



Whitehorse Manor Junior School

Newsletter Friday 9th September 2016



Hello all and welcome back! I hope that you've enjoyed what turned out to be an unusually sunny summer! It was great to see the children back, fit and well and ready to learn. During the summer break our premises team have been very busy bees. The whole of the Year 3 'wing' has been transformed. New Forest and Exmoor class have both been expanded and the dark and dingy cloakroom corners have been swept away. We are now just awaiting new cloakroom fittings for two of the areas. I have to say a huge thank you to Mr Hill, our facilities manager, for overseeing the project whilst we were away, and to Mr Gadd and his team for all their hard work, shifting and packing things, cleaning things and getting the school back in order ready for our doors to open. Ms Smith has also been busy, completing the mural designed by the children and commissioned by the school council - we are very lucky to have such a talented member of staff. I'm very much looking forward to the coming year and I hope you all are too.

Jeans for Genes: We are supporting Jeans for Genes again this year. This charity raises money for families affected by genetic disorders. If you would like your child to participate, please send them in with £1 on **Friday 23rd September 2016**, wearing their blue jeans and/or any items of denim clothing that they have in their wardrobes.

Lost property: Please ensure that all items of uniform are clearly labelled with your child's name. We had lots of lost property left at the end of the year and we will hold on to this until next week, so do come and have a look if your child is missing something. Tracking down owners is time consuming for us, distressing for the child who has misplaced an item of clothing and expensive for you if you need to buy more – a name label makes all the difference. Also, plastic bags are not really strong enough to hold PE kit (they fall apart and the PE kit gets lost). Whitehorse PE bags are available from the school office for £4.00 and last a long time.

Reading homework: The most important homework that your child can do every evening is to read. All the research suggests that children who read for 15 minutes per evening, and children who have stories read to them, do better at school in the long term. Children in the juniors have homework reading diaries to record what pages they have read and to make comments on what they have read. Please support your child with their daily reading homework.

Please remember: The apparatus on the playground is not to be used by children at the start or end of the school day as it is unsupervised and puts the children in danger.

Ms N Achenbach
Head of School

Fri 30 th Sept	Macmillan Coffee Morning
Fri 30 th Sept	Exmoor Class assembly (3P)
Fri 7 th Oct	Camargue Class assembly (4G)
Tues 11 th & Weds 12 th Oct	Parents' Evening from 3:30 pm
Fri 14 th Oct	Harvest Assembly led by Jutland - (5S)
Mon 17 th Oct	Black History Month begins
Fri 21 st Oct	Last day of half-term