RESPECT RESILIENCE COLLABORATION INDEPENDENCE TOLERANCE

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been another busy and exciting week here at Whirley!

Year 1 Forest Adventure

Our Year 1 children enjoyed a wonderful trip to Delamere forest where they spent the day exploring, den building, and learning new orienteering skills. The children showed great teamwork and perseverance, and it was lovely to see their confidence grow as they navigated the challenges of the day. Delamere staff commented on how respectful, engaged and enthusiastic the children were throughout the visit. Well done, Year 1!

VIP Sweatshirts

Last week also saw the delivery of our VIP sweatshirts. It was fantastic to see so many children wearing our special *Whirley Value Purple* sweatshirts with pride. Each child was able to explain which Whirley Value they had demonstrated to earn the privilege of wearing it. A wonderful reminder of the strength of character we encourage across our school community. We look forward to celebrating last week's winners as they wear theirs this week with pride too.

School Open Day

Today we welcomed new prospective families for our School Open Day. It was a delight to see the buzz of learning and enthusiasm in every classroom and around the playground. Our Head Boy, Arthur, and Head Girl, Isobel, shone as they confidently introduced the school to visitors and thoughtfully answered their questions. They were a true credit to the school, and we know their excellent leadership will continue to inspire throughout the rest of the year.

Sports Leaders' Training

Our newly appointed Sports Leaders had the opportunity to travel to Wilmslow with Miss Sutton on Wednesday, last week, to develop their sports leadership skills. They took part in a range of activities designed to build confidence, teamwork, and the ability to lead others in games and sporting activities. They also learnt about what makes or doesn't make a good leader. We are really looking forward to them sharing their new ideas with the rest of the school and helping to make playtimes and PE sessions even more enjoyable for everyone.

Whirley School Association (WSA)

Last week we held our WSA AGM and were delighted to see an increase in parental presence and support. The energy and commitment from our parent community was wonderful, and together we discussed exciting fundraising opportunities for the year ahead. It was agreed that funds raised will go towards enhancing the EYFS outdoor area and developing a dedicated Forest School environment for all children to enjoy. These projects will provide rich opportunities for outdoor learning, creativity, and exploration which will benefit every child at Whirley. Our first event is the Halloween Disco on the 17th October (R, 1 and 2: 6pm to 7pm/3, 4, 5 and 6: 7.15pm to 8.30pm). Agreed dates for all events will be sent out very soon!

Thank you

As always, thank you for your continued support in making Whirley such a vibrant and nurturing place for our children to grow.

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

This week, we are delighted to highlight the successes of several pupils who have impressed us with their dedication and enthusiasm. A Headteacher Award is presented to **Storm in Year 1** for demonstrating excellent orienteering skills during the Delamere Forest trip, where he showed real determination in finding the numbers quickly. **Hope in Year 2** earns her award for thoughtful RE work on the Good Samaritan, and for identifying a friend she considered to be her own Good Samaritan. In **Year 3, Lola and Layla** are commended for their imaginative diary writing on *Stone Age Boy* and their impressive use of time vocabulary. **Charlie in Year 4** is applauded for his perseverance and resilience in developing his guitar playing. In **Year 5, Luke** is acknowledged for his strong historical knowledge of the Anglo-Saxons and for speaking with confidence about the advantages and disadvantages of the Romans leaving. Also, in **Year 5, Amara** receives her award for insightful computing work, clearly explaining why it is important to stay healthy online and when to take breaks from being online. Finally, **Eliza in Year 6** is praised for her detailed and thoughtful history work on rationing during World War Two.

A huge well done to all our award winners.

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: Ivan (Y1) for Respect, Darwin (Y2) for Independence, Gracie (Y3) for Respect and Resilience, Betty (Y4) for Respect, Archie (Y5) for Respect and Jack (Y6) for Resilience.

Winning House



The winning house in Celebration Assembly was **Chelford** with 204 Dojo points. Their House trophy is proudly on display in the school hall.

Late arrivals

If you arrive with your child after the gate has closed in the morning, please walk them to the front entrance and sign them in using the screen by the office. This ensures your child is registered if they arrive after the class register has been taken, helps the office keep accurate records, and gives you the opportunity to provide a reason for their late arrival. If your child walks to school independently and arrives late, the office will contact you to let you know this has happened.

Thank you for your cooperation.

KS1 Pickup

We kindly ask parents and carers to stand back from the classroom windows during afternoon pick-up. This will allow teachers the time and space to help the children prepare for home time, collect their belongings, and finish off the school day without distraction.

Recently, we have noticed some younger children climbing on the benches outside the classrooms and looking through the windows, which can be distracting for the classes and delay dismissal. We would be very grateful for your support in keeping this area clear so that the end of the day runs smoothly for everyone.

Young Voices

On Friday, KS2 teachers sent the following QR code link to parents of children who are participating in Young Voices 2026. This link gives access to rehearsing songs and ordering tickets and t-shirts for the event. Please use the QR code or link if you have not done so already. https://yvmusicroom.com/auth/parent/login



Out of School Club pickup arrangements

This notice was sent home on Friday. As a reminder: As a school, we are aware that the current use of the side gate has posed ongoing issues. Parents have at times, been unable to gain access due to the gate or code not working properly, and it has also been difficult to attract the attention of club staff from that entrance. We have adjusted the gate and it did work for a little while but is now causing an issue again. We appreciate how frustrating this has been and thank you for your patience.

In addition to these practical concerns, we are also aware that the side gate has not always been closed securely, and some children have learned the access code, which raises safety concerns.
To address these issues, **from Monday 29th September, all access to and from the Out of School Club will be via the main front door**. When arriving, please ring the bell and a member of staff will come to meet you. To support this change, a new doorbell will be installed on Monday afternoon to ensure handover times run as smoothly as possible.
We understand that changes to routines can take time to adjust to, so we kindly ask for your patience while this new system is put in place.

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 97% last week.

- Reception: 97%
- Year 1: 99%
- Year 2: 97%
- Year 3: 97%
- Year 4: 93%
- Year 5: 96%
- Year 6: 98%

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Autumn Term dates up to Half Term

2nd October – Space Theme school dinners
6th October – Year 6 Evacuee Theme Day
10th October – Kings Football Tournament Year 5/6
17th October – Halloween Disco WSA (R, 1 and 2: 6pm to 7pm/3, 4, 5 and 6: 7.15pm to 8.30pm)
WB 20th October – Parents' Evenings
23rd October – Harvest Celebration EYFS/KS1
23rd October – Trust Swimming Gala (Y5 and 6)
27th – 31st October – Half Term

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

Kind regards,
Mrs Karen Whalley
Headteacher