



Dear Parents/Carers,

Another two weeks have gone by since our last whole school newsletter and I can't believe how quickly this term is going as we start December!

There has been great excitement around our new outdoor development area for our children in EYFS and KS1. We have been so lucky to work with Cool Canvas who have designed a bespoke area for us that we believe is ideal for the space and ideas we had. This could not have been possible without the support from The Rainford Trust who accepted the bid we put in for some funding to support this work. So many children will benefit from this over the years ahead and the opportunities for physical development, outdoor collaborative learning and teamwork and even more importantly developing speech, language and communication through outdoor play and learning with others are fantastic. There is a great drone clip on our school twitter account that show the development taking place last week to the final product we now see.

In sports news, our Y3/4 Sportshall athletics team finished second in their competition this week which is a great achievement and our New Age Curing team narrowly lost in their semi final having won all their group games. Lots of positive performances, sporting behaviour and fun had by everyone! Our Y5/6 athletes will be competing on Monday afternoon.

Altru Drama attended school this week and performed their anti-bullying play for children in Y1-Y6. This was followed by workshops with some of our older children and has reinforced an understanding of bullying with the children and helped to remind us that bullying is unacceptable and won't be tolerated in our school. We firmly believe that following our school values are key in educating the children about positive behaviour and respect for other people and we urge you to reinforce and model respect with your children.

The Children's Commissioner for England, Dame Rachel de Souza, has launched [The Big Ambition, a national survey of children and young people across England](#). The Big Ambition aims to hear from children across England on what they think is important! In the lead up to the next General Election, the Children's Commissioner wants to take children's thoughts, opinions and ideas to decision-makers, to make sure that the Government hears young people's voices on what they think needs to be done to make children's lives better in England. The survey will be open until Friday 15 December and your child can follow the link above to respond.

Circle time in Hedgehog Class.....



Anti-bullying workshop in Wolf Class.....



Learning for Life





WHISTON WILLIS PRIMARY ACADEMY

I have been impressed by learning across school over the last two weeks and it is excellent to see the progress being made by so many children in their learning. There are some excellent examples of high-quality learning in maths around the school, but it was great to visit Cheetah Class during a maths lesson last week and see how some pupils had persevered with their learning and achieved success in the end in their work linked to fractions. In Zebra Class, I have seen some great examples of improved handwriting and presentation and in Jaguar Class I have listened to some wonderful reading with great fluency and expression.

Year 4 Football at Finch Farm.....



Dog's Trust talk in Shark Class.....



PTA:

Our PTA have done a great job in working with school staff to plan and arrange our Christmas movie night next week. The money they have raised will be used to directly impact on the children in school by funding extra opportunities for the children to experience. They are only a small group and it would be fantastic if more people could support them in their work in the future. The next meeting to be held is on 11th January at 2:45pm at school- please feel free to turn up and you will be warmly welcomed!

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT:

Keeping safe:

Lots more opportunities have been given for pupils to understand how to keep safe with stray dogs- Thank you to The Dog's Trust for these workshops. Our older pupils have also had a session with Merseyside Police discussing vaping and the law and the dangers of vaping as we know more and more pupils as they move to high school are being encouraged to vape.

Making a difference:

The children in Y4 have followed the lead and they want to make a difference too. They have decided to sign up to Mission Christmas and they will be collecting any donations of new and unwrapped toys. Our school has been registered as a collection point and now Lion and Shark Class ask for any donations to be sent to school by 15th December so they can be collected and be distributed ready for children to have at Christmas. Further information will be shared over the next week.

Online Safety:

Our latest online safety newsletter has just been uploaded to our website. There is some really useful information about age restrictions, Minecraft and Snapchat. Lots of new technology is purchased over the Christmas period and it is vital that you know what suggested guidance is. Please look on the website for lots of information about many games and apps that the children may access. Do you know what your children are accessing online? Have you got settings that protect them?

Learning for Life



Well being:

We have completed more activities in our Well being Wednesday plan this week with circle time sessions happening in each class to ensure that we all learn a bit more about each other and CONNECT with each other. The staff have had some training this week too to learn how to ensure all circle time sessions are effective and of great value to all.

Attendance League Table (17th November- 30th November)

Position	Class	Percentage	LEAGUE POINTS	<p>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.</p> <p>Please do call the school office if your child is going to be absent or if you need any further advice.</p> <p>If we are not informed of any reason for absence, either Mr Nixon or Mr Cooper will have to complete a home visit as part of our safeguarding procedures.</p>
1 st	Lion	98.6%	YEAR 4 WINNERS	
2 nd	Hummingbird	97.5%	YEAR 2 WINNERS	
3 rd	Wolf	94.5%	UKS2 WINNERS	
4 th	Penguin	94.3%	YEAR 3 WINNERS	
5 th	Zebra	93.84%		
6 th	Tiger	93.82%	YEAR 1 WINNERS	
7 th	Jaguar	93.81%		
8 th	Pangolin	93.5%		
9 th	Owl	93.4%	EYFS WINNERS	
10 th	Cheetah	93%		
11 th	Koala	92.8%		
12 th	Hedgehog	91.9%		
13 th	Shark	90.2%		
14 th	Rabbit	90%		

We have issued a number of attendance letters to families this week regarding attendance and concerns that exist. We must emphasise the importance of excellent attendance as this builds consistency in learning and in friendships. Regular absences have a massive impact on pupils that is sometimes not recognised. Please support us in a last push for excellent attendance in the last few weeks of term.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Tuesday 5th December - Movie Night
 Thursday 7th December Christmas Jumper Day/ Santa Dash
 Monday 11th December -Reception Health Screening (Vision and hearing)
 Tuesday 12th December- Nursery Nativity (AM)
 Tuesday 12th December /Wednesday 13th December–Reception Nativity
 Thursday 14th December- Christmas dinner.
 Friday 15th December- Nursery Nativity (PM)
 Monday 18th December/Tuesday 19th December- Y2 Nativity
 Monday 18th December/Tuesday 19th December- Y1 Nativity
 Thursday 21st December- Break up for Christmas Holiday



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

CLASS	PUPIL	
Squirrel	Lily D and Louis H	<p>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.</p> <p>Mr Cooper's special award for being a fantastic example to everyone around school by following our school values- Hugo Fildes.</p> <p>Mr Cooper's special award for being a fantastic example to everyone around school by following our school values- Erin McIntyre.</p>
Owl	Averie B and George H.C	
Hedgehog	Rosie D.N and Louie H	
Tiger	Elsie T and Harley B	
Jaguar	Lottie M and Dolly May R	
Pangolin	Stephanos R and Isaac M	
Hummingbird	Isla C and Teddy D	
Zebra	Scott H and Jack H	
Penguin	Vinnie A and Oliver F	
Lion	Alex O and Jonnie N	
Shark	Harry S and Charlie S	
Koala	Cara J and Sophia W	
Wolf	Victoria K and Aidan Mc	
Cheetah	Layla K and Eva A	

EXPECTATIONS OF ADULTS:

We work in school to ensure our values are evident in all we do with the children.

BEING RESPECTFUL, RESPONSIBLE and SAFE are the expectations of we place on the children and we believe that all adults who are part of our school community should model this behaviour too when they are on our school grounds or communicating with school staff.

Any adults who do not model this behaviour will be asked to leave the school grounds and if required, school has the right to ban parents from the grounds.

We really do not want this to be the case as our community is important to us but we have a duty of care to all pupils and aggressive behaviour, abusive language and any other behaviour that we believe is not appropriate will not be allowed.

Ian Cooper