Whitehall Park School

LEARN, ENJOY, SUCCEED

Friday 9th October 2026 Tel: 0207 561 0113 Email: office@whitehallparkschool.org.uk

MESSAGE FROM THE SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM

Dear Parents and Carers,

Six weeks down! It has been an absolute joy watching our wonderful children settle so brilliantly over these first six weeks of the school year. They are fully into the swing of their daily routines (like our 3Ss and 'silent stairs'), and the energy around the school continues to be fantastic. Behaviour across the school is currently very positive and children are supportive of each other, they look incredibly smart every single day - thank you so much for your ongoing support with our uniform policy, particularly in ensuring everyone is wearing either all-black trainers or traditional school shoes. It really sets a good tone for our whole community. I have also really enjoyed leading our Monday morning assemblies this year, and we have been recently exploring the theme... 'Our place in the world' of late. Please do ask the children what they have learnt so far.

With **six weeks down and just two more to go to close out the first half-term of autumn**, we are making incredible progress together as a school.

I do also want to take a last moment to celebrate our fantastic Year Six cohort from last year - our SATs results are pretty strong! We are immensely proud of the children's hard work, dedication, and resilience, and we wish them every success as they continue settling into their secondary schools. A huge well done to all of them!

Celebrating Black History Month & Online Learning

October is Black History Month across the UK, and this holds a very special place in our hearts. This year's theme, 'Honouring Our Communities', allows us to reflect on the extraordinary impact of individuals who build, teach, and inspire our society every day - from educators and healthcare workers to local leaders and organisers. Throughout this month, our classrooms will be filled with rich discussions. To help extend this learning beyond the classroom, there is a wealth of high-quality educational material available online for children and families to explore together:

- **BBC Bitesize Black History Month Collection: Excellent videos, quizzes, and learner guides tailored for primary pupils.**
- **The Black Curriculum Resources: Engaging articles and stories celebrating Black British history.**
- **National Geographic Kids: Great visual profiles of influential Black history makers and changemakers.**

We strongly encourage you to explore these resources with your child at home, to spark curiosity and deepen their understanding of these stories and contributions.

Deepening Learning at Home Generally: Reading & Follow-Up Conversations

As we navigate the middle of the autumn term, supporting your child's education at home remains one of the single most powerful tools for their success.

- **The Power of Daily Reading:** Daily reading at home - even for just 10, 15 or 20 minutes - is absolutely key for building vocabulary, comprehension, and confidence across all subjects. Whether reading to them, reading alongside them, or listening to them read, making this a daily habit transforms their learning journey. Consistency is key.
- **Follow-Up Conversations:** Beyond reading, asking your child about what they have learned each day consolidates their knowledge. Try moving beyond "How was your day?" to targeted questions like:

    - "What was the most surprising fact you learned this week?"
    - "Can you explain a science concept or math problem you solved today?"
    - "What story or book did you discuss in class today?"

Having these daily discussions gives children the opportunity to explain concepts in their own words, embedding what they've learned in class and showing them that their education is valued both at school and at home.

