



Hunslet Moor Primary School
Headteacher: Miss H Darley
Telephone: 0113 271 7257
Email: Enquiries@hunsletmoor.co.uk

Spring Term Newsletter – March 2025



Dear Parents/Carers and families,

We would like to thank you for your ongoing support and share some important information for this term and share key dates for the remainder of the school year.

Staff News

Mrs Frankland, has made the decision to leave Hunslet Moor early in the summer term. Her last day of work will be Wednesday 30th April 2025. We wish her all the best. From the start of the Summer term, Miss Bolger will work full- time and in order to ensure we have enough leaders not in class, will no longer be teaching in Reception B on a Monday. Instead, Mr Owen, a qualified teacher who joined the early years team back in November, will take up the job- share with Mrs Browne until the end of this academic year.

Since our last staff news we are also pleased to welcome Miss Eddington, Mrs Shajat, Miss McLeish-Longthorn, Miss Hargreaves, Miss Dixon, Miss Hussain and Miss Todd who are working as Inclusion Support Workers across School and Mrs Mirfin who is working in Year 3 as a Teaching Assistant.

Absence for the religious observation of EID

As a school we understand there will be families observing EID and for some, whilst the exact date is unknown, it is expected to happen at some point next week. If this is the case for your family, please ensure you inform where possible in advance of the 1 day your child will be absent from school.

Arooj

We are thrilled to celebrate the incredible achievement of three talented pupils who have been shortlisted for the prestigious Arooj Writing Competition! This remarkable recognition is a credit to their hard work, creativity, and passion for storytelling and poetry. The awards ceremony, set to take place at Leeds Civic Hall on April 30th, promises to be an unforgettable occasion, filled with excitement and inspiration. It is also a special honour for our Spring School Choir, who have been invited to perform at this excellent event. As this marks the final year of the Arooj competition, it adds

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even more significance to the occasion, making it a truly memorable celebration of young talent and artistic expression. Congratulations to all the finalists – we couldn't be prouder!

Free School Meals Eligibility

Some of our families may be eligible to apply for Free School Meals, but are unsure of what the criteria is or how to claim. Please see the information below:

DO I QUALIFY FOR HELP?

You can claim Free School Meals for any child (including in Nursery) who normally lives with you and who is classed as being under your parental care. To get Free School Meals you must receive one of the following benefits:

- Universal Credit (and your net combined household income is less than £7,400 a year after tax)
- Income Support, Pension Guarantee Credit, Income-based Job Seekers Allowance.
- Income-related Employment Support Allowance
- Child Tax Credit Only (With No Working Tax Credit) and your Annual Taxable Income does not exceed £16,190.

If you live in the Leeds area, you can claim online by clicking the following link - <https://www.leeds.gov.uk/schools-and-education/apply-for-free-school-meals> .

If you need support to apply please visit one of our Wednesday coffee mornings or speak to the School Office.

Attendance and Punctuality

For children to make progress in their learning and achieve their potential it is critical that they are in school every day. Every day or half day lost to non-attendance has a significant impact as children miss critical learning and fall behind.

This is why we are asking all of our parents/carers and children to work with us to improve attendance and punctuality across the Spring and Summer term. Attendance data can be misleading; a 90% score in a test would seem very positive, however 90% attendance means that a child is classed as **persistently absent** and will have **missed 19 school days** across the school year. Our whole school attendance is currently 93.2% which is slightly lower than this time last year. We hope you will continue to work with us to get this figure even higher this year.

We expect to see children in school every day unless they are very unwell and it is a critical part of our safeguarding expectations to ensure children are in school and learning. **We know that you will all**

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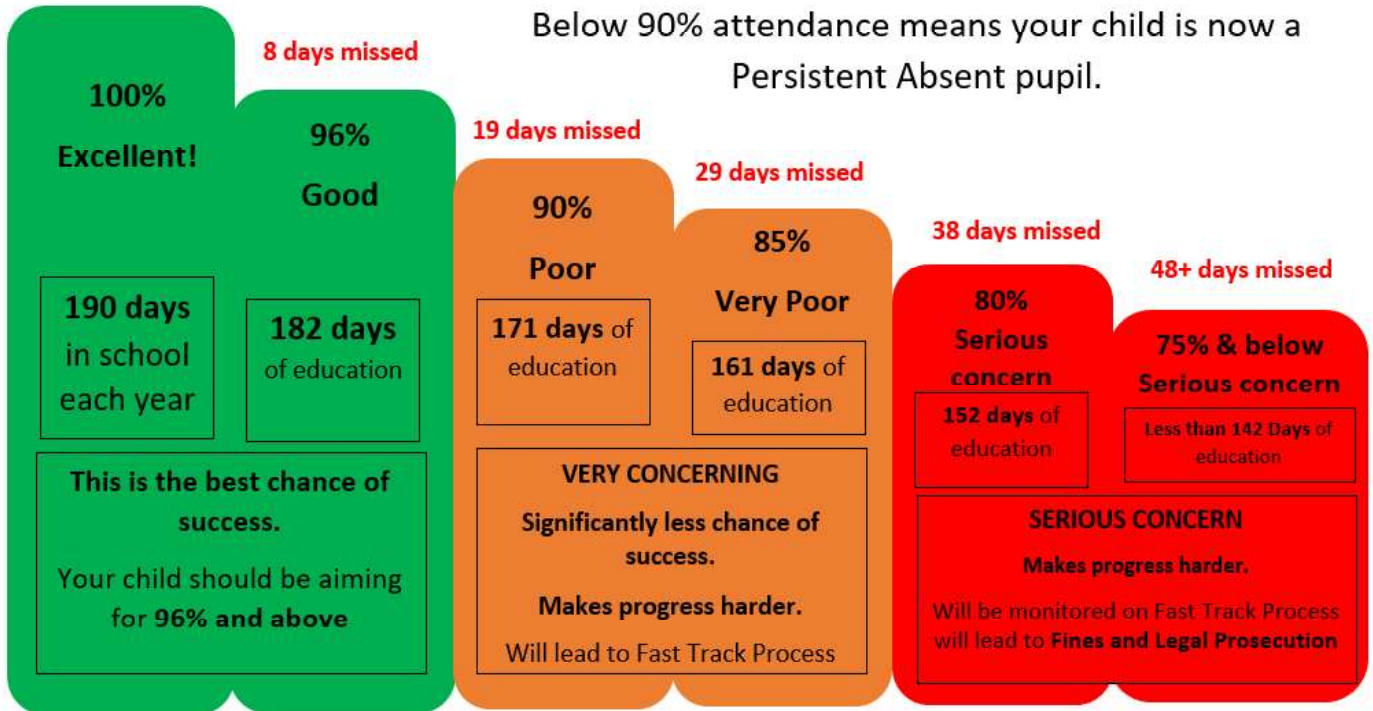
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share our high expectations that your child/children achieve the best that they can, and for this to be possible we need your support in making sure their attendance is above 96%.

