



# Whitehorse Manor Junior School Newsletter Friday 18th October 2024



Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a busy start to the term and I am pleased that all classes have settled well and begun working hard. This week I have been overwhelmed by the fantastic family trees that pupils shared as part of our Black History Month homework. May I also take this opportunity to thank everyone for all their charity donations this half term. Donated goods for Harvest Festival have now been passed on to Fr Sean at St Alban's church for their foodbank. I hope this half term offers you all the chance to recuperate before the count down to Christmas begins. Please find below a competition being held by a former member of staff, Christine Smith, creator of The Afrolights, for children to participate in over the break.

**Pupil absence** Following government concerns about attendance levels in schools following the pandemic, the government has taken over the monitoring of absence and there is now statutory guidance about what schools must do if pupils are persistently absent. Fines issued by the school are issued on behalf of the local authority - the money from these fines goes to the local authority, not to the school, and it is the local authority who pursue fines that are unpaid. I am reminding you of this as we have had some parents who are getting upset with us about things that we have no control over. Please read advice from our Educational Welfare Officer, Sonia Wesley, which is on our website under Key Information: Attendance if you need more information about attendance issues.

**Contact details** Despite all our best efforts, we still find it difficult to contact some parents during the school day. It is very important that the school has the means by which to contact parents in case of accidents. Please make sure that the office is made aware of any changes to mobile numbers as soon as possible.

### Other events in the coming weeks

Wednesday 30th October: Return to school

Monday 11th November: Remembrance Day service

Friday 20th December: Last day of autumn term

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_

What's the Number plate?  
Croydon Buses

What Number Bus?  
Croydon Buses

Miss Smith's photo with The AFROLIGHTS will be on 10 London buses in the Croydon area for Black History Month, in aid of a bus campaign entitled 'This can be you!'

You have until the 4th November to get your answers in to your teacher.

Fill out the form below to be entered into our prize draw.  
Ask your adult for help if needed.  
Good Luck and remember to 'KEEP IT POSITIVE!'

<b>Bus Number</b>	<b>Number Plate</b>
1 _____	_____
2 _____	_____
3 _____	_____
4 _____	_____
5 _____	_____
6 _____	_____
7 _____	_____
8 _____	_____
9 _____	_____
10 _____	_____