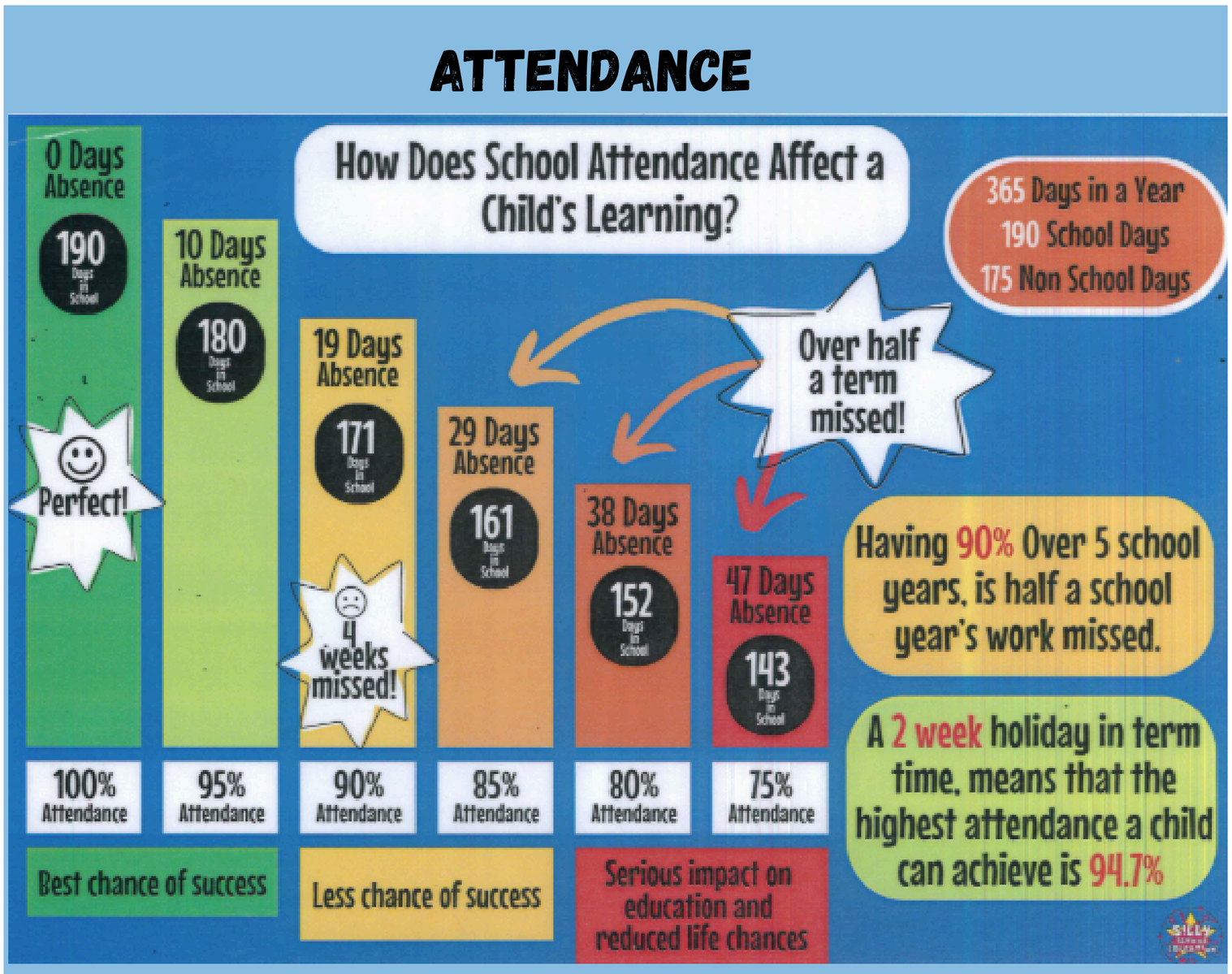
Important Updates & Notices

- **Play Structure**: Sadly, our large play structure in the main playground did not pass its latest safety test, so children are currently unable to play on it. We have contacted the original company who installed the structure and will keep you updated as soon as we have more news on repairs or potential next steps.
- **Parent Governors Wanted:** We are actively looking for new Parent Governors to join our governing body. If you are interested in making a difference in our school community, please pop into the school office for more details.
- **Clubs: Bookings are live via the Arbor Parents App,** so please log in to secure your child's spots for this term if you haven't already.
- **Parents' Evening**: We have scheduled Parents' Evening for the very first week back after the October half-term. More details and booking information will follow shortly.
- **Our Staff:** Thank you for giving such a warm welcome to the new teachers who joined our team earlier this term. They are fully settled in and feeling right at home!

We have so much excitement planned as we push forward through the rest of this autumn term and can't wait to share it all with you. Thank you, as always, for your continued partnership and support in making our school community such a brilliant place to learn and grow.

Warm regards,

Mr T Mills-Bishop



🎃👻 YOU'RE INVITED TO THE PTCA HALLOWEEN DISCO! 👻🎃

GET READY FOR A NIGHT OF SPOOKY FUN, MUSIC, AND DANCING!

HTTPS://WWW.TICKETTAILOR.COM/EVENTS/WHITEHALLPARKSCHOOLPTCA/2462577



SECOND-HAND UNIFORM SHOP

Our amazing PTCA have organised a second-hand uniform shop which is now live! All are in good condition and at unbeatable prices.
To purchase uniform for September, please use this link:
https://app.uniformd.co.uk/items/46

All pieces of uniform have been washed and packaged!

DATES COMING UP!

