

Whitehorse Manor Junior School Newsletter Friday 13th September 2013



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! It has been a busy start to the term, but the children are settling into their new classes well and have made a positive start to the year. It is lovely to see all the children returning to our 'golden' school and hearing all their news! Many thanks to all the parents who have followed the guidance on school uniform and shoes; the children coming back look really smart and this creates a very positive atmosphere in the school. Already, there are lots of exciting events lined up for the school year so please keep an eye on the website and on newsletters, as we will try to give you as much notice of events as we possibly can. We are all excited about the new year and look forward to the completion of our building work and watching our children build on the achievements of last year.

Punctuality and Attendance As ever, we are keeping a close eye on attendance and punctuality at the school, working closely with our Education Welfare Officer (EWO) to ensure that we keep our standards high. Please note that, in line with amendments to Department for Education guidance on absence, requests for holidays cannot be granted. The amendments make it clear that headteachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are <u>exceptional circumstances</u>. Also, when children arrive late to school, the office staff will ask for a reason as this needs to be recorded.

<u>Class Assemblies</u> Parents are always invited to watch the children perform in their class assemblies. This is a great opportunity to visit the school and find out more about what your child has been learning in class. Dates for class assemblies are posted on the website. Please come and join us.

<u>Year 6 Secondary Transfer/ Applications:</u> Due to a printing problem, the Croydon handbook on secondary school applications has been delayed. In the interim, a list of secondary school open evenings has been posted on the website (in miscellaneous downloads) and a paper copy of this document has been sent home. We will be holding a meeting on Wednesday 2nd October at Ecclesbourne Primary School to support and advise parents. Please try to attend this meeting if your child is in Year 6.

Macmillan Coffee Morning. We will be running a fundraising Coffee Morning, in aid of Macmillan Cancer Care, on the morning of **Friday 27th September**. This is a nationwide fundraising event and a great opportunity to come into school for a coffee (or tea!) and a chat. Keep an eye out for posters and letters giving more details of the event.

<u>School Dinners</u> The price of school dinners is now £2.15 per day, £10.75 for the whole week. All school dinners need to be paid for via 'parent pay'. For more information please speak to the school office.

Other events in the coming weeks

Wednesday 25th September Year 6 Trip to Broadstone Warren Friday 27th September Macmillan Coffee Morning Friday 27th September 5B's class assembly Wednesday 2nd October Year 6 Secondary Transfer Meeting for Parents 6—7pm at Ecclesbourne Primary School

Nina Achenbach - Head of School Whitehorse Manor Junior School Friday 18th October Harvest (led by 4H) 15th and 16th October Parents' Evenings Week Beginning 21st October Black History Week

For more information please see our website at: www.pegasusacademytrust.org

