

Primary News



William Hulme's Grammar School
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www.whgs-academy.org

November 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

We hope you all had a restful break and are ready for a busy and exciting half term ahead! As winter approaches with colder weather and darker evenings, there's no need to worry—our school has plenty of fun activities planned to keep spirits high and combat those winter blues.

New Parking Signs: A Safety Reminder

You may have noticed our new parking signs, which were put up in response to safety concerns during drop-off and pick-up times. If possible, we encourage families to walk to school to help reduce congestion. For those walking, please use the designated crossing to the right when leaving the main entrance. Avoid crossing at the junction, as this can cause delays by forcing cars to stop in multiple spots, leading to traffic buildup.

Attendance Matters!

This half term, we are continuing our focus on improving attendance. Every day your child is in school makes a difference to their learning and progress. Below, you'll find last half term's attendance figures for each year group. Let's work together to make this term's attendance even better!

Miss L Dalton

Head of School (Primary Phase)

Coming up...

Wednesday 6 November	Year 5 Forest School
Thursday 7 November	Learn with Me Y5/6
Friday 8 November	Nasal Flu Vaccinations
Wednesday 13 November	World Kindness Day
Thursday 21 November	Learn with Me Y3/4
Wednesday 27 November	Y1 Chester Zoo Trip
Wednesday 27 November	4HC Class Assembly
Thursday 28 November	Learn with Me Y1/2
Tuesday 3 December	Y2 Trip to Elizabeth Gaskell's House
Wednesday 4 December	4AH Class Assembly
Thursday 5 December	Assessment Day (School Closed)
Friday 6 December	School Closed
Wednesday 11 December	Christmas Fair
Thursday 12 December	Learn with Me EYFS
Friday 13 December	KS1 Nativity (9:15 & 2:30)
Friday 13 December	Christmas Jumper Day
Tuesday 17 December	Y3/4 Carol Concert
Thursday 19 December	Party Day
Friday 20 December	Pantomime (EYFS-Y4)
Friday 20 December	School closes for holidays, 2.00pm

Attendance Well done Y3!

Reception	92.4%
Year 1	96.9%
Year 2	95%
Year 3	97.1%
Year 4	96.2%
Year 5	96.9%
Year 6	94.5%

Nursery

Dear Parents,

Welcome back. We have been so impressed by how quickly the children settled in last term we feel this is due to how hard we have worked to ensure that they are familiar with their daily routines. It is also wonderful to see the children making friends and beginning to form positive relationships with each other. This half term, we will be making children aware of their feelings by talking about and naming their feelings such as happy, sad, disappointed, worried, scared, frustrated etc, this will be done in the moment, but also through stories.

We will continue to learn about the changing seasons focussing on Autumn to Winter and become familiar with the different festivals and celebrations taking place such as Halloween, Bonfire night, Diwali and Christmas.

Our Talk for Writing text is, 'Walters Wonderful Web'. We will sequence and then retell the story. We will also be reading supporting texts, both fiction and non fiction books. In our topic work, we will learn interesting facts about animals such as spiders, owls and bears.

We are improving the children's pre writing skills through our funky fingers sessions and reinforcing skills in drawing and painting. The children are really progressing producing recognisable pictures. We are encouraging them to add detail, pattern and colour to their pictures.

In Maths, we are learning to recognise arrays of numbers to 5, recognising numerals to 5 as well as exploring shapes and patterns.

Many thanks for all your continued support

Mrs Fletcher and Mrs Halsall (Key Workers)

Reminders:

- Please label all of your child's belongings, especially jumpers and coats (including spare clothing).
- Please remember to return and replenish your child's drawstring bag with a full change of clothes, including spare shoes and socks. Baby wipes and a plastic bag would also be helpful.
- If your child is being picked up by anyone different, please inform us in the morning or ring the office during the day.
- To contribute towards our Early Years fund, we ask parents to pay £1 per week or £7 for this half term. This is for enhancing the provision linked to children's interests such as Playdoh, baking ingredients and other beneficial resources. This is done using Parent Pay.

Up and coming events:

- Learn with Me (12th December)
- Story books will be sent home -details to follow later
- At the end of each week, 2 children will be chosen to bring home a book in a box to share with you over the weekend.