All diary dates will now be saved on our website. Please import dates into your calendar or bookmark the page for quick access: **https://www.whitehallparkschool.co.uk/Calendar/**

SCHOOL ARRIVAL AND LATENESS

All children should be in school by 8:50 a.m. The school gates open at 8:40am and close promptly at 8:50 am.
Any children arriving after 9am are considered late and must report to the School Office and be signed in.

Parents will be notified by letter if their child is persistently late for school, and persistent lateness may be noted on the child's Annual Report.

If you know that your child is going to be late, please contact the school by telephone as soon as possible to let us know.

INDIVIDUAL PHOTO DAY



Individual photos will be taken on **Thursday 22nd October**. Please ensure your children are in full school uniform (including tie and blazer), looking smart and presentable.

FANTASTIC FRIDAY

Friday 23rd October and held at **2pm**. Thereafter, every last day of each half term. We aim to ensure that these events are re-designed to celebrate learning.

HALLOWEEN COSTUME DONATIONS

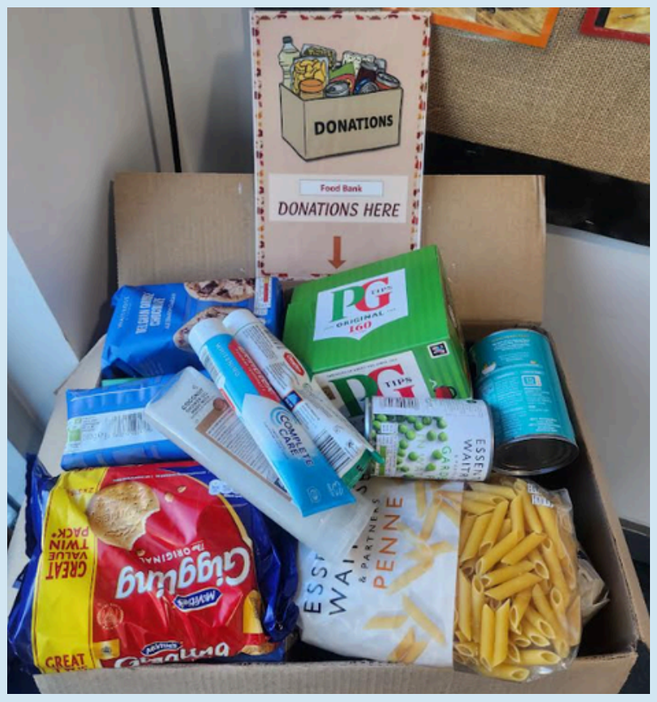
If you have any gently used children's Halloween costumes, hats, masks, or accessories that your child has outgrown or no longer uses, we would gladly accept them!
Please drop them off to the school office.

Thank you so much to all our wonderful parents for your generous food donations to support the St Andrew's Church food bank.

The food items you gave will help local families who are having a hard time.
Because of your kindness, our community shelves are full of good food and essential supplies.

Your gifts also teach the children the true value of helping neighbors in need.

THANK YOU



Plant Pot Donations Needed

We are looking for medium or large sized plant pots to help develop our woodland area. If you have any spare plant pots at home that you no longer need, we would be grateful if you could donate them to the school. The pots will be used by the children for planting and growing activities, helping us make our woodland area even more exciting and engaging.

Thank you for your support!

SPORTS at WPS

FOOTBALL YEAR 5/6 BOYS

Our Year 5/6 boys recently attended the Islington Boys' Football Tournament, where they were placed in a challenging group against some strong opposition.
Despite the difficult group, the boys showed great determination and worked hard throughout each game. They demonstrated good teamwork, supported one another and continued to give their best even when things didn't go their way.
It was a great opportunity for the boys to represent the school, gain valuable experience playing competitively and develop their confidence on the pitch. Well done to all of the boys who took part!



FOOTBALL YEAR 5/6 GIRLS

Well done to our Year 5/6 girls who reached the finals today!
On Wednesday, the girls took part in the qualifiers, where they battled hard to secure their place in today's final!

The girls faced a tough group of teams and showed great determination, teamwork and resilience throughout the tournament. Unfortunately, they missed out against the eventual winners, but they should be incredibly proud of their efforts and how they represented the school.
A fantastic achievement to reach the finals, and a great reward for all their hard work!







