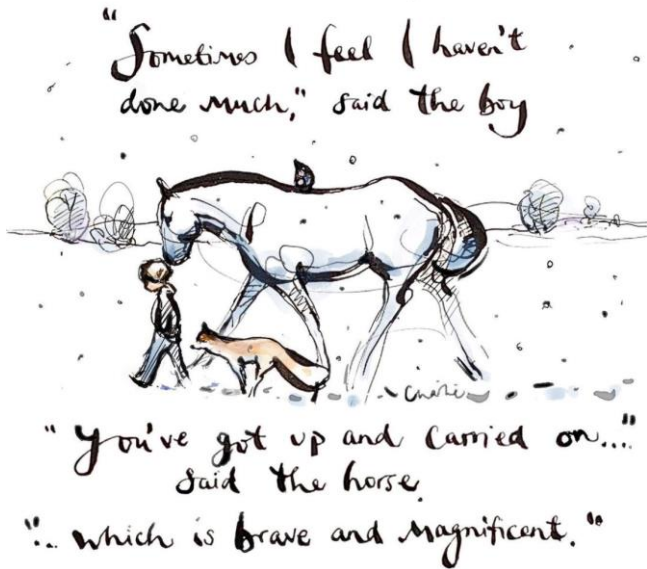




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Summer Term: 5



Dear Families,

With the Summer Term now underway, we welcome the new families having joined our school this term. It is wonderful to see our children looking after newcomers and for leading them in the Whitehall Way.

Although this week has been a shorter one, the school has been busy with new learning activities, continuing with our Catch-Up work and already working alongside our Governors on planning for the new academic year.

It has been lovely to chat to parents as you exit the school daily and to see how, as a school community, we are slowly working towards rebuilding our lives during this pandemic.

Let us continue to support each other and do what we can to ensure a happier and brighter future for our children.

Look after yourselves and stay well!

Mrs Moloji, Headteacher

Achievements

Mid-year Parent Meetings



Thank you to all parents and carers who have availed themselves to discuss their child's progress this term. We believe that these conversations, alongside your child's progress sheets that came out recently, will help them to be better prepared for the year group ahead. If you have not done so already, please make every effort to contact your child's class teacher via the Office or by emailing in on the year-group email to arrange a meeting.

It's a girl!



It is with great excitement that we share the news of the birth of Mrs Mazumder's baby girl this week.

We welcome her into the Whitehall Junior family and please join me in congratulating the family on the third addition to the family!

General

COVID-19 Updates: Wearing masks daily



Thank you to all adults who are wearing masks on their way to and from school. It is



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appreciated that you continue to be mindful of social distancing and that COVID-19 is still around. Whilst the rate of cases in Hillingdon is stable, and many people have now been successfully vaccinated, we still have to remain vigilant and ensure that we do not contribute to the spread of the virus. We have a long battle to fight and all our efforts need to be sustained so that we can reduce the cases in London.

Pray for India



As I am sure that you will have seen in the media, places like India remain severely affected by the pandemic. Given that a number of our school's population originate from India, we take a moment to pray for the people of India, that they may receive the humanitarian aid needed to bring an end to their suffering.

Children arriving late to school



We have a number of children **regularly** arriving late to school. Please make sure that you leave for school in plenty of time to arrive before the back gate closes. The gate opens at 8.30 and all children need to be in by 8.50 when the gate closes. As the register officially closes at 9am, any arriving after this time is deemed late. Thank you.

Eid Celebrations



Many of our families, including some of our boys and girls, are observing Ramadan which draws to a close this week. I have been extremely impressed that our children have managed to continue working conscientiously whilst in observance. Many Muslims around the world prepare to celebrate Eid this Wednesday or Thursday (dependent on the sighting of the moon). May your final Suhoor be a blessing and your Iftar bring you together in the spirit of sharing.

Requests for Eid Observance



Thank you to those families who have already begun to request a day off, for religious observance, to celebrate Eid as families. Please ensure that you request the afternoon or day off by emailing the school on: whitehalljun@whitehalljunior.org.

Non-Uniform Day: Friday 14th May 2021



As is tradition at our school, we try to mark the many major religious celebrations each year. With Eid being on 12th and 13th May 2021, all children are invited to come in their party clothes on **Friday 14th May** to join in marking this special celebration.



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Free School Meal Applications



Are you entitled?

We understand that for many families COVID-19 has had an impact on their daily lives and that many people have lost jobs, and their circumstances have changed. If your circumstances have changed significantly, your child may be entitled to free school meals. If you think you qualify for this entitlement, please email the office on: whitehalljun@whitehalljunior.org with your full name, your date of birth and your national insurance number.

School Uniform

"Think Smart, Dress Smart"



It has been pleasing to see how smart our pupils are looking, especially when they are wearing the correct school uniform. For the benefit of all, I would like to remind you that our school uniform is as follows:

Girls:

The summer school uniform for our girls includes our usual school uniform and red gingham dresses (no gingham playsuits allowed). These are available from local supermarkets such as: Asda, Tesco, Sainsbury's, etc. Matching hair accessories may also be worn. **Strictly no sandals or leggings allowed as this is not in keeping with our school uniform.** If preferred, girls may wear long white socks instead.



Boys:

Our boys are allowed to wear grey/charcoal coloured school shorts also available from any local supermarkets.

Strictly no sandals or trainers allowed.



Labelling uniform

There are often items of clothing that cannot be returned to their rightful owners as they are not labelled. It would be advisable that you label your child's uniform, water bottles and lunch bags for easy identification.



Any unclaimed items of clothing will be placed in the 'red, lost property box' in the playground.



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Class photographs



Our school's Kittle photographer will be in on **Tuesday 18th May 2021** to take class photographs. Observing strict COVID-19 guidance, all class groups will be photographed and families will be able to purchase the pictures, should you wish. All children are expected to wear their full school uniform that day and they should look their smartest.

Swimming resumes



We are pleased to announce that, having assessed the COVID-19 situation within Hillingdon, we are now able to resume swimming for our Year 5s this term. Our school's swimming sessions take place at the Hillingdon Leisure Centre as part of our PE programme. The Year 5 classes that have not previously had sessions will begin in their allotted May or June sessions.

Zebra crossing



With the new zebra crossing now in use at the rear of the school, I would encourage our families to access it correctly each day. As our children tend to model the behaviour

of the supervising adults, we need to ensure that our children know how to keep themselves safe on our city's busy roads.

Morning drop-off



I have observed a number of parents dropping their younger aged children beyond the school gates and then driving off without checking that they are safely in the school yard. I cannot stress the importance of you, as parents, being responsible for your child's safety before the official school day begins.

Staff Training Day: School Closed



On **Friday 28th May 2021**, the school will be closed to children to allow our staff to have training that day. Please put this date into your diary.

Term Dates



<u>School Term Dates 2020-2021</u>
<u>Summer Term 5</u>
Monday 19 th April 2021- Thursday 27 th May 2021
Training Day Friday 28 th May 2021 SCHOOL CLOSED TO CHILDREN
<u>Summer Term 6</u>
Monday 07 th June 2021- Friday 23 rd July 2021
Training Day Friday 02 nd July 2021 SCHOOL CLOSED TO CHILDREN