RESPECT RESILIENCE COLLABORATION INDEPENDENCE TOLERANCE

Dear Parents and Carers,

Here are just a few highlights from such a busy week last week. On Monday, the whole school gathered to watch a performance by the Altru Theatre group, who delivered an engaging and meaningful *Anti-Bullying* message. Their production, "The Road to Respect," followed a main character who learns that getting along with others isn't always easy. Through relatable moments and thoughtful storytelling, the performance highlighted how the choices we make, especially in our friendships and daily interactions, can lead us down very different paths. The children were encouraged to think about which choices lead toward respect and how important it is to treat everyone with kindness, even when they may be different from us.
This message aligns with our school values of collaboration, respect, and tolerance, which we strive to reinforce with the children every day. As always, we are grateful to Altru Theatre for helping us bring these important lessons to life.

Our Year 5 pupils enjoyed an exciting and educational visit to Jodrell Bank. During the trip, the children took part in a fascinating Space Dome Show, where they experienced a planetarium-style journey through the Solar System and learned about different constellations. They also attended an on-gallery talk delivered by the centre's Explainers, who shared engaging demonstrations about Jodrell Bank's history and the incredible telescopes used there. It was a fantastic day full of curiosity and discovery.

On Thursday, our netball team played their very first home match and drew 3:3. We couldn't be prouder of them. The players showed fantastic teamwork, determination and resilience throughout the game. It was wonderful to see their hard work in training shine through on the court. Well done to all involved and thank you to Mrs T for making this possible!

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.

Headteacher's Award

This week, we are celebrating some fantastic achievements across the school!

Reception – Piper and Edith are awarded for their super writing, in which they both showed excellent letter formation.
Year 1 – William read his History work *Toys from the Past* very confidently and explained how old toys are different to toys he plays with now. Well done, William.
Year 2 – Teddy has shown great progress in his writing since the start of Year 2 and has been working extremely hard on his handwriting. Superb effort, Teddy. Sebastian is celebrated for his excellent Maths work; he is really growing in confidence, fixing his own errors, and using known facts to help him.
Year 3 – Imogen and Hugo are both awarded for their setting descriptions in English. They used a variety of vocabulary, including similes, conjunctions, and fronted adverbials. Wonderful work, Hugo and Imogen.
Year 4 – Isla is celebrated for her History work on Roman farming. She used her research skills, drawing on books and online sources, to identify facts about how Romans farmed and how this differs from modern farming.
Year 5 – Charlie is awarded for his super Geography work on the location of different biomes around the world. Well done, Charlie.

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: Gryffin (Reception) for Respect, Aggie (Y1) for ALL the values, Freddie (Y2) for Respect, Jenson (Y3) for Independence, Alex (Y4) for Collaboration, Charlie (Y5) for Collaboration and Olive (Y6) for Resilience.

Winning House



All our children have been working brilliantly to earn Dojo points for their houses. Every point counts and it's wonderful to see everyone contributing through kindness, effort, and teamwork. Whether they are helping a friend, trying their best in lessons, or showing fantastic behaviour around school, each child plays an important part in their house's success. Together, they are showing what true teamwork looks like and how every contribution, big or small, helps their house shine.

The winning house this week is Alderley with a total of 165 dojo points!
Their House trophy is proudly on display in the school hall.

Santa Dash

This year's Christmas Run for the East Cheshire Hospice is Jingle Bell Jog. This will take place at school on Friday 28th December. Sponsorship envelopes came home on Friday 21st November. Details about Gift Aid are on the envelope and all proceeds will be going to East Cheshire Hospice. Please could we have the envelopes returned to school on Thursday 27th or Friday 28th November. Thank you for your kind support to such a worthwhile cause.

Flu vaccination

A final reminder to parents to complete the flu vaccination e-consent form if not completed yet. Parents still need to complete the form even if you do not want your child to have the flu vaccine. **The link will expire on the 27th November.**

Christmas Fair

As you hopefully know, it is our Christmas Fair this coming Friday and it is one of our big community events of the year. The WSA have been working busily behind the scenes preparing for this event- thank you so much for their dedication.

