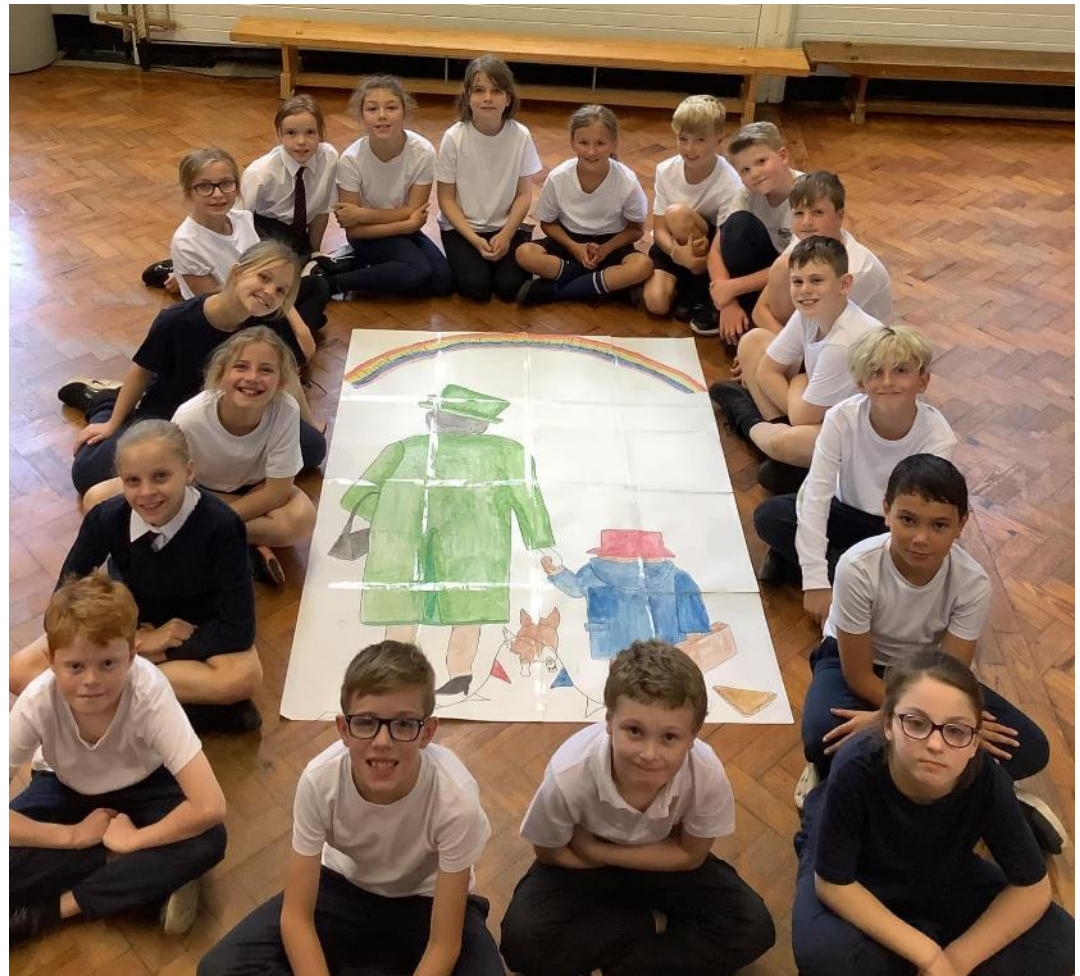


*Thank you, Ma'am.  
May you now rest in peace.*

The pupils, staff and governors of Diggle School would like to send their heartfelt condolences to The Royal Family on the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. We thank her for her long and dedicated years of service, she was a true inspiration.

First thing this morning years 1 - 6 came together for an assembly to celebrate The Queen's life. We talked about how hard working she was and watched a video from Newsround about her life. The children all enjoyed her meeting with Paddington.

Then just before playtime we came together as a whole school in the playground and observed a minutes silence where we thought about all our happy memories of the Jubilee in June.



Last school year, after the Platinum Jubilee, each member of Class 3 wrote a letter to the Queen telling her about the celebration events at school and others they had attended.

