! They brought the story to life with boundless energy, singing beautifully and delivering their lines with such confidence too! . It was clear that the children enjoyed every moment on stage!

In the midst of all this there have also been our brilliant Christmas parties, a fantastic Christmas Dinner Day and of course the arrival of our Special Visitor at Wilkes Street. We have also been delighted to welcome back the ever-popular Mary Butt, who once again visited the school to speak to the children during assembly. On this occasion, Mary helped the children reflect on the true meaning of Christmas, encouraging them to think beyond presents and celebrations to values such as kindness, generosity and caring for others. Her engaging and thoughtful approach captured everyone's attention and provided a timely reminder of the spirit of Christmas.



HODGE CLOUGH

NEWSLETTER

19TH DECEMBER 2025

'I've also just come out of my first Rock Steady concert and it was absolutely brilliant! Rock Steady is a fantastic live band music programme where children learn to play real instruments, work together as a band and perform to an audience - and they loved it! The confidence on display was amazing, and the children should be so proud of themselves. The Rock Steady team talked us through how much progress each band has made over the last term, and it was lovely to hear about their improving teamwork and musical skills. I can't wait to see how far they've come when we're back for the next concert!

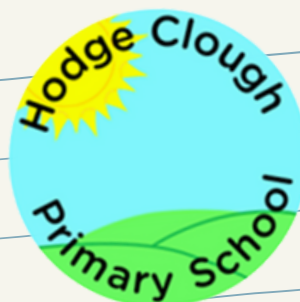
Just before I prepare to wish everyone a happy and relaxing holiday, I would like to take a moment to reflect. It's hard to believe that I am already at the end of my first term as the proud Headteacher of Hodge Clough - I have truly enjoyed it and I am so very grateful for the warm Hodge Clough welcome I have received from the children, staff and families. From the very start, I have been struck by the kindness, enthusiasm and strong sense of community that runs through our school. Whether it's attending events, communicating with staff, or supporting your children with their learning, your involvement is always appreciated.

We are a school on a journey and we are proud of everything we have achieved so far. There is always more we want to do to make our school the very best it can be, and we are excited about what lies ahead. I am incredibly proud to work with such a dedicated and caring staff team, and together we are committed to continuing to move the school forward for the benefit of all our children.

And so as we close the school gates on this Autumn Term, we hope you all enjoy the Christmas break and have the chance to relax and spend time with the people who mean the most to you.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Mrs Hodkinson





Notices



ATTENDANCE COUNTS

Hodge Clough has high expectations for all pupils' attendance and in line with National Guidelines, our expectation is that all children aim for at least 97% attendance. Regular attendance is extremely important for your child's wellbeing and progress and the impact of non-attendance at school and nursery significantly increases gaps in knowledge and understanding for children. Research has shown that this has a huge impact on their attainment, achievement and future life choices.

In recognition of the children who have been in school every day so far this term, we have also given out their 100% Attendance Certificates, this week!

Overall attendance 91.8% - lots of illnesses this week!

Under new government guidance, absolutely no holidays will be authorised in term-time and if you take your child out of school for more than 4.5 days, a fine has to be issued. School does not benefit from the income from fines, this all goes to the local council

This week's Attendance Trophy winners at Conduit Street were 5LM with 95.5%

At Wilkes Street the Attendance Bear has spent the week in Miss Pollitt's class - they stood at 96.3% attendance - well done!





Notices



END OF TERM REPORTS

Did you receive your child's end of term report? We hope you find this a useful overview of your child's achievements, so far this year. If you have any questions or would like to discuss the report further, please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher, who will be happy to help.

The next term in school is always an important time for learning, as children are settled into routines and ready to build securely on the foundations laid in the autumn. This is often when pupils make the strongest progress, develop greater independence and deepen their understanding across subjects, helping to set them up well for the rest of the school year. We will once again be holding Parent's Meetings next half term. Holding Parents' Meetings early in the spring term allows us to share progress, set clear next steps and work together to support children, while there's still time to act on advice.

APPLYING FOR A RECEPTION PLACE

A reminder for parents of our current Nursery children and anyone who wishes to apply for a place in our Reception class for September 2026: the application period is open from 01 September 2025 to 15 January 2026. You must apply online at https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/200327/apply_for_a_school_place/3289/submit_an_application_for_a_school_place

Please remember that a place in our Nursery does not, unfortunately, guarantee a place in our Reception class and you must still apply online.





Notices

NEW SYSTEM FOR PE DAYS



Don't forget that from January, on the day when your child has PE, they must come to school wearing their PE kit **for the whole day**. This includes:

- the usual blue t-shirt
- navy blue shorts
- black pumps for indoor PE / non-branded trainers for outdoor PE

However, for the winter months, children must wear the following:

- plain black or navy tracksuit bottoms
- the usual blue t-shirt
- black PE pumps for indoor PE / unbranded trainers for outdoor PE
- a plain navy or black sweatshirt / zip-up sweatshirt to keep warm.

Please ensure that no branded items or football shirts are worn as part of the PE kit. It is still important that children look smart and part of the Hodge Clough family.

Having children arrive in their PE kits helps to save valuable learning time that would otherwise be spent changing and allows us to maximise the time available for the PE lesson itself. Thank you for your continued support in helping PE lessons run smoothly and effectively.





Notices

As you may already know, all children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are currently entitled to Universal Infant Free School Meals. This means your child can enjoy a free, nutritious meal in school each day, without the need for applications. However, we would like to encourage all eligible families to also complete an application for Free School Meals (FSM).

You may be wondering why this is important if meals are already free. The answer is that registering for Free School Meals provides significant benefits both for families and for us at school including:

- additional funding for our school – for every child registered, the school receives extra funding known as Pupil Premium. This funding helps us to enhance learning opportunities, provide extra support, purchase resources, and improve the environment for all pupils.
- Holiday food vouchers – families who qualify for Free School Meals may receive supermarket vouchers over school holidays, helping with food costs when school meals are not available.
- Continued support beyond Year 2 – Free School Meals entitlement carries on into Key Stage 2, meaning your child can continue to receive free meals in later years.

Even if your child already receives a universal free meal, simply completing an application could make a real difference to us. The process is quick, confidential, and can help us provide the best support and opportunities for every child. Please use the link here to apply

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