

Whitehall Park School

LEARN, ENJOY, SUCCEED

Friday 12th February 2021

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Message from the Headteacher

I hope you are all well and have had a good final week of this half term. I know the children have all been very excited by the snow and that you have all managed to get out and have some fun playing snowballs and building snowmen and women!

This has been a very strange half term and certainly not the start to 2021 that we were all hoping for. However, the staff and I have been so proud of the children in school and at home over the past weeks. We now have almost every child logging on, joining class Zooms and working at home each day, which is brilliant. Well done to the children as well as you, their families for your support at home.

Next week is half term so there will be no live lessons or daily work. Each teacher will be posting activities that the children can do over the week at home that will support their learning. It is important that the children (and adults) get a break from screen time so I hope you are able to enjoy some fun activities, both in door and outdoors that do not involve them!

The government has indicated that schools will not open before 8th March and obviously, we are expecting further information about full re-opening prior to this. I will write to you as soon as we know more. I am very much hoping that as many children as possible can come back—we are missing them very much and they need to be in school again to catch up with their education as well as see their friends and socialise.

A couple of things to make you smile!

You may have already seen this, but I would like to share with you a video of a 4-year-old boy named Rylyn singing his rendition of Bob Marley's "Three Little Birds." "Three Little Birds' is a lullaby I sing to Rylyn when tucking him in at night," his mum wrote on his website. "During this coronavirus pandemic, Rylyn was missing his nana and his family — grandfather, aunts, uncles and his sweet, sweet cousins — so he sang the lullaby that I sing to him. We forwarded it to our family, because they are who love and cherish him and he was missing that connection so deeply... and then the world saw it.

"So sweet and uplifting! You can watch the sweet video here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q1ZR10zVpY4>

Along the same theme of loneliness.... A few evenings ago, a great friend and I were discussing some poems in a book she had recommended to me. One particularly resonated with me as it immediately made me think of your wonderful children. These four extraordinary and inspiring lines by the 14th Century Persian poet Hafez (Hafiz), taken from My Brilliant Image, are now approximately 700 years old.



from *My Brilliant Image*
by Hafez
translated by Daniel Ladinsky

I wish I could show you,
When you are lonely or in darkness,
The Astonishing Light
Of your own Being!

Finally, thank you once again for all that you are doing to support your children. I will wish you a safe and restful half term break. Warm wishes,

Ms. Tyler

February Half-Term Provision for Vulnerable Children and Children of Key Workers

Hornsey Lane Estate Community Association are offering play scheme for key workers and vulnerable children during February half term. It will be available upon request from 15th to 19th February 8.30am to 5.30pm. Provision is Free of charge for vulnerable families needing childcare and there's a charge of £20 per day for children of key workers. All children will be provided with free lunch.

For bookings please contact: Irene Winter, Centre Manager of Hornsey Lane Estate Community Association
Telephone 0207 272 5938 Email irene@hleca.org.uk



Be Mindful of the Settings You Attend

It is crucial that we are minimising the risk of transmission of the virus as a result of increased mixing between different groups of children. Please be mindful and consider sending your child to the same settings consistently and limit the number of settings your child attends as far as possible. Please remember to sanitise/wash your hands frequently and wear a mask when required.



It is important we all do our part to limit transmission and ensure everyone is safe!

February Half Term

CLOSED

Schools will close as usual over February half-term and are not expected to remain open to vulnerable children and the children of critical workers during that week.

Safeguarding & Online Learning

Please be aware, for the safeguarding of children and staff, all zoom sessions will be recorded.

If you would like any further information please contact the Office.



Mental Wellbeing for Parents

Here are a handful of ways to improve your mental health and look after yourself as recommended by the NHS:

1. Connect with other people: if possible, take time each day to be with your family, for example, try arranging a fixed time to eat dinner together
2. Be physically active: go for a walk or do some star jumps. This can help boost your self esteem, put you in a good mood and help you achieve goals.
3. Learn a new skill: try new hobbies that challenge you, such as cooking a new meal, taking up a new sport or learning to paint
4. Give to others: asking friends, family or colleagues how they are and really listening to their answer
5. Pay attention to the present moment (mindfulness): Some people call this awareness, "mindfulness". Mindfulness can help you enjoy life more and understand yourself better. It can positively change the way you feel about life and how you approach challenges.

