



# Whitehorse Manor Junior School

## Newsletter Friday 8th September 2023



**W**elcome back to the new academic year! I hope that you have had a refreshing summer break. It has been lovely to see the children return to school with such positive attitudes - and all in such brilliant sunshine! Team Leaders will shortly send out letters with a curriculum overview and specific dates and we will let you know about school wide events on the website and via 'Studybugs' messaging. I'm looking forward to a productive autumn term.

**Update to the Pegasus Behaviour Policy:** Staff have been working to improve our behaviour systems and policy, which had become dated. Our new policy, largely based upon the work of behaviour specialist Paul Dix, takes a child-centred, trauma informed approach to the promotion, and teaching, of positive behaviour. The focus of this policy is recognising and celebrating exemplary behaviour and supporting all children to achieve this. In class, acknowledgement is given to pupils who are 'doing the right thing' through the use of **recognition boards**. We will also continue to reward pupils who follow our school rules with house points, Rainbow certificates and Gold Awards. In classes, children discuss the 'Terrific Trio' with their teacher and peers: **Kind thoughts, kind words, kind actions**. The 'Terrific Trio' support children in their endeavours to be a Pegasus person, in control of their own behaviour. On the rare occasions that a child's behaviour falls below the expected standard, staff at Pegasus will use a staged intervention involving reminders, reflection time and 'Time In' (restorative conversation) to explore and resolve the issue. Parents/ Carers will be notified by a member of staff if the Senior Leadership team have had a restorative conversation with their child. **We will no longer be using sunshine charts and your child will not receive a stamp at the end of each day**. More individualised approaches or strategies may be used, for a finite period, with children who may need additional behavioural support. We believe that the revisions to this policy will help to encourage self-discipline, build positive relationships and motivate children to make good choices for themselves and others. A copy of the revised behaviour policy is available on the Pegasus Academy website: <https://www.pegasusacademytrust.org/media/PAT-behaviour-policy-Sept-2023.pdf>

**FREE SCHOOL LUNCHES:** There IS such thing as a free lunch, because The Mayor of London is providing a free school lunch for all primary age pupils in London this academic year. Please take up this offer! It will save you time, stress and money. The school dinners provided by Harrisons are very good - many members of staff eat the school dinners which wasn't always the case. A menu is available on the school website and you can arrange a meeting with Chef Morad in the school kitchen (via the office) if you have any nutrition or allergy queries.

**School uniform:** The children have returned to school looking super smart. One of the success stories of recent years has been pupils coming to school already wearing their PE Kits on their PE day. This cut down on all the disruption and, for older pupils, sometimes embarrassment, of getting changed in the classroom. So that this can continue, can I remind you that we have a school specific PE kit which is part of our school uniform - children should not come into school wearing other sports clothing and we monitor this kit in just the same way as we monitor uniform. The school PE kit consists of: Any plain white T-shirt, any plain black bottoms (shorts or jogging bottoms depending on weather), any trainers or black plimsolls and the normal school sweatshirt or jumper. Items are generic and can be bought from any shop to keep the cost low. Coats are worn as needs be on PE days. When pupils have fitness sessions as part of Enrichment afternoons, children can wear trainers to school and do not need to wear full PE kit. We expect the children to be smart in their uniform because all the best secondary schools have similar rules and we want the best for our children.

**Up-coming charity events:** We are asking for new items to be donated for our Macmillan raffle, for example: boxes of chocolates, toiletry sets, candles, unopened toys etc. and will be hosting our Coffee Morning on Friday 29th September. We will ask for cake donations and send details closer to the time. We will also be supporting 'Jeans for Genes' on Friday 22nd September and children are invited to bring in £1 as a donation to the charity and to wear denim (jeans, skirts, jackets etc.) We will collect non-perishable foods for Harvest on Friday 13th October, but will send out a reminder closer to the time.

**Playtime snacks:** Children can bring in fresh or dried fruit as a playtime snack and apples are available for 20p every day. Please send them in with a fruit snack as it's a long time until lunch.