Mrs Spencer sent these letters, along with a cover letter, a photograph of our school artwork from the main entrance, and information about the racing pigeon the Queen had kindly gifted to the school a few years ago.

We then eagerly but patiently awaited a reply. On the 8th September, the date of the Queen's death, her reply arrived in the post at school. Today, each class listened to the letter and the children who sent their letters received a copy to keep. We wanted to share it with you.

In 1977, the children of class 2 wrote to the Queen, and at that time, the then lady in waiting also wrote back, thanking the class.



Diggle School  
Sam Road  
Diggle  
Oldham  
OL3 5PU

Your Majesty,

Here at Diggle school, we have been honoured to be able to celebrate Your Majesty's Platinum Jubilee. As a school, we came together wearing red, white and blue. We danced our way through the decades of Your Majesty's reign wearing our crowns; each class choosing a dance from that decade. Flags were waved and the children's singing of the National Anthem echoed through the Saddleworth valley. The parents really enjoyed our performance.

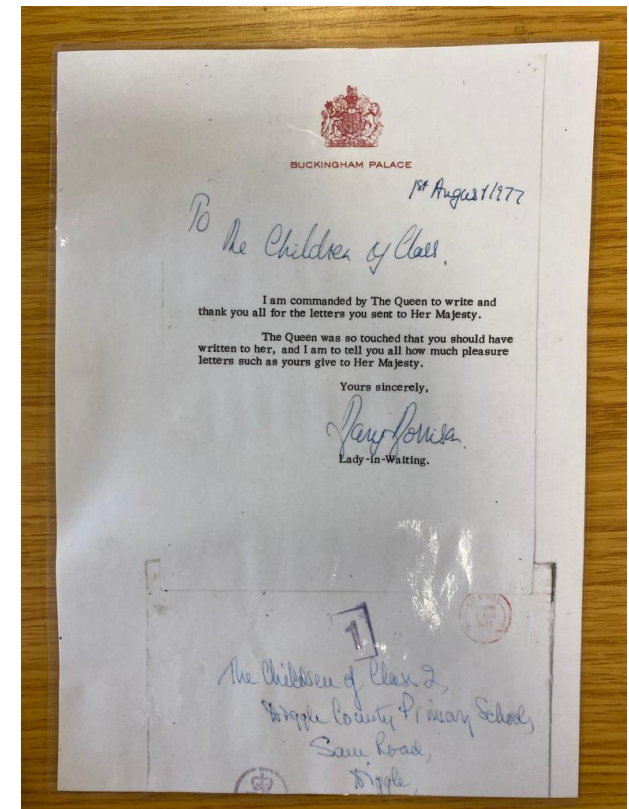
As part of our celebrations, each class created a picture of Your Majesty using a different style. The juniors chose the pop artists Andy Warhol, Bridget Riley, Jackson Pollock and Roy Lichtenstein as their inspiration. Our joint effort is on show in the school entrance and another at the local Band Club. We have sent a photograph and hope Your Majesty likes it.

We hope Your Majesty enjoyed the Party at the Palace and the Platinum Pageant. Those of us who saw it on the television certainly did and one of our class was lucky enough to be there in person. He said it was amazing! The nation really did pull together and show how we hold Your Majesty in high regard, and may Your Majesty continue to reign for many more years to come.

On another note, we would like to tell Your Majesty that the racing pigeon Your Majesty gave Diggle School in 2019 (19ER00001) is still flying strong.

I have the honour to remain Your Majesty's most humble and obedient servant,

Mrs Nicola Spencer  
(Class teacher -on behalf of Class 3, Diggle School)





## HEADTEACHER'S COMMENTS



Welcome back, I hope you all had a wonderful summer break. The children have certainly all returned calm, focused and ready to tackle the new term with gusto. Here's hoping for a lovely normal year.

I visited all the classes on Tuesday and was amazed at how quickly everyone had settled back into classroom routines. The class teachers have all been very impressed.

A huge welcome to the Reception Class of 2022. They have had a fantastic first week coming in for half days Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Today has been their first full day and they have been brilliant.

