

## **Dear Parents and Carers,**

Although it is only the start of November we are already thinking about our arrangements for Christmas. **Our Christmas production** will be 'A Christmas Carol' and will take place on **Tuesday 8th December and Wednesday 9th December**. Tuesday's performance will be in the afternoon, so if anybody would like to request leave from their work to attend now would be a good time to arrange that. Both performances were sold out last year but you will have a better chance of getting tickets for the afternoon performance. Last year we also ran our first '**Crafts and carols**' event where parents joined us in the afternoon to work with their children on making a card or decoration for Christmas. This was then followed by a carols singalong with the choir, including mince pies. About 30 parents joined us for this and we would like to encourage you all to come along this year. The date is **Thursday 17th December, 1.30pm**. If you can't come then why not ask grandparents or another family member? I am sure the children would love to have an adult from their family working alongside them that afternoon and it will give a real insight into the sort of work class teachers do with the children.

### **1. Thematic curriculum books**

Following a number of requests from parents and governors we will now send home the children's thematic exercise books for them to keep each year. The children do 2 themes each year and so the first books will come home in February. It will not be possible to send other books home as we need them for assessment and record keeping purposes. Art work may be sent home when it comes down from display. As you will see at our parents' evenings (on the 18th and 19th November) the thematic books are of a good quality and include pieces of history, geography, art, DT and French work. I hope parents will keep these books for children to look at when they are older.

### **2. Haircuts and shoes**

I must remind parents of the school rules regarding haircuts and shoes. The school's prospectus (<http://www.whitehorse.croydon.sch.uk/prospectus/school-uniform.html>) states: 'Tram lines' or other shaved shapes in the hair and 'bar codes' in eyebrows are not permitted. Haircuts with extremes of length (e.g. 'Mohicans') are not permitted. Hair bands must be plain black or white with a maximum of 50mm width. Parents will be contacted and asked to change hairstyles that do not conform to this policy. The prospectus also says shoes should be 'sensible black school shoes' and should have black laces. Please support us in this policy

### **3. Road safety**

One of our governors has spoken to me about road safety on the bridge on the main road. Children are crossing here and it is very dangerous as visibility

is restricted due to the angle of the bridge. **Children should cross with the lollipop man opposite the infant school.** Please heed this warning and speak to your children about this as otherwise there may be a serious accident.

#### **4. 'Parentline Plus' event**

Parentline plus ( a support group for parents) are holding an event on Sat 14<sup>th</sup> Nov 2 – 4pm for mums, dads or carers of 8 – 13 year old children who are worried about violence and its effects on their child? If you're worried **in any way** about the impact of violence on your family – whether it's coming from the friends your child spends time with, what they see or do online, incidents at school or their own violent behaviour then Parentline Plus needs your help. Come and have your say at one of our Parent Focus Groups. We'd like to hear your concerns - and your ideas for what would really help you support your children. You will receive a £10 gift voucher, travel expenses and entry to a free raffle if you attend (see attached for details).