Home Learning

Please use the QR code to access the Primary Phase home learning section on our website.



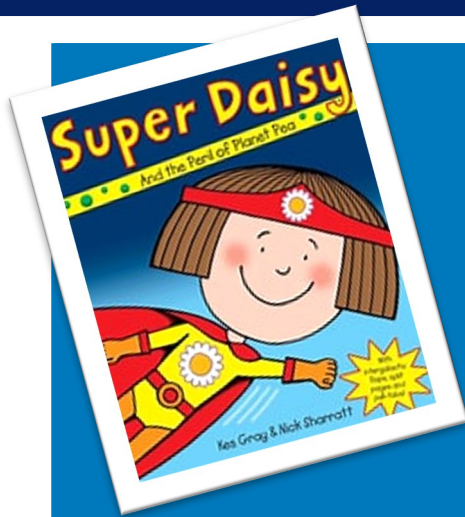
SCAN ME

Our Curriculum

Please use the QR code to access more information about the curriculum and what your child is learning in class.



SCAN ME



Reception

Welcome back! We were thrilled with the way in which all our Reception children began the year and can't wait to see more fantastic learning this half term. We will be learning about festivals and celebrations such as Diwali, bonfire night and Christmas, together with learning about our everyday heroes, such as the people who help us. We are also learning how to write labels and captions and write lists. We will be encouraging this all around the classroom.

You can ask your child if they can write a list at home for shopping, cooking ingredients etc. Encourage them to write any of the sounds they can hear, using the formation rhymes they have learnt. Big them to school to show off their writing skills.

Our class book is 'Super Daisy' and the children will be learning the actions to retell the story and then begin to write words and captions from the story over the coming weeks. In Maths, we are focusing on number recognition and using them to recognise, sequence, order and compose (identify two smaller numbers that add together) numbers to 10. We will be sharing the importance of being a good friend and using kind words and actions. All children will take part in a PE lesson every Tuesday morning.

Your child will continue to receive their reading books every Friday. Please read every day and return books by the following Wednesday. Finally, we will be visiting the Secondary Library to enjoy this special environment and discover new books. So much to look forward to!

Miss Rathore and Mrs Arnold

Reminders

Clothing

- Please ensure that your child has a waterproof coat and welly boots in school as they will still use our outdoor classroom when it is raining. Ensure your child has labelled spare clothes in the wetter months.

Contributions

- To contribute towards our Early Years fund, we ask parents to pay £1 per week or £7 for this half term. This is for enhancing the provision linked to children's interests such as Playdoh, baking ingredients and other beneficial resources. This is done using Parent Pay.

PE

- PE is every **Monday** for Rainbows class **AND Tuesday** for Sunshines class. Your child needs a plain white t-shirt, navy shorts, navy jogging pants and black pumps. This can be left on their peg for the half term. Please make sure everything is labelled.

Up and coming events:

- Visit to Secondary Library**
- Learn With Me Session **Thursday 12th December**
- At the end of each week, 2 children will be chosen to bring home a book in a basket to share with you over the weekend.
- Every **Friday**, Lenny the lion (Reception's class mascot) will come home with a child for a weekend adventure. Please record your child's adventures with them and return on a **Monday**

Home Learning

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Our Curriculum

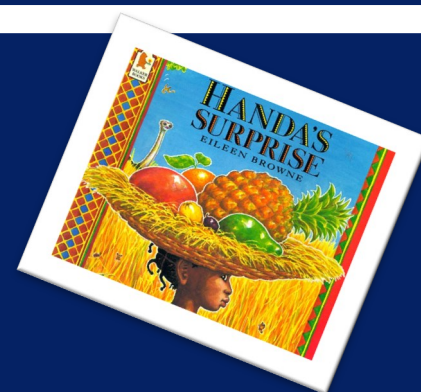
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Year 1

