



## Whitehall Junior School School Newsletter 25<sup>th</sup> September 2020

Autumn Term: 1

### Step-Up September



What a busy week it has been! Despite the mixed bag of weather over the last few days, the school has been a hive of activities.

As we approach the end of Tier 1 of **Step-Up September**, our focus now moves to setting up new learning pathways for our children based on the initial assessments.

Whilst we still await the catch-up funding from the DfE, our teaching staff will now be focusing on creative ways of getting your children close enough to the age-related expectations for each year group.

As one of our priority areas this year, we will embark on a whole-school drive to tackle **'Equality in Education'**, celebrating the wonderful diversity within our school community. We excitedly look forward to sharing what this might entail and how you, as families, can help us to achieve this.

With the month of October particularly highlighting Black History, our aim is to recognise the outstanding contributions made by many black men and women in shaping our British nation's story.

Achievements

Thank you!



I would like to thank all parents for your ongoing support of the school during this period. As a parent myself, I appreciate the increasing anxieties of having to return to work, hoping that your child will be *'happy, safe and well'* at school. As a team, we will ensure that every child will thrive within our care.

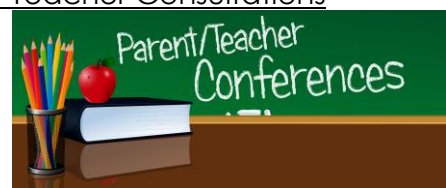
General

'Own Clothes' Day



All children are invited to come into school wearing their own clothes, and not their uniforms, on **Thursday 01<sup>st</sup> October 2020**. Apart from it being the annual Census Day (the day on which pupil numbers are counted and the DfE allocates school budgets accordingly), we also wish we celebrate the start of October in a fun way. No donation is being asked of families on this occasion.

Parent-Teacher Consultations



Annually, we usually hold two face-to-face meetings with our parents in the Autumn and Spring Terms, to discuss how well your child is progressing.



## Whitehall Junior School School Newsletter 25<sup>th</sup> September 2020

This term, given the current situation, we will facilitate these via telephone calls instead, allowing you and your child's teacher to discuss how your child is settling into their new class.

These are scheduled for the week of **12<sup>th</sup> October 2020** and invitations will be sent out shortly to you via our T2P online booking system.

### Individual photographs



On **Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2020**, our Kittle photographer will be in school to take individual photographs of our pupils. Unfortunately, due to COVID-19 restrictions, we will not be able to have siblings being photographed together. As always, children are to look their smartest and are expected to wear their full school uniform that day.

### Secondary School Applications



If you are applying for a secondary school place for **September 2021**, please apply online. Information packs were emailed out to our Year 6 parents last week. Closing date for applying is Saturday **31<sup>st</sup> October 2020**.

### Cold & Flu Season Ahead



As part of our annual NHS commitment to tackling colds and flu, our local nursing team will be in on **Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2020** to administer the nasal flu immunisation. This FREE service is offered to all junior-aged children and further information will be sent

out to families. It is important to note that only children with signed permission from a parent will receive the immunisation.

### Cold weather procedures

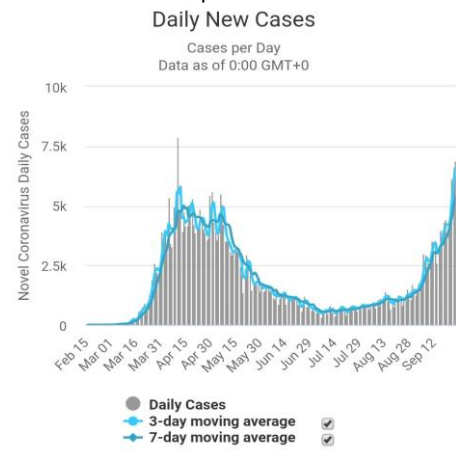


As the weather becomes colder, we are now reviewing the government's COVID-19 legislation on having the windows and doors open. The heating has now been turned on to make all rooms more comfortable. We will update our risk assessment once we have further guidance sent through to schools.

### Safety updates



With the spike in the number of COVID-19 cases in London, it is important that we all do what we can to keep each other safe.



**Courtesy at the school gates:** Thank you to the many families who are already observing social distancing when entering and exiting the school each day. I have however observed some adults repeatedly pushing passed those trying to sensibly exit the school gate. Please maintain a safe distance, step back and allow those ahead of you to safely exit the school grounds.



