RESPECT RESILIENCE COLLABORATION INDEPENDENCE TOLERANCE

Dear Parents and Carers,

It was a fantastic first week back at school. Pupils settled in well and we placed a strong focus on our three Whirley rules: *Be Respectful, Be Ready to Learn* and *Be Responsible*. It has been wonderful to see the children continuing to embody our school values in all aspects of school life.

Our Year 4/5 and Year 6 pupils took part in football fixtures away at St John's. The 'A' team maintained their impressive 100% winning record with a 3–1 victory. The 'B' team also represented the school with great teamwork and sportsmanship, despite facing a particularly strong Gawsworth 2nd team. Well done to everyone who took part.

Selected Year 3/4 boys and girls, who have been practising in school, also competed in cross country. Their determination and commitment to training truly paid off, with excellent performances from all involved. We will share a more detailed report next week following the Year 5/6 cross country event this week.

Year 4 have also begun their summer term of swimming lessons, which will continue into next year as they move into Year 5.

Reception had their first outdoor PE lesson exploring using different equipment.







Film Night

Please note the change to the film night date. It will now be on Wednesday 20th May.

Meet our Governors

Each week we will be sharing our Governing body with you. This week we are sharing Mr Dick Emery.

Mr Dick Emery – Behaviour, Attendance and Attitudes Governor



My name is Dick Emery and I became a governor because my grand-daughter attends Whirley. Now long retired, I spent my whole working life in IT, although it was called computing when I started. I 'm very keen on keeping fit, having been a regular runner for fifty years. I've now slowed down and regularly use my exercise bike and visit my personal trainer. For recreation, I love puzzles, crosswords and reading and I still write the occasional computer program.

As the governor responsible for Behaviour, Attitude to Learning and Attendance, I support the school by monitoring how well we promote positive behaviour, strong learning habits and good attendance. This includes keeping a close eye on pupil engagement and working with the school to address issues such as persistent absence, ensuring all children are supported to attend regularly and succeed.

Volunteer Readers

Thank you to those who have replied with an offer of help to support the children with their reading. The email sent earlier this week is below:

We are looking for volunteers who would be happy to give an afternoon or a day of their time to help support reading across KS1 and KS2 at Whirley. If you would like to volunteer, please email **Mrs Whalley** at **k.whalley@whirley.ht.school** with your contact details and the day(s)/morning(s)/afternoon(s) you are available.

Please note that all volunteers will be required to complete a *basic DBS check* before beginning their role in school. This will be done by the office with you.
Once we have volunteers for each day to support all classes, we will invite you to attend Reading Volunteer Training before the end of May, ready for a June start.

Reading Volunteers will be placed **with classes** based on the needs of the children. This means you may not be placed with your child's class.
Please email your availability by **Friday 1st May.**

PSHE and Wellbeing

We are currently reviewing our PSHE and Wellbeing curriculum to ensure that what we teach continues to meet the needs of our children and reflects the values of our school community. As part of this process, we are gathering feedback from a range of voices. Our pupils have already been sharing their views with us in school, helping us to understand what they feel works well and what could be improved. We would now like to invite parents and carers to contribute their thoughts as well. Your feedback is extremely valuable in shaping future learning and ensuring our curriculum supports children's personal development, wellbeing, and understanding of themselves and others. Please take a few minutes to complete our short questionnaire by clicking on the link below.

PSHE and Wellbeing – Fill in form

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 celebrate the following pupils for their outstanding learning and achievements across the school:

- **Reception:** Sylvie and Ezra were recognised for their excellent descriptive sentences, demonstrating strong letter formation and accurate sentence construction.
- **Year 1:** Nell impressed us with her fantastic Geography work comparing hot and cold places, confidently explaining the similarities and differences.
- **Year 2:** Reuben was celebrated for his super Science work, identifying different materials and their uses in and around school.
- **Year 3:** Gracie and Layla were acknowledged for their challenging Maths work as they explored fractions.
- **Year 4:** Amy and Cody shared their French work, in which they described different outfits using accurate vocabulary.

- **Year 5:** Rory and Evelyn were recognised for their RE work, identifying a significant role model in their lives and reflecting on how that person influences the way they lead their own lives.

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: (Reception) Amber for Collaboration, (Y1) Freya for Collaboration, (Y2) Eden for Collaboration, (Y3) Chloe for Collaboration, (Y4) Amelia RB for Independence, (Y5) Sidney for Independence and (Y6) Ted for Collaboration.

Winning House



Chelford took the lead with 211 dojo points, with Birtles in 4th on 176 dojo points, Henbury in 3rd on 184 dojo points and in 2nd place was Alderley on 203 dojo points.

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 98% this week.

- Reception: 100%
- Year 1: 97%
- Year 2: 99.7%
- Year 3: 98%
- Year 4: 96%
- Year 5: 93%
- Year 6: 99%

Joseph And The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat

Mrs Dunford will be performing in *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* at the Buxton Opera House from 29th April until 4th May. If you would like tickets, click on the link below. We wish her all the best!

Joseph And The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat | Buxton Opera House

Summer Dates

22nd April – SCHOOL Class Photographs – Academy Photos
11th May – SATs Week
18th May – Year 5 Safety Central Visit
20th May - Film night
Half Term 25th May – 1st June
1st June – School INSET Day
1st June – Multiplication Checks Week Year 4

8th June – Phonics Check Week Year 1
11th June – Bridgewater Hall Concert – Year 5
22nd June – Great Athletes Day (Further Details to come)
22nd June Year 1 school trip Peak Wildlife
23rd June – Sports Day
25th June – Day 2 of Brimstone Project – Year 5
30th June – Reserve Sports Day
1st July to 3rd July – Year 6 Residential Conway
9th July – Year 6 Performance at KINGS
10th July Reports sent out
15th July – Rocksteady concert 10.00am
17th July – last day of term

Class Assembly Dates

- Year 3: Thursday 4th June
- Year 4: Thursday 11th June
- Year 2: Thursday 18th June
- Year 1: Thursday 25th June
- Reception: Thursday 2nd July

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 Multi-Sports - 3.30 – 4.30
Friday – Girls Football - 3.30 – 4.30

Teacher Led School Clubs

Monday 12.30 – 13.00 Sewing Club with Mrs Hennerley
Tuesday 12.30 – 13.00 Sewing Club with Mrs Hennerley
Tuesday 15.30 – 16.30 Pottery Club KS2 (Y3 – 6) **21st April, 5th May, 12th May** with Mrs Whalley and Mrs Tomlinson
Wednesday 15.30 – 16.30 Pottery Club KS2 (Y3 – 6) **29th April, 20th May** with Mrs Whalley and Mrs Tomlinson

Kind regards,
Mrs Karen Whalley
Headteacher