RESPECT RESILIENCE COLLABORATION INDEPENDENCE TOLERANCE

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been another exciting and enriching week at Whirley, with a variety of experiences that have truly brought learning to life.

Our Year 6 pupils stepped back in time as they took part in a World War II Evacuee Day. Dressed in wonderful period costumes, the children fully immersed themselves in activities designed to help them understand what life might have been like for children during the war. As well as exploring what it might have been like to be evacuated during the war, they tasted rationed food, learned basic first aid skills, and took part in other experiences. Their enthusiasm and engagement were fantastic to see, and they thoroughly enjoyed the day while learning a great deal.

Also, on Friday, Mr Carew took a football team to the Kings Tournament. The team displayed excellent teamwork and represented Whirley with pride. A huge well done to our football team on reaching the final of the Macclesfield Schools Shield. After negotiating a tough group and beating Rainow and Marlborough in the knockout rounds, Whirley played Kings in the shield final. A very well contested match ended 1-0 to Kings! A super start to the season!

Another highlight of the week was the exciting start to our school wildlife pond project! On Friday, the digger arrived and began work on the pond. This marks the first step in developing a wonderful biodiverse outdoor learning space. We are now eagerly anticipating the next phase of the project, when the Wildlife Trust will join us to help create a rich natural environment for the children to explore and enjoy as part of their learning.

We also want to thank all parents for your patience and understanding while we implemented changes to the pick-up routines for after-school, sports, and teacher led clubs. These new routines are now in place and working well, helping us to maintain a safe and secure environment for all children at the end of the day.

Finally, we were very pleased to welcome Mr Jeremy Spencer (Trust CEO) and Mr Mike Gorton (Chair of Trustees) to Whirley on Thursday. They spent time visiting classrooms, speaking with children about their learning, and finding out more about the Whirley Values that are such an important part of our school community. They were extremely impressed by the children's focus, their confidence, and the thoughtful way our VIPs explained the values that earned them their purple sweatshirts.

Finally, we would really appreciate it if you could take a few minutes to complete our Parent Survey, which is now open. Your feedback is invaluable in helping us reflect on what's working well and identify areas for improvement.
You can access the survey here: https://forms.gle/geHxgDQRWsYX6isY8
Please complete it by Friday 20th October.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Celebration Assembly

Our celebration assembly is an opportunity to recognise and celebrate the children's hard work, their commitment to our Whirley values and their achievements outside of school. We also celebrate the Dojo house points earned throughout the week and announce the winning house of the week.

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Headteacher's Award

I am always so impressed by the excellent learning the children share with me each week. Their confidence and depth of understanding shines through when they talk about their work, and it is a real pleasure to hear and see their achievements.

This week, a Headteacher's Award goes to Raffi in Year 1 for his fantastic maths work. He confidently made numbers to 4 and 9, explained his learning clearly, and shared how much he enjoys his maths lessons. In Year 2, Georgie is celebrated for her confident counting in 2s, 3s, and 5s, showing strong number skills and enthusiasm for her learning.

In Year 3, Thea and Renee are both awarded for their excellent focus and teamwork in gymnastics. They worked collaboratively with their partners and challenged themselves to create two impressive routines during PE, demonstrating creativity, perseverance, and great physical control.

Niall in Year 4 is awarded for his expressive description of a hurricane. He used vivid language and read his work aloud with great expression, bringing his writing to life. Also, in Year 4, Betty used a wide range of descriptive language in her suspense writing, creating an engaging and atmospheric piece that captured the reader's attention.

In Year 5, Riley and Bella are awarded for their thoughtful contributions in RE. They explored why Muhammad (PBUH) was considered a good role model and reflected on how they demonstrate similar qualities in their own lives, showing maturity and empathy in their discussions.

Finally, in Year 6, Molly wrote a gripping suspense story based on the class novel *Star of Fear, Star of Hope*. Her writing included rich vocabulary, effective dialogue, and carefully built tension that held the reader's interest throughout.

All of this week's award winners are being celebrated for their fantastic learning, determination, and confidence when sharing their work. Well done to each and every one of you!

V.I.Ps (Values in Practice)

Our **V.I.P. (Values In Practice) Award**, recognises and celebrates children who consistently demonstrate our **Whirley Values** in their daily school life.

Well done to this week's V.I.Ps who will proudly wear our purple VIP sweatshirts this week: Wilf (Y1) for Tolerance, Hugo (Y2) for Respect, Oliver (Y3) for Tolerance and Respect, Monty (Y4) for Collaboration, Charlie (Y5) for Collaboration and Shea (Y6) for Independence.

