Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of this first half term, it is hard to believe that eight weeks have already passed since I joined the school. It has been a pleasure to get to know the children, staff, and families, and I am very grateful for the warm welcome I have received.

This week Reception class held their annual Harvest Festival on Thursday morning. The children did a great job remembering their lines and speaking clearly, and it was lovely for parents to watch their performances. Year 1 and Year 2 also joined in with some Harvest songs, which rounded off the celebration beautifully.

A big thank you to everyone who sent in their Harvest donations. Your generosity is greatly appreciated and the Core Pantry who collected them last night have sent their gratitude.

Reception joined their very first assembly this morning! It's been a busy eight weeks for them, starting school, learning new routines, and settling in so well. They sat beautifully throughout the assembly and joined in celebrating achievements from across the school for the full half hour. They truly are a credit to themselves and to our school community.

Also, on Thursday, four children from Years 5 and 6 — Isla, Fynn, Matilda and Jacob represented Whirley at the Trust Swimming Gala. They swam brilliantly, showing great team spirit, sportsmanship and stamina in both their races and relays. Fynn achieved two fantastic first place finishes in the Year 5 Breaststroke and Freestyle races. This was the first Trust Swimming Gala and will hopefully become an annual event.

The Talent Show, organised by our Head Boy Arthur and Head Girl Isabelle, was a great success and a wonderful celebration of the many talents within our school community. Pupils from across the year groups took to the stage to perform, demonstrating impressive confidence, creativity, and enthusiasm.

It was a real pleasure to see so many children supporting one another and the event provided an uplifting way to end the first half of the autumn term. My thanks go to Arthur and Isabelle who helped make it such a memorable occasion and raised £38.70 for charity. A big well done to Willow the winner!

Thank you for your continued support. I wish you all a restful and enjoyable half-term break.

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

As always, it's wonderful to see the children's work and for them to share their achievements with me. The following children are very well deserving of the Headteacher's Award this week – well done to all.

Year 1:

Thomas and Wilf are recognised for writing excellent monster descriptions and for speaking confidently about their work. They also shared their writing with a visitor from the Trust, who was highly impressed with both their confidence and the quality of their presented work.

Year 2:

Congratulations to James, who produced a superb set of instructions on how to make a jam sandwich. His writing was clear and well-organised.

Year 3:
Alice is commended for her fantastic Stone Age artwork. She demonstrated great skill in applying all that she had learned throughout her art unit to create an impressive final piece.

Year 4:
Teddy and Liv are celebrated for their descriptive paragraphs and Kennings written in English this week. Their thoughtful use of language brought their writing to life.

Year 5:
Bobby, Harry, and Aiden are recognised for their descriptive 'hot writes' inspired by *The War of the Worlds*. They showed excellent stamina in producing extended pieces of writing and used rich vocabulary to engage the reader.

Year 6:
Jack and Shea are commended for their fantastic 'hot write' based on *The Star of Fear, Star of Hope*. Their writing demonstrated deep understanding of the topic they have been learning about and emotional insight into the story.

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: William MR (Y1) for Resilience, Sam B (Y2) for Tolerance, Margot (Y3) for Respect, Amy (Y4) for Collaboration, Spencer (Y5) for Resilience and Jacob (Y6) for Resilience.

Winning House



What a brilliant week for Dojo points! Children across all houses have been earning points by showing kindness, determination, and great learning attitudes. The scores were incredibly close, showing how much effort everyone is putting in. Every contribution matters. Thank you all for working together and showing such fantastic team spirit!

The winning house this week is Alderley with a total of 222 dojo points!
Their House trophy is proudly on display in the school hall.

The current first half term scores for the houses are:			
Alderley – 1311	Birtles – 1252	Chelford – 1280	Henbury - 1250

WSA

Here is a message from the WSA about the Halloween Disco: A wonderful fundraiser. Thank you to all for attending and supporting our wonderful school.

A final total of funds raised through this disco will be sent out with this newsletter.

Non-Uniform Dates

- Friday 14th November for bringing chocolate donations for tombola
- Friday 28th November - Bottle donations for bottle tombola

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 96% last week.

- Reception: 96%
- Year 1: 99%
- Year 2: 95%
- Year 3: 96%
- Year 4: 95%
- Year 5: 96%
- Year 6: 93%

Macclesfield Football Club

A message from MFC: We are cancelling our delivery across the community on Tuesday 4th November due to us being nominated for the very prestigious Northwest Football Award for Community Trust Of The Year. Everything will go back to Normal on the 5th November.

This means there will be NO Y1/2 football the first week back to school.

A FOOTBALL LETTER FROM MACCLESFIELD FOOTBALL CLUB WITH REFERENCE TO SIGNING UP FOR NEXT TERM WILL BE SENT OUT WITH THIS NEWSLETTER.

School Dinners

AN UPDATED MENU FOR AUTUMN/WINTER AND A MENU FOR THE BONFIRE THEME DINNER ON 5TH NOVEMBER WILL BE SENT OUT WITH THIS NEWSLETTER.

Autumn Term dates up to the Christmas Holiday

27th – 31st October – Half Term
3rd November – School INSET day
4th November – children return to school
5th November – Y2 Nantwich Class Trip
14th November – NON-UNIFORM Day
14th November - Children in Need
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
25th November – Chester Zoo Year 6
28th November – NON-UNIFORM Day
28th November – Christmas Fair
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 from 10/11/25
Tuesday – Y1/2 Football 3.30 – 4.30 from 11/11/25
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)
Tuesday lunchtime beginning on 4th November – Sewing club
Tuesday Lunchtime beginning 4th November - Choir

Kind regards,
Mrs Karen Whalley
Headteacher