190 school days: opportunities to learn, make progress and achieve their potential



There are 175 non-school days in a year to spend on family time, holidays, shopping and non-essential medical appointments.

Please can we ask every parent/carer to work with us to achieve the best for your child/children

- that children are only absent if they are very unwell and not able to be in school
- if your child is ill please notify the school on the first day of absence before 9.15am either in person at the school Office or by phone. There is a dedicated absence line if you would like to leave a message
- contact school every day of a child's absence or inform the school Office if your child will be absent for more than 1 day.
- whenever possible, appointments should be arranged outside normal school hours to prevent disruption to the child's education. This includes optician, dentist, Doctor and Job Centre appointments. For all leave within the school day you will be asked to complete a request form. Leave for appointments will only be authorised, through the sharing of a letter, appointment card or text being provided. We will not authorise leave for parental appointments unless in emergency situations.

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Our school attendance policy is in line with the local authority expectations. In line with our policy we will:

- contact home on the first day of all absences if no message has been received from home, either by phone or in person by visiting the home;
- contact home over any absences which are of concern;
- meet with parents/carers and children to set targets for improving attendance and identify individual support plans where required;
- carry out fast track initiatives to support the management and improvement of attendance throughout the school;
- involve Attendance Improvement Officers and school Governors where there are on-going concerns regarding a child's attendance (this could result in a penalty notice fine being issued and/or parents being required to attend a court hearing where attendance does not improve).

Punctuality

Please ensure that your child/children arrive in time for the start of the school day. All children should be arriving through their classroom doors. Our school gates are open from 8.40am and classroom doors open at 8.45am.



Children should be in their class from 8.45am.

Gates close at 8.55am so please ensure you are at school by 8.50am at the latest. Arriving after this severely impacts children's learning and means they may miss the breakfast we provide for every child at the start of each day. Where parents are dropping off children late they will be expected to access School via the Hall/School Office and speak to a Senior leader in School about the reason for being late.

Celebrating attendance

Please work together with us to ensure every child achieves their potential with attendance that is 96% or above!

We have some exciting rewards in place this term for children who have good attendance:

Daily Reward- In class praise for the children who attend each day.

100% Reward – 5 DREAMS points for each day they have attended.

Weekly Reward– The class with the best attendance each week receive cookies in class, the attendance bear and 5 minutes extra play time.

Half Termly Reward– The class with the most attendance points for the half term will receive a movie afternoon with popcorn.

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Termly Reward – The students with 100% attendance will be invited to our spring tea party! The class with the highest attendance points will be treated to a movie and popcorn.

We will keep you updated of our celebration of attendance through our social media and school website.

Support for families

Please see links below where parents/carers can access support. If you are experiencing any difficulties, please do not hesitate to contact the school office and we can look at how we can best support you.

[Together Leeds](#) (information on where to get help and support)

[Zero Waste Leeds - We're building a movement to help make Leeds a zero waste city by 2030](#) (school uniform exchange, together for sport, free winter coats)

<https://leedsbabybank.org/> (provide equipment and clothing for babies and young children)

<https://costoflivingsupport.campaign.gov.uk/help-with-your-bills/> (Income support)

<https://costoflivingsupport.campaign.gov.uk/help-with-childcarecosts/> (Help with your bills)

<https://costoflivingsupport.campaign.gov.uk/help-with-transportcosts>

[BBC Children in Need Emergency Essentials Programme | Family Fund](#) (grants for essential items)

[Deliver beds and basics to children in poverty. \(zarach.org\)](#) (provide bed bundles)

[Leeds Community Trust » Grants](#) (provide grants for items)

www.leedsandmoortown.org.uk (provide used furniture)

Important Term Dates

Easter holiday:

Monday 7th April – Monday 21st April (Children finish Friday 4th April and back in school Tuesday 22nd April 2025)

Early May Day Bank Holiday (School Closed)

Monday 5th May 2025

May Half term holiday week:

Monday 26th May – Friday 30th May (Children finish Friday 23rd May and back in school Monday 2nd June 2025)

Last day of term for pupils (start of summer holidays):

Friday 18 July 2025

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Remaining Training days (no pupils in school):

- Monday 21 July 2025
- Tuesday 22 July 2025

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