



Whitehorse Manor Infant School

Friday 15th September 2023



Welcome back! It has been a busy and very sunny start to the term but the children have all settled well into their new classes and made a good start to the year. It is lovely to see all the children returning to school and hear all their news.

Many thanks to all the parents who have followed the guidance on school uniform and shoes; the children coming back look so smart and it creates a very positive feel in the school. Remember for PE days the uniform is, white school polo, school sweatshirt and black shorts or joggers and black trainers or plimsolls. Please check your child's PE days with the class teacher.

Already there are lots of exciting events lined up for the school year so please keep an eye on the website www.pegasusacademytrust.org and on newsletters, as we will try to give you as much notice as possible.

Important dates for this half term are on the reverse of this newsletter. Please put dates in your diaries.

If you have changed any of your contact details over the holidays please let the school office know so we can update our records.

We have moved to a paperless communication system this year and this newsletter will be the first of the year and the last to be sent out on paper. If you have not yet signed up to **Studybugs** please do so ASAP. This is the new attendance reporting system and the portal by which we will share communications about trips, events and important dates and letters. You can download the **Studybugs App** onto your mobile phone. We are always working on improving our communications to parents and if you sign up to Studybugs you should never miss a letter or important communication again! Class teachers can help you with Studybugs if you need some support.

Attendance: Unfortunately, we have had a higher than usual unauthorised absent rate upon our return to school. Therefore, we are tracking unauthorised absence rigorously moving forwards. If there is a very good reason that your child cannot attend school, you are expected to request exceptional leave before your child is absent from school. Any request for exceptional leave which comes after the period of absence has already been taken **will not** be granted and will be classed as unauthorised absence. The office is always available by email if you are unable to call or come into the office in person for any reason. Any absence that is attached to a school holiday, no matter the reason for the exceptional leave request, **is likely to be denied** and will be classed as unauthorised absence. There has been a significant rise in vague 'family emergencies' that are attached to a holiday, when we are all aware that flights are cheaper. In order to ensure fairness, and without having to ask intrusive questions, it is easier to expect that requests which are attached to a holiday will not be authorised. Parents can be issued a fixed penalty notice of £60 per child, per parent by the Attendance Officer for extended unauthorised absence. We have issued 6 this week.

Birthdays:

Due to the high number of food allergies in our school, we will only give out birthday bags, which contain **non-food** items. Our preference would be a book donation for the class to share to celebrate a child's birthday. This is also a much cheaper outlay for families.

Charity Events:

We are supporting the following charities this term- Jeans for Genes on Friday 22nd September. Children can wear jeans to school on this day and bring £1 to donate to this charity. We will be holding a raffle and cake sale to raise money for Macmillan on Friday 29th September. Any donations of new unwanted gifts e.g. toiletry sets, scented candles etc. or new unwanted toys would be welcomed to help raise money in our raffle for this worthy charity. Please drop them at the school office. We will also be collecting non-perishable food gifts for Harvest. Details will follow at a later date. We hope that families can support these charities.

Applications for admissions to Reception in Sept 2024-25

If your child was born between **1st September 2019 and 31st August 2020**, then you must apply asap for a reception place. Contact- www.croydon.gov.uk/admissions

Whitehorse Manor Infant School: Nicola Hall- Head of School

DATE	EVENT
Tuesday 19th September 9:15am	Year 2: Curriculum meeting for parents
Friday 22nd September	Jeans for Genes mufti day
Tuesday 26th September 9:15am	Nursery: curriculum meeting for parents
Wednesday 27th September 9:15am	Year 1: curriculum meeting for parents
Wednesday 20th September 9:15am	Reception: curriculum meeting for parents
Monday 25th September	Year 1: Library visit Jade and Green Classes
Thursday 28th September	Year 2: Diwali workshop
Friday 29th September	Macmillan cake sale and Raffle
Monday 2nd October	Year 1: Library visit Year 1
Monday 9th and Tuesday 10th October 3:30-6:30pm	Parents' Evening
Thursday 12th October 9:15am	Year 1: Harvest Festival Assembly
Friday 13th October 9:15am	Year 2: Harvest Festival Assembly
Thursday 19th October	Year 2: Hampton Court Trip- Purple Class and Lilac Classes
Friday 20th October	Year 2: Hampton Court Trip- Indigo Class
Friday 20th October	Show Racism the Red Card Day-Red themed mufti day
Friday 20th October	Last day of half term
Wednesday 1st November	First day back after half term
Thursday 9th November	Individual and sibling photographs
Friday 10th November	Remembrance Day
Thursday 23rd November 2:30pm	Read with your child session
Tuesday 28th November	Year 1: Science Museum Trip-Jade, Yellow and Green Classes
Tuesday 5th December 9:15am	Year 1: Christmas Concert
Wednesday 6th December 9:15am	Year 2: Christmas Concert
Thursday 7th December 9:15am	Reception: Christmas Concert
Thursday 7th December 11am	Nursery: Christmas Concert
Thursday 21st December	Last day of term
Monday 8th January	First day of term

Please keep me on your fridge!