SPORTS CAPTAINS

Does your child enjoy sport, helping others and being a positive role model?
We are looking for enthusiastic Year 6 pupils who would like to become Sports Captains and make a positive impact across the school.
As a Sports Leader, your child will have the opportunity to:
Encourage younger children to get involved in sport and physical activity.
Help organise and lead activities at lunchtimes and school events.
Support younger pupils and help them feel confident getting involved.
Promote teamwork, fairness and positive behaviour.
Develop their own leadership, communication and confidence skills.
This is a fantastic opportunity for children to make a difference, support younger pupils and leave a positive legacy at the school before they move on to secondary school.
If your child is interested in becoming a Sports Leader, we would love to hear from them!

LOCAL FOOTBALL FESTIVAL YEAR 5 BOYS

The aim of the festival was to give the children an opportunity to play football in a relaxed and enjoyable environment, build their confidence and gain experience of playing against other schools. The scores didn't matter, the focus was on getting involved, trying new things, working as a team and, most importantly, having fun.
It was great to see the boys supporting each other and enjoying the experience. Well done to everyone who took part!



NFL

On Sunday, Coach Jack took a group of children to Tottenham Hotspur Stadium to watch an NFL match between the Washington Commanders and Indianapolis Colts.
For many of the children, this was their first experience of watching American Football live. They got to experience much more than just the game, with the event including fireworks, music, cheerleaders and entertainment throughout the match.
It was a great opportunity for the children to experience a different sport and see first-hand what a major professional sporting event is like.
Hopefully, it has inspired some of them to learn more about American Football and try something new!







PE STAR OF THE WEEK

Well done to the children below who have been our PE Stars of the Week over the last few weeks.
The children have been recognised for their effort, teamwork, sportsmanship, positive attitude and willingness to challenge themselves during PE lessons and physical activities.



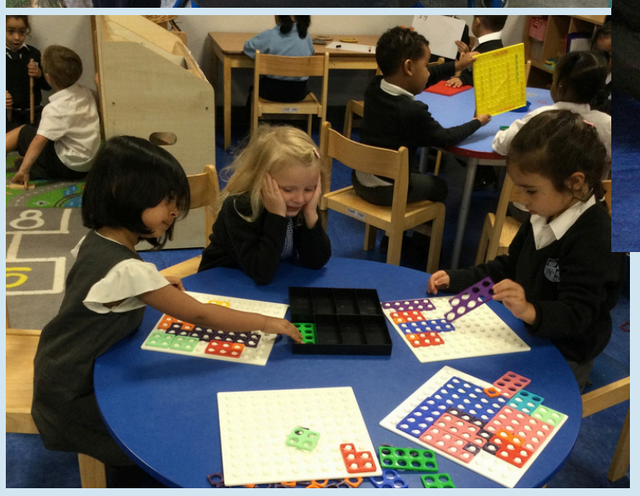


RECEPTION & NURSERY

As part of our continued focus on the Prime Areas of Learning, we have been developing our understanding of how to work successfully as part of a team. The children have been practising the important skills we use when learning and playing together: looking, talking, listening and sharing.

Through our play and group activities, we are learning to listen to one another, share ideas and resources, take turns and work together towards a shared goal. These valuable skills help us to build positive relationships, communicate confidently and become successful learners. Teamwork makes the Dream work.







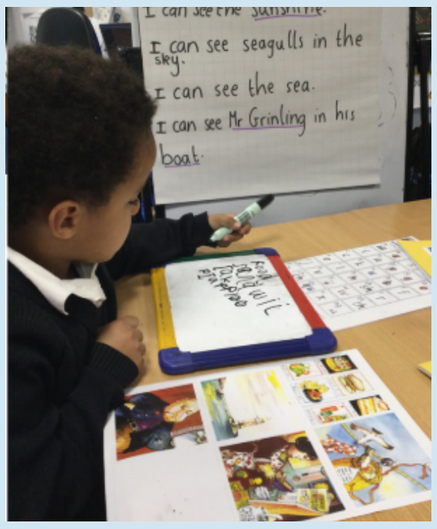


YEAR 1/2

We have had a brilliant last few weeks in Jasmine Class. We have done lots, from enjoying our dance classes, stretching our mathermatical thinking as we develop our understanding of place value, to stepping int o Mary Seacole's shoes as we explore her incredible life in History, and becoming noun detectives in English through out "I can see..." activity. We are so proud of the children's enthusiasm, curiosity and effort across all their learning.