All the classes have been giving you a window into their week on Facebook, if you know of anyone with a child who is looking for a Reception place for September 2023 please be sure to point them in the direction of our Facebook page so that they can get a flavour of what Diggle School is all about.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Mon 19th-Fri 30th Sept** - FODS penny wars
- Wed 28th Sept & Wed 5th Oct** - Reception class parent workshops
- 5th Oct** - y5&6 visit to Stockport Air raid Shelter
- Mon 10th Oct** - Open Day 9-10.30 or 1.30-3
- Tues 11th Oct** - Get to Know FODS
- Thurs 20th Oct** - FODS Break the Rules day  
- Finish for Half term
- Fri 22nd Oct** - Staff inset day - school closed to pupils
- 31st Oct** - back to school
- W/c 7th Nov** - Parents Evening meetings
- Tues 13th Dec** - am Music Groups xmas concert  
Pm - KS2 Christingle
- Wed 14th Dec** - Panto Day - whole school visit to Millgate Theatre
- Fri 16th Dec** - Xmas Dinner Day & Effort Grade Cards out
- Mon 19th Dec** - Year 1&2 Xmas performance 9.15am / 2.15pm (tbc)
- Tues 20th Dec** - Class R xmas performance 9.15am (tbc)  
- EYFS and KS1 party day
- Wed 21st Dec** - xmas non-uniform day, KS2 party day  
Finish for xmas

### 2023 (overview of key dates)

- Mon 9th Jan** - return to school
- Mon 6th Feb** - Open Day 9-10.30 or 1.30-3
- w/c 27th Feb** - Parents Evening meetings
- 28th & 29th Mar** - Class 3&4 performance 2pm
- 14-16th June** - y6 to Kingswood
- 18th July** - y5&6 performance 2pm & 6pm



## Class R

This week Class R were settling into reception classroom and all did a super job saying goodbye to parents and putting their stuff away ready for learning.

We met our year 6 buddies, who helped us get ready for playtime, supported us explore the playground and field, helped us learn what to do at lunchtime and even joined us for story time every day.

We also learnt our class rules and talked about the word 'responsibility'.

Unfortunately, Evil Pea from the story 'Supertato' by Paul Linnet and Sue Hendra, had stolen some things from the classroom. We made wanted posters to warn the other children. The Evil Pea also froze some poor vegetables and we worked together as a class to free them from the block of ice! We talked about if Evil Pea made good choices and what good choices were. The children enjoyed earning Dojo's for their good choices!



This week in photos. More information, videos and pictures found on our Facebook page.

## Class 1

We have had a fantastic first week in Class 1! We have been settling in and getting to know the new routines such as coming in straight to a morning starter activity and working in groups at tables in English and Maths. We have been learning to self assess our work using the traffic light colours. Green means we found the task easy, orange means it was ok but we needed a little help and red means it was difficult and we needed lots of help. We have still enjoyed some time exploring the different resources, toys and games in Class 1 and we have particularly enjoyed using our Grandpa Greene's cafe role play area as part of our Discovering Diggle topic.

In English we have written the names of the people in our family and have written sentences about ourselves.

In maths we have been completing our first pre- assessment on numbers and place value.

In PE we played some movement games, moving our bodies in different ways and in different directions. We particularly enjoyed the dinosaur egg hunt where we used a peg to collect dinosaur eggs (bean bags) from the nest.

## Class 2

What a great start we have all had to our new class. We have been settling in, starting our new theme and getting to know all the adults working with us.

To begin our theme of 'Discovering Diggle' we started some artwork reflecting the colours of the fields and sky around us. We have been learning how to colour mix with powder paints to create shades of blue and green. We used these to paint the background for a picture which we will add more detail to next week. We also began some theme writing. We have been listening to different stories from the author Julia Donaldson. She is our featured author for the next few weeks. Our favourite so far has been 'Sharing a shell' about a little hermit crab who finds a shiny new shell and doesn't want to share it! We have also been working on our handwriting by focusing on the ladder letters l and i. Next week we will look at t, u, y and j. Some of them have a single straight line, like l and some are a little more complicated, like t.

We have also run the daily mile every day. We've had a busy but fun week!



This week in photos.

More information, videos and pictures found on our Facebook page.