Year 1 have had a fantastic start to the school year. The transition they have made from Reception to Year 1 has been phenomenal and they should be very proud of themselves. This half term, we have some very exciting topics to get stuck into. In English, we will be immersing ourselves in 'Handa's Surprise', through our trip to Chester Zoo. The children will be learning all about the culture of Kenya. We will be writing stories, postcards and poems. To support their learning in class, we ask if you could get your child to write a postcard recounting something they did over the October half term. After mastering numbers to 10 in Autumn 1, the children have started exploring addition and subtraction within 10 in their Maths lessons. This will be continued and then they will then be moving on to 2D and 3D shapes. Our phonics sessions take place first thing every morning. Please help support the smooth running of this by being prompt to school every day. It is vital every child is reading at home regularly using their phonics book and reading books at home. Please celebrate all reading that takes place at home by putting a short comment in your child's reading record. All reading books will be sent out every Friday, with all books needing to be returned by the following Tuesday—if your child's book is returned after this date they will not be changed. Over half term, you should have received a link to the Year 1 phonics SWAY. On this SWAY you need to find your child's phonics group and if possible review their phonics learning covered last half term. In History, the children will be learning all about their family history and how things have changed over time. As part of this unit we will be looking at our family trees. We would love for each child to research their own family history and bring it into school to share with their peers. This could be a picture of a relative or some interesting facts about their family history. In Art, Year 1 will be learning about the artist Paul Klee! In science, we will be looking at everyday materials. We will be learning all about why objects are made of different materials and how it supports their purpose. We cannot wait to get stuck in!



Miss Ridley and Miss Murdoch

Timetable

English	Story writing, postcards and safari poetry
Maths	Addition and subtraction followed by 2D and 3D shapes
Science	Everyday materials
History	My family history
RE	Christianity
PE	Animal dancing and fundamental movement skills.
Computing	Digital painting
Art	Researching and exploring the art of Paul Klee. Creating a piece of work through 'taking a for a walk'.
Music	Exploring rhythm and raps.
PSHE	Keeping safe

Reminders...

PE

Year 1 have PE every Thursday and Friday. It is vital all children have the correct PE kit for these days and children are independent when getting changed. Please practice this at home.

Coats

As the weather gets colder, please make sure your child comes to school with an appropriate waterproof coat.

Reading

Please join us for our Year 1 phonics parent meeting on Tuesday 12th November at 3.10pm.

Home Learning

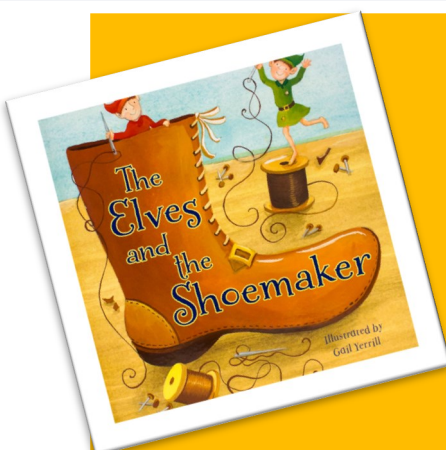
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Our Curriculum

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Year 2

We have a very exciting half term ahead in Year 2! We are excited about our upcoming production, and we will soon start practising for the Christmas Nativity play that Year 2 will be leading.

We will also be very busy continuing our learning across the curriculum. In English, the children will be writing a 'rags to riches' story based on the fairy-tale: *The Elves and the Shoemaker*. In Maths, we will be continuing our work on 'Addition and Subtraction' and then we will be learning about 'Shape' towards the end of the half term.

In Science, we will be learning about the needs of different animals, and in RE we will continue to explore Islam. We will be doing some fascinating work on digital photography in Computing and playing invasion games in PE. In Art, we will be creating some artwork based on our own school using different printing techniques. In History, we will be learning about the history of our local area. This will include a visit to Elizabeth Gaskell house which is a beautiful Victorian house where the famous novelist used to live.

This half term, reading will continue to be a very important focus. The children will continue to have daily phonics session and we aim to improve the reading fluency of all the children. We really appreciate all your support at home, continuing to read the weekly books that are sent home.

We hope you all have a great half term!

Miss Khan and Miss Yardley-Rees

Timetable

English	'Rags to Riches' Tale– The Elves and the Shoemaker
Maths	Addition and Subtraction
Science	Needs of Animals
History	Local history
RE	Who is a Muslim?
PE	Invasion Games and Dance
Computing	Digital Photography
Art	Our School
Music	Ho, Ho, Ho!
PSHE	Keeping Safe

Reminders

Reading

Reading books and phonics books should be returned to school by **Wednesday** each week and new books will be given out on a **Friday**.