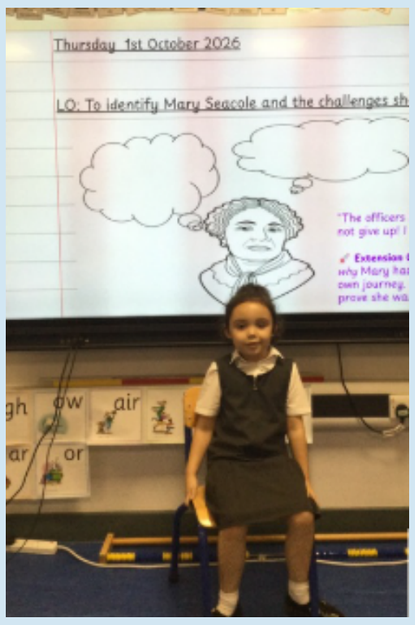


Keep it up!







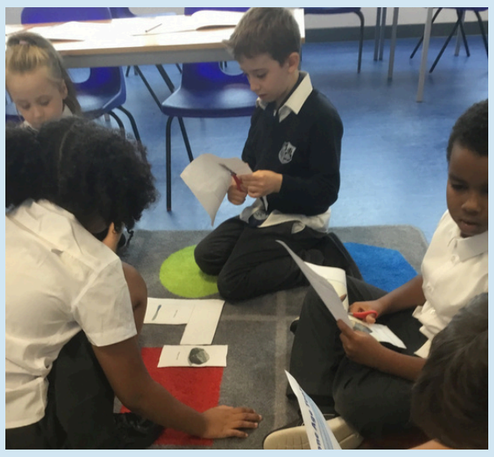




YEAR 2/3

Lavender Class has had an amazing two weeks! The Year 2 students have been learning about the famous "doctoress" Mary Seacole in their history lessons, while Year 3 has been exploring the Bronze Age.

In maths, we have continued to build our knowledge of place value and have been using these skills to solve problems.

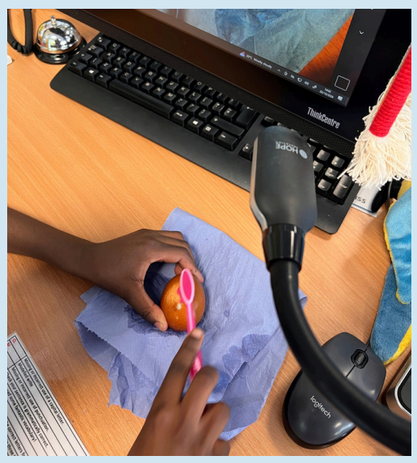


YEAR 4

During this week, students were looking at the importance of taking care of our teeth! We conducted an experiment with five eggs and different types of drinks: Vimto, Boost, Vinegar, Water and coffee.
We let the eggs sit in the drink for three days and then tried to brush the stains away! Here are some of the pictures.









YEAR 5

Thank you to everyone who was able to make a donation to our food bank -upon collection they were overwhelmed by your generosity.

In Years 4 and 5 we visited the local food bank based at St Andrew's church and took part in a scavenger hunt finding resources needed for the food bank as well as some arts and crafts activities related to autumn.

The school were very excited to take part in a rocksteady workshop this week, in which Mrs P, Ms T, Mr Levi , Ms Daley Smith and Ms Helm made up their own rock band. If your child is interested in a place with Rock Steady please remember to return the forms as soon as possible as places are limited to 45 children (after which there will be a waiting list).

In Year 5, we learnt about the process of block printing, in which we used polystyrene to recreate one of our favourite drawings from our current unit of work and then used block paints and a roller to print them.