## Whitehall Junior School School Newsletter 25<sup>th</sup> September 2020

### Charity begins at home

#### Harvest Festival donations



Annually, at this time of year, we hold a **Harvest Festival**. As we are unable to come together as a whole school to enjoy a Harvest assembly, we wish to continue our tradition of collecting food to help the elderly and needy within our community.

As a school, we remain committed to educating our children on the importance of giving and support many local, national and international charities each year.

We are therefore asking for donations of tinned food, other non-perishable goods and toiletries. These can be brought into school by your child from **Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2020** and are to be placed in the collection boxes in the cloakrooms. All donations are to be in by **Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2020**.

#### Good condition uniform



Thanks to the generosity of many families within our school community, we have many items of uniform in good condition to offer families FREE of charge. We have a selection of skirts, trousers, white blouses, shirts, school jumpers, coats and shoes to offer. Should you be interested, please call the Office or email us, indicating the items and sizes you are looking for.

### Reporting absences



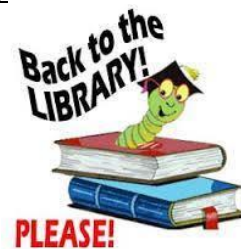
It is important that parents continue to report their child's absence. More than ever, please ensure that you give a reason for the absence and please state if it is linked to COVID-19 symptoms.

In the event of your family needing to have a COVID-19 test done, during a period of self-isolation, it is important that you notify us of the result of the test. This will enable us to take the necessary action and prevent a possible spread of the virus within our school community.

Please see the COVID-19 Self-Isolation guidance on our website:  
<https://www.whitehalljunior.org/september-school-reopening/>

To report your child's absence, call us on: 01895234071.

### Book Amnesty



This is a special appeal to pupils currently in Year 4-6. We are asking for the return of any school reading books that were issued before the lockdown period.

Should you know of any other families who have now left the school who may have books that they wish to return to us, please send those books in with your child. This will help us to take stock of what books we have available in school.



## Whitehall Junior School School Newsletter 25<sup>th</sup> September 2020

### Daily communication



We are mindful that we are not able to have the usual meaningful communications with parents on the playground anymore. Should you wish to get a message to a teacher, feel free to write into your child's planner. For more urgent matters or to request to speak to the class teacher, please call the Office to arrange this. With extra caution now needed when dismissing children at the end of a school day, it is not always easy to get to talk to your child's teacher. Please be patient and if you urgently need to talk to the teacher at the end of the school day, you will have to wait until all children have dismissed. Thank you for your co-operation.

### Dealing with any concerns



We believe in dealing with any possible concerns that you might have as they arise. Feel free to talk to the staff on duty and we will direct you to the right member of staff if we are unable to deal with your concerns or questions.

### Term Dates



<b>School Term Dates 2020-2021</b>
<b><u>Autumn Term 1</u></b>
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> September 2020- Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October 2020 (Normal dismissal)
<b><u>Autumn Term 2</u></b>
Monday 02 <sup>nd</sup> November 2020- Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> December 2020 (Early closure: 12:30pm)

### Meet the Team: 2020-2021



<b>Position</b>	<b>Member of staff</b>
Headteacher	Mrs Moloji
Deputy Headteacher	Mrs Upfield
Assistant Headteacher	Miss Costa
<b>Year 3</b>	
Year Leader/ Class 3D	Mr Mitchell
Class 3B	Miss Shaw
Class 3L	Mrs Perez
<b>Year 4</b>	
Year Leader/ Class 4B	Mr Jones
Class 4L	Mrs Mazumder & Mrs Brooks
Class 4T	Mr Gohil
<b>Year 5</b>	
Year Leader/ Class 5P	Miss Costa & Miss Lattimore
Year Leader/ Class 5O	Miss Brown
Class 5S	Mrs Azeem
Class 5E	Miss Lusher
<b>Year 6</b>	
Year Leaders/ Class 6W	Mrs Norman & Mrs Kelly
Class 6D	Miss Mattera
Class 6T	Miss Hyland

### Step-Up September



**Time for us all to RE-ESTABLISH ourselves and our routines, build new or build upon old RELATIONSHIPS within our community and RECONNECT with each other and the wider world!**