RESPECT RESILIENCE COLLABORATION INDEPENDENCE TOLERANCE

Dear Parents and Carers,

The last couple of weeks have been challenging, with many children and staff feeling unwell. As we move through the winter months, we continue to see an increase in seasonal sickness, including colds and flu. The whole-school influenza nasal spray vaccinations took place last week and we hope this will offer some protection from illnesses over the coming weeks.

We are now approaching the end of the Autumn term and looking forward to the Christmas break ahead. Until then, we have a very busy couple of weeks planned.

We have also welcomed several visitors to school recently, as families begin to apply for places. The feedback we consistently receive is how calm and purposeful the learning environment is here at Whirley. Our children always impress visitors with their mature and confident responses to questions, and we are incredibly proud of the way they represent our school. We are always delighted to show families around and welcome anyone who would like to arrange a visit.

This past week, Reception welcomed parents for a Stay and Play session on Thursday afternoon. Families joined their children in a range of activities across the Early Years areas, and it was a wonderful opportunity for parents to engage in their children's learning. The feedback has been very positive, and we look forward to offering more Stay and Play sessions in the future.

Reception have also been practising their Christmas Nativity, which will take place on Tuesday 16th December. Meanwhile, Year 1 and Year 2 have been hard at work rehearsing for their own Christmas production, which they will be sharing on Wednesday 17th December. We are excited to watch all the children shine on stage.

Mrs Dunford has also been busily preparing the choir, who gave an excellent performance at the Christmas Fair. Their hard work continues and this Thursday afternoon, 37 children from Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 will be performing at Macclesfield Town Hall. If you can attend, it would be wonderful to have your 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.

Headteacher's Award

Reception – Matilda and Val

Matilda is celebrated for confidently remembering her lines in the Nativity and for her fantastic maths work. Val is recognised for using a wonderfully loud and clear voice during Nativity practice. Well done both of you!

Year 1 – Sami and Freya

Sami and Freya are celebrated for their excellent English work. They used thoughtful adjectives to label Arctic fox images, showing great creativity and understanding.

Year 2 – Finn

Finn showed fantastic confidence in his writing about the conflict in *Cinderella* and he read his work aloud beautifully. Well done, Finn!

Year 3 – Lori and Isla

Lori and Isla produced outstanding hot writes in English, creating imaginative and engaging portal stories. Excellent work, both of you!

Year 4 – Amelia and Eleanor
Amelia and Eleanor are celebrated for their impressive persuasive letters in their hot write. They used a range of persuasive techniques with great skill.
Year 5 – Thomas
Thomas is recognised for his excellent science knowledge about the movement of the Earth and Moon relative to the Sun. He also confidently explained the difference between heliocentric and geocentric models.
Year 6 – Isobel and Jacob
Isobel and Jacob shared impressive history work on Anne Frank, producing detailed and informative leaflets about her life. A wonderful effort from both of you. Well done!

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: Evelyn (Reception) for Collaboration, Emmy (Y1) for Independence, Freya (Y2) for Independence, Harry Y3) for Resilience, Leo (Y4) for Collaboration, Alfie (Y5) for Collaboration and Ruby (Y6) for Independence.

Winning House



We're excited to bring you this week's house-points results. All our houses have shown great effort and teamwork once again. **Alderley** have taken the lead this week with an impressive **229 dojo points**. Their House Trophy is now proudly displayed in the school corridor for everyone to see.

Winning House Christmas Tree

You will have all seen the House Christmas trees proudly displayed in the school hall during the Christmas Fair. These were beautifully decorated by every child in each house, along with staff members who are also part of the house teams. I'm sure you will agree that all the trees looked fantastic and this would be a wonderful tradition to continue in future years.
Thank you to everyone who voted on the night. We are delighted to reveal that the winning house, with **221 votes**, is **Henbury**! Their tree is now on display in the school corridor. Well done to all our houses for their creativity and hard work.

As part of the competition, the winning house receives **100 extra dojo points**, second place **75 points**, third place **50 points**, and fourth place **25 points**. These additional points will be added to the Autumn term's final totals and shared at the end of term.

Final scores:

- **Henbury:** 221 votes
- **Alderley:** 196 votes
- **Birtles:** 185 votes
- **Chelford:** 122 votes

Christmas Jumper Day

Wednesday 10th December is Christmas Jumper Day! Children are welcome to wear their favourite Christmas jumper along with their usual school uniform.

School Christmas Dinner

The school Christmas dinner is on Wednesday 10th December. The menu choices are below:

- Roast Turkey
- Cranberry and vegetable slice (Vegan)
- Jacket Potato and Cheese

Rock Steady Concert

A reminder that the Rock Steady Concert will be on Wednesday 10th December at 10.00. Please come to the main door for entry at 9.45, at the earliest.

Film Night

Film night is on Wednesday 10th December after school. Reception will be ready for pickup at 4.30 and all other classes at 5.30. Please ensure you have bought your ticket using the QR code given by the WSA.



Henbury Church Service

On the last day of term (Friday 19th December), the whole school will be attending Henbury Church for a Christmas service. Class teachers will be asking for volunteers to help their classes walk over – any support is very welcome. We will be **returning to school after the church service**, so that children can have their dinner and they will be ready to be picked up **FROM SCHOOL** at **12.30**.

Netball Club

Monday 8th December will be the **last Netball club session until after Christmas**. There will **NOT** be a Netball session on the 15th December.

Echo Club Change of Day

This week, Echo club will be on Friday 12th December instead of Wednesday due to the Film night.

Echo Club Performance

On Wednesday 17th December, there will be an Echo Club performance for parents at 4.15 to 4.45.

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 94% last week.

- Reception: 90%
- Year 1: 97%
- Year 2: 94%
- Year 3: 91%
- Year 4: 94%
- Year 5: 92%
- Year 6: 98%

Autumn Term dates up to the Christmas Holiday

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
Thursday – MAD Science 3.30 – 4.30
This week it will be Friday – Echo Club 3.30 – 4.30

Teacher Led School Clubs

Monday 3.30 – 4.30 – Netball club (last session 8/12/25)
Monday and Tuesday lunchtime – Sewing club
Tuesday Lunchtime – Choir

Kind regards,
Mrs Karen Whalley
Headteacher