

May 2025  
9.5.25



Wow ... what a busy start we have had to this half term and it doesn't look as though there is any let-up for a while! The summer term is always a busy one with residentials, maypole dancing and sports day to name just a few!

## Improvements to the Playground

I am sure that you will have noticed the new sleepers that connect the slope to the bottom playground. These desperately needed replacing with the previous ones becoming very rotten and dangerous. I would like to say a huge thank you to Mr Whitney, Mr Marsh and Mr Mackenzie for fitting these over the Easter break. A particular shout-out to Mr Whitney who donated all of the sleepers. With the cost of the materials and labour, Mr Whitney and Mr Marsh have saved the school at least £2,000. I cannot thank them enough.



## VE Day Celebrations

What a great day we had yesterday as we marked 80 years since VE day. Thank you for all of your efforts in providing costumes for the children. There were some great outfits! We all came together as a whole school for a special party tea - at lunch time! Many thanks to Miss Byrne and the staff who made this possible. A huge thanks also must go to the Parish Council who kindly provided the decorations and tableware. In Collective Worship we talked about how there is a time for war and a time for peace (Ecclesiastes 3:8) and we focused upon what it means to be a peacemaker. Jesus said, 'Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God.' (Matthew 5:9) We talked about how we can be peacemakers today in our relationships with each other.



## Elder Residential

What a great time Elder have had on their residential visit! The photographs posted on X looked as though they had a busy, but brilliant three days. They have visited a variety of museums, had a ferry ride on the Mersey, walked along the Albert Dock and have visited K2 Architects (photograph to the right). All reports from the staff who have accompanied them, are full of praise. The children have done themselves proud as they have demonstrated the values that we promote in school.



## Northwich Sings

Our Year 4s and 5s joined with several other schools in the Northwich Education Partnership to perform as a massed choir last Thursday. They did a really good job with the Y5 dance being particularly outstanding. The children danced a range of styles to a seven minute track from Disney's version of Aladdin. Many thanks to all staff who had worked hard with the children leading up to the event, but particularly Mrs Harries who choreographed the dance. We are looking forward to sharing the songs as part of our Key Stage Two production next academic year. The children in Y5 are already talking about which role they would like!



## Uniform

We have a huge number of pre-loved jumpers and cardigans in school. They have been organised into boxes and will be put out onto the playground at the end of each day along with a donation box. Please come and take what you need for the rest of this academic year and next.

## PTA News

A huge well done to the newly formed PTA on their first event last Friday. The Curry and Quiz Night was a great success raising £460.15 towards the final payment for the new build. The next meeting takes place on Monday, straight after school, in Elder's classroom. (Childcare is available free-of-charge in The Ark for all those who attend the meeting.) Please come along as we plan the rest of this academic year and start to think about what events will take place next year too.

The next big event is the maypole dancing and summer fair - 'Whitegate Fest' - which takes place on Friday 13th June, starting with the dancing on the village green at 1:30pm. As last year, we ask for the children to dress in traditional maypole attire: shorts with a white shirt, bow tie and red carnation buttonhole; a pretty dress with white ankle socks; or a jumpsuit. If your child would like to wear flowers in their hair, they would be more than welcome to do so. For those who would prefer a fresh carnation buttonhole, these will be available to order through school - details will be released soon. We are going for a festival feel on the field after the dancing and have booked a live singer - Jack Pickering - who was once a pupil at our school.



## Dates

Monday 12th May	All Week	Y6 SATs Week
Monday 12th May	3:30pm	PTA Meeting
Thursday 15th & Friday 16th May	Two days	Birch residential visit to Llandudno
Monday 19th May	Four Days	Oak residential visit to Quinta
Thursday 22nd May	3:15pm	Finish for half-term
Monday 2nd June	8:45am	Return to school
Tuesday 3rd June	6pm	New Starters' Evening
Thursday 5th June	1pm	Sports Day
Friday 6th June	10am	Oak Class visiting the Joshua Tree
Monday 9th June	All day	Chemistry with Cabbage Worship

I wish you all an enjoyable weekend in the sunshine.  
Every blessing,  
C Mackenzie