

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2023

## Welcome Back!

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you all had a fantastic summer and are managing to take in some of this bonus September sunshine we are experiencing this week. It was lovely to welcome our children back to school this morning and great fun catching up with them throughout the day. The staff have been in and out of school over the summer and back officially for training for a few days – but schools don't really come to life until we have children back in the building! Here are a few items of information I wanted to share with you:

### RAAC (Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete)

I am sure you will have seen this topic in the news over the last week as schools take steps to investigate whether this is present within any of the building structures. Cheshire West & Chester are the responsible body for this process and they are arranging surveys for school sites over the course of this month. We will inform you if any further measures need to be taken by school.

### New Behaviour Policy and Feedback Policy

As I shared in the summer term Parent Forum, we planned to overhaul these two policies over the summer holidays. I am pleased to say both policies are now in place and have been launched across school today. Both policies are based on a significant amount of evidenced-informed research and best practice. I have attached both policies for you to read on ClassDojo, and they will of course be available on our website too. It would be very helpful if you could take a few minutes to look through these – particularly the reward and consequences sections contained within the Behaviour Policy.

One of the key elements of the new Behaviour Policy is the introduction of **8 School Values** that will replace the Golden Rules that were previously in place. Our staff will overtly teach these values and refer to them every day in their discussions with children. They will also be actively looking to acknowledge, praise and reward children who are demonstrating these values. I am really pleased to inform you that you will be alerted whenever your child has received reward points for this through ClassDojo. We introduced ClassDojo last term as our main method of communication and homework – but now we have also integrated it into our school reward system and our House Points system. The new School Values are listed on the next page for your convenience.

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One of the greatest strengths we have as a school community is the relationship between school and our families – so please remember we are here if you need us for anything in the terms ahead. Let's make 2023/24 a fantastic year!

Best wishes,

Stuart Wright  
Headteacher

## Whitby Heath School Values

Whitby Heath has a clear set of behaviour values and these are explicitly taught so children have clarity over the expectations and how they can meet them. The following values are displayed throughout school, including all classrooms. They are central to our reward and sanction systems, are referenced by staff when encouraging or reminding children over their behaviour choices and are reported to parents.

- Ready to learn
- Give your best and try to improve
- Be an active participant in your learning
- Be a great listener
- Show kindness and respect for yourself and all others
- Demonstrate honesty and responsibility
- Believe in yourself
- Never give up!



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