

Principal's Newsletter 4th April 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Sand Pit



We are so pleased to see our children enjoying the experience of our new school sandpit in the playground. We hope our families have seen the wonderful photographs that have been shared on Class Dojo. Who knows what the next experience will be!

Choral Speaking

The Rotary Club came to present Class 11 with the Penultimate Winning Trophy yesterday in assembly because they have officially come first in Oldham's Junior Choral Speaking Competition. There were over 80 schools and 2,500 children that were entered. Well done to Class 11 and their teachers a credit to themselves and our school!



Easter Egg Raffle

Thank you to Mrs Griffin for organising the Easter Egg raffle. The draw was held in assembly yesterday. There is still one egg that has not been claimed. The raffle ticket numbers are 496 and 499. Please contact the office if you have the winning ticket.

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	Farhaan Mohammad Class 1	21parent reads
Second Place	Aryaan Ahmed Class 5 Zayaan Muhammad Class 5	10 parent reads
Third Place	Alyssa Islam Class 1	8 parent reads

Spelling Shed Winners



Top Spelling Shed Pupils

#	Avatar	Pupil	Groups	Score
1.		Fatimah NAZIR	Class 5 24/25, Mr Ahmed, Mrs Miah Group 2 stage 2	6,487,536
2.		Muhammad Ayaz HUSSAIN	Class 4 24/25, Mrs Mellor - phonics Y4	2,935,364
3.		Ayesha Mallick Naureen	Class 3 24/25, Year 3 Spelling group Miss Ali	2,299,586



TT Rockstars – CELEBRATIONS!

The most accurate Class	Class 11
The most active Class	Class 5
The most improved speed	Aayan Ali Class 6
The most active player	Anum Ahmed Class 9

Word Aware

This week's word is 'furnace.'

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



Attendance

Well done to the below classes for achieving 95% or above the week before the half term.

1, 3, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11 and 12.

Class 9 who received their waffle treat as they had the highest attendance in school – WELL DONE!



Tutors

For the attention of parents and carers please find attached a flyer that sets out the safeguarding considerations, legalities and responsibility involved in engaging in a private tutor. This is especially relevant in the lead-up to school examinations.

Easter Bunny Hunt

Families are in for a treat this Easter as Oldham town centre hosts a fun-filled Easter Bunny Hunt from Monday 7 to Monday 21 April 2025 – and everyone's invited to take part.

The challenge is simple: find the mischievous bunnies hiding around town, record their names and locations on an entry form, and pop it into one of the special post boxes. Forms can be collected from Spindles (near Next) or the Market (near the Market Office).

Once the hunt ends on 21 April, all completed forms will be entered into a draw to win an exciting prize.



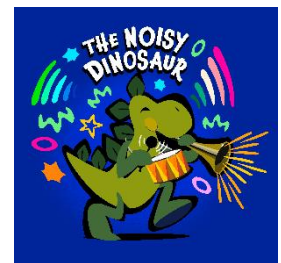
On Good Friday 18 April, the Easter Bunny will be hopping into town.

There will also be craft activities and face painting for little ones to enjoy, so make sure to join in and create some Easter memories with your family. That's not all, the 35th Oldham Beer and Cider Festival is also back this April at the Queen Elizabeth Hall on Friday 11 and Saturday 12 April with

The Noisy Dinosaur and The Naughty Fox

Oldham Coliseum is hosting two magical, multisensory shows filled with fun and friendship for 0-5-year-olds at Billingtons on Ascroft Street, OL1 1HY, on **Wednesday 9 April 2025**.

Join The Noisy Dinosaur and a whole host of cuddly creatures as they work together to find their voices and make some noise.



And you can snuggle up in a magical den for the story of The Naughty Fox.

Set in the magical forest, Fox goes on an adventure to learn an important lesson that sharing is caring.

Tickets for each show cost £9, or you can see both shows for just £4.50 more.

Book now by **clicking here**.

[The Noisy Dinosaur](#)

Oldham Council Working You - New Edition

The latest edition of OCWFY is now landing through the letterboxes of every resident in the borough!



This edition is packed with updates on the exciting changes happening across Oldham, including:

2,000 new homes – delivering more quality housing for residents across the borough.

A new town centre park – transforming Oldham’s heart into a greener, more welcoming place.

The Egyptian Room – now open as a new food and drink hub in the town centre.

And much more on regeneration, community initiatives, and local investment.

