RESPECT RESILIENCE COLLABORATION INDEPENDENCE TOLERANCE

Dear Parents and Carers,

Continuing the excellent learning, it was another busy school week last week.

Year 5 took part in their second woodwind lesson and have now taken their instruments home to practise regularly throughout the week. This ongoing work will build towards an exciting concert at the Bridgewater Hall in the summer term, where pupils will have the opportunity to perform alongside many other schools from across the North West.

Following recent Makaton training, Mrs Byrne and Miss Sutton have been developing their skills and are now sharing this learning with the Reception class. The children are being introduced to basic Makaton signs, which are being used alongside spoken language to support communication, understanding and inclusion within the classroom.

The information shared in last week's Monday message about school dinners is going well. We have made a few changes to our lunchtime routine in the dining hall to help ensure all children can enjoy their meals. Year 6 now enter the hall with their Reception buddies to model good table manners and Years 1 and 2 enter the hall slightly later than before.

These changes were introduced after noticing that some of our younger children were not always finishing their lunches when they came in first, as they were often not very hungry after their breaktime snack and keen to head back outside to play. With this new arrangement, the children are able to enjoy their playtime first and then come in with a better appetite, helping them to eat more of their lunch.

We are pleased to see that the children are having a positive lunch break eating together in the hall. Lunchtime is also supporting the development of important skills, such as reinforcing how to cut up food independently and using good table manners. We really appreciate your support in reinforcing these skills at home, as this helps to build children's confidence and independence.

## 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 recognition went to Alex and Sienna in Reception for their fantastic Science work, where they built towers using different materials and tested which ones could be blown down. Well done Alex and Sienna!

In Year 1, Avery and Scarlett received praise for their excellent Science work, demonstrating a strong understanding of different materials.

In Year 2, Rupert shared his artwork, using various materials to create texture such as cardboard and fingertips to produce a painting of a dandelion. He showed great creativity.

In Year 5, Archie was recognized for his outstanding History work on Anglo Saxon paganism, showing excellent understanding. Also, in Year 5 Harry earned praise for his brilliant Maths work multiplying by 2-digit numbers. Well done Harry! Congratulations to all the children for their impressive 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: Sophie (Reception) for Respect, Toby (Y1) for Resilience, Sebastian (Y2) for Respect, Halle (Y3) for Collaboration, Willow (Y4) for Resilience, Elijah (Y5) for Resilience and Oliver (Y6) for Collaboration.

## Winning House



All four houses contributed fantastically to the dojo points this week, showing excellent teamwork and effort. It was an incredibly close competition at the top, with Alderley finishing first with **130 points**, just one point ahead of Chelford in second on **129 points**. Henbury secured third place with **128 points**, while Birtles earned **99 points**. An outstanding display of collaboration and spirit from all houses!

## 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.

## Half Term Club - Macclesfield FC Multi-Sports (see the poster at the end of the newsletter for further details)

We're excited to share that **Macclesfield FC Community Sports Trust** is running a **Half-Term Multi-Sports Camp** during the February break!

- **Dates:** Monday 16th – Friday 20th February
- **Time:** 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM
- **Cost:** £16 per day

**What's included:** Five full days of fun sports and games for all children!
This is a fantastic opportunity for children to stay active, try new sports and have a great week of fun. Spaces are limited, so don't miss out!

## 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 95% last week.

- Reception: 98%
- Year 1: 96%
- Year 2: 96%
- Year 3: 92%
- Year 4: 95%
- Year 5: 98%
- Year 6: 92%

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## Spring Term dates up to Easter holidays

6th February – Year 5 Road Safety presentation (school)
6th February – Big Sing at Fallibroome (Y2/Y3)
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
Monday 3.30 – 4.30 Y4, 5 and 6 Netball with Mrs Tomlinson
Tuesday 3.30 – 4.30 KS2 Coding Club with Mr Salmon (begins this week)
Tuesday 12.30 – 13.00 Sewing Club with Mrs Hennerley

Kind regards,
Mrs Karen Whalley
Headteacher




