RESPECT RESILIENCE COLLABORATION INDEPENDENCE TOLERANCE

Dear Parents and Carers,

Last week was a busy and exciting one, beginning with Year 4's class visit to the Manchester Jewish Museum in Cheetham Hill. This beautifully restored former synagogue offers a fascinating insight into Jewish history, traditions, and community life in Manchester.

During the visit, pupils explored the historic synagogue and examined a variety of artefacts that enhanced their understanding of Jewish beliefs, customs, and everyday life. They also took part in an interactive workshop led by the museum's learning team, which brought their learning to life through engaging discussions and hands-on activities.

The visit was a valuable opportunity for pupils to deepen their knowledge of Judaism, develop respect for different cultures, and make meaningful connections to their classroom learning.

Also last week, Year 5 resumed their swimming lessons following the reopening of Macclesfield Swimming Pool. They also enjoyed their first introductory session with their woodwind instruments.

We have made some changes to our lunchtime routine in the dining hall to ensure all children can enjoy their meals.

- Year 6 will now enter the hall with their Reception buddies to model good table manners.
- Years 1 and 2 will enter the hall slightly later than before.

This change is based on observations that the younger children were not finishing their meals when they came in first, as they were often not very hungry after their breaktime snack and were eager to rush outside to play. With this new arrangement, they can enjoy playtime first and then have a better appetite, allowing them to eat more of their lunch.

This change is designed to support children in eating well while still allowing them plenty of time to play and interact with friends.

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

Last week, Headteacher awards were given to Sylvie, Seth, Eden and Teddy in Reception, for their excellent letter formation and sentence construction.
In Year 1, Emmy has been recognised for her superb presentation and effective use of adjectives and the word *"and"* in her English work. Well done, Emmy!
In Year 2, Zavier has been awarded for his fantastic Science work on living and non-living things.
In Year 3, Neve received her award for her Science learning about different light sources.
In Year 4, both Oscar and Charlie have been recognised for their excellent focus and work across all lessons.
In Year 5, Flynn has been awarded for his Geography work on biomes in South America and for his comparison with the United Kingdom. Also in Year 5, Lola showed excellent Maths work, successfully multiplying four-digit numbers by one- and two-digit numbers.
In Year 6, both Ronnie and Charlie G have been recognised for challenging themselves in their Ratio and Proportion lessons by solving complex problems.

Well done to all the children for their excellent work and achievements!

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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: Raziya (Reception) for all the values and being an excellent friend, Jack (Y1) for Independence, Harriet (Y2) for Collaboration, Margot (Y3) for Resilience, Liv (Y4) for Resilience, Thomas (Y5) for Collaboration and Liam (Y6) for Resilience.

Winning House



All four houses contributed well to the dojo points last week, showing fantastic effort and teamwork. Leading the way was **Chelford** with **199 points**, narrowly beating **Alderley**, who scored **198 points**. **Birtles** followed with **184 points**, and **Henbury** earned **175 points**.

Important Reminder – Out of School Club

A reminder from Miss Sutton to parents and carers that Out of School Club starts at 7.30am. As our insurance cover is valid from this time only, children arriving before that time will not be able to enter the club until it opens at 7.30am.

School Clothes Donations

Mrs Rowley is kindly requesting donations of any school tights your child may have outgrown. We are collecting these to keep as spares at school. Donations can be handed in at drop-off or pick-up.

Whirley School Association (WSA) – Valentines Disco

A reminder that the Valentines Disco is on Friday 6th February and the following timings are 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.

Reminder: Reporting Absences

If your child **has sickness/diarrhoea**, they must remain off school for **48 hours**. After notifying the school on the **first day**, you do **not** need to contact us again on the second day of absence.

If your child is absent due to illness **but has not been sick or not had diarrhoea**, please contact the school office **each morning** to inform us of their absence. This helps prevent the office from needing to call you to confirm.

If your child is **sent home** feeling unwell but **has not been sick or not had diarrhoea,** please also remember to contact the office the following morning if they remain absent.

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: 98%
- Year 1: 95%
- Year 2: 97%
- Year 3: 94%
- Year 4: 95%
- Year 5: 94%
- Year 6: 95%

Spring Term dates up to Easter holidays

6th February – Year 5 Road Safety presentation (school)
6th February – Big Sing at Fallibroome
6th February – Valentines Disco (WSA)
9th February – Creativity Week
10th February – Internet Safety Week
10th February – Chemistry with Cabbage – Year 6
11th February – AIM High Maths (Y4/5/6)
12th February – Young Voices Concert (COOP Live)
12th February – Creativity week presentation evening at Fallibroome
13th February – Break up for HALF Term 3.30pm
23rd February – School reopens
23rd February – Burwardsley Residential Year 2
12th March – Tattenhall Residential Year 4
Week beginning 16th March – Parents' Evenings
20th March – Race Night in school
27th March – Break up for Easter/Spring Holiday 3.30pm
13th April – School Reopens

External School Clubs

Monday – Y3 – 6 Football 3.30 – 4.30
Tuesday – Y1/2 Football 3.30 – 4.30
Wednesday – Echo Club
Thursday Multi-Sports - 3.30 – 4.30
Friday – Girls Football - 3.30 – 4.30

Teacher Led School Clubs

Tuesday 12.30 – 13.00 Sewing Club with Mrs Hennerley (continued from last term)
Monday 3.30 – 4.30 Y4, 5 and 6 Netball with Mrs Tomlinson (WB: 19/1/26)
Tuesday 3.30 – 4.30 KS2 Coding Club with Mr Salmon (WB: 26/1/26)
Tuesday 12.30 – 13.00 Sewing Club with Mrs Hennerley (continued from last term)

Kind regards,
Mrs Karen Whalley
Headteacher