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Friday 5th July

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

School has been a very exciting and busy place over the last three weeks...

Trips and Visits

Pupils across the school have been on some very interesting and enjoyable trips. Year 1 have enjoyed a day both at Marbury Park with Year 1 pupils from other local primary schools, and a lovely, albeit wet, day at Formby beach paddling in the sea, collecting shells and building sandcastles. Most year groups have visited places of worship as part of our Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural curriculum (SMSC): Year 2 visited a Synagogue in Liverpool and the World Museum; Year 3 visited the Buddhist Centre in Northwich; Year 4 visited a Hindu temple in Manchester, as well Tatton Park; and Year 5 and 6 visited a Gurdwara in Manchester on the same day they performed with the Halle Orchestra at the Bridgewater Hall. The children's visits provide a real-life context for their learning in the classroom, a better understanding of the beliefs and practices of those who follow the faith, and were of course great fun. Year 6 spent a day in Delamere Forest taking part in Forest School activities and this week have spent time at their new secondary schools. Nursery and Reception were visited in school by 'Animals Take Over' and enjoyed some workshops learning about scorpions, snakes and other unusual animals!

Sporting Events

We have had representation in around 20 different sporting events and competitions, with over 100 different pupils having the opportunity to represent the school. Girls and boys from Year 1 upwards have participated and competed in Cricket, Rugby, Balance Bikes, Athletics, Football, Netball, Boccia, Curling, Basketball, Crown Green Bowling, Multi-skills, Tennis and Dodgeball events. The teams have received numerous 'Spirit of the Games' awards for their sportsmanship and have placed first and second in many of the tournaments. Thank you to all the families that have supported these events with transport, collections, snacks, and kit etc. and to the staff involved in organising and attending.

PTA

The PTA Summer Fair last Friday was another amazing success! It was fantastic to see people of all ages and with different links to the school community enjoying themselves and getting involved with the different activities and stalls. Our team of PTA volunteers gave an entire day of their own time in preparation on the school site, plus countless hours at home and in meetings organising the fair. Our school community is very lucky to have such a committed group of people supporting school, raising money and providing so many wonderful events for our children and families. It is estimated that, with match-funding, the Summer Fair will have raised over £3000 for school. We are looking forward to the PTA Summer Discos next week (reply slips have to be in by tomorrow please).

French Day

To enhance our teaching of modern foreign languages, Tuesday was 'French Day' in key stage 2. Pupils from Weaverham High School and The Grange Senior School joined pupils and staff in Years 3 to 6 for a day of activities with a French theme, including a French Café where orders and conversations were held in French. Our children really were confident in their use of basic French phrases and demonstrated just how much progress they have made across the year. Thank you to Mrs Holmes for organising and to our volunteer helpers from local high schools.

Success for Gardening Club

Congratulations to the Winnington Park Gardening Club who were first place prize winners at the Arley Hall Garden Festival on Saturday. Gardening Club have worked hard all term in their lunchtimes, growing plants and making art work, creating a garden for the competition on the theme of 'Dig Detectives'. Judges were impressed by the variety of plants, the composition of the garden and the children's involvement and knowledge of the plants. You can see pictures of the club's achievements on the school Facebook page and in the Northwich Guardian. We have plans to expand our school garden and the number of days the club runs so that more children can become involved. A huge thank you to Mrs Woods and Mrs Page. The school garden is on the right as you walk into the playground - it looks fantastic!

Transition to New Classes

Transition has been very successful so far this week. Children have enjoyed visiting their new classrooms and spending time with their new teachers. Teachers have been very impressed with how sensible, well behaved and hard working the children have been, from the very first moments in their new classrooms. We are very proud of them! A separate letter will be sent shortly with further information about transition support. It has been lovely to welcome our new Reception starters into school for some visits also over the last few weeks and we look forward to working with them all in September.

Meet the New Teacher Meetings

Time/Date	Monday 15 th July	Tuesday 16 th July	Wednesday 17 th July	Thursday 18 th July	Friday 19 th July
3.15pm	Year 2 Mrs Gill, Mrs Flower Mrs Norris Year 3 Mrs Harriott, Mrs Adams Mrs Hainsworth	Year 4 Mrs Conheaney Mrs Worsley Year 5 Mrs Flackett Miss Croucher	Year 1 Miss Hope Mrs Tuohy Mrs Ford	Year 6 Miss Evans Mrs Hall	

You are warmly invited to attend a 'Meet the Teacher' meeting during the week beginning Monday 15th July, to meet the teachers who will be teaching your child next year.

We hope that moving the meetings forward to before the Summer holidays helps parents and carers to support their children prepare for the new academic year. All meetings will be straight after school. Please wait on the playground outside your child's new classroom door or the key stage 2 building door. You will be invited into the classrooms after teachers have ensured that all children have been safely collected for the end of the day.

Governor Visits into School

Last week some of our Governors visited school to observe pupils in action during lesson time, and to get a flavour of life on a normal school day. Feedback was very encouraging and recognised the positive ethos and hard work of children and staff on a daily basis: *"I was blown away by the excellent work they were doing and the many different activities I saw, both in classes and in the work displayed around the rooms. Students were keen to show off what they were doing and clearly felt well supported and proud of their work. What a great place to learn!"*

Meet the Governors Reminder

Some of our school governors will be on the playground for an informal 'meet and greet' at the end of the day on Tuesday 9th July. If you have any queries, are interested in becoming a governor or want to know a little more about their work, please stop by to say hello.

School Opening Hours in September

A reminder that school start and finish times are changing from September. For all pupils, from Nursery to Reception, the school day will be from 8.45am to 3.15pm.

Morning

School Gates Open 8.30am	Classroom Doors Open 8.40am	School Starts & Registers Taken 8.45am
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Afternoon

School Gates Open 3.05pm	School Finishes 3.15pm
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Summer Holiday Dates

A reminder of dates: School closes on **Tuesday 23rd July at 1.15pm**. Children do have to attend school as normal on Monday 22nd and Tuesday 23rd July and should not be absent. School reopens to children for the new school year on **Tuesday 3rd September 2024**.

Family Picnic and Early School Closure on Tuesday 23rd July 1:15pm

On the last day of the Summer term, Tuesday 23rd July, we will be holding our family picnic from 12:00pm on the school field. School will close early to all pupils at 1.15pm following the picnic. Children will return to class for their afternoon registration mark and then be available for collection in the normal way. All pupils will need collecting. Winnington Winners after school club will only be open for the morning session on this day.

Attendance and Punctuality

As we approach the end of term, please ensure children arrive at school on time, and attend every day, unless they are unwell - lessons continue until the very end of term. Holidays should not be taken during term time and will not be authorised.

Household Support Fund

The Government has extended the Household Support Fund to help support those most in need due to rising living costs, particularly those related to food and fuel. This funding covers the period 1 April 2024 to 30 September 2024 inclusive. Cheshire West and Chester Council continues to support pupils who receive free school meals and has approved a further allocation of £15 per FSM recipient for the summer holidays (6 weeks). The funding will be distributed during the end of the Summer term.

Additional Financial Guidance

It remains a challenging time for households throughout the Borough and families may be worried about the rising cost of energy bills, food, and transport. Families may want help accessing welfare rights, benefits and debt advice, support getting all the money they're entitled to, or simply want to know more about national support put in place. The Council has put together some useful information to help which includes a wealth of information. Visit: [Cost of living support](#)

Yours sincerely,

Mr Rob Cole
(Headteacher)

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