### Class 3

Class 3 have settled beautifully into the Juniors and have worked hard all week. We have started our new science unit on *Magnets* and have already learnt a lot from our investigations as well as producing a lovely cover page for our books. In theme, we have filled in our KWL sheet on what we already know about the *Ancient Egyptians* and what we would like to find out. We have also started our cover page in our Theme Book. In maths, we have revised some number bonds and times tables from Year 2 as well as completing our Pre-Topic Test on *Number and Place Value*. In English we have written a baseline piece about the summer and started our Year 3 / 4 spelling test. What a busy, but fun, week!  
Well done Class 3.



### Class 4

Class 4 started our new science topic *Living Things and their Habitats* by considering which wild animals live in Saddleworth. We then used the iPads to find an image from which to sketch it into our books. In SMSC we started our *VIPs* unit by listing some examples of how to show respect to the important people in our lives. We wrote down everything we know about the *Ancient Egyptians* in our first theme topic of the year and in maths we have been revisiting our times tables, starting with the 2s, 5s and 10s before going onto trickier ones later in the week. For our English lessons, the children shared their amazing stories from their holidays, used adjectives to describe their family members and tried expanded noun phrases to create an interesting character description. A fantastic week!

This week in photos. More information, videos and pictures found on our Facebook page.

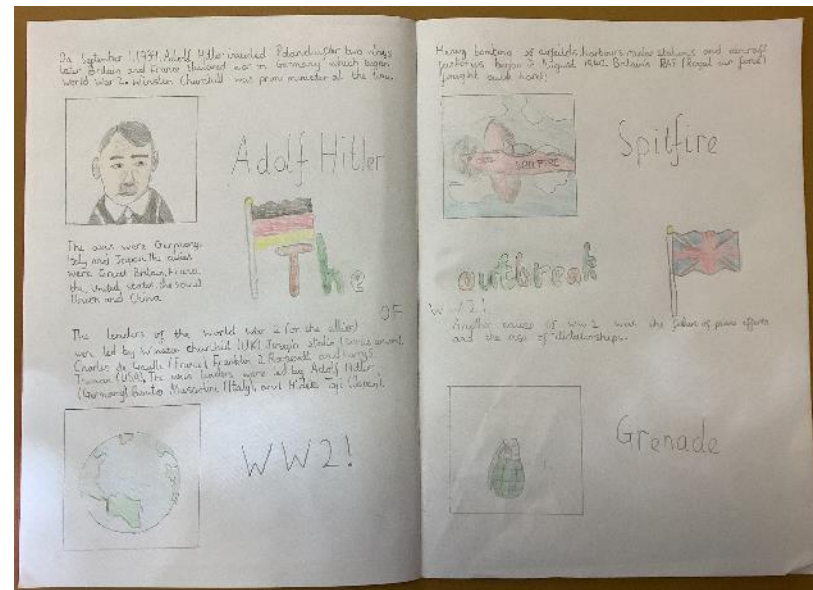
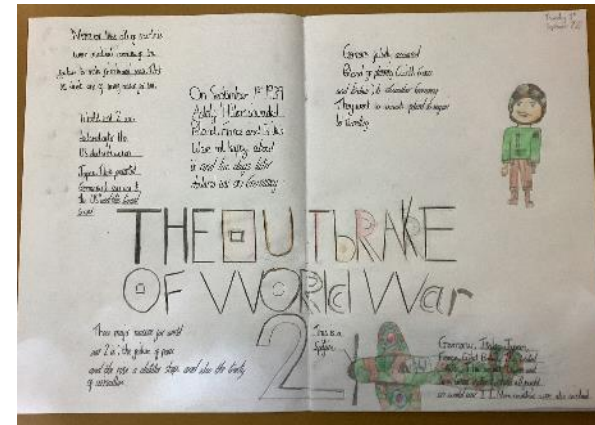
## Class 5

Class 5 have all made a great start to Class 5 and have all settled really well. We have started to think about what we already know about our Science and Theme topics for this half term- Earth and space and World War II. In SMSC we have started to think about ourselves and how we learn best; thinking about what strengths we have which help us with our learning and also the types of environments we learn best in. We have started to look at place value of numbers up to 10,000 and will continue with over the coming weeks.

