



Village Lane
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Points to Remember No. 7 17.10.25

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DATES

October

Thurs 23rd—No celebration Assembly (please let grandparents know)

Fri 24th—Halloween Crafting Event for School aged children £2 (3.15-4.15) **Parent Volunteers needed to support staff**

Scottish Dancing Cancelled due to crafting event

Mon 27th—Start of Half-term week

November

Mon 3rd—School opens for 2nd half of the Autumn Term

December

Wed 10th—NHS Flu Immunisations - details to follow

Thu 11th—Christmas Performance 2pm and 6pm

Wed 17th—Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper day

Fri 19th—Last day of the Autumn Term

January

Mon 5th—First day of the Spring Term

Term Dates Available on School Website

2025 –2026 —[Click here](#)

Please ensure holidays are booked outside of term times because we teach new content every single day.

2026 Residentials

Y2 & Y3 Tattenhall Residential -Tues 30th June—Wed 1st July

Y4 London Residential - Tues 24th—Wed 25th March

Y6 Min-Y-Don Residential - Mon 6th—Friday 10th July

Details to follow

Parent Carer Meetings

Here are the key dates for each class:

Reception & Year 6: March 4th 2026

Years 1, 2, 3, 4, & 5: June 17th & 18th 2026

Please speak to your child's teacher if you need to



Compliance
Education

Fire Alarm & Soft Invacuation Drills

Each term, we carry out fire alarm drills to monitor how calmly and quickly children respond during an evacuation. This is a standard requirement for all schools and helps ensure our procedures remain effective and safe.

Following a recent external Health and Safety audit, our partner Compliance Education has asked us to conduct a 'soft' invacuation drill. This will help us assess whether our systems and staff responses meet the expected standards of professionalism.

The only noticeable difference for the children will be a slightly different alarm sound. Instead of leaving the building, they will be returning to it. We will explain to the children that we are testing a new alarm which asks us to leave the playground and come back inside.

If you have any questions, please feel free to speak to me.

Please Slow Down – Keep Our Families Safe

We kindly ask all drivers to take extra care when travelling down Village Lane and surrounding areas. Many of our families walk these routes, and it's vital that vehicles reduce their speed significantly when approaching pedestrians.

Your attention and caution can make a real difference in keeping everyone safe. Thank you for your understanding and support.

NHS Vision, Hearing & NCMP Screening – Reception Children and Year 6.

The National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP) measures the height and weight of children in Reception class (aged 4 to 5) and Year 6 (aged 10 to 11)

We have now been allocated a slot for the Vision, Hearing, and National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP) checks. These will take place on **Tuesday, 10th March at 9:30AM** for all Reception children and Year 6 children.

If you have any concerns about your child's sight or hearing, please speak to your local GP. This will help ensure that any significant needs are identified and addressed as soon as possible.

Friends of Whitley School (FoWS)

Lottery

The lottery lets us raise much-needed funds for school to help pay for Mathematics, coaches for trips, furniture etc.

It costs just £8 a month for 2 draws per week. If your number pops up, you win £25. If there was no winner the week before you win. If you would like a number and to help support school,

Please contact Hayley Woodward on 07740043151 or

litthayjay@gmail.com

Lottery Winners

We have lots of spare numbers so please consider supporting this initiative.

20/09/2025	22	ROLLOVER	
24/09/2025	25	ROLLOVER	
27/09/2025	59	Mike Ruane	£50
01/10/2025	27	ROLLOVER	

Reception 2026

Reception 2026 Applications Now Open!

If your child is due to start school in **September 2026**, applications for Reception places are now open. Please apply via your **local authority**.

If you know anyone living fairly locally who might be interested in joining our wonderful school community, please encourage them to get in touch — we'd love to welcome them for a visit!

Contact us to arrange a 1:1 tour or ask any questions.



Governance at Whitley



School governors play a vital role in supporting and challenging the leadership team to ensure the best outcomes for all children. Whitley shares a governing body with The Acorns Primary and Nursery School, another school within our Trust. This partnership allows us to benefit from a wide range of expertise, while each school is treated as a distinct entity with its own priorities.

We are proud that our governing body is one of the strongest in the Trust and has been highly praised during Ofsted inspections. This month, the governing body met at Whitley, continuing their commitment to supporting our school and its development.

SEND News

In the coming weeks, some of our staff will have the opportunity to visit another setting renowned for its outstanding SEND provision. The aim of this visit is to explore best practices and strengthen our own support for children with additional needs from our limited resources and to witness their inclusive culture first hand.

Many staff members in the last few weeks have also been undertaking sensory training to better understand the sensory needs of our learners. This helps us understand the adaptations that we can make to help children engage more effectively in their learning and enjoy school more.

We're pleased to share that the Local Authority is enhancing its support to help schools become more inclusive. However, as many of you are aware, the national SEND funding system is under significant strain and in crisis. To compound this, schools face long waiting times—sometimes stretching into years—for referrals related to ADHD and Autism. We have made quite a few adaptations and done some training to implement non-medicated approaches for those on waiting lists.

Our staff take great care to ensure that any referral we make is robust and contains all the necessary information for clinical teams. These services are under immense pressure, and we recognise that the wait can be deeply frustrating for families. We remain committed to supporting you and your child throughout this process.

Podcasting & Vlogging at Whitley

It has been fantastic to see our Year 2 to Year 6 children so enthusiastic about podcasting and vlogging. What's been most exciting is watching them take ownership of their learning—researching topics at home, asking thoughtful questions, and showing real curiosity.

During a walk around school this week, I was politely asked to keep my voice down as recording was underway! The levels of engagement were incredible, with teachers enjoying the process just as much as the children.

We'll soon be adding class pages to our website where you'll be able to listen to some of their brilliant work. Watch this space!



Rose Queen Committee Donation

We were absolutely thrilled to receive a generous donation of **£1,000** from the **Village Rose Queen Committee**. This incredible contribution has enabled us to purchase new resources for our **Reception classroom**.

Miss Keegan has carefully selected high-quality, durable materials that will enhance our continuous provision for **mathematics** and **writing**. Already, we've seen our Reception and Yr1 children enthusiastically engaging with the new resources—initiating activities and exploring their interests with great engagement.

We are very grateful for the Committee's support, which is making a meaningful difference in our children's learning experiences.

