

7 May 2015

Dear Parents

**Mighty Zulu Nation – Visit to Welton Primary School
(Tuesday 19 May and Wednesday 20 May 2015)**

We are delighted to announce that the Mighty Zulu Nation Theatre Company will be returning to Welton Primary School. It is 5 years since this vibrant, entertaining and educational team have visited our school and we are delighted to be welcoming them back. This super event forms part of a Cultural Diversity focus in school.

Feedback from staff and pupils alike who have enjoyed the Zulu Nation experience, at Welton or elsewhere, is overwhelmingly positive. We are very excited about the two days we have planned and we are sure that it will be an inspiring experience that will be memorable for years to come.

Zulu Nation have been described as being ‘The most successful multi-cultural cross curricular experience to ever tour UK schools.’

“Our African themed cultural showcase programme and interactive cross-curricular workshops have been tailored to complement important aspects of the international dimension for the OFSTED school evaluation criteria.”

For more information about the Mighty Zulu Nation, please visit their website: www.mightyzulunation.com

I am delighted to announce that this fantastic event will cost you and your family nothing at all, thanks to the wonderful fundraising of FOW’s (Friends of Welton School) and the generous support of the Welton community. As this is a whole school event FOW’s have agreed to fund the cost of the event.

The 2 day programme has several main aims. Firstly we are promoting respect of other cultures as part of our positive approach to Cultural Diversity. Also, there are lots of curriculum linked work (e.g. SEAL, Geography, Art work, and various quality writing opportunities) that will be positively enriched from the first hand nature of the theatre visit. There will be plenty of opportunities for the children to develop their teamwork, WILS (Welton Independent Learning Skills) and social skills throughout the experience. Finally, we are hoping for a memorable, highly enjoyable 2 days that helps bring the school community together.

During the 2 days, the children will be taking part in a range of activities run by the Mighty Zulu Nation.

The programme includes:

- **TRADITIONAL SONG & DANCE SHOWCASE COMPILATION** (Performed for the entire school)
This song and dance showcase affords the audience the opportunity to experience the heartbeat of Africa as they observe the powerful dance sequences and mesmerizing Zulu war chants, performed in the past. The performers provide detailed explanations and demonstrate fascinating, aspects of their Zulu culture.
- **GENERAL WORKSHOP** (Performed before the entire school)
This fun, interactive workshop highlights aspects of geography, history, and social life of the traditional & modern Zulu (traditional Attire, basic Zulu Language and the significance of dance & song in a Zulu Community. This deals with geographical, historical, social aspects.
- **DANCE WORKSHOP:** Explores Zulu rhythms and then a traditional dance routine. (In small groups as part of our carousel of activities)
- **MUSIC WORKSHOP:** This opportunity is to learn traditional Zulu songs. (In small groups as part of our carousel of activities)

In addition to the activities run by Zulu Nation, Welton staff will be running a carousel of activities for the children to enjoy and experience. For this aspect of the programme the children will be working in their mixed age 'Creative Context' groups. The activities include:

- Clay work
- Printing
- African Traditional Tales and stories
- Singing and Drama
- Art work and sketching

To finish each afternoon off in style, the Mighty Zulu Nation will be facilitating an afternoon performance. There is an opportunity for parents to attend this performance which will comprise of a compilation of dance and singing by the Zulu's. *Some children will also be participating in these performances, but because of space and sheer size of the community, not all children will be involved in this aspect.*

We will be inviting parents of children in the following 'Creative Context' groups to attend, should they wish, on **Tuesday 19 May (2.50pm start):**

Earth, Saturn, Milky Way, Uranus, Galaxy, Black Hole, Jupiter, Asteroids and Moon

We will be inviting parents of children who are in the following 'Creative Context' groups to attend, if they are able, on **Wednesday 20 May (2.50pm start):**

Shooting Star, Meteor, Mars, Venus, Neptune, Red Dwarf, Mercury, White Dwarf and Pluto

Your child should know which group they are in, but if not, please do not hesitate to ask your class teacher or ring/email the school office.

All children should wear their normal school uniform for the days. The sessions all take part within the normal school day and usual lunchtime arrangements will continue.

We are sure that this 2 day event will be a great experience day for all of the children.

Yours sincerely

Mr J Watson

Deputy Head Teacher