## Class 6

Class 6 have had a fantastic start to the new school year; they have all settled brilliantly. We have made a start on our new theme of WWII. For this we had to research the outbreak of the war and present our findings in a double page spread. We took part in a Commando Joe's mission in which we had to protect our information from enemies. In English, we are studying the book 'The Arrival' which we will use as a stimulus for our written work. We have written some powerful poetry using a selection of images from the book. In maths, we have made a start on place value of numbers up to 10,000,000. We have also been helping our buddies in the new reception class; we've helped them to get their coats and wellies at playtime; helped them with their lunch; and enjoyed stories with them.

This week in photos. More information, videos and pictures found on our Facebook page



All events and timing TBC

September



October



&  
Get to know FODS  
11 October 2022

November

School Christmas  
Cards and Gifts

December

Hamper raffle



January



February



March



April



May



June



July



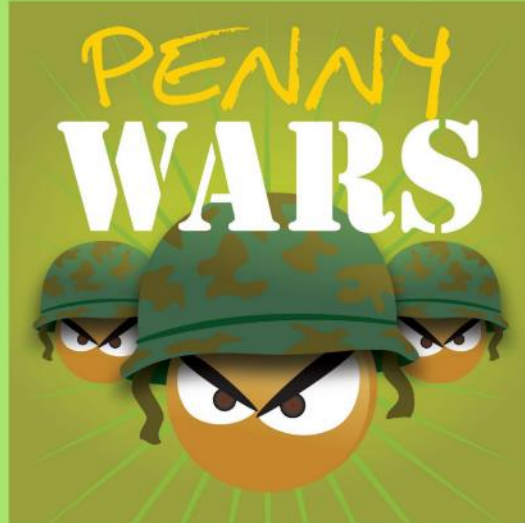
Scan to Join



**Start saving your pennies...**

## **Penny Wars is back!**

**Monday 19th - Friday 30th September**



**Work together to win your class a prize! Prize to be chosen by the winning class.**

**GAIN points by adding 1p and 2p coins to your class jar  
LOWER other class totals by adding silver coins to their jar**

**Copper coins  
ADD to the class  
total**

**Silver coins  
SUBTRACT from  
the class total**

**FODS will add up all copper coin totals and deduct silver coin totals to determine which class is the winner.**



## **Go TEAM DIGGLE!!**

The Saddleworth Village Olympics opening ceremony and athletics competition takes place this **Saturday 10th September at Saddleworth School.**

(please walk where possible to allow the parking spaces for those who live outside of Diggle)

THE OPENING CEREMONY BEGINS AT 9AM and will include the national anthem and a minutes silence as a mark of respect following the death of HRH Queen Elizabeth II

**ALL ARE WELCOME at the Opening Ceremony, EVEN IF YOU DO NOT INTEND/WANT TO COMPETE in the athletics.**

It's a great event to get all of the villages together and celebrate. Come and cheer your friends on.

- \* Junior Athletics (7s, 8s, 9, 10/11s) starts at 9.30am
- \* Senior Athletics (12s, 13s) starts at 2.30 pm

The full timetable is on the Diggle Village Olympic Team Facebook page

Please can all junior participants arrive at Saddleworth School 8.15-8.30am.

- \* Come to the Yellow Diggle tent to register.
- \* Wear your Yellow Olympics T-shirt (and any other yellow stuff you may have, if you'd like).
- \* Bring clothing suitable for all weathers - remember; this is Saddleworth.
- \* Bring some pocket money for snacks and drinks.

**Do it for Diggle!**

# We Can Help Families



This is a tough year for families in Oldham, but we can help.

We've all faced difficulties, coming out of the Covid pandemic, and the rising cost of living. That's why Oldham partners are working together to offer families a little more help to get them through the tough times.

We've put together our top tips for families as part of our We Can Help campaign.

Simply visit: [www.oldham.gov.uk/We-Can-Help-Families](http://www.oldham.gov.uk/We-Can-Help-Families) for links...



- 1. Mental health** — Our mental health is equally as important as our physical health. We have resources such as [5 steps to mental wellbeing](#), or [Kooth](#) which is a service for 10-25 to talk confidentially with trained professionals and peers, and you can take your child to a [Take5](#) drop-in session run by MIND. You can also visit your GP, or if in immediate danger call 999 or go to A&E.



