



Dear Parents/Carers,

What a great start to the new academic year!

After the summer, the first week back saw such high temperatures that made the return even more difficult for us all but the children settled really quickly and have hopefully started the year as they mean to continue.

I have to mention our new starter children in both nursery and reception classes who have been amazing. It is daunting making a start with fresh faces and new routines but I am so impressed by how much progress they have made already in terms of following routines, meeting behaviour expectations as well as with their learning.

We have a number of key priorities this year to ensure we continue to develop as a school to be the best we possibly can be. We believe that if we can get children in school (attend well) and displaying great behaviour and attitudes then learning and achievement will happen.

To be successful and make any improvements the children have to be in school and that is our number one key priority this year - to ensure the children are in school as much as they possibly can be! You can support us with this by ensuring your children have the best attendance they can have. Avoid appointments in school time, avoid holidays in term time and avoid broken weeks (ie random days off in a week).

We appreciate that we all do get ill and have to have some time off for sickness (if in doubt call us for advice about illness and taking time off and we will try to help) and this is fully considered when looking at the attendance of individual pupils.

Mr Nixon works so hard to support our children and families with attendance and offers great support however we will be continuing to work with Knowsley School Attendance Service to address absence and punctuality when patterns of absence appear and our work has had little impact on improving things.

Another priority for us in school this year is to ensure we all know and understand the behaviour expectations that go with being part of our school community. We have developed a document (on school website) called the **'Whiston Willis Way'** that is designed to ensure we are consistent in our expectations so that the children grow up as role models for others and are able to do their best in all that they experience in school. We believe these are the social norms that we expect from the children and are expected of us as adults. This is aligned completely to our values of **'Being responsible, being respectful and being safe.'**

### Owl Class transition.....

### Hedgehog Class transition.....



Learning for Life





## WELCOME MEETINGS:

We will be holding welcome meetings for the new year during the week beginning 2<sup>nd</sup> October. The meetings will begin at 2:30pm and finish by the end of the school day. Reception and nursery will be holding separate 'stay and play' events later in the term.

The meetings will outline the expectations for the year, share curriculum information and other general information.

We will also be holding our first parent/teacher meetings of the year during the week beginning Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> October when there will be an option for a telephone call or a face to face meeting on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> October (after school).

YEAR GROUP (CLASSES)	TEACHERS	DATE
1 (Tiger and Jaguar)	Miss Boyd and Miss Cashman	Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> October
2 (Hummingbird and Pangolin)	Miss Simms, Mrs Askew and Mrs Simpson	Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> October
3 (Zebra and Penguin)	Miss Harrison and Mrs Williams	Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> October
4 (Lion and Shark)	Mrs Pender and Mr Phillip	Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> October
5 (Koala and Y5 Wolf)	Miss Armstrong and Mr Wong	Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> October
6 (Cheetah and Y6 Wolf)	Miss Caldwell and Mr Wong	Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> October

The children in Y5 and Y6 enjoyed an assembly from the UK Parliament Education Outreach Team this week and they learned about the the House of Commons and The House of Lords. They also considered what qualities are needed to be an MP and learned how new laws are passed through Government and the King. It was also interesting listening to their debate about which issue is the most important... Health, Education or Housing?

## Attendance League Table (5<sup>th</sup> September – 15<sup>th</sup> September 2023)

Position	Class	Percentage	LEAGUE POINTS	<p><b>Please arrange appointments out of school time or if that isn't possible bring your child in first thing to get their mark and return them after any appointment.</b></p> <p>Look out for further attendance challenges in the upcoming weeks. Mr Nixon will provide further details.</p> <p>Please avoid holidays in term time.</p>
1st	Jaguar	99.01%	YEAR 1 WINNERS	
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Hummingbird	98.23%	YEAR 2 WINNERS	
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Tiger	98.08%		
4 <sup>th</sup>	Penguin	97.09%	YEAR 3 WINNERS	
5 <sup>th</sup>	Koala	96.55%	UKS2 WINNERS	
6 <sup>th</sup>	Hedgehog	96.52%	EYFS WINNERS	
7 <sup>th</sup>	Lion	96.3%	YEAR 4 WINNERS	
8 <sup>th</sup>	Cheetah	96.17%		
9 <sup>th</sup>	Zebra	95.37%		
10 <sup>th</sup>	Wolf	94.84%		
11 <sup>th</sup>	Owl	94.72%		
12 <sup>th</sup>	Pangolin	93.95%		
13 <sup>th</sup>	Shark	93.92%		
14 <sup>th</sup>	Squirrel	92.99%		





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

CLASS	PUPIL	
Squirrel	Archie T and Isobel T	To follow what is going on in your child's class, please join Twitter and follow the class page. It is a great way to see all the learning and fun that goes on in classes.  Class newsletters will be sent out next week for further learning updates. Also follow @whistonwillis1 for updates and information.  <b>Mr Cooper's special award for being a fantastic example to everyone around school LAYLA DORAN.</b>
Owl	Eliyanah M and Jack H	
Hedgehog	Una R and Luca Mc	
Jaguar	Sonny W and Ellis F	
Tiger	Aleah C and Lilah W	
Pangolin	Freddie C and Charlie B	
Hummingbird	Ellie M and Rex T	
Zebra	Oscar J and Amira T.K	
Penguin	Logan T and Zach T	
Lion	Darren Y and Florin T	
Shark	Hallie F.M and Arusnan T	
Koala	Oliver D and Josie S	
Wolf	Freddie H and Freya S	
Cheetah	Rosie B and Nathan B	

Y6 pupils are attending their residential next week at Robinwood. We hope they have a great time and look forward to updates on @MrWongWW and @MissCaldwell09!

Please can Y6 pupils attending Robinwood meet at the agreed time as we will not be able to allow access into the lower building for pupils and parents until after breakfast club has ended and the hall been cleared.

Have a lovely weekend and see you all on Monday.

Ian Cooper