Mental Wellbeing for Children



Help support your child's mental health through movement with this range of engaging short videos from Stormbreak. As well as being active, these fun activities help your child to learn about self-care, optimism, resilience and relationships.

<https://www.stormbreak.org.uk/>

Support for Islington Families

"We Are Islington" helpline 020 7527 8222 or email

weareislington@islington.gov.uk continues to be available for families who may need additional or immediate support at this time.



Beware! Vaccine Scams

Trading Standards have received reports of criminals calling or texting individuals offering a Covid-19 vaccination at a cost, and directing them to a fake NHS website. The NHS will never ask you to apply for the vaccine and it will be offered free of charge.

Contact Action Fraud if you believe you've been scammed.
0300 123 2040



Arsenal Home Learning

Arsenal Community have put together some great 'Player Packs' including games and learning resources all curated by team players. They are suitable for children in Key Stage 2 (aged 7-11)

<https://www.arsenal.com/community/home-learning/primary-materials>

They will also be holding virtual football and PE sessions through the half term. Use the link below to complete an interest form: <https://bit.ly/2MQywQ3>

Tweet us some photos of your child's work to @AFCCCommunity.Arsenal @WhitehallPkSch



Arsenal - Half Term Virtual Football and PE Sessions Expression of Interest Form

We have been continuing to support local primary schools during the recent closures with the delivery of regular live virtual PE sessions for KS2 pupils.

With the half term coming up, we would like to continue to offer FREE drop in virtual sessions for primary school pupils next week, when their school's remote learning timetable will be on a break.

You are receiving this expression of interest form as your child's school has been invited to attend the FREE Arsenal in the Community virtual programme during the half term break.

To assist us with our planning, and to ensure we can communicate any updates to you efficiently, please provide the following information below if your child might be interested in attending the programme next week.

If you have more than one child at the school, please complete a separate form for each child.

Please do not share this form out unless instructed to by the school.

Sessions will take place through zoom both the AM & PM Monday 15th February - Friday 19th February

What you will need to take part:
An internet connection
A checking, laptop, tablet or phone with a camera and microphone.
An up to date Zoom account (details on how to set up and register a zoom account will be provided)
An email address that you are happy to be used to register for a zoom account. This address will be used by Arsenal in the Community and its partners to verify the attendance and identity of participants on the call and won't be shared with anyone else.

Safer Internet Day



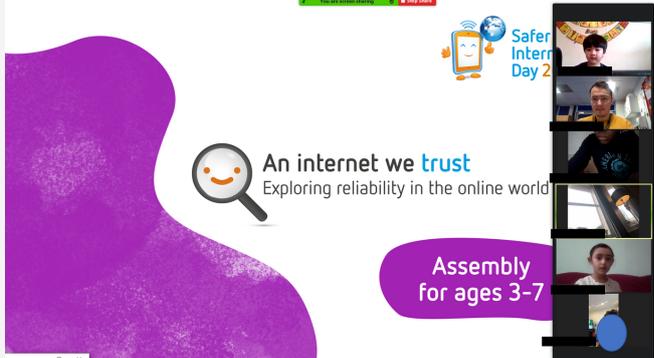
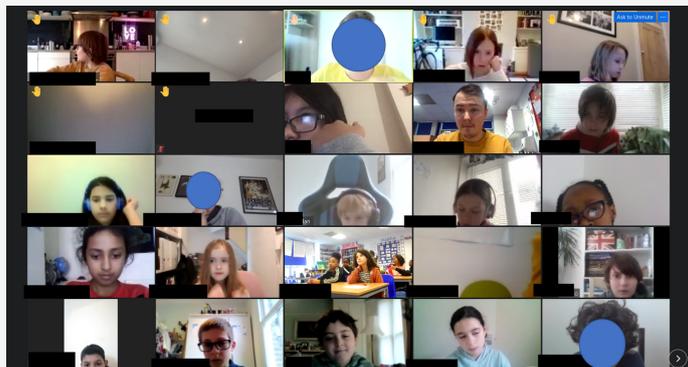
This week we celebrated Safer Internet Day! We had lots of exciting activities running online and in school. Lots of children joined our virtual assemblies which we ran for Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2. This year the focus is trust. Children have been thinking about who they can trust online and what content to trust.

