



Whitehorse Manor Infant School

Friday 13th 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 this year 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 £60 per child, per parent by the Attendance Officer for extended unauthorised absence. 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 20th September- children can wear jeans 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 27th September and a coffee morning for parents. 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 the week commencing 7th October. Details will follow at a later date.

Applications for admissions to Reception in Sept 2025-24

If your child was born between **1st September 2020 and 31st August 2021**, 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
Friday 20th September	Jeans for Genes Day (wear your jeans to school for a £1 donation)
Wednesday 18th September 9:15am	Year 1: Curriculum meeting for parents (Hall)
Tuesday 24th September 9:15am	Nursery: curriculum meeting for parents (Hall)
Wednesday 25th September 9:15am	Reception: Curriculum meeting for parents (Hall)
Thursday 26th September 9:15am	Year 2: Curriculum meeting for parents (Hall)
Friday 27th September	Macmillan Raffle and coffee morning (Junior Hall) Join us for a Tea/coffee and cake, network with other parents and raise funds for charity!
WC 7th October	Year 1: class trips to the local park
Monday 7th and Tuesday 8th October 3:30-6:30pm	Parents' Evening
Thursday 10th October	Year 2: Harvest Assembly (Hall)
Friday 11th October	Year 1: Harvest Assembly (Hall)
Friday 11th October	Year 2: Hampton Court Trip- Purple Class
Friday 18th October	Year 2: Hampton Court Trip- Indigo and Lilac Classes
Friday 18th October	Show Racism the Red Card Day-Red themed mufti day £1 donation
Friday 18th October	Last day of half term
Wednesday 30th October	First day back after half term
Thursday 7th November	Individual and sibling photographs
Monday 11th November	Remembrance Day
Tuesday 19th November 2:30pm	Read with your child session
Monday 2nd December 9:15am	Reception: Christmas Concert (Hall)
Thursday 12th December	Year 1: Trip to the Science Museum
Friday 13th December 9:15am	Year 1 and 2: Christmas Concert (Junior Hall)
Tuesday 17th December 11:15am and 2:45pm	Nursery: Christmas Concerts
Friday 20th December	Last day of term
Monday 6th January	First day of term

Please Print me and keep me on your fridge!