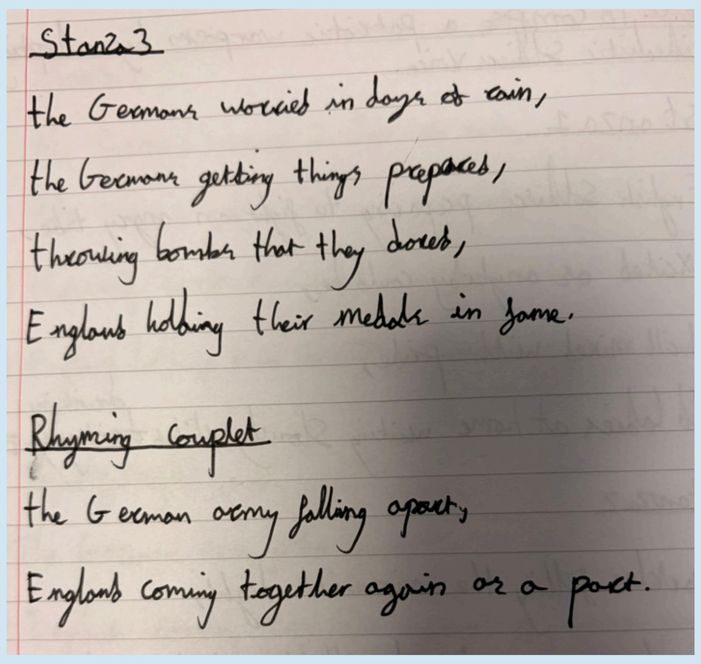
YEAR 6

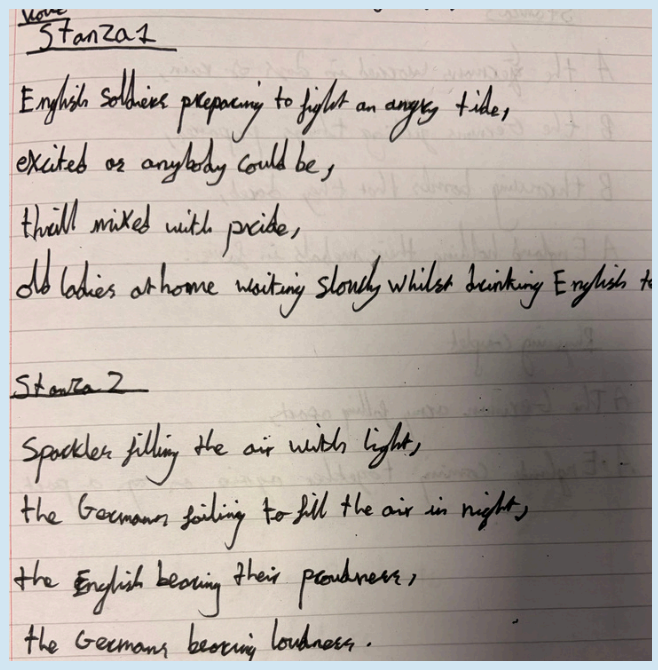
Year 6 have been incredibly productive over the last two weeks, with the children generating some truly sophisticated work across the curriculum.

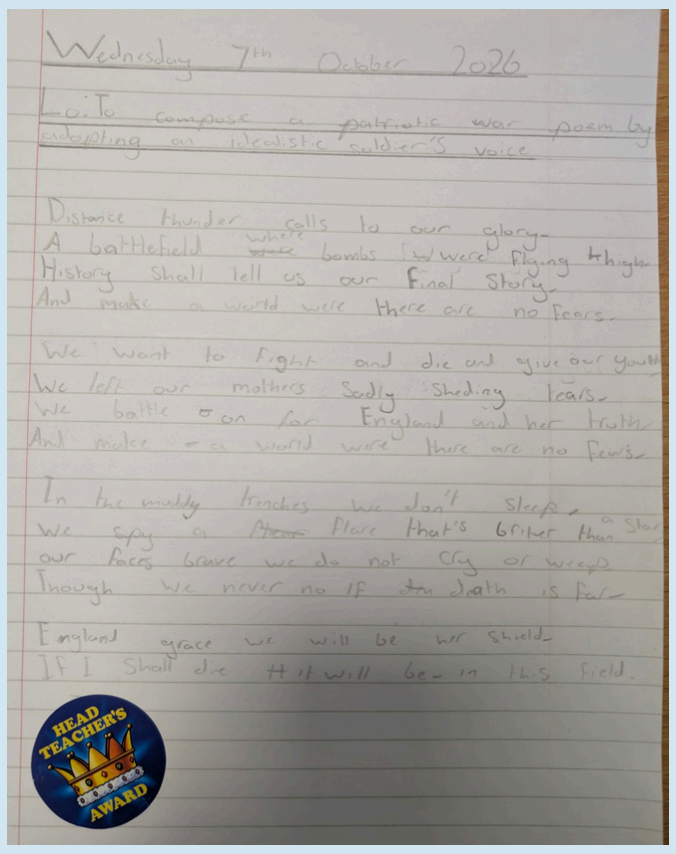
In English, we have been delving into the poetry of the First World War, analysing and comparing pieces written at different stages of the conflict. The children studied Rupert Brooke's 'The Soldier', written near the beginning of the war, alongside Wilfred Owen's later work, 'Dulce et Decorum Est'. They were incredibly perceptive in identifying how the literary trend moved from idealistic and romantic visions of conflict to a realistic and brutal portrayal, as the harsh conditions of the trenches wore down people's spirits over time.

