RESPECT RESILIENCE COLLABORATION INDEPENDENCE TOLERANCE

Dear Parents and Carers,

Last week began with a thoughtful whole-school assembly on Monday, centred around the theme of being stewards of our world. We explored our school value of Respect, not only in terms of how we treat one another, but also how we show care and responsibility for the world we live in.
The children contributed fantastic ideas during our discussions, thinking deeply about ways we can protect our planet, like recycling, reducing waste, saving energy, and planting more trees. They thought about what might happen if we don't act and the impact that could have on future generations and our environment. We also discussed how even small changes in our daily habits can lead to big results when we all work together. This theme links beautifully with the work being done by our Eco Committee and House Teams, as we continue our school and Trust wide focus on sustainability. These important ideas will feed directly into projects we have planned throughout the year, and it was truly inspiring to hear how passionate the children are about making a difference.

This week we are looking forward to engaging activities and special events. Today, our Year 6 pupils are taking part in an Evacuee Day; stepping back in time to experience what life was like for children during World War II. Dressed in period-style clothing, the children will take part in a range of activities designed to help them understand the experiences of evacuees during the war. It's a powerful way to bring history to life!
Later in the week, we're excited about the upcoming football tournament at King's School on Friday. We know our team will represent the school with great effort, teamwork, and sportsmanship. We wish them the best of luck!

Thank you to all parents for your ongoing support and involvement in our school community.

## 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

We are delighted to recognise the hard work and achievements of the following pupils this week.
Each child is presented with a Headteacher's Award in acknowledgement of their excellent contribution to learning.

In Year 1, Aggie is recognised for her excellent effort in Maths. She confidently used the Part-Part-Whole model and showed a solid understanding of the concept. In Year 2, Leo is awarded a Headteacher's Award for his clearly presented fact file about frogs and tadpoles. He also read his work confidently and showed great progress in his handwriting. In Year 3, Thomas is acknowledged for his impressive 'Hot Write' inspired by Stone Age Boy. He used descriptive language effectively and maintained quality throughout a longer piece of writing. Also in Year 3, Hattie is presented with a Headteacher's Award for her creative and descriptive 'Hot Write' about a Stone Age Girl. In Year 4, Zaydan is awarded a Headteacher's Award for his determined and skilful defending of the 'D' during PE, in Handball. Leo, also in Year 4, is recognised for his engaging disaster story, where he built tension effectively through his choice of language. In Year 5, Rory and Sidney are awarded for their Geography work on the seven continents. They clearly explained the differences between each continent and shared their learning confidently.

A huge well done to all our award winners.

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## 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: Tilly (Y1) for Collaboration, Larna (Y2) for Collaboration, William (Y3) for Resilience, Sam (Y4) for Respect, Lola (Y5) for Resilience and Charlie (Y6) for Collaboration.

## Winning House



Last week was a close result with the first and second placed houses split by just three points. Well done to **Birtles** who came second with 164 points. The winning house in Celebration Assembly was **Alderley** with 167 Dojo points. Their House trophy is proudly on display in the school hall.

## Pick-up Arrangements from Monday 6th October 2025 for School Clubs

A letter was sent out on Friday stating the new pickup arrangements for Sports after school clubs and teacher led after school clubs. The gate with the coded keypad has proven unreliable and has caused delays and frustration. This new process will ensure a smoother, safer handover and help keep the school site secure during after-school activities.

**Clubs to be picked up from outside the Front Entrance:**
If your child attends any of the following clubs:

- Lego Club
- Echo Club
- Netball Club

They will be brought to the front entrance by the teacher leading the club.

Important:

- Parents/carers should wait outside the front entrance.
- Do not wait inside the doorway, and
- Do not ring the Breakfast/After School Club doorbell, as this may disrupt the club staff.

**Clubs to be picked up from the Car Park Gate:**
If your child attends:

- Boys' Football Club (Monday and Tuesday)
- Multisports (Thursday)
- Girls' Football Club (Friday)

Pick-up will take place at the gate next to the school car park.
The relevant coach will unlock the gate and release children once they see that a parent or carer is present.
The gate will then be relocked immediately to maintain school security.

## Whirley School Association (WSA) – Revised disco timings

The first event the WSA is putting on is the Halloween Disco on the 17th October. Please take note of the revised timings 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 Carpark

We kindly remind all parents and carers that the staff carpark is reserved for school staff only, before, during and after school. For the safety of the children and to ensure staff have access to parking, we ask that parents please park outside the school premises when dropping off or picking up children. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated in keeping our school running smoothly and safely.

## Important Road Safety Reminder

We would like to take this opportunity to remind all families of the importance of using the zebra crossing outside the school in a safe and responsible manner. Please ensure that your child does not run across the zebra crossing. The crossing is provided to support the safety of all pedestrians, and it is essential that it is used correctly.

We respectfully ask that parents accompany their children across the road, where appropriate. That parents ensure their children are encouraged to walk calmly and not run and all users remain vigilant and aware of oncoming traffic.

## 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: 97%
- Year 2: 96%
- Year 3: 99%
- Year 4: 95%
- Year 5: 99%
- Year 6: 97%

## Autumn Term dates up to Half Term

6th October – Year 6 Evacuee Theme Day
10th October – Kings Football Tournament Year 5/6
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

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