[Oldham Council Working For You - Spring 2025 | Oldham Council](#)

'Walk N Talk' event for dads held in Alexandra Park

The first 'Walk N Talk' event for dads and their children was held in our stunning Alexandra Park on Tuesday 11 March 2025

The walk is hosted by Dad Matters, a project supporting dads on their parenting journeys, with Pennine Care NHS Talking Therapies Oldham.

Eddie White, coordinator for Dad Matters Oldham, was joined on the walk by Derek McDonald, community worker for Spark Oldham which develops programmes to support people at all stages of their life.

Eddie said: “It’s a good way of getting dads to come to us as it’s more relaxed. It could make a big difference if they come along and meet another dad in the same boat.”

And Derek said: “This walk is good for health and wellbeing while signposting dads to the information and services they need.”



The next 'Walk N Talk', for dads and their babies, from conception to two years old, will be at **10-11.30am on Tuesday 3 June 2025**, meeting outside the café at Alexandra Park.

And at **10-11.30am on Tuesday 15 April 2025** there is a sensory play session at Oldham Library.

Point of Contact: dadmatters@homestarthost.org.uk

Wishing everyone a safe and happy holiday and for our families celebrating wishing you a Happy Easter. We return to school on Tuesday 22nd April.



Guide for Parents

Choosing a Private Tutor

Parents/Carers may consider employing a Tutor for a variety of reasons, including assisting their child with schoolwork, to help build confidence with a particular subject, to help improve potential exam grades or help them develop skills such as playing an instrument. Engaging a Tutor is a private arrangement. You are solely responsible for ensuring this is a safe arrangement and that relevant checks are in place to ensure your child is protected.

There are no legal regulations around certain types of activities with children. Even people who have committed a criminal offence can legally work in some roles eg Children's Entertainer, Private Tutor. Anyone can set up a professional looking website with "genuine" reviews and testimonials.

Choosing a Private Tutor or coach

- Always interview the Tutor or coach
- Ask to see personal references and confirm their authenticity by contacting the referees
- Ask to see their original qualification certificates
- Ask to see their CV and employment record. If there are career gaps, ask reasons and seek evidence
- If the Tutor is a qualified teacher, ask to see a copy of their Teaching Agency Registration and a copy of the DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) check
- If the Tutor has recently been or is currently employed in a school, speak to the Headteacher for a reference
- If the Tutor is freelance or works as a supply teacher, ask to see their DBS.

Don't assume that because someone is well known that you can trust these checks are in place.

Keeping your child safe

Tuition at home is best undertaken in a quiet location suitable for study, away from the distractions of television, radio and social media. **A bedroom is never appropriate.**

It is essential that you or another trusted adult always remains on the premises.

- Always ensure your child is aware of any arrangements made for tuition.
- Any online session must be arranged between yourself and the Tutor directly, not with the child.
- Any contact outside of activities should be directly with you, not the child
- Any chaperone arrangement offered by the Tutor should be declined

Professionals should welcome your vigilance as it also provides protection for them. If they do not appear to understand your request or are resistant, you should be wary of this.



**OLDHAM SAFEGUARDING
CHILDREN PARTNERSHIP**

Supporting your child

You can also support your child to be clear on how professionals should behave to spot the signs and let you know boundaries are being blurred. For example:

- A Tutor is not a friend, they should always behave in a professional way like a teacher
- They should never ask for a child's personal information or contact details, or share their own directly with a child
- They should never message your child privately or on social media networks
- They should never ask to meet without your approval

If anything happens or is said that makes your child feel uncomfortable, scared or upset they must tell you or another trusted adult as soon as possible.

More advice

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/keeping-children-safe-in-out-of-school-settings-code-of-practice>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/away-from-home/find-tutor-child/>

What to do if your child tells you something inappropriate happens

If you are concerned that the Tutor/coach has engaged in poor practice, ie has not done the right thing, we advise parents to cancel the activity or keep your child away from the activity until advice has been sought

Any adult who behaves in an inappropriate or abusive manner with a child must be reported to Children's Social Care. If your child tells you of inappropriate behaviour, reassure them that it is not their fault.

Inform the **Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO)** if you have any concerns where it is believed that a person working with children has:

- Behaved in a way that has harmed a child or may have harmed a child
- Possibly committed a criminal offence against or related to a child
- Behaved towards a child in a way that indicates they may pose a risk of children
- Behaved or may have behaved in a way that indicates they may not be suitable to work with children

Contact details for Local Authority Designated Officers (LADO)

Email: allegation.management@oldham.gov.uk

Phone: 0161 770 8870 / 0161 770 0008

If you are concerned about the welfare of a child, please contact Duty and Advice on 0161 770 7777

If you feel a crime has been committed, contact the Police on 101 or 999 if there is immediate danger