Please join us for our Parent Phonics meeting– Thursday 14th at 3.10

PE

Children will need their P.E. kits in school on **Monday** and **Friday** afternoons. Children will change into their PE kits in school.

Year 2 trip to Elizabeth Gaskell House

We really do appreciate all donations to ensure the trip can go ahead.

Home Learning

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Our Curriculum

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Year 3

Welcome back to another half term of fun and exciting events.

The first book we will be reading as a class in Autumn 2 is "Omar Accidental Trouble Magnet". This book is about the exciting adventures of a young boy who always attracts trouble! The pupils will be using this book as inspiration to write a 'beat the monster' narrative and drawing on their own feelings and emotions to write a persuasive letter.

In Maths, we will be developing our skills in using formal methods focusing on adding and subtracting. We will also be practising our times tables on a daily basis to ensure that we are fluent.

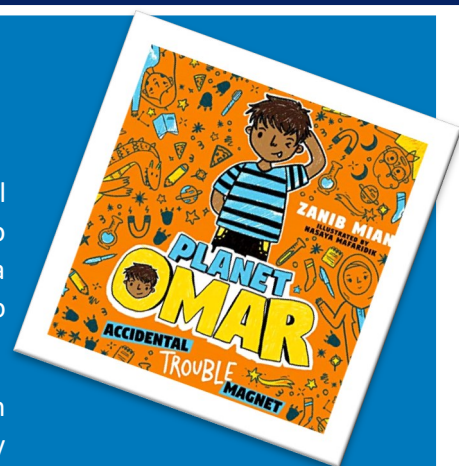
In History, we will be travelling back in time to the Stone Age and Iron Age and introducing the subject of Archaeology. The pupils will be examining artifacts and lifestyles from the different periods (Palaeolithic, Mesolithic, Neolithic, Bronze Age and Iron Age).

In Computing, we will be looking at animation and will have the chance to create our own animations both on iPads and on paper.

In Science, we will be delving into the topic of light and building our knowledge on how it enables us to see the world around us. In Art, we will explore the work of Pablo Picasso and explore why Art is important.

We will also continue with our weekly PE lessons, developing skills and strategies through dodgeball and skittleball.

Mr Cragg and Miss Rathore



Timetable

English	Poetry, letters and narrative
Maths	Addition and Subtraction
Science	Light
History	Stone Age to Iron Age
RE	Christianity
PE	Dodgeball, Skittleball
MFL	Numbers, colours and dates
Computing	Stop-Frame Animation
Art	Why do we make Art?
Music	Recorders
PSHE	Health and Wellbeing

Reminders

PE

Year 3 will need to be in their PE kits every Monday and Tuesday.

Reading

New books will be issued on Monday, please return by Friday.

Home Learning

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Year 4

Welcome back to the second half of the Autumn term! Your children have done us and themselves proud so far in Year 4 and we can't wait to see more of their fantastic learning in the weeks ahead.

In English this half term, we'll be exploring spooky setting descriptions, and the children will be writing a biography about Frida Kahlo. Expect your child to wow you with their ability to add vivid detail to sentences using expanded noun phrases! As we focus on perfecting joined handwriting, any extra writing practice at home would be valuable for building confidence and stamina in writing.

In Maths, we're moving onto multiplication and division. To start, we'll reinforce key times tables facts, which will be crucial when we advance to trickier two-digit multiplication. Having secure times tables will help your child with these new challenges. You can support them by using TT Rockstars, Hit the Button, or even quizzing them yourself!

There's plenty of fascinating learning happening in our **wider curriculum** this half term too. **Ukulele lessons** are continuing, and the children have already made such impressive progress! **In Science**, we'll be diving into food and digestion, and there's a special surprise — a very cool "science t-shirt" to test out! **In History**, we'll be uncovering the mysteries of the Ancient Maya and learning how their innovations still influence us today. You'll also have an opportunity to hear more about all of this first hand as both classes have their **class assemblies** towards the end of this half term (please refer to the key dates on the front of the newsletter).

