



Whitehorse Manor Junior School

Newsletter 12th January 2024



Happy New Year and welcome back to school. We have lots of wonderful learning planned for this year, and Year 6 have already enjoyed a trip to Croydon Fire Station as part of their Citizenship learning, whilst Year 4 have started their swimming lessons at Thornton Heath Leisure Centre. Last term, it was a real pleasure to perform 'A Merry Motown Christmas' for parents and all shows were very well attended. In addition to leading our Carols afternoon, the choir sang to raise money for 'Wateraid' and entertaining residents in our local care home. They will be taking part in Young Voices at the O2 later in January. I hope that you all had a restful Christmastime and wish you all health and prosperity in 2024.

Keeping Children Safe Online: As many children will have received devices this Christmas, this is a reminder about the age restrictions on social media sites (see box on right). **EVERY** child in the school is officially too young to have any type of social media account. If your child does have a social media account, because you allow them to, then please ensure that you know who they are communicating with. Check their phones regularly. Also ensure that if they play games where players can communicate with other players, that these are children that they know and not random strangers. Let's keep our children safe on-line.



Let's Keep Reading!: Mrs Stephenson-Tye sourced a book for each child through **The Children's Book Project**, which were given to children at the end of term. Remember, research has shown that regular reading is the most effective type of homework and has a positive impact on children's learning.

A Winter Art Project: In an effort to get our children outside a bit and enjoying some fresh air, I am inviting children to create winter themed 'nature art'. They should only use 'fallen' materials (leaves, twigs, seeds, stones, shells, peel) and do not need to pick anything still living. They need to take a picture of their work and send it to the school office email address with their name, class and 'Winter art for Ms Achenbach' in the subject line by Friday 2nd February. An example of 'nature art' created with shells and a frozen 'nature art' is on the right. Email: whadmin@pegasusacademytrust.org



Some key dates next year

Friday 9th February: Museum Day (See our thematic work!)
Monday 12th February: Half term break
Week beginning 4th March: Book Week
WB 11th March: Parents' Evening
Thursday 28th March: Last day of term

Ms. N Achenbach - **Head of School**