



### 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

12th September 2025

## Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to a new year and what a busy first couple of weeks we have had.

I want to offer a warm welcome to any new families who have joined us this academic year and I hope you find our school to be a great fit for your children. I must say that all the children who have started with us this term across the school have done a fantastic job in settling in and becoming part of our school community so quickly.

I would also like to welcome our new staff who I am sure you will get to know well over time.

Miss Weaver has started as our second Vice Principal, Miss Powell as Tiger Class teacher, Mr Evans as Leopard Class teacher and Mrs Gilbert who has started as a new member of our school admin team.

Last year resulted in many more successes for our school and we hope to build on these this year. Thank you to those parents who have accessed our parent survey for Y1-Y6 classes as this does provide us with a clear baseline from which to consider how we can improve our school using stakeholder opinions.

Our renovation work was ongoing over the summer and the external view of the KS2 building looks fantastic. We hope that the final phase of renovation and development will be completed by mid-October and the full benefits of the work across the last year will be fully accessible to pupils then.

Many parents have commented on the developments that the school has undertaken over a number of years and I believe that the pupils are fortunate to have a site that is so much improved from a few years ago. This work wouldn't have been undertaken without the support of Wade Deacon Trust and Knowsley Council who have invested heavily in our growth.

### **Robinwood Residential:**

Many of our Y6 pupils are attending Robinwood from Monday to Wednesday this week and I am sure they will represent our school in a highly positive manner whilst developing personally through taking on challenges, overcoming fears and working together- this is a great start to the school year for them and hopefully supports them in tackling their final year at Whiston Willis.

## **Healthy Eating:**

As you are aware Miss Chiocchi 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/suitably 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.





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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:

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 do want to bring to your attention, that all unauthorised absence can also be subject to fines not just holidays (which are unauthorised). We have no choice but to follow advice from the attendance team and we will issue fines to highlight the importance of high attendance.

# **Attendance League Table (Year to date)**

| Position          | Class       | Percentage |              | Please arrange appointments out of   |
|-------------------|-------------|------------|--------------|--|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> = | Tiger       | 100%       | Y1 WINNERS   | school time or if that isn't possible bring your child in first thing to get their mark and return them after any appointment.   |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> = | Jaguar      | 100%       | Y1 WINNERS   |  |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> = | Pangolin    | 100%       | Y2 WINNERS   |  |
| 4 <sup>th=</sup>  | Shark       | 98.9%      | UKS2 WINNERS |  |
| 4 <sup>th=</sup>  | Zebra       | 98.6%      | LKS2 WINNERS | Please do call the school office if your child is going to be absent or if you need any further advice.  Last year our school attendance was below both national and Local Authority figures and must improve. Please support us by arranging appointments outside of school time and getting the children into school regularly this year |
| 6 <sup>th</sup> = | Hedgehog    | 98.1%      | EY WINNERS   |  |
| 6 <sup>th</sup> = | Hummingbird | 98.1%      |              |  |
| 8 <sup>th=</sup>  | Penguin     | 97.3%      |              |  |
| 8 <sup>th</sup> = | Owl         | 97.3%      |              |  |
| 10 <sup>th</sup>  | Leopard     | 97.1%      |              |  |
| 11 <sup>th</sup>  | Cheetah     | 96.8%      |              |  |
| 12 <sup>th</sup>  | Wolf        | 95.7%      |              |  |
| 13th              | Lion        | 94.1%      |              |  |
| 14th              | Koala       | 89.4%      |              |  |
| 15th              | Squirrel    | 84.1%      |              |  |





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

| CLASS       | PUPIL                         |   |
|-------------|-------------------------------|---|
| Squirrel    | Luca Mc and Sofia H           | Well done to all our pupils who   |
| Owl         | Betty W and Luca H            | have been recognised by staff this  |
| Hedgehog    | Elora D and Sebastian M       | week for their hard work and in following our school values and The Whiston Willis Way. |
| Tiger       | Oliver G and Lily-Rose B      |   |
| Jaguar      | Myles H, Nellie J and Darla N |   |
| Pangolin    | Una R and Bobby A             |   |
| Hummingbird | George H and Emily B          |   |
| Zebra       | Aleah C and Eleanor O         |   |
| Penguin     | Nancy S and Ethan p           |   |
| Lion        | Freya L and Freddie C         |   |
| Shark       | Nyla H and Ben S              |   |
| Koala       | Elijah W and Honey S          |   |
| Leopard     | Olivia F and Sage W           |   |
| Wolf        | Mason C and Michelle P        |   |
| Cheetah     | Luca A and Ella X             |   |

**Parking:** Please do note that parking permits in the local area have come into 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