



2nd October 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you for your patience while we have been managing the change in our information systems in school during September. We are now hoping that our communication through the Arbor communication system will run smoothly moving forward. If you have any queries or questions, please do contact our school office via email school@whistonwillis.co.uk

The Y6 residential was a hugely positive experience for those pupils who attended, they developed lots of skills, worked well as a team and built confidence, resilience and independence in all the experiences and activities they experienced. A thank you to the staff who organised and attended the residential for our pupils Mr Wong, Mrs Smaje, Mrs Hodges and Mrs Ball.



I also want to highlight our pupils who attended the Knowsley Council Crucial Crew event to support them with learning to keep themselves and others safe in their own lives and local community. A number of external partners completed workshops with the children and provided them with some really useful guidance on how they behave and respond when faced with some challenging situations that they may face.

Y6 are also currently undertaking their Bike Ability training programme and this will continue into next week. The children learn how to ride safely on the roads and receive expert training to promote safe cycling. We offer this every year so that pupils have more knowledge and practical understanding of what to look out for and how to ride their bikes safely.



WHISTON WILLIS
PRIMARY ACADEMY



Whiston Willis Primary Academy
Milton Avenue, Whiston, Prescot L35 2XY
Tel: 0151 477 8270
Email: school@whistonwillis.co.uk
Web: whistonwillis.co.uk

Mr I Cooper B.Ed (Hons)
Executive Principal

We have participated in two rounds of the Prescot area football league for Y5 and Y6 pupils. We have managed to win three fixtures but also lost a couple over the last two weeks. With a couple more strong weeks of performance we still have a chance to qualify for Knowsley play offs. Well done to all who have represented the school across the two weeks of competition.

Harvest: Please do donate any packaged food by Friday 9th October as this is the cut off for our donations to the local community. Reverend Telfer will be in school to thank the children and discuss harvest in assembly on Friday.

Healthy Eating:

As you are aware Miss Chiochi led our work with Knowsley Council on achieving Healthy School Bronze award last year.

Since our return this year, there has been a noticeable increase in KS2 pupils bringing snacks to school for break that are not suitable. Sweets are not a suitable snack during the middle of the day so can we please ask you to ensure your children have a healthy/suitable sized snack to school.

Packed Lunches are also something that we also would love your support with. In all honesty some packed lunches are really unsuitable in terms of quantity (lots is wasted) and in content. Too frequently lunches are overloaded with chocolate/ sweet treats and the sugar content is vast. Again, can we refrain from sending sweets as part of a packed lunch and reduce the treat element to one item. Can I also request that any food 'on the bone' is not included as this is a potential choking hazard.

For ideas on healthy packed lunches visit [Lunchbox ideas and recipes – Healthier Families - NHS](#)

School Uniform:

Reminder- please ensure that your children wear correct school uniform. Many children have lost school ties already and on PE days are not wearing the correct PE kit. If accessing correct uniform is a problem, please do contact us at school and we may be able to help.

We are striving for the highest expectations and do strongly ask for your support in ensuring your children wear school PE kit with the school logo on. If this is not possible, can you ensure a plain white t shirt is worn. We have said that tracksuit bottom/ leggings can be worn and these should be black ideally.

Please refer to the school uniform page on the website and ensure the correct uniform is worn.

Attendance:

The one area that we have to improve as a school community is school attendance.

For the last three years our attendance has been highlighted as being below national figures and absences are high.

Our School attendance has dropped significantly in the last two weeks!

It is vital for all pupils to have strong attendance to give themselves the very best opportunities to build and maintain relationships with their peers and to ensure they have consistency in their learning so that they achieve well. Learning in school takes place from 8.50am until the end of the school day so punctuality and completing the school day every day is also vital to reduce lost learning.

Please do consider carefully any term time holidays impacting on learning. Our slightly extended half term break in October may give you an opportunity to enjoy a cheaper break and reduce the number of days lost at school for children. We have received a significant amount of holidays requests already this year and we will not be authorising holidays in term time unless there are very exceptional circumstances which is in line with national and local guidance.



We do also want to bring to your attention, that all unauthorised absence can also be subject to Education Penalty Notices (not just holidays). We have no choice but to follow national advice and guidance from the LA attendance team and we have a duty to report when thresholds for unauthorised absences have been met to the LA.

Attendance League Table (Year to date)

Position	Class	Percentage		Every child should have attendance of at least 96% minimum. That is the target we should work together to achieve. In the working world, attendance of 90% would be a concern and would put employment at risk. We need to strive to achieve 5 full days a week consistently- broken weeks have to be avoided to avoid lost learning for your child and reduced life chances! Too many classes are below target already- can we work in those classes to improve attendance in the next two weeks- we all have a role to play!
1 st	Cheetah	97.6%	Y6 WINNERS	
2nd	Leopard	96.4%	Y5 WINNERS	
3rd	Hummingbird	96.2%	Y2 WINNERS	
4 th	Penguin	96.1%	Y3 WINNERS	
5 th =	Pangolin	95.8%		
5 th =	Shark	95.8%	Y4 WINNERS	
7 th	Koala	95.2%		
8 th	Tiger	95.0%	Y1 WINNERS	
9 th	Jaguar	94.7%		
10 th	Owl	93.6%	EYFS WINNERS	
11 th	Hedgehog	92.8%		
12 th	Rabbit	92.8%		
13th	Zebra	92.8%		
14th	Lion	91.7%		
15th	Wolf	91.7%		

Special mentions for positively standing out this week.....

CLASS	PUPIL	Well done to all our pupils who have been recognised by staff this week for their hard work and in following our school values and The Whiston Willis Way.
Squirrel	Joel K and Ruben T	
Owl	Frankie and Freya	
Hedgehog	Teddy R and Albie D	
Tiger	Evie D and Nelly R	
Jaguar	Cole S	
Pangolin	Oskar L and Isabel C	
Hummingbird	Lily B	
Zebra	Olive M and Alfie W	
Penguin	Aisha and Eliyanah	
Lion	Vincent A and Noah C	
Shark	Elijah and Jules M	
Koala	Parvathy and Johan	
Leopard	Grace B and Sophia W	
Wolf	Oscar J and Olivia F	
Cheetah	Logan T and Forest W	



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Harvest Collection: We will be starting a Harvest Collection on Monday that will end on 9th October. If you could spare a tin or packet of dried food that we can donate to local families through Reverend Telfer. That would be massively appreciated.

Parking: Please do note that parking permits in the local are in force. You park at your own risk but once again we ask you to show respect to our neighbours and park considerably. I also ask you to drive carefully to ensure all our pupils are safe on the roads around our school.

BE RESPECTFUL, RESPONSIBLE AND SAFE!

Kind regards

Ian Cooper