For the event to run, we need more volunteers to help on the night. We still have stalls that don't yet have an adult attached to them. We are also in real need of people to help set up beforehand and help clean up afterwards. Please contact Siobhan Clowes or Harriet McGillivray (through the usual WSA channels) if you are able to help or alternatively contact Mr Carew (m.carew@whirley.ht.school) and he will pass on to the WSA.

Sports Newsletter

A request from Miss Sutton for the termly sports newsletter: If your child has been taking part in any out of school sports and would like to celebrate their achievements, however big or small, Miss Sutton would love to hear from you. Whether they've taken part in a weekend match, completed a fun run, tried a new sport for the first time, or achieved a personal best, we want to celebrate their efforts and dedication. Please drop Miss Sutton an email so their achievements can be shared and celebrated in our termly sports newsletter.

Her email is: a.sutton@whirley.ht.school

Rock Steady Concert

On Wednesday 10th December, the children taking part in Rock Steady will be holding a concert for parents. This will be from 10am on that date.

Adverse Weather Procedures

In the event of severe weather, we have prepared a plan to support the entire school community. Our aim is to work together to maintain a safe environment for your child, for you, and for the Whirley Team.

Please note that footpaths outside the school boundary are the responsibility of Cheshire East Council and are not included in the school's clearing operations. Any concerns should be directed to the council.

The road directly outside school has recently been resurfaced, which should help reduce the risk of freezing; however, caution is still advised during cold conditions.

While we will always endeavour to open the school in the event of bad weather, if it is safe to do so, there may be occasions when we need to close. If this becomes necessary, families will be informed in the following ways:

- A text message will be sent to parents, and an update will be posted on the school website to confirm whether the school is closed. Please ensure the school office has your most up-to-date mobile number.
- Regular updates will be posted on the school website.
- Information will also be available on the Cheshire East Council website.
- Please wait for updates from the school; we kindly request that you do not phone unless absolutely necessary.

As a first step each day, the school grounds will be inspected to ensure they are safe for use by the whole school community.

Children should come to school in sensible outdoor footwear and bring a change of shoes for indoor use. School uniform should be worn, but pupils must also have additional warm clothing for outdoor play, including gloves and hats.

If conditions allow, children will be permitted to play outside on a rotational basis. If there is a valid reason why your child should not go outdoors, please inform their class teacher or contact the school office.

Children will be expected to follow our Safety Rules while on school premises, which include:

- No sliding (particularly on gritted areas)
- No throwing of snowballs

Please only contact the school to report absences.

Snow routes within the school grounds will be cleared, salted, and gritted; however, surfaces may still become icy in extreme weather, and everyone should take care. The school cannot accept liability for any injuries that occur on the premises. Parents are also advised to take extra care when travelling to and from school and to wear suitable footwear and clothing.

The school appreciates that during bad weather children may arrive later than normal; parents should endeavour to contact the school to let them know they are on their way if likely to be delayed. It may also be necessary to ask all children to bring packed lunches if the kitchen staff are unable to reach school safely.

If the school is required to close, class teachers will move to online learning through TEAMS.

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 95% last week.

- Reception: 90%
- Year 1: 99%
- Year 2: 95%
- Year 3: 89%
- Year 4: 94%
- Year 5: 98%
- Year 6: 99%

Autumn Term dates up to the Christmas Holiday

19th November – Reception hearing and vision check (rescheduled – date to follow)
24th November – Individual School Photographs
25th November – Chester Zoo Year 6
26th November – Beeston Trip Year 3
26th November – Y5 Football at Macclesfield Town Football Club (after school)
28th November – NON-UNIFORM Day (bottle donations)
28th November – Santa Dash
28th November – Christmas Fair
2nd December – Influenza (whole school)
4th December – Stay and Play (Reception) 1.30 – 3.30pm
10th December – Rock Steady Concert 10am
10th December - School Christmas Dinner
10th December – Film Night
10th December – Y3 & 4 Football at Macclesfield Town Football Club (after school)
11th December – Choir sing – Town Hall
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 – Netball club (years 4, 5 and 6 Mrs Tomlinson)
Monday and Tuesday lunchtime – Sewing club
Tuesday Lunchtime – Choir

Kind regards,
Mrs Karen Whalley
Headteacher