



Whitehorse Manor Junior School

Newsletter Friday 24th October 2014



Dear parents and carers,

As the first half-term draws to a close, let us take some time to reflect on all the great things that have happened at Whitehorse Manor Junior School so far this year. Year 4 have been visited by the Romans, Year 3 have visited the Crystal Palace museum, Year 6 have taken part in a 'Citizenship Day' and Year 5 are expecting the Vikings at any minute! Our Black History Month celebration week proved to be a great success, finishing in spectacular fashion at the Family Celebration event on Thursday evening. I need to thank all of you for your continued support and for the kind donations towards the 'food mountain' that we all enjoyed. May I also offer a special thanks to Edwina Anthony, mother of Amarkai and Amani, who put us in contact with Kandace Chimbiri and Andrew Muhammad, both of whom delivered inspirational workshops to the children at Whitehorse Manor and at Ecclesbourne. I am looking forward to getting some of the Kushite inspired pottery Year 5 and 6 made with Kandace on display after the half term and Andrew was such an inspiration, across the Trust, that we are very much looking forward to making his visit an annual event. I wish you all a very pleasant half term break and look forward to the next half of the autumn term.

New house and vice captains: The votes have been collected and verified and the new house captains and vice captains have been elected. Olympia's house captain is Hannah Silverstone and vice captain is Charlie Pierce. Corinth's house captain is Amy Howlett and vice captain is Anthony Tran. Athens's house captain is Tyler Archer and vice captain is Abenaw Arulchandar. Sparta's house captain is Liam Williams and, following an absolute draw, the two vice captains are Artiola Kransniqi and Sarah Downey. Many thanks to all the candidates who put themselves forward for election and spoke so eloquently during the campaign.

Harvest Festival and MacMillan Coffee Morning: Many thanks to everyone who supported our charity events this half term. It was good to share a coffee for a good cause and the generous amount of food donated for Harvest Festival has now been collected and distributed to those in need.

Lost property and school uniform: More good news! The lost property mountain has shrunk significantly over this half term and I'd like to thank those of you who have been labelling your child's clothing clearly. If it has a name on, we can usually get it back to you.

Safety First! Two safety reminders that I need to make. Firstly, can you remember that we are a 'nut free school' and no nut products should be sent in lunch boxes to protect our children who have nut allergies. Secondly, the back gate into the school is for cars only - please do not follow cars in through this entrance as it is very dangerous to do so.

A birthday book: Although we are a healthy school, I accept that parents sometimes like to send in a 'sweet treat' to mark their child's birthday. Treats are always sent home, so that individual parents can decide if they want their child to eat them. Class teacher also discourage large party bags and whole cakes, which require an adult to cut them. I recently heard of a far better idea. It's called 'A Birthday Book'. If you want to mark your child's birthday in school, in a special way, send in a children's book for the class book corner instead of a sweet. The whole class can sign it and then your child's birthday is remembered throughout the year when children borrow the book.

Ms N Achenbach
Head of School

Monday 3rd November: Return to school
Tues 11th November @11 am: Remembrance Day - parents welcome
Mon. 8th December 1.30 pm Year 3 & 5 Christmas Production
Tues. 9th December 7.00pm Year 3& 5 Christmas Production
Wed. 10th December 1.30pm Year 4 & 6 Christmas Production
Thurs. 11th December 7.00 Year 4 & 6 Christmas Production
Tues. 16th December : Crafts and Carols