



# Whitehorse Manor Junior School

## Newsletter Friday 2nd November 2018



### Dear Parents and Carers,

I am pleased to announce that, following our ballot, Ricardo Blades has been elected and will join the Academy Council as a parent member. Thank you to those of you who voted and to Ken Roberts for putting himself forward for the role.

**Times Tables Rock Stars:** As part of our whole-school focus on times tables, we have subscribed to a new, fun and exciting app and website called *Times Tables Rock Stars!* The program works in a similar way to Mathletics, but focuses solely on children developing rapid recall of times tables and division facts. The children who have tried it so far have reacted very positively and the school will be rewarding the classes with the best times tables score each week. Times tables are a vital skill in mathematics and the link between confident times tables and being a confident mathematician is no coincidence. Times tables are used within multiplication and division, fractions and all manner of reasoning problems, so rapid recall is vital rather than being able to count in multiples. Please encourage your children to log in at home and try to beat their own scores and challenge their friends – rock music accompaniment is preferable but not compulsory! Next week, class teachers will send home a letter explaining the software in more detail, including how to log in. We look forward to seeing the children transform from 'Garage Rockers' into 'Rock Legends'! Thank you to Mr Francis who has introduced this new online maths resource to the school. Party On Dudes!

**Lost property:** There is a huge pile of lost property now, including jumpers, sweatshirts and coats. Most of it has no name on. Please come and find any lost items that might belong to your child and remember to label their property clearly. Any unclaimed, unnamed uniform will be washed and re-sold during the uniform and book sale held on the infant site.

**Black History Month Poster Competition:** We were happy to be joined by Andrew Brown, the CEO of the Croydon BME Forum at assembly today. He presented certificates to pupils whose posters were selected in the 'Heroes to Heritage' poster competition last month. The school also received an award for submitting so many successful entries. Well done to all who took part and remember that Monday 5<sup>th</sup> November is the closing date entries for the Croydon Council Windrush competition which was sent home as half term homework.

Date	Event	Details
Fri 9 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Remembrance Day Assembly	10.50 am. All welcome at our war memorial.
WB 12 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Friendship Week	Classwork and events celebrating friendship and anti-bullying
Fri 16 <sup>th</sup> Nov	3M (Shetland) Class Assembly	11.00-11.15am. Parents and family welcome.
Mon 10 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Christmas production Yr3 & Yr5	Matinee 1.45pm. Ticket details to follow.
Tues 11 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Christmas production Yr3 and Yr5	7.00pm. Ticket details to follow. All Yr3 & Yr5 children expected to return for performance.
Wed 12 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Christmas production Yr4 & Yr6	Matinee 1.45pm. Ticket details to follow.
Thurs 13 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Christmas production Yr4 & Yr6	7.00 pm. Ticket details to follow. All Yr4 & Yr6 children expected to return for performance.
Weds 19 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Crafts and carols	From 1.45pm. Crafts in class with your child then carol sing-a-long in the gym.
Thurs 20 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Class Christmas Parties	PM. Children bring in snacks to share.
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> Dec	Last day of term	Children return to school Tuesday 8th January 2018