RESPECT RESILIENCE COLLABORATION INDEPENDENCE TOLERANCE

Dear Parents and Carers,

We were fortunate to enjoy some lovely weather last week and it was wonderful to see the children making the most of it by spending more time outdoors. We're hopeful that the sunshine holds today so all the children can enjoy lunchtime out on the field.

A huge congratulations to all four of our Cross Country teams. Over the last two weeks, the teams have competed in the second round of the Macclesfield Schools Cross Country Championships and their achievements have been outstanding. The Year 3/4 girls' team secured 1st place, taking home team gold. Demonstrating the strength and passion for Cross Country across the school, the Year 3/4 boys, Year 5/6 girls and Year 5/6 boys teams all achieved an impressive 2nd place in their respective races. What a fantastic accomplishment!

A special mention must go to Molly in Year 6 for winning the Year 5/6 race. Well done also to Charlie (Year 6), Cody (Year 4), Amy (Year 4) and Halle (Year 3), who all achieved medals in their individual races.

Whirley has always had a strong tradition of success and enjoyment in Cross Country and it has been wonderful to see the championships return. These events provide the perfect opportunity for our children to demonstrate our school values on the sports field. Resilience, independence, respect and collaboration were evident in abundance throughout the competition.

Also last week, our Year 4, 5 and 6 A and B football teams enjoyed great success, winning their matches against Gawsworth Primary School. The children showed fantastic teamwork, determination and resilience throughout, supporting one another brilliantly and never giving up. A wonderful achievement. Well done to everyone involved!

The picture below features our B team, who played their final match of the season last week. The A team will round off their fixtures with a match against Marlborough this week.







Our Reception children have been making wonderful use of the mud kitchen in their outdoor area this week. They have shown great imagination and creativity, mixing, pouring and "cooking", painting with mud, water and natural materials. The children have been developing their language skills as they talk through their recipes and creations, as well as practising teamwork by sharing tools and working together on their muddy masterpieces. It has been lovely to see them so absorbed in their play, confidently exploring different textures and enjoying the freedom of the outdoors.









RESPECT RESILIENCE COLLABORATION INDEPENDENCE TOLERANCE

Meet our Governors

Each week we will be sharing our Governing body with you. This week we are sharing Mr Chris Wainer.

Chris Wainer – Safeguarding Governor



Hi, I'm Chris and I'm delighted to be serving as a Parent Governor. I have two boys at the school — one in Year 2 and one in Reception — with a third eligible to apply in September 2027, so I'm deeply invested in this school community. Being involved in the board felt like a natural step, and I'm proud to hold the role of Link Governor for Safeguarding, helping to ensure all our children are happy, safe, and supported.

In this role, my focus is on making sure the school meets its safeguarding responsibilities and maintains a strong culture where every child feels safe. This involves meeting regularly with the school's Designated Safeguarding Lead, reviewing safeguarding policies and training, and ensuring that safe recruitment practices are in place. I report back to the full governing board each term to keep safeguarding at the heart of everything we do.
Professionally, I run a business that imports and distributes lacrosse equipment across the UK and Europe — a career that grew out of my time as a player. I fell in love with the sport at the age of 12, going on to represent England at international level, and I'm now the Domestic Head Coach for the England Men's Box Lacrosse team.
I'm also passionate about health and wellness. Having previously owned a number of gyms, I now coach individuals to improve their wellbeing through a holistic approach, combining personalised workout programming, nutritional coaching, strength training, and cardio.
I'm really looking forward to continuing to contribute to the school and getting to know more of you — please don't hesitate to say hello!

Volunteer Readers

A reminder to send your details to **Mrs Whalley** at **k.whalley@whirley.ht.school** if you are available, with your contact details and the day(s)/morning(s)/afternoon(s) you are available.

Please email your availability by **Friday 1st May.**

Pottery Club

A reminder that pottery club is on Wednesday this week.

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 pleased to celebrate the following pupils for their hard work and achievements across the school:

RESPECT RESILIENCE COLLABORATION INDEPENDENCE TOLERANCE

Reception: Seth has been recognised for his Geography work, creating a treasure map that included clear map features. Edith has been recognised for her English work, showing careful letter formation and consistent finger spaces.
Year 1: Avery produced a detailed and character description in English.
Year 2: Bella and Zavier have shown strong recall and confidence in their times tables.
Year 3: Alice wrote an engaging mystery story and read it aloud with clarity and confidence.
Year 4: Enid and Sidney created expressive artwork, making good use of tone by layering colours effectively.
Year 5: Riley and Fynn demonstrated thoughtful problem-solving in Computing as they designed code using Micro bits.

Well done to all of our pupils for their continued effort and positive attitude towards learning.

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) Alfred for Independence, (Y1) Felicity for Respect and Resilience, (Y2) Rupert for Respect, (Y3) Miran for Collaboration, (Y4) Jack for Independence, (Y5) Max for Collaboration and (Y6) Livinia for Independence.

Winning House



Alderley takes the top spot with an impressive 159 Dojo points.
In second place is Chelford with 154 points. It was an incredibly close competition for third and fourth, with just one point in it; Birtles earned 144 points, followed closely by Henbury with 143. Well done to all houses for their fantastic effort!

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: 99%
- Year 1: 99%
- Year 2: 99%
- Year 3: 96%
- Year 4: 95%
- Year 5: 99%
- Year 6: 98%

Summer Dates

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
Monday 15.30 – 16.30 – Y5/6 Rounders club
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