Winning House



It's been an exciting and competitive week, with **all houses putting in a fantastic effort** and earning dojo points across the board! From outstanding class participation to acts of kindness and teamwork, students have really shown their house spirit.
But after all the points were tallied...
The winning house this week is Alderley with an impressive total of 182 dojo points!
Their House trophy is proudly on display in the school hall.

Parking Outside School

On Friday, you may have seen our local PCSOs (Police Community Support Officers) outside the school. They were reminding everyone about the importance of courteous and safe parking, in particular not parking on yellow lines, zigzag lines, or blocking driveways.

Their presence is part of a wider effort to ensure that pick-up and drop-off times outside the school are as safe and respectful as possible for everyone. They will be making regular visits to support this.

Thank you all for your continued support in helping keep our school community safe.

Whirley School Association (WSA) – Halloween Disco

A reminder that the Halloween Disco is on this Friday 17th October and the following timings are for each disco. Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will be at 5.30pm to 6.30pm. The Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 disco will be at 6.45pm to 8.00pm.

School Timings

The school gates are opened at 8.40am and the expectations are that the children are on the playground by 8.50 when the doors are opened. The gates are locked at 8.55am. If your child arrives after 8.55am, then please take them to the Reception area to be booked in. Registers open at 8.55am and lessons begin at 9.05am.

Choir

Mrs Dunford will be running choir sessions on Tuesday lunchtimes 12.30 – 1.00pm. This club will be limited to 30 children and will run until the end of autumn term. The choir will be performing at the Christmas fair and we hope they will also have the opportunity to sing at the Town Hall. A message went out on Friday to parents about signing up to this club.

Flu Vaccine

The School Age Immunisation Services in Wirral and Cheshire East will deliver the children's flu vaccine campaign as part of the school age vaccination programme on 2nd December 2025.
The team is made up of professionals who are highly skilled and experienced in giving vaccinations to school aged children. The children's flu vaccine helps protect against flu. It's offered to children in Reception to Year 6. It is given as a quick and painless nasal spray in each nostril in school.
Parents and carers provide consent to their child's flu vaccine via an electronic consent form. Further details will be sent in the next couple of weeks.

Attendance

I would like to thank the many of you who are already partnering with us to ensure your children are in school, on time, every day. Your support makes a significant difference and is vital for your child's success. Overall, our school attendance was 98% last week.

- Reception: 98%
- Year 1: 98%
- Year 2: 98%

- Year 3: 99%
- Year 4: 95%
- Year 5: 100%
- Year 6: 99%

Autumn Term dates up to the Christmas Holiday

17th October – Halloween Disco WSA (R, 1 and 2: 5.30pm to 6.30pm/3, 4, 5 and 6: 6.45pm to 8.00pm)
WB 20th October – Parents' Evenings
23rd October – Harvest Celebration EYFS/KS1
23rd October – Trust Swimming Gala (Y5 and 6)
27th – 31st October – Half Term
3rd November – School INSET day
4th November – children return to school
5th November – Y2 Nantwich Class Trip
17th November - ALTRU Theatre (Anti Bullying) Assembly and Workshop
18th November – Y5 Jodrell Bank Trip
19th November – Reception hearing and vision check
24th November – Individual School Photographs
2nd December – Influenza (whole school)
10th December – School Christmas Dinner
16th December – Reception Nativity
17th December – KS1 production
17th December – Echo Club performance after school for parents (4.15 – 4.45)
19th December – Henbury Church Christmas Service (morning)
19th December – School closes at 12.30 for Christmas Break
School Reopens: Tuesday 6th January 2026

External School Clubs

Monday – Y3 – 6 Football 3.30 – 4.30
Tuesday – Y1/2 Football 3.30 – 4.30
Wednesday – Echo Club 3.30 – 4.30
Thursday – MAD Science 3.30 – 4.30 beginning on 13th November

Teacher Led School Clubs

Monday 3.30 – 4.30 beginning on 6th October – Netball club (years 4, 5 and 6 Mrs Tomlinson)
Tuesday 3.30 – 4.30 beginning on 30th September – LEGO club (KS2 Mr Salmon)
Tuesday lunchtime beginning on 4th November – Sewing club
Tuesday Lunchtime beginning 4th November - Choir

Kind regards,
Mrs Karen Whalley
Headteacher