WHITECHAPEL PRIMARY SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN TERM 2026 | ISSUE 2 | 23 OCTOBER 2026

Welcome to this Month's Newsletter

It has been a busy and rewarding half term at school and we are very proud of the enthusiasm the children have shown in their learning and wider school life.

A reminder to all Year 6 parents and carers: the deadline for secondary school applications is 31 October. As places at local schools fill quickly, please list three preferences. If your child is not offered a place at your first-choice school, the local authority will consider your second and third choices. Without alternative preferences, your child may be allocated a place at any school with availability.

The annual Roper Party will be held on the first Friday after half-term. As usual, the children will take part in a surprise activity before enjoying a party tea from 3.15 to 4.00 pm. Please collect your child from the Village Hall at 4.00 pm. Children who attend WOOSC will go to the club afterwards.

Thank you to all our families for your continued support. We wish everyone a lovely, restful half term and look forward to welcoming the children back after the break.

Keep an eye out for our weekly bulletins containing important dates for your diary.

SCHOOL NEWS

100 Club

Our **Hundred Club** is back!

OCTOBER WINNERS

- 🥇 **£15-** Bowie
- 🥈 **£10-** Joan Mackenzie
- 🥉 **£5-** George W

Congratulations!

So, what is the Roper Party?

Upcoming Dates for Your Diary

26-30 October – Half Term
2 November – INSET Day (School Closed to Pupils)
6 November – Roper Party
24 November – The Dukes School Trip

28 November- Village Hall Christmas Fair 2-4pm
2 December – Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day

3 December- Christmas Carols

9th December- KS1 Dress Rehearsal- 2:30-3:30pm & KS1 Nativity- 6-7pm
18 December – End of Autumn Term

Information for Parents

Active Travel England

Reception, and Years 1, 5 and 6 parents and carers

Our school has agreed to take part in an important government evaluation of interventions that enable walking, wheeling and cycling to school. The findings will help Active Travel England make walking, wheeling and cycling to school easier and safer for children. If 50 parents and carers of pupils in our school take part, then our school will receive a £75 Love2Shop voucher. All parents and carers of pupils in Reception, and Years 1, 5 and 6 are eligible to participate **here.**

School Admissions

Each year we have spaces available for 15 Reception children. Admissions to school are via Lancashire County Council and have a strict deadline.

- The national closing dates for applications are: 15th January 2027 for primary applicants.
- 31st October 2026 for secondary applicants.

John Roper was one of ten children. He lived in Liverpool and Southport for most of his life but his mother and father originated from Goosnargh and John regularly visited family in Whitechapel. It was his wish to be buried in the graveyard of St James' once he passed. John died on the 24th January 1927 and written in his will alongside a donation of £1000 was the following;

' The income there for shall be paid to the Vicar and Church Wardens for the time being of Whitechapel afore said Headmaster for the time being of the public elementary school carried on in connection with the said church and my said son John Jasper Roper to be applied by them for the purposes following namely...in the provision of organising entertainment with light refreshment to be given annually to the children and adults of the said Parish on or about the fourth day of November being the anniversary of my birthday.' Despite John's generous donation running out many years ago, it is a great pleasure to continue with this tradition and take time to remember a member of the community who was so kind to the children of Whitechapel in the past. The children certainly enjoy the celebration and many of our parents and even some grandparents enjoy reminiscing about the party when they attended the school.

Teddy Bear Donations

We would be extremely grateful for any donations of teddy bears. If you have any you would be happy to donate, please bring them into school after half term.

Our wonderful PTFA will work their magic to get them ready for the fair!

Thank you so much for your continued support. 🧸

You can apply online at www.lancashire.gov.uk/schools - it's quick and easy!

Road Safety

A gentle reminder to all parents and carers: please use the school car park during drop-off and pick-up times. We've noticed an increase in families using the road instead, which can create congestion and safety concerns for our children. Using the car park helps keep everyone safe and makes the process smoother for all.

Reporting Absence

Please report all illness and planned absence to the school office by 9.00 am by telephone or email. This helps Rachel complete the attendance register and update the SIMS school system each day.

Appointments

Please send details of any medical appointments to attendance@whitechapel.lancs.sch.uk as soon as you know about them.

CELEBRATIONS

School Council

Congratulations to our newly elected School Council representatives! We are excited to see them working together, sharing their classmates' ideas and making a positive difference across our school. Well, done, everyone!

Harvest Celebrations

Thank you to Maple Class for leading today's Harvest celebration. Their wonderful assembly highlighted a clear message: giving means helping others and showing kindness. We were delighted to share the celebration with everyone who joined us. Special thanks also go to Mrs White for preparing the assembly, Reverend Liz for her warm welcome, and our school family for contributing to the Harvest collection. The food bank has collected and will distribute all donated items.