- 2. Parenting** — We've pre-paid for every parent, grandparent and carer to access £100 of [parenting courses](#). You can claim yours today with the code "DAISY". Courses cover all ages from bump to 19. Get tips to manage challenging behaviour. Also see our Oldham [speech and language](#) resources and GM [10 Tips for Talking](#).



- 3. Community support** — Oldham has lots of amazing voluntary, community and faith groups which provide help and run activities. See the Action Together [Community Activities Directory](#) for more information.



- 4. Activities** — [Holiday Activities and Food](#) will be available over the Summer for children aged 5-16 who are receiving free school meals. For younger children, download the [50 things to do before you're five](#) app, and young people can check out local [youth groups](#). Oldham's [family information service](#) includes support and activities for all children including additional needs.



- 5. Food** — We don't want any Oldham child to go hungry. There is direct help such as [free school meals](#), and you can also find your local [foodbank](#). If you're pregnant or have a child under 4, you may be able to access vouchers from the NHS [Healthy Start](#) food and milk scheme.



- 6. Financial help** — If you've lost your job or are struggling with [rent](#), [heating](#), [debt](#) or [benefits](#) we can help. There are people to talk to so you're not alone.



- 7. Domestic abuse** — If you or your family are affected by domestic violence or abuse you can get advice through the Greater Manchester Domestic Abuse Helpline on [0800 254 0909](#) or [End the Fear](#) website. You can [ask for ANI](#) to get help confidentially in any pharmacy. In an emergency, call [999](#) to contact the Police. If it isn't safe to speak and you have called from a mobile, press [55](#) when prompted and your call will be transferred to the police.



- 8. Problems with drugs or alcohol** — [Turning Point](#) offer advice and support if you want help about drugs or alcohol. You can call them on [0300 555 0234](#). The national charity [Smart Recovery](#) also provides help and support in recovering from addictive behaviour.



- 9. Safeguarding** — If you have a concern about the safety or welfare of a child, young person or vulnerable adult, please contact the Oldham Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub on [0161 770 7777](#). If you believe they are at immediate risk of harm, contact Greater Manchester Police on [999](#).

Pin to your fridge!



# We Can Help Families

## Speech, Language & Communication



How your child communicates is really important for their life, including school, jobs and friendships

We've put together our top tips for speech, language and communication as part of our We Can Help campaign. Simply visit: [www.oldham.gov.uk/talk](http://www.oldham.gov.uk/talk) for links...



- 1. Babies and pre-school** — Parents and carers play the most important part in helping their child's communication and talking in everyday life. Children learn through daily life, play and reading together. Please try to reduce the time you spend looking at your phone or tablet whilst with a baby or young child. How you look at, read with, speak and react to the world with your child helps them to develop.

Check out the Greater Manchester [Top Ten Tips for Talking](#), [50 Things To Do](#) Before You're Five, and Oldham's [Language Skills Guide](#). Or for tips and videos about language and bonding see the excellent [BBC Tiny Happy People](#).

ICAN also have great [resources for parents](#) including a guide to stages of language development and a poster to [check progress](#). And for information about stammering, take a look at [Stamma](#).

If your child attends an [early years setting](#), have a chat with their key worker about your concerns. They are there to help and support your child and work together in partnership with families to develop an action plan using the [WellComm Toolkit](#).

If your child does not attend a setting, or you have any concerns about your child's speech, language and communication development, you can also speak to [Oldham's Right Start Team](#).



- 2. Primary school** — As your child begins their journey through primary school they will continue to develop their understanding of longer instructions and questions. They will use more complex vocabulary, longer sentences and stories, develop more speech sounds and extend their conversation skills. Take the opportunity to read together.

ICAN has great [resources for parents](#) including a guide to stages of language development in primary school and a poster to [check progress](#). For information about stammering, visit [Stamma](#)

If you are concerned about your child's speech and language development, please speak to their class teacher or the SENCo. You can work together to decide the best next steps for your child. For confidential advice you can also text Oldham [ChatHealth](#) on [07507 330499](#).

The [Oldham Speech and Language Therapy Service](#) work with families, schools and teachers. This service is for children who need a higher level of support.