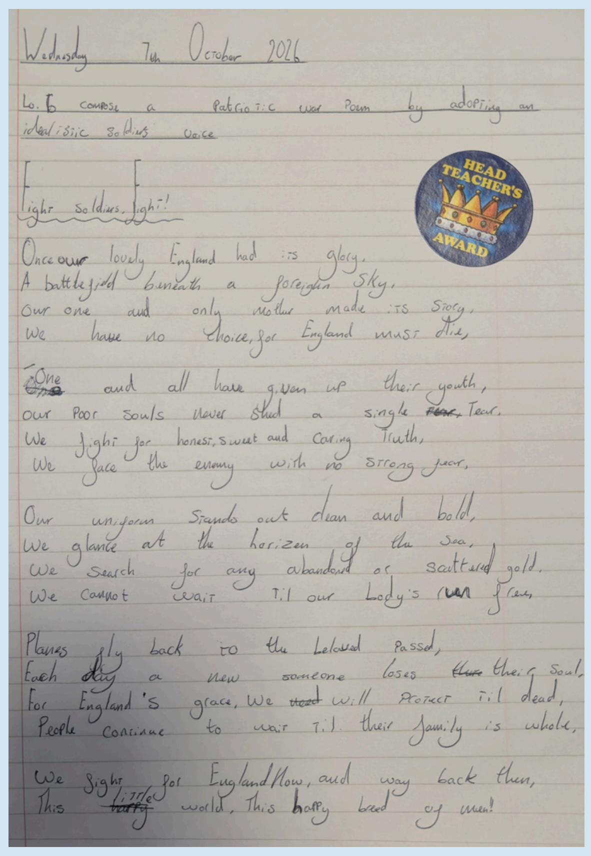
Building on this analytical work, the class took on the challenging task of writing their own romantic and idealistic war poems inspired by 'The Soldier'. They worked hard to capture the authentic voice of a hopeful soldier, ready to fight and die for England. Impressively, they challenged themselves to write these whilst maintaining the strict traditional form of a sonnet, carefully controlling both their rhyme scheme and metre. Attached are some examples of children's own poetry.

In music, we have been studying the Baroque period and the early development of opera. The children have been exploring the significant contributions of the composer Monteverdi. After studying the distinct musical forms of the aria and the recitative, they have used this knowledge to write and perform their own operatic pieces.









Apply for secondary school - Year 7 - 2027

You are now able to apply for your child's Year 7 place for September 2027.
Secondary Transfer **Deadline Date: 31 October 2026** – All applications must be submitted by this date; applications received after this date will be classed as late and not considered until all on time offers have been made.
Attached is the admissions guide from Islington. Please ensure you carefully read through the information before making your application via eAdmissions.

Apply online: www.eadmissions.org.uk This will take you to the eAdmissions site where you can apply online. Please ensure that you read the application form carefully before ticking any boxes and ensure that you provide the evidence required. Make sure that you submit your application and any edited versions by the deadline date of 31 October 2026.

We understand that children may take time out to visit secondary schools for open days, tours and possibly assessments. Please ensure you notify the Office of any absence for these reasons in advance.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact the Islington Admissions Team:
Tel: 020 7527 5515
Email: admissions@islington.gov.uk

Open Events











Open Evening and Mornings 2026

In the autumn term we host an Open Evening and three Open Mornings for prospective pupils and families to visit our academy, see our state-of-the-art facilities, and meet our students and staff.

To book your place, please RSVP using the links below:
Year 6 Open Evening – Thursday 24 September 4.30pm-7.00pm (Principal's Speech 6.00pm) RSVP Link
Year 6 Open Morning 1 – Thursday 1 October 9.00am-10.15am (Principal's Speech 9.45am) RSVP Link
Year 6 Open Morning 2 – Thursday 8 October 9.00am-10.15am (Principal's Speech 9.45am) RSVP Link
Year 6 Open Morning 3 – Thursday 15 October 9.00am-10.15am (Principal's Speech 9.45am) RSVP Link