



Whitehorse Manor Junior School

Newsletter 16th January 2015



Welcome back and a very Happy New Year to you all! I hope that the festive season has been kind to you and that you feel refreshed and ready to embrace 2015. It's lovely to see all the children back, bright-eyed and bushy-tailed. It's a busy term, as usual, and we will try our utmost to keep you well informed about all relevant dates and events. It has now been confirmed that **there will be a general election on Thursday, May 7th 2015 and the school, which is a polling station, will be closed to children on this day.** This is because we need to ensure the safety of our children, which is not possible when the school is open to the public. I hope this gives you enough time to make child care arrangements. Please check the website regularly for up-to-date information and here's looking forward to a good term of learning.

Uniform and boots: It was lovely to see how smart the children looked coming back to school last week, with everyone in the correct uniform, showing that we are 'proud of ourselves and proud of each other'. Unfortunately, Ms Smythe is spending a lot of time in the mornings explaining the school's policy on pupils wearing boots, which often happens when the weather turns colder. Just to make things clear, boots and trainers are not part of our school uniform and children should not come to school wearing them. Children's school shoes should be robust enough to deal with rain, the walk to school and playtimes – not 'high fashion' items that are unfit for purpose. In times of really adverse weather, such as snow or torrential rain, children can wear suitable boots to school, but are expected to change out of them and into their normal school shoes once at school. 'Kickers', in the classic style, have been classified as a school shoe (not a boot!) since I was at school and are fine to wear. If your child has an orthopaedic medical condition that requires them to wear supportive, lace-up boots in order to correct this, please give a copy of the letter from their specialist to their class teacher and we will make an exception, based on their medical need.

Safe, healthy and happy reminders: We are a 'nut free' school, due to several children with extreme allergies, and nut products shouldn't be sent into school. Parents of children with emergency medication at school, such as an inhaler or Epi pen, should check that it is in date. If your child has a packed lunch, please make sure that it's a healthy one and remember that chocolate bars, fizzy drinks and family-sized bags of crisps are not healthy. Children are encouraged to bring in fresh fruit for their break time snack at 11.15am each morning. We also sell apples at a cost of 20p. It's a long time between breakfast and lunch when you're growing!

Swimming gala and athletics: The Annual Croydon Schools' Swimming Gala is being held at South Norwood Pool on Wednesday 28th January. Mrs Dyer has been back at the poolside and we have a team of 16 children representing the Pegasus Academy Trust who have been train hard for months - this is their chance to test themselves in competition! On the subject of competition, well done to Mr Powell and our athletics team who were runners up in final of the Croydon Indoor Athletics competition on Tuesday.

Thursday 22nd January @ EPS, 6pm: SATs meeting for all parents of pupils in Year 6
Friday 23rd January @ WHJUN, 11.00am: New Forest (3H) class assembly
Friday 30th January @WHJUN, 11.00am: Percheron (5B) class assembly
Wednesday 4th February @ WHJUN, 5.45pm: The Calculations Policy – addition and subtraction
Friday 6th February @ WHJUN, 11.00: Morgan (4P) class assembly
Friday 13th February @WHJUN, 11.00: Gold Award Assembly (achievement outside of school)
Friday 13th February @ WHJUN, 2.30-4pm: Museum Day – see our thematic work.
Friday 13th February: Last day of half-term

A handwritten signature in red ink, appearing to read 'N Achenbach', written in a cursive style.

Ms. N Achenbach - Head of School