- 3. Secondary school** — Language development in secondary years is more gradual. Your young person will use language to solve more complex problems and develop a wider vocabulary. They will explain more complex ideas and use language socially in a more sophisticated way. Your young person's form tutor or the school's SENCo will be able to discuss any concerns you have.

ICAN have great [resources for parents](#) including a guide to stages of language development in 11-17 year olds and a poster to [check progress](#). For information about stammering, go to [Stamma](#). And for confidential advice you can text Oldham [ChatHealth](#) on [07507 330499](#).

The [Oldham Speech and Language Therapy Service](#) work with families, schools and teachers. This service is for young people who need a higher level of support.

Pin to your fridge!



## Bag Gate!

I recognise that decision on bags has caused some upset among parents. This decision was taken last term and communicated to parents at the welcome evenings in June or via email by your child's new class teacher if you were unable to attend. Perhaps if I explain in a little more detail the reasoning behind the decision parents will understand why the decision has been made. Rucksacks, especially large ones, sit very high on a peg and protrude out making it difficult for coats to then be hung over the top. This inevitably leads to the coats ending up all over the floor and they become a trip hazard for both children and adults.

We discussed this as a staff and came to the decision that from September we would ask that children do not bring these to school. Book bags, pump bags, flat shoulder bags and cloth bags/bags for life are all allowed. These all sit better on the peg.

Please can all parents support the school's new rules and send their child with a bag that is not a rucksack.

## **We have set up a premier League fantasy football league.**

If your child would like to enter please sign up on the Premier League fantasy football website and create your team. Then email [leanne.hazlehurst@diggleschool.co.uk](mailto:leanne.hazlehurst@diggleschool.co.uk) to get the school's league code. Please make sure you read the terms and conditions and the rules. Once signed up you will also be entered into weekly and monthly competitions set by the premier League, not by school. Mrs Hazlehurst will set up a board at school that we will update weekly to see the current leaderboard etc.

This could be a great opportunity for you to work with your child to create a team together.

## Forest School and PE

Now that we are able to get the school more or less back to normal and bubbles are hopefully a distant nightmare, we have made the decision to return to the children having half a term of Forest School with it taking place one afternoon a week. We are also asking that children do not come in their Forest School clothes but that they get changed into them at lunchtime.

Children getting changed in school once a week is helpful to prepare them for getting changed at swimming in Year 4 and 5 and is also a skill that is useful for High School. Also in the younger classes it is really useful for the staff to be able to access how the children manage this everyday skill.

We discussed as a staff whether we should go back to changing for PE, but felt that the benefits of ensuring a forty minute PE lesson is not cut short by the need to get changed should not be lost. Also in the current financial climate we did not want to go back to asking parents to buy trainers that stayed in school. Under the current system children can wear the same trainers for PE and at home.

As Forest School lasts a whole afternoon and they only have to get changed once this was a much better option. The children will come home on Forest School days in their Forest School clothes and will bring uniform home. Staff will strive to ensure that all children put uniform straight into their bags to return home. If you want to ensure your child's clothes return home please ensure the uniform is clearly labeled with their name.

## Parents Evening and Open Days

Parents evenings will continue to be held online this year. This is one change that was forced by COVID that has proved to be a better solution. It allows parents to attend without the need to worry about child care. It also allows working parents to attend from their desk instead of having to run the gauntlet of rush hour traffic and it provides a totally private consultation. This terms date is in the *Dates for your Diary*, and teachers will contact you a few weeks before to make an appointment.

However, we know the one thing that the online approach does not give, is the opportunity to look at your children's books. Therefore going forward we are going to incorporate this into our Open Days, This will mean that you will have the opportunity to look at your child's work three times in the year rather than just twice.

For those of you new to the school, our *Open Days* are an opportunity for parents/guardians/grandparents to come into school and spend an hour in the classroom with their child completing an activity which changes each open day.

To incorporate the book viewing, Open days will now run slightly longer. If you attend a morning session you will be able to visit your child in class from 9-10 and then from 10-10:30 books will be available in the hall along with refreshments. If you are attending the afternoon session you will view books 1:30 -2 and then go into classes 2-3.

