Dear Parents and Carers,

We are now into our third week back at school, and it has been a joy to see how well the children have settled into their new routines and classes. There is a wonderful sense of energy around the school and everyone has returned with a real enthusiasm for learning.

Last week saw the exciting return of **Rock Steady bands**, **guitar lessons**, and **after-school football** and it has been fantastic to see so many pupils getting involved in activities beyond the classroom. These enrichment opportunities continue to play an important role in developing confidence, teamwork, and creativity across our school.

This week, we are delighted to welcome our full Reception class. Over the past two weeks, the children have transitioned well during their morning or afternoon sessions. Now, with the whole class attending together, we look forward to seeing them continue to grow in confidence as they settle into full school life.

Every year, we are proud to appoint two Year 6 pupils to take on the important roles of **Head Boy** and **Head Girl**, helping to lead the school community and act as positive role models. On Monday, we were thrilled to announce that our new Head Boy would be **Arthur** and our new Head Girl would be **Isobel.**

Meet Our Head Boy and Head Girl

This week, I am delighted to share a short message from them both.

Hello, my name is Arthur and I am in Year 6. I am Whirley Primary's Head Boy.
I applied for Head Boy because in Year 3, sometimes when I was sad, the person who made me happy was the Head Boy. I want to pass on his kindness to other students in this school.
I can be inclusive to all people; welcome visitors to our school; help in making decisions for the school and help run things like open days.

I'm Isobel and I am Whirley Primary's Head Girl.
I applied for Head Girl because I want to make sure everyone is included. I'm a great leader and I want to help everyone feel the rules are fair. I love this school and know all the places to show people around and I enjoy working as a team and taking on responsibilities. Now that I've been chosen, I promise to support younger pupils and listen to their ideas and help children (and adults) feel safe, confident, and welcome.

We are very proud of both Arthur and Isobel. They are already showing maturity, kindness, and leadership, and we're excited to see the positive impact they will have on the school this year.

Celebration Assembly

You may notice below that we have made some changes to our reward system this term. Our **Friday Celebration Assembly** now includes two new awards: the **Headteacher's Award** and the **V.I.P. (Values in Practice) Award**. While we continue to celebrate the many achievements of our pupils, these new awards provide us with additional opportunities to recognise not only academic effort, but also the values and attitudes that are central to life at Whirley.

This week, I was particularly pleased to welcome several children who came to share their classwork with me. I was delighted to present them with a **Headteacher's Award** in recognition of their excellent work and

commitment to learning. Their enthusiasm, focus, and pride in their work was evident, and it was a privilege to celebrate their achievements in English, Maths or Science. What stood out most was their ability to speak confidently about their learning, articulating not only what they had learned, but also what they had enjoyed and found meaningful in each lesson.

Headteacher's Award

This week's Headteacher Awards go to Teddy in Year 1 for his excellent descriptive writing and to Leo in Year 2 for demonstrating impressive knowledge in his science work on mammals. In Year 3, Neve and Imogen are recognised for their fantastic enthusiasm and understanding during their science investigation on friction. Reece in Year 4 receives an award for his perseverance and success with challenging maths work, while in Year 5, Bobby is celebrated for his descriptive poetry and Ava for speaking and writing confidently about why science is important.

A big well done to all our award winners. They've all worked incredibly hard and are very deserving of this recognition.

V.I.Ps (Values in Practice)

We are excited to introduce our new **V.I.P. (Values In Practice) Award**, which recognises and celebrates children who consistently demonstrate our **Whirley Values** in their daily school life.

These values – **Respect, Independence, Resilience, Tolerance** and **Collaboration** – are at the heart of all the children's learning and help shape the positive, caring culture we are so proud of at Whirley.

Each week, during our **Celebration Assembly**, children who have been spotted showing these values in action will be honoured as our **V.I.Ps**. As part of their recognition, each V.I.P will receive a certificate and have the special opportunity to wear a **purple school logo sweatshirt** for the following week. When we revealed the example sweatshirt, the children were thrilled and couldn't wait to wear one!

We are currently in the process of buying **three sets of purple sweatshirts per class**, in a range of sizes. These sweatshirts will be washed, returned and ready for the next week's V.I.Ps to wear with pride.
Our **V.I.P Award** is a special way to highlight and celebrate the positive contributions children make to our school community every day, by living out the Whirley Values.

We can't wait to see our V.I.Ps proudly wearing purple around school! Any winners this week, will be able to wear the purple sweatshirt when they arrive.

Well done to this week's V.I.Ps: Ollie (Y1) for Independence, Albie (Y2) for Respect, Sophia (Y3) for Independence, Sid (Y4) for Respect, Connor (Y5) for Collaboration and Miley (Y6) for Resilience.

Winning House



On Monday we announced our new **House Captains** for this year. They are, Liam and Niamh for **Birtles** House, Orla and Jacob for **Alderley**, Ronnie and Jessica for **Henbury** and Noah and Eliza for **Chelford**.

The winning house in Celebration Assembly was **Chelford** with 182 Dojo points. Their House trophy is proudly on display in the school hall.

Pre-Loved Uniform Sale

A preloved uniform sale will be held on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday pickup this week. The items will be available under the Reception class shelter and everyone is welcome to come along, have a look and help themselves. A small donation of 50p per item is suggested and all contributions will go towards supporting our school community.

Dog Mess

We have noticed an increase in dog mess being left outside the school gates. Unfortunately, some of our children have stepped in it on their way into school. Please may we remind all dog owners to pick up after their pets and dispose of the waste responsibly. Your support helps us to keep the school environment safe and pleasant for everyone.

Parking outside school

As we all work together to keep our school environment safe and welcoming, we kindly ask for your continued cooperation with parking considerately around the school and in the surrounding residential areas.

Please ensure that you:

- Do not park across residents' driveways or too close to junctions.
- Avoid blocking pavements so children and families can walk safely.
- Switch off your engine while waiting, even if it's just for a few minutes.

Idling engines contribute unnecessarily to air pollution, which affects both the environment and, most importantly, our children's health. Reducing emissions around the school helps create a cleaner, safer space for everyone.

Thank you for helping us build a respectful and healthy community.

Autumn Term dates up to Half Term

15th September – Mad Science Assembly
17th September – Echo Club starts
23rd September – Y1 trip to Delamere Forest
23rd September – WSA Committee meeting – AGM 6pm
26th September – KS2 European Day of Languages
29th September – School Open Day
2nd October – Space Theme school dinners
6th October – Year 6 Evacuee Theme Day
10th October – Kings Football Tournament Year 5/6
WB 20th October – Parents' Evenings
23rd October – Harvest Celebration EYFS/KS1
27th – 31st October – Half Term

Kind regards,
Mrs Karen Whalley
Headteacher