

8th December 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

School Fence Update

We have finally had confirmation from the Local Council regarding the boundary of the school field fence. We have secured a meeting with the contractor next week which means that work will finally begin at some point in the New Year. We would like to thank the school and wider community for the huge efforts that everyone went to in securing funds for the fence. We will keep you updated on the progress.



Pinnacle Learning Trust parent/carer meeting

Information was sent out earlier this week. A reminder that parents/carers are invited to a further meeting with the Headteacher Jenny Seabright and CEO Jayne Clark (The Pinnacle Learning Trust) on Monday 11th December at 9.30am. We look forward to welcoming you then.



REMINDER - Christmas Lunch for all

Last year's Christmas Lunch was a huge success and ran smoothly over two days. This week, letters have been handed out to children and if families would like to share in the festivities, then please fill in the letter and send into school with the correct amount of money. It is based on a first come first serve basis and you will receive a confirmation once you have secured a place. We look forward to welcoming families on either Wednesday 13th or Thursday 14th December at 11.15am.



Hand Hygiene

As we go into winter, common illnesses can keep children and teenagers away from their classmates and studies. One of the best things we can all do to avoid illness is to practice good hand hygiene.

Good hand hygiene helps stop infections from spreading, which means less disrupted learning time.



Teach your child to wash hands properly for 20 seconds and stay away from others when sick. The e-bug [resources](#) for all ages can help you to explain and discuss hygiene habits – and why they are important - to your child or teenager.

To avoid catching bugs or passing it on to others wash your hands frequently and thoroughly with soap and warm water. This is most important following an episode of diarrhoea or vomiting, after using the toilet, before eating or preparing food, after changing nappies, as well as cleaning up vomit or diarrhoea. Alcohol-based hand sanitisers are not effective against some infections.

Anyone who has diarrhoea and/or vomiting should stay at home. Do not return to work or send children to school until 48 hours after the symptoms have stopped and do not visit your GP or hospital while symptomatic. If you are concerned about your symptoms, talk to your GP by phone,

contact NHS 111 or visit the [NHS web pages](#). For useful hand-washing tips please have a look at the [following NHS video](#).

Food Vouchers to cover the Christmas Holiday 2023.

You may have read in the local media that Oldham Council has been allocated funding to support vulnerable residents through its Household Support Fund. Some of this funding will be used to cover food voucher support for children eligible for means tested Free School Meals over school holidays.



We want to ensure that those eligible for free school meals on the grounds of low income receive a food voucher to cover the holiday at a rate of £40 per eligible child.

The most effective way of ensuring vulnerable families receive the vouchers that can be used in the Oldham supermarket of their choice, is via a third-party online hub – known as WONDE.

WONDE is a data integration company already used by many schools in Oldham who offer a free school meal voucher system. This voucher system has a live link to your school's data, therefore it automatically recognises the students who are eligible for Free School Meals. The system should be quick and easy to use and produces the vouchers that can be used in most Oldham supermarkets.

If your child is entitled to income based free school meals, please look out for an email and/or text confirming that your voucher has been issued.

For more information go to: <https://help.evouchers.com/hc/en-gb> This includes a step by step guide of how to access the vouchers (once your school has issued them to you).

If you have any questions, please contact the school in the first instance.

For any families that are really struggling for food and provisions over the school holiday, please visit the Oldham Council website www.oldham.gov.uk/wecanhelp which lists financial support and benefits that are available for residents.

Oldham HAF Winter Website is Live

The [Holiday Activities and Food programme \(HAF\)](#) is a government initiative that aims to provide healthy food and enriching activities during school holidays, primarily to children and young people aged 5 to 16 who are eligible for free school meals. It is funded by the [Department for Education \(DfE\)](#).

The Oldham HAF Winter website is now live: www.whatsonoldham.org The website contains information about the 'Activities for All' offer.

More activities may be added as the month progresses so please keep checking the website for the most up to date information.

Stop Loan Sharks Christmas Campaign 2023 #ShopSmartNotShark

England Illegal Money Lending Team have developed a Christmas campaign toolkit to raise awareness and to stop Loan Sharks.



With the closure of many legal lenders over the past couple of years there is a real fear of more families turning to borrowing from a loan shark, especially over Christmas.

Amazing Attendance last week and this week - AGAIN

We wish to celebrate with our school community how fantastic our current school attendance has continued to be.

A super well done to the classes below for achieving over 95% attendance last week - On Thursday this week we achieved 97.2%

Classes 1, 2, 4, 5, 8 and 12

Class 1 enjoyed their breakfast waffles this week as they gained the highest attendance in school.

Let's get reading - BOOM Reader

"If you are going to get anywhere in life you have to read a lot of books." - Roald Dahl

Well done to all the children and families who have logged onto Boom reader. We are pleased to announce the most home reading logs recorded on Boom reader this week.



Position	Name	Reads at home
First Place	Ahminah Siddiqa Class 2 Aleena Ahmed Class 6	7 parent home reads
Second place	Adam Khan Class 3 Lyara Goncalves Sanches Class 8 Zara Yasin Class 8 Zulekha Jabeen Class 11 Aqilah Gul Class 10	6 parent home reads
Third Place	Safa Bashir Class 12 Mohammad Isaac Khan Class 12 Ariana Yasar Class 11 Muhammad Yaseen Class 11 Unaysah Hussain Class 1 Jawayriyah Imran Class 1 Yaqoob Khan Class 3 Affan Mazhar Class 3 Bilal Malik Samokhvalova Class 9	5 parent home reads



Spelling Shed Winners

Place	Total points awarded for correct spellings	Child
1st	42,421,580	Hareem Almas Class 12
2nd	33,064,000	Haroon Mohammad Class 9
3rd	26,617,640	Mustasim Muhammad Class 4

TT Rockstars - CELEBRATIONS!



The most accurate Class	Class 2 (94%)
The most active class	Class 4 (97%)
The most improved speed	Ajwa Noor Class 10
The most active player	Ayaan Ali Class 4

Word Aware

This week's word is **'ferocious.'**

Please encourage your child to use this word when out and about and complete the activities.



Christmas in Oldham



[Click on this link to watch Ollie and Millie's Christmas in Oldham](#)