



June 2026
30.6.26



What an action-packed June we have had! Please read on for updates about visits to places near and far, sports events, Sports Day, Sharing Assemblies and FOWS' Picnic in the Park event.

Hawthorn's Visit to York

Hawthorn had a fantastic visit to York. The children thoroughly enjoyed visiting JORVIK Viking Centre where they travelled back in time to experience what life was like in Viking York and learned about the fascinating discoveries made by archaeologists. They also had a brilliant time at DIG, taking part in hands-on archaeological activities and uncovering artefacts for themselves. The trip brought our history learning to life and the children were a credit to the school throughout the visit.



Oak Crucial Crew Visit and Residential

Year 5 and 6 went to Northwich Brio to participate in general safety awareness. A key focus was water safety - to ensure that this summer children are as safe as possible at beaches, lakes and rivers. Many children also enjoyed sessions with the nurse, a power company and the police. As my first trip with Oak (and the rest of the Year 5s), I was so pleased with how well they engaged and showed the excellence of Whitegate. To top that day off, it was sports day and we all know what a great time that was. It's good to be back! - Miss Graves

A great time was had by all of those who attended the residential just before half-term. The children enjoyed a huge range of activities, from poetry and oil painting to walks in woodlands and explorations of castles. A huge thank you must go to all of the staff who gave up their time (and their sleep!) to help such a memorable event happen.



Sporting Competitions

Unfortunately, the weather has not been on our side recently. Our cricket finals were sadly called off due to heavy rain. Last week, the extreme heat led to the cancellation of our Key Stage I Multi-Skills event, as well as tag rugby and netball fixtures. While it has been disappointing for the children who were looking forward to competing, the safety and wellbeing of all participants must always come first. There was, however, some fantastic sporting news to celebrate. Our Tri-Golf teams achieved their best-ever results at Vale Royal Abbey, finishing in 1st and 3rd place. This outstanding achievement reflects the hard work and enthusiasm of our children and demonstrates the positive impact that golf has had on our PE curriculum. We are incredibly proud of everyone who took part and represented the school so brilliantly. A special mention to Mr Fowles who has yet again secured our school the School Games Gold Mark!



The Ark

Every day in the Ark sees a fun theme and activity for the children to enjoy. This Thursday, we are having a water fight and on the 16th July, we will stage a Talent Show! If you would like your child to participate, places are still available on ParentMail.



Sports Day

Sports Day saw us make some changes this year, with Mr Fowles and Mrs Parrish keen to ensure the best day possible for all of our children. Field events were added which ran alongside the track events, ensuring children were active as much as possible throughout the afternoon. As usual, the children did themselves (and all of us) proud. From the bravery needed to step up in front of such a large and supportive crowd to the cheers and encouragement they gave their peers, every member of our school, big and small, contributed brilliantly to the event. Feedback from family members was very encouraging, with many of you commenting positively on the new system.



Thank you for bearing with us at the end, when an unexpected drainage issue on the top playground and Acorns' outdoor area meant that we couldn't dismiss in the usual way. Thank you to all the parents who remained on the field, as requested, until staff were able to safely bring the children back for dismissal. This cooperation is essential in helping us maintain the safety and wellbeing of all children.

Acorns, Rowan, Birch and Elder

The past few Fridays have brought with them a very exciting start to the weekend...Sharing Assemblies! Hawthorn set a high bar with theirs first, which Elder, then Birch, then Rowan all matched. Every child had a speaking role as they shared their learning from across the year. Their confidence and enthusiasm were a joy to behold! The range of learning was equally impressive, with such a wide range of work, right across the curriculum, showcasing the learning opportunities they have had. A special thanks to all of the staff involved for helping the children to shine so brightly! I can't wait to see our youngest and eldest children shine equally brightly as Acorns have theirs this Friday and Oak next Friday.



A Flying Start in September

The first week of the new school year really matters. From day one, children settle into new routines, reconnect with friends, get to know their new teacher and begin the learning that the rest of the year builds upon. Missing even those first few days can leave a child feeling unsettled and playing catch-up at the very point we're working hard to help them feel secure, confident and ready to learn.

We understand that holidays can be cheaper in early September, but please remember that leave taken in term time cannot be authorised other than in exceptional circumstances and may be subject to a penalty notice. Far more importantly, being in school from the very first morning gives your child the best possible start and the best chance to shine.

A reflection on Wisdom from Mrs Savage

Over the past half term, we have been exploring the theme of wisdom. Wisdom begins within each of us, as we learn to listen, reflect and make wise choices that show understanding, patience and trust in God. Just as we know a tomato is a fruit, we wouldn't include it in a fruit salad!

Throughout the Bible, we encounter powerful examples of wisdom in action. We have explored and reflected on the stories of the wise man who built his house upon the rock, showing us the importance of strong foundations and King Solomon, who chose a knowing heart above all else.

As we approach the end of the academic year, this is a time to reflect on how we have grown—not just in knowledge, but in wisdom too. We can think about how we carry wisdom forward into our friendships, our learning and our actions. May we continue to listen carefully, act thoughtfully and trust in God as we grow.

M Savage



FOWS News

FOWS have been incredibly busy over the past few weeks with the Colour Run, Sports Day refreshments and the Summer BBQ all proving highly successful and raising lots of money for school. After match funding is confirmed, over £3,500 pounds will have been raised by these events! This is a significant achievement. Credit and thanks goes to everyone on the FOWS team for making it all possible.



Although their team is not the biggest, they achieve great things. As with all things, many hands make light work... If you have any time or expertise available, the FOWS team would love to work with you. Help could be in the form of baking, helping to plan events or giving up a small part of your time during events.

If people would like to volunteer either at events and/or volunteer some time to help with some tasks e.g. water plants, helping clear areas or ground prep, they can contact Scott Davidson, the FOWS Chair, directly on Classlist or they can email the PTA mailbox (pta@whitegate.cheshire.sch.uk). One upcoming thing that would be valued is help watering the school plants over the summer. If anyone is local and feels they can help, please let FOWS know.

FOWS' next event will be at the 140th Anniversary where they will be supporting the school as we plan what promises to be a truly terrific day. Starting at 10am with a Church Service, the children will then perform the traditional dance around the maypole before returning to school to enjoy a Victorian tea party for lunch and Victorian games in the afternoon. We would love to see as many of you as possible and hope you can make it for at least some of the festivities.

Dates

Wednesday 1st July	9-11am	New Starters' First transition Sessions
Wednesday 1st July	12:30-1pm	Senior Friends' Lunch
Wednesday 1st July	4-7pm	Parents' Evening for Years 1-6
Friday 3rd July	9:10am	Acorns Sharing Assembly
Tuesday 7th July	3:15-4:15pm	Elder's Greek Banquet for parents
Thursday 9th July	2-5:30pm	Parents' Evening for Years 1-6 and invited Acorns' Parents
Friday 10th July	9:10am	Oak Sharing Assembly
Wednesday 15th July	1-3pm	New Starters' Lunch and Puppet Show
Friday 17th July	10-3pm	140th Anniversary Celebrations (see above)
Wednesday 22nd July	9:15am	Leavers' Service
Wednesday 22nd July	1:30pm	Break up for Summer holidays
Tuesday 1st September	3:30-4:30pm	Stay and Play for new starters into Acorns
Tuesday 1st September	3:30pm	Visits into school for invited children
Wednesday 2nd September	8:45am	Children return to school for the new school year

I hope you all have a good end to the week and a wonderful weekend. Thank you for your continued support. Every blessing,

M Thomas