Thank you for working with us in Autumn 1, we are thrilled to enter another action-packed and rewarding half term!

Miss Hawkes, Mrs Hallett, Miss Caldwell and Miss Ashworth

Timetable

English	Setting description and biography
Maths	Multiplication and division
Science	Food and digestion
History	Ancient Maya
RE	Celebrations and Festivals
PE	Cricket and handball
MFL	Family and pets
Computing	Audio editing
Art	Yayoi Kusama—clay pumpkins
Music	Ukulele
PSHE	Keeping Safe

Reminders...

Reading books

Please ensure that your child returns their reading book and reading record, signed by you, by **Thursday** every week. This enables us to change the books and return them to you on **Friday**. Your support with this is greatly appreciated.

PE

Both Year 4 classes have P.E. on a **Tuesday** and **Thursday**. Keep ensuring your children come into school wearing a WHGS P.E. kit.

Class assemblies

On Wednesday 27th November, it will be 4HC's class assembly.

On Wednesday 4th December, it will be 4AH's class assembly.

Home Learning

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Our Curriculum

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Year 5

Welcome back to the second part of the Autumn term! We have got a lot to look forward to this half term and we can't wait to get started!

In Writing, we will be looking at how to use dialogue to create character and linking this to our reading spine book– 'New Kid' by Jerry Craft. You might want to read one of his other books. These can be found in our library! We will then be building on our knowledge of the book New Kid to write a persuasive letter to stop discrimination, and racism. Perhaps you can write a letter at home to practice your persuasion skills on your teacher or someone else you know?

In Maths, we are building on our multiplication, division and fraction learning from Year 4. It is essential that children can recall their times tables. TT Rockstars is a fantastic way to ensure that the children are able to recall their multiplication and division facts with speed and accuracy.

In Science, we will be learning about energy and linking our knowledge of biology, chemistry and physics. In History, we will be learning all about Ancient Rome and in RE, we will be continuing our learning of what it means to be a Muslim in Britain today. You can see all of the other subjects that we are learning below.

This half-term, we will also be taking part in forest school which will involve a trip to Brookholes in Preston on the **6th of November** followed by sessions provided in school. More information on this will be provided nearer the time.

Mr Bagshaw & Mr Rabey



Timetable

English	Persuasive letter and dialogue to create character
Maths	Multiplication, division and fractions
Science	Energy
History	Ancient Rome
RE	What it means to be a Muslim
PE	Dance (Haka)
MFL	Clothes and sports
Computing	Video editing
Art	Illustration
Music	Classroom Jazz
PSHE	Keeping safe

Reminders

PE

Both Year 5 classes have P.E. on Thursday. Please ensure that your child is wearing the WHGS P.E. kit—no hoodies or other t-shirts!

Swimming

Swimming will continue to take place on Mondays. Please ensure students are not wearing any jewellery on Mondays.

Forest School

Please ensure you are prepared for forest school with appropriate warm clothes and water proof jackets and trousers.

Home Learning

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Our Curriculum

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Year 6

What a successful half-term Year 6 had! We are confident that their hard work and determination will continue throughout the rest of the Autumn term.

During our writing lessons, we will be using Harry Potter as a stimulus for a setting description. Two differing settings will be described, with the focus on being able to compare and contrast through vocabulary choices. Have a go at writing your own setting description at home using fronted adverbials and expanded noun phrases!

In Maths, we will conclude our consolidation work of the four mathematical operations. After this, we will begin to build upon previous fraction knowledge. This includes using all four operations with fractions, as well as ordering and comparing fractions, and finding fractions of an amount.

In this half-term's History lessons, Year 6 will be learning about the Anglo-Saxon period of British history, answering key historical questions using a variety of primary and secondary sources. They will learn which regions of Europe they migrated from, use artefacts excavated from Sutton Hoo to determine what their everyday life was like, and explore how the Anglo-Saxons kept power.

Year 6 will become biologists this half-term as we learn about evolution. By the end of the unit, children will be able to describe how and why species adapt to survive in their habitats; know about Darwin's theory of natural selection and will understand that fossils act as evidence for our ever-developing scientific knowledge.

Other topics for this half term can be found in the table below. Thank you for your continued support.