If your child attends BASC and you can not get to an Open Day your books will be in BASC after school on Open days.

## Tickets for School Performances

We are hoping that this Christmas we will be able to go back to not only the Reception Nativity and the Year 1/2 performance but also the KS2 Christingle. Tickets will go on sale via Parent Pay nearer the time, so please new parents, please ensure you activate your Parent Pay account.

The Key Stage 2 Christingle involves all the children in years 3,4,5 and 6. Because of this we are only able to offer one ticket per family for this performance. If you have two children in KS2 you will still only receive the one ticket. Unfortunately we are restricted due to capacity at the church.

Reception and Key Stage One are offered 3 tickets per family for their performances (in total not for each performance). Year 3 and 4 will get the same for their Easter Performance and Year 5 and 6 for their summer production.

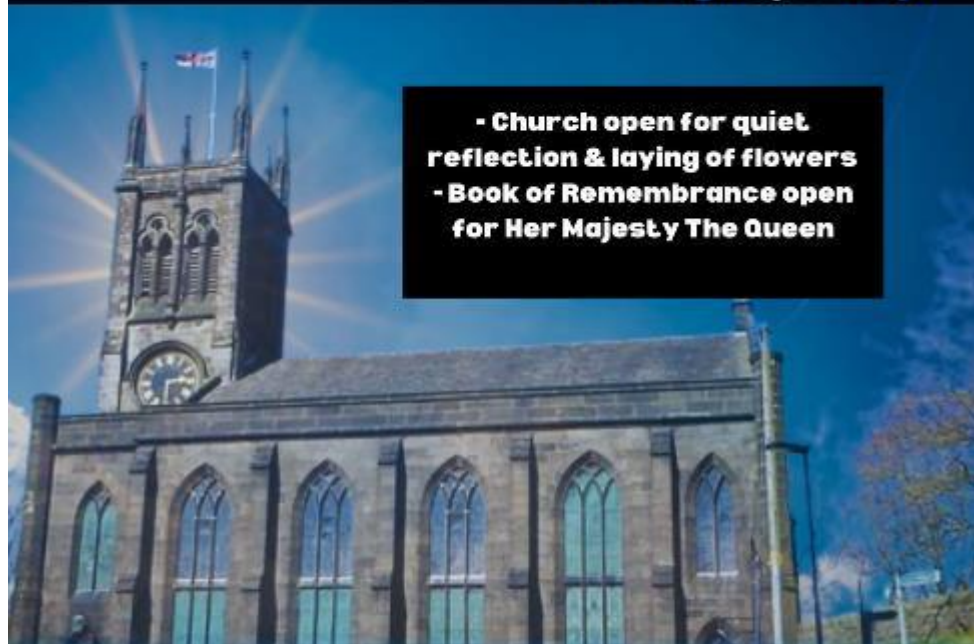
There will also be a music performance by some of the children receiving lessons in school and taking part in the music groups available. Due to the numbers of children involved are are not sure how this will work yet, but more details will be available nearer the time.

I am hoping that by making this clear very early on we can avoid disappointment and parents can plan. The dates for the Christmas activities are on the Dates For Your Diary above. Please can I ask that parents do not get cross and upset with the office staff over ticket allocations. They are just following the rules above, dictated by safe capacity limits.

#savesaddleworthchurch



heritage open days



- Church open for quiet reflection & laying of flowers  
- Book of Remembrance open for Her Majesty The Queen

Friday 9th Sept  
Saturday 10th Sept  
Sunday 11th Sep  
10am-3pm

- Refreshments in the Hearse House
- Walk around the churchyards
- Burial archivist available for searches & grave locations
- See the work of our volunteers
- Take a look at the new yard on Gellfield Lane

Take a look at our  
Historic Church  
& church yards

# DIGGLE ALLOTMENT SERVICE

*Location - behind Diggle Chapel*

ACCOMPANIED  
BY  
DIGGLE BAND

SUNDAY  
2<sup>nd</sup> OCTOBER  
10.00 am

Please bring a  
piece of fruit  
to see what we  
can create  
together

All welcome to  
join us afterwards  
at The Gate  
for Breakfast Butties  
& Drinks

FOOD DONATIONS TO  
OLDHAM  
FOODBANK