

Whitehorse Manor Infant School

Newsletter December 2015



Dear parents and carers,

What a busy second half of the autumn term we have had. Year two visited London and climbed to the top of The Monument to support their work in class learning about The Great Fire of London. Year one have been learning about the local environment and visited Selhurst Park Football Club. They also visited Grange Park to support their work in science. Reception classes went to 'Build a Bear' in Croydon to choose and make their class bear. They also visited our local church. Our year two choir entertained passers-by singing Christmas carols at Tesco. All year groups watched an exciting performance of Pinocchio, which really captured their imaginations. Many thanks to all of you who came to our Christmas production 'Angel Express' which was thoroughly enjoyable. It was great to use the junior hall and be able to utilise the stage, lighting and sound system which really enhanced the production. Our charity collection this year was for Kidney Research UK, a very worthwhile charity. Thank you for all your generous donations. I will let you know in the New Year how much we raised. It was great to see so many parents and carers joining us last week in reception and nursery for our Family Celebration. The children sang beautifully and enjoyed sharing craft activities with their adults. I hope that you enjoy the festive season with your family. I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and look forward to seeing you back for the start of the new term on Tuesday 5th January 2016.

Uniform and PE kits

Please ensure your children have plimsolls, a white tee shirt and black shorts for PE lessons and these, along with all items of school uniform, are named. As the weather becomes colder, children can wear tracksuits when doing PE outside. **Stud earrings** are the only jewellery which can be worn at any time in school. I would like to remind you that if children wear boots to school then they need to change into black school shoes when they arrive. We now have a Pegasus branded woolly beanie hat for sale from Wovina £3.65.

Punctuality and attendance

The school opens for reception to year 6 at 8:45am to allow children to filter in from this time and start their early work. Any child who arrives after **9:00am** is late for school and must be brought to the office where the lateness can be noted. Children should be collected promptly at 3:15pm by an adult who is known to us. If anyone different is going to collect your child please let us know. We will not let a child leave school with an adult we do not know. If your child is absent from school please inform the office as soon as possible and provide a written note of the reason for the absence when your child returns to school.

Extreme weather warnings

We need to remind parents that in the event of extreme weather such as deep snow, it may be necessary to shut the school. We will always endeavour to keep the school open but sometimes, if staff cannot get in to school or the site becomes unsafe, it may be necessary to close. We will inform parents of any closure by sending a text and by updating the school's website. Please ensure that your mobile number for the 'text to parents' service is up-to-date. Parents can also check for school closure details at <http://map.lgfl.org.uk/opencheck>

Dates for your diaries:

Monday 4th January- INSET DAY- School closed for children

Tuesday 5th January- First day of term

Friday 12th February- Museum Day –Year one and two

Half term - last day of school Friday 12th February, return Monday 22nd February

Parents' Evening- Tuesday 8th and Wednesday 9th March 3:30-6:30pm

Friday 18th March- Sport Relief

Thank you for your continued support

Best wishes

Sharon Russell
Head of School