



Whitehorse Manor Infant School

Monday 15th September 2024



Welcome back! It has been lovely to see all the children looking excited to return to school and hear all their summer news! The children have settled well into their new classes and made a good start. 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 term are on the reverse of this newsletter. Please put dates in your diaries.

It is really important that if you have changed any of your contact details over the holidays you let the school office know so we can update our records.

We now use a paperless communication system, if you have not yet signed up to **Studybugs** please do so ASAP. This is the 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: Poor attendance is a key priority for the government and the Local Authority now has 'live' access to our attendance data. Croydon have also assigned Whitehorse a Local authority Attendance Officer who will work alongside Mrs Wesley (our Academy Attendance officer) to rigorously track and challenge poor attendance. Anything below 94% is of concern and if attendance falls below 90% we will have serious concerns. Below 90% is regarded as persistent absence by the DFE and parents will be asked to meet with Attendance Officers and Senior Leaders to discuss poor attendance. 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 £160 per child, per parent by the Attendance Officer for extended unauthorised absence. Last year 6 penalty notices were issued to parents in our school. The link to our website attendance page is <https://www.pegasusacademytrust.org/attendance-2> if you wish to find out more information.

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:

Jeans for Genes on Friday 19th September- children can wear jeans/denim to school on this day and bring £1 to donate to charity. We will be holding a raffle to raise money for Macmillan on Friday 26th September and a coffee morning for parents (from 9am in the Junior Hall). 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 from Monday 6th October. Details will follow at a later date.

Applications for admissions to Reception in Sept 2026-27

If your child was born between **1st September 2022 and 31st August 2023**, 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 16th September	Year 2: Diwali Workshop
Tuesday 16th September 9:10am	Year 2: Curriculum meeting for parents (Hall)
Friday 19th September	Jeans for Genes Day (wear your jeans to school for a £1 donation)
Tuesday 23rd September 9:10am	Year 1: Curriculum meeting for parents (Hall)
Friday 26th September	Macmillan Raffle and Coffee Morning (Junior Hall). Join us for tea/coffee and cake, network with other parents and raise funds for charity!
Wednesday 1st October 9:10am	Reception: Curriculum meeting for parents (Hall)
Thursday 2nd October 9:10am	Nursery: Curriculum meeting for parents (Hall)
Monday 6th 3:30-6:30pm and Tuesday 7th October 3:30-6:00pm	Parents' Evening (a Google form will be sent out via Studybugs for parents to sign up for a date and time)
Monday 6th October	Year 1: Green, Yellow and Jade class trip to the local park
Friday 10th October 9:10am	Year 2: Harvest Assembly (Hall)
W/C Monday 13th October	Black History Week
Tuesday 14th October 9:10	Year 1: Maths workshop for parents (Hall)
Friday 17th October	Year 1: Harvest Assembly (Hall)
Friday 17th October	Show Racism The Red Card (wear red mufti day)
Wednesday 22nd October	Flu Vaccinations (permission letters via Studybugs)
Thursday 23rd October	Year 2 Sport Relay event (children will need to wear their PE kits to school on this day)
Thursday 23rd October	Last day of term
Tuesday 4th November	First day back of term
Wednesday 5th November 9:10am	Reception: Maths workshop for parents (Hall)
Thursday 6th November	Individual and Sibling photos
Friday 7th November	Year 2: Hampton Court trip- Purple and Lilac Class
Friday 7th November	Year 1: Neil Armstrong workshop
Tuesday 11th November	Remembrance Day
Thursday 13th November	Year 2: Hampton Court trip- Indigo Class
Tuesday 2nd December 2:30pm	Read with your child session
Tuesday 9th December 9:10am	Year 1: Christmas Concert in the hall
Wednesday 10th December 9:10am	Reception: Christmas Concert (Hall)
Thursday 11th December	Year 1: Moon Day workshop
Friday 12th December 9:10am	Year 2: Christmas Concert (Hall)
Friday 12th December	Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day
Friday 19th December	Last day of term
Tuesday 6th January	First day of term

Please print me and keep me on your fridge!