



Cheetah Class Newsletter

Welcome back

What an incredible start to Year 6 we've had in Cheetah Class! The children have blown me away with their positive attitude, hard work, and the way they have settled back into school life. Year 6 is an exciting (and challenging!) year, and the effort they put in now will make all the difference as we prepare them for their next big step- secondary school.

This week we have had an unforgettable start with our Robinwood residential. The children showed resilience, teamwork, and bravery: whether it was facing the dizzying heights of the zipline, working together to steer their canoe, conquering the giant swing, or braving the infamous piranha pool! Every child pushed themselves outside their comfort zone, and I couldn't be prouder. Those who stayed at school had a wonderful week of team-building activities and fun. After such a busy week, I hope everyone enjoys a restful weekend.

English & Guided Reading

We are exploring the theme of migration through two texts: *The Arrival* by Shaun Tan and *Fly Me Home* by Polly Ho-Yen.

- In writing, we will focus on using rich vocabulary, ambitious verbs and adjectives, and varied sentence structures to bring our writing to life.
- We will work on building stamina and fluency, editing and improving our work, and writing with emotion and purpose.
- In guided reading, we are diving deeply into *Fly Me Home*: discussing characters, themes, and the author's choice of language, while practising our inference, prediction and summarising skills.
- This theme links to our PSHE work on identity, belonging and understanding others' experiences.

Maths

- A strong focus on arithmetic and the four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division).
- We are revising and mastering **BIDMAS** to solve multi-step problems accurately.
- Next week, we are taking part in a Times Tables Rock Stars battle against Wade Deacon Primary Schools- please encourage your child to log on at home and get practising!

Science

- Our topic this half term is **electricity**. We have already completed two exciting investigations and can't wait to carry out more experiments to build our understanding.

History & Geography

- We are learning about World War II and its impact on Liverpool, including how the war changed our local area.
- We are comparing human and physical geography, looking at the features of different places and how people interact with their environment.

PSHE

- We are revisiting our school values and rules, focusing on how we can lead by example in Year 6. The children have applied for and been appointed to leadership roles around school: **Prefects, Playground Leaders, Sports Leaders, Reading Ambassadors, Computer Monitors** and **Healthy Eating Champions**.

PE

- Our PE days are **Tuesday and Friday**. (This is a slight change from next week)
- This half term, we are developing our fitness and learning new skills in badminton. The children's progress and sportsmanship have been fantastic so far.

Spelling

We follow the Read Write Inc. scheme.

- Last week's spellings (Suffixes: add vowel suffix, no change to root word)
jumping, rusting, resting, seated, keeper, shouted, lighting, yawned, loudest, skiing
- Next week's spellings (Suffixes: drop final e before vowel)
sensible, taster, guidance, tickling, smiler, hiked, famous, nicest, giggling, seeing

Behaviour Expectations

At Whiston Willis, we follow **The Whiston Willis Way**:

Be Respectful. Be Responsible. Be Safe.

In Cheetah Class, we expect all children to:

- Treat others with kindness and respect
- Work hard and stay focused on their learning
- Be responsible, organised and independent
- Be proud of their efforts and achievements

Year 6 is about stepping up as leaders of the school and being role models to younger children. The more the children put into their learning, the more they will achieve. With the right mindset, effort and resilience, they can accomplish anything!

Uniform, PE and Healthy Schools

- PE Days: **Tuesday and Friday** - come to school in full PE kit.
- PE Kit: Plain white top or Whiston Willis PE top, navy or black joggers/leggings, and a plain navy hoodie or Whiston Willis hoodie. **Children must not wear branded tracksuit items or clothing with logos for PE.**
- Uniform: Full correct school uniform must be worn daily, including black school shoes.
- Healthy Schools: Please provide healthy snacks for break time and nutritious packed lunches if your child is not having a school dinner. Too much sugar at break is making it harder for some children to concentrate in lessons, so let's work together to make healthy choices.
- Birthdays: Please note that we can no longer accept birthday cakes in school due to allergies.

Harvest Food Bank Collection

We are collecting food donations for our local food bank. Any tins, packets or non-perishable items will be gratefully received. Please send them into school with your child. Reverend Telfer will collect these during our Harvest Festival in October. Thank you for your generosity.

Homework Expectations

Year 6 comes with greater expectations and responsibility as we prepare the children for secondary school. Developing good habits now will make a huge difference later. Please support your child by encouraging them to:

- **Read every evening** (aim for at least one chapter per night if possible)
- **Complete an Accelerated Reader quiz** every 1–2 weeks
- **Practise weekly spellings** from their small blue spelling book (this will also include any words they found tricky the previous week)
- **Complete weekly tasks on SATs Companion** for Maths and English
- **Practise times tables** regularly on Times Tables Rock Stars
- Occasionally, your child may also be sent arithmetic sheets home if they need extra practice on a specific skill (such as BIDMAS)

Please ensure that your child brings their **reading book and spelling book to school every day.**

Clubs

New clubs for Autumn 1 have started and children should have signed up. Remember to get your Children's Uni Passports for any clubs that children attend outside of school.

Stars of the Week

- **Ellis H** – An amazing start to Year 6. Keep it up!
- **Luca A** – Fantastic settling in - well done!
- **Hallie FM**- Supporting others on our residential- the Robinwood staff commented on your kindness. Well done!
- **All of Year 6** – For their incredible teamwork and resilience during **Robinwood**.

Important Dates

- **19th–25th September:** Bikeability (30 children this time; the rest will complete it in December, so everyone gets a turn)
- **24th September:** Year 6 Boys' Football Tournament
- **26th September:** Crucial Crew
- **30th September:** Year 5/6 Dodgeball Competition
- **October:** Harvest Festival and food bank collection with **Reverend Telfer**

Year 6 is a big year, but with big rewards. The more the children put in, the more they will get out. Building independence, resilience and a positive mindset will help them thrive- not just this year, but as they move on to secondary school and beyond.

I am so proud of the start they have made, and I can't wait to see all they will achieve this year.

Thank you for your continued support. Please remember you can follow our class updates on **X (@MissJenningsWW)** for regular photos and news from our learning journey. Please do not hesitate to grab me at the door or ring the school should you want to discuss anything.

Thank you for your continued support

Miss Jennings