



Whitehorse Manor Junior School

Newsletter 17th March 2017



Dear parents and carers, You might have been wondering what had happened to my spring term newsletter. Truth be told, I was waiting for our Ofsted report to be published so I could share the news, which I now can do and a copy of the report accompanies this newsletter. I'm very pleased to tell you that **Whitehorse Manor Junior School continues to be a good school**. We would say that we are very good, and the commentary of our report suggests that our inspector felt the same way. Much has changed since our last inspection in 2012: We have grown by 6 classes on two sites, the old national curriculum has gone taking assessment levels with it, end of key stage tests have become more challenging and the Ofsted inspection framework has become more demanding; so we are all very pleased that we have maintained our standards through these changing times. I'm really happy that our inspector identified that we maintain high standards but don't forget that, for children, coming to school should be an enjoyable experience and learning should be fun. This is a belief held dear by all within the Pegasus Academy Trust and his comment that children were smiling and enjoying themselves was particularly pleasing. Our areas for future development ask something of you, the parents, too. Read with your children every night. Ensure that your children complete their Mathematics homework. We are all working together to make Whitehorse Manor Junior School the best that it can be and I thank all of you for demonstrating your trust and belief in the school. Onwards and upwards, 'As Good As Gold', working together, under our R.I.B.A. award winning golden roof!

World Book Day: We made sure that 'World Book Day' didn't just turn into 'World Dressing Up Day' by encouraging our children to think about their favourite Roald Dahl characters and be 'homemade' and inventive. And inventive they were! The imagination of the children's homemade costumes showed that they knew the BOOK and I loved asking: Who are you? Because the answers were fantastic! I loved the "Golden Tickets", the insects from James's Giant Peach and the deep thought that went into the day. We rounded off the week with teachers reading favourite Dahl quotes which were funny and poignant and showed how Roald Dahl's books have touched all of us since we were very small. Thank you to Miss Tye for leading the week and thank you all for supporting your children. Let's keep reading the good stuff!

Late collection: It shouldn't happen often, but sometimes the world conspires against us and we just miss pick-up time. Please remember to contact the school office if you're going to be late. No child wants to be the last left on the playground. We have a new policy to remind parents why we need you to be on time. But please. Call us so we know what's going on.

Crossing the road: We've had a complaint by a member of the local community about where parents are choosing to cross the road with their children. Despite the fact that we now have a zebra crossing outside the school (and it took years of campaigning for this), parents are running out at various points along the road and causing traffic to swerve or stop abruptly. Please use the crossings and help to keep our school community safe.

PE kits: We no longer have any bits of PE kit to lend so please ensure that your child has the right kit in school, on the right day. No one wants to miss PE, but for safety reasons, children need to be wearing appropriate clothes to participate.

And finally... We have been informed that the War Memorial in front of the school has been awarded Grade 2 listed status by Historic England. A full description of the listing is available to read at: <https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1442669>

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

Ms. N Achenbach - Head of School

Friday 17th March: 5S (Jutland) Class Assembly
Friday 24th March: Comic Relief (wear something red)
Friday 31st March: Break up for Easter
Tuesday 18th April: Children return to school