



Whitehorse Manor Junior School

Newsletter Friday 23rd October 2015



Dear Parents and Carers, It's been a very busy half-term, with lots of exciting learning going on. We celebrated a fantastic Black History Month this October, which kicked off with inspirational speaker Andrew Muhammad, 'The Investigator' reminding us about the importance of a positive attitude to learning and teaching us about the achievements of some very determined people. We enjoyed a steel pan concert with Junior and Marcella from 'Iriesteelpans', and Victoria Dzivenu from 'Blema Dance' demonstrated African dance and drumming. The children also enjoyed workshops with our visitors. We were also very privileged to welcome Her Excellency Aloun Ndombet-Assamba, the Jamaican High Commissioner, to the main Whitehorse site during her tour of Croydon. This gave us all an opportunity to brush up on our knowledge of the Commonwealth and learn how to address a High Commissioner (its 'Your Excellency'). She was very impressed with the children, their work and our school and I'd like to thank Endurance Steel Orchestra who came along to welcome her with the dulcet sound of the steel pans and Mrs Matthews and the choir children who sang wonderfully well. It was lovely that parents came to greet her. Have a great break and stay safe.

Charity and giving: A big thank you to everyone who has supported our charity events this half-term. Across the Whitehorse schools we raised £586 for 'Jeans for Genes', whilst our 'Macmillan Coffee Morning' raised £380 for this worthy cause. We received a great many donations for Harvest Festival and these donations have been passed to the Salvation Army to be distributed within our community.

New house and vice captains: As usual, there were some very strong contenders for the roles of captain and house captain this year. To be honest, there were no losers in this contest, as all the children who stood for office presented themselves exceedingly well and we now have a great student leadership group, comprising house and vice-captains and monitors, all of whom are members of our school council. The house captains and vice captains are: Henry Quartey (HC), Romy Gordon (VC) (Olympia); Aaron Odofin (HC), Tiah Morrison (VC) (Corinth); Nia Edwards-Williams (HC), Tyler Snowsill-Henry (VC) (Sparta) and Mariyah Ali (HC), Dee Dee Brittain (VC) (Athens). Very well done.

Snacks at break-time: Your children are welcome to bring a piece of fresh fruit to have as a snack at break-time and apples are on sale every day at a cost of 20p. It's a long time between breakfast and lunch and, unfortunately, the government does not provide children in Junior schools with free fruit and milk like they do in the Infant school. Don't forget, but please remember: fresh fruit only.

Mathletics homework: Mrs Vanner says that in general, Mathletics is going well, although there are still some children who do not regularly earn their 1000 points each week. Mathletics still works during the holidays, so encourage your child to spend some time on this over the holidays. Mathletics 'Live' is particularly good at building mental maths skills. If your child has any problems accessing Mathletics, please let their class teacher know so we can see if this is an admin issue that we can fix.

Ms N Achenbach
Head of School

Monday 2nd November: Return to school
Wednesday 11th November @11 am: Remembrance Day at our memorial - all Whitehorse families are welcome at this service.
Mon. 7th December 1.30 pm Year 3 & 5 Christmas Production
Tues. 8th December 7.00pm Year 3 & 5 Christmas Production
Wed. 9th December 1.30pm Year 4 & 6 Christmas Production
Thurs. 10th December 7.00 Year 4 & 6 Christmas Production