Miss Thomas and Mr Hancock

Timetable

English	Setting Description
Maths	Fractions
Science	Evolution
History	Anglo-Saxons
RE	Racism and Religion
PE	Handball
MFL	Healthy Eating
Computing	Web Page Creation
Art	Recycled Materials
Music	Jazz
PSHE	Keeping Safe

Reminders

P.E kits

Please ensure that your child has the correct P.E. kit on **Mondays and Wednesdays**. Students must wear their correct P.E. kit to school on **only** these days. It is an expectation that full school uniform must be worn on the other three days.

Chromebooks

Chromebooks will be given back out this half term. Children must bring their fully-charged Chromebooks **with charger** into school every day. These will be used to enhance your child's learning.

Home Learning

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Our Curriculum

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Selected stores. Minimum spend £2+. Exclusions apply including Asda Express & George.com. Subject to availability. UK 18+. App & Opt in required. 0.5% of the value of a customer's eligible shop is donated. Publicly funded primary schools, must register with Parentkind charity 1072833. Full T&Cs at asda.com/cashpotforschools. Rewards T&Cs at asda.com/rewards/terms. Ends 30/11/24

Please select William Hulme's Grammar School as the school that you wish to support. We have 33 days to go and you have so far raised £497 for the primary phase by just completing your shopping.

Christmas Fair

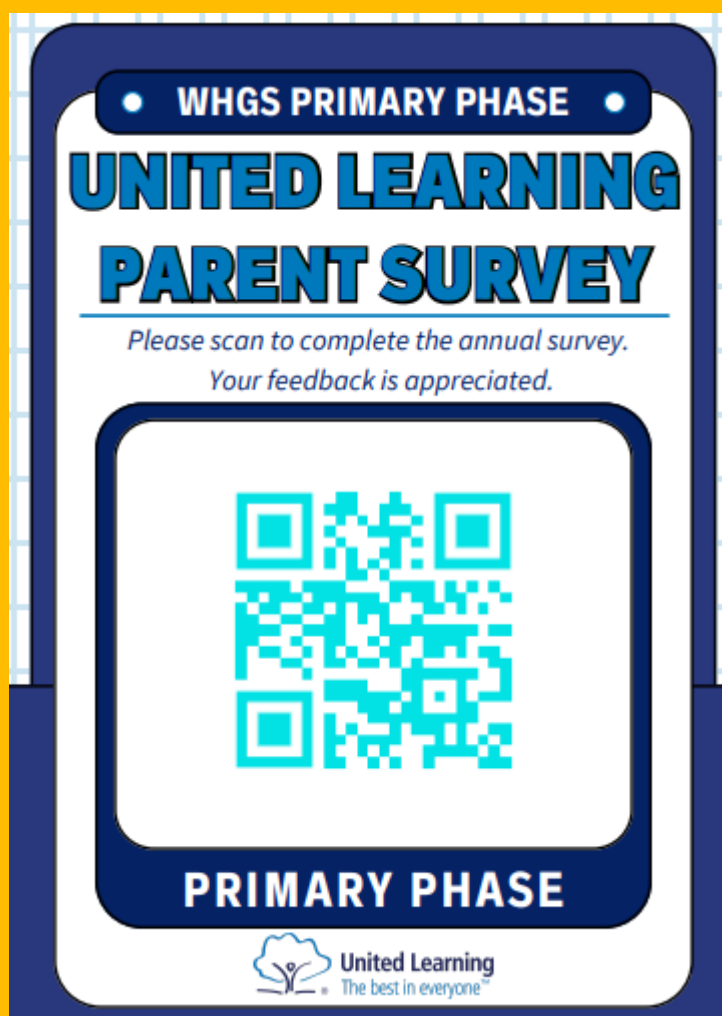


Contact Us

William Hulme's Grammar School, Spring Bridge Road, Manchester M16 8PR
Telephone: 0161 226 2054 Email: ppreception@whgs-academy.org



United Learning Survey



The United Learning Parent Survey will be open for responses from November 4th—November 29th. Please note that there are different links for the Primary Phase and the Secondary Phase.

Your feedback is always appreciated!

Scan the QR code or click the link to access:

<https://edurio.com/poll/1ktuBy>

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