

Newsletter

October 2011



**Whitecross
Hereford**

Standards Raised

A huge thank you to all parents and guardians this term for their efforts and support in making sure our students are turned out smartly, wearing the full uniform and armed with the correct equipment for learning. We are really pleased to report that this attention to detail has had a massive impact on the learning ethos at school. Class teachers report lesson time being used much more efficiently, as students have everything they need in advance. Where there have been minor issues, students have appreciated our efforts at consistency in dealing with them. They have co-operated respectfully and thereby increased quality learning time. As Mr Knapp mentioned in the last newsletter, we want the best for our students at Whitecross – and our best has just got better!

Mrs L

Assistant Headteacher

Grandparents Day

Whitecross was filled with the smiling faces of 79 Grandparents and 2 Great Grandparents as they visited us on Wednesday for our second Grandparents Day. Our new Year 7 students enjoyed taking their families on tours of the school, chatting to teaching staff and having tea and coffee with the Headteacher in the hall. We were delighted that some of the Grandparents volunteered for minibus driving and also lunch time supervision. A big thank you to all our visitors and their grandchildren for making the day such a huge success.

Mr L

Top Tips For Students

Need to call home during school hours?

See your Form Tutor or your Academy Head

Need a copy of your timetable?

See your Form Tutor

Feeling unwell and think you need to go home?

See your Academy Head

What to do with earrings during a PE lesson

Remove them or ask the PE department for tape

Need to find your lost property?

Ask at reception for uniform items or see Mr Leeming for anything else. Ask your parent and guardians to label all your personal property.

Need to change money for lunch?

The school (including Reception) does not hold small change. Ask your parents and guardians to send in a cheque made payable to 'Alliance in Partnership' and it will be put on your account.

Value Of The Month For November

Freedom

Going Back In Time

Last weekend the GCSE Classics group headed for Chedworth Roman Villa and the Roman Town of Cirencester as part of their preparation for the controlled assessment on life in Roman Britain.

Nestling in the Cotswold hills, the villa at Chedworth was built as an impressive country residence some time during the second century AD. We toured the site, amazed at how even 2,000 years ago the site had running water, central heating and a complete set of baths. A short drive away is the Roman town of Cirencester, established as a town soon after the Roman invasion of 43AD. The museum houses gave us an excellent insight into life in Roman Britain but perhaps the best part of the day was the chance to run around in the amphitheatre, the second largest in Britain.

It was a great day out and my thanks go to Miss Hansford for accompanying us and for the Classics group for being such good company.

Mr K



Open Day Success

Our Open Day on the 13 October was a great success. The school was buzzing with visitors joining in a variety of activities provided by the different departments.

If anyone missed the chance to come and see the school in action please contact us to arrange a visit.



India Comes To Hereford

Whitecross was proud to welcome 19 students and 3 members of staff from our partner school in Kolkata, India: The Heritage School. After time in London, our Indian friends arrived in Hereford. Highlights included meeting the Mayor and a trip to the Apple Festival at Berrington Hall. In school, the Heritage students adapted to different ways of learning, with some coming top of the class - especially in Maths! The farewell tea party and show was a highlight of the week. We shared a traditional English Tea at school followed by a superb show put on by the Indians who study traditional Indian forms of music and dance. We were treated to wonderful performances of dance, singing and poetry, and a presentation about their life. It was soon time for our friends to leave. Friendships had been renewed, new ones made and we were sad to see our visitors leave. After farewells and 36 hours of travelling, we heard they had arrived home and were looking forward to our visit in January 2012.

We are very proud of our partnership and the value of our exchange programme is immense. We have a few spaces left on the trip in January. Please contact Mrs L for more details.

A full report on the exchange visit can be found on our website: www.whitecross.hereford.sch.uk