You can find more about how to support your child at home with online safety here: <https://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers>



SAVE the DATE
Safer Internet Day
2021 | Tuesday
9 February
www.saferinternetday.org



Safer Internet Day 2021

An internet we **trust**
Exploring reliability in the online world

Assembly
for ages 3-7

Celebrations from EYFS

This week at home, Reception have been learning about Chinese New Year. We have been creating lots of crafts such as lanterns, dragons, and paper drums. We have read the story of the Chinese Zodiac and discussed the animals in the race and sequenced the characters in the story. We also found out that this year is the year of the Ox.





Celebrations from KS1

Year 1

For the last two weeks of term, Year 1 have started reading 'The Bee Who Spoke', which is set in Rue Saint-Rustique, Paris. Year 1 have learnt how to introduce themselves in French and created their own version of Rue Saint-Rustique.



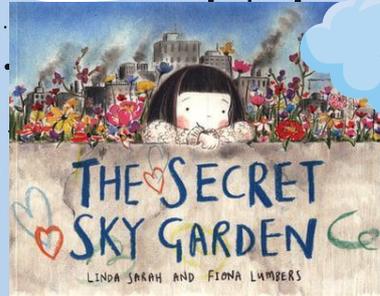
In maths this week, we have been learning one more and one less with numbers to 50. Here, Scout is using concrete resources to show her reasoning and problem solving. Well done, Scout!



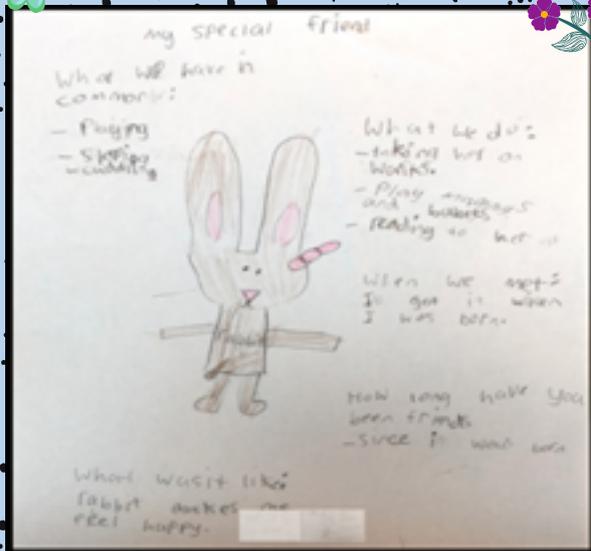
By Maleeka



In Year 2, for English, we have been thinking of a 'special friend' to include in our innovated story of 'The Secret Sky Garden'. Year 2 did a great job of thinking about what they do with their special friend, things they have in common and how their special friend makes them feel!



Year 2



We've been recreating scenes from The Secret Sky Garden. Here is Conrad's interpretation! Combining what he loves playing with and learning!

Celebrations from Upper KS2



In English, Year 5 have continued to complete work linked to our text for this half term, 'Shackleton's Journey.' Over the last 2 weeks, we have written a free verse poem about the ship Endurance and a breaking news report. We then performed our poems and presented our news!



Year 5

Izzy danced!

Christian, Tommaso and Clemy expressed themselves through art.



For children's mental health week, the children explored different ways to express themselves.

Fiamma wrote a beautiful poem using a variety of figurative language.



If I was Endurance
I would touch the dancing waters
And enjoy the deadly winds whipping icy spays against my hull.

If I was Endurance
I would taste the salty sprinkles of the Weddell sea
As I send showers in all directions.

If I was Endurance
I would hear the turbine of my raging engine rumbling
As I hear the fading voices of tough men on my deck.

If I was Endurance
I would smell the stale fish hanging in the air
As the smell of smoky meat and blood red embers drift up my nose.

If I was Endurance
I would gaze at the gorgeous peachy sunset
reflecting on the rosy pink ice.

If I was Endurance
I would dream of drifting over uncharted lands
And racing through Steaming pack ice over the south pole.



Ella & Maggie reading their poems aloud



Anouk and Felipe expressed themselves through playing the piano.

Year 6

Wow! What a start to 2021! We have had such a great start to the year in Year 6 and we are so proud of all the hard work our pupils have put in! We are so proud of the resilience and work ethic that we have seen from our children. It has been a really challenging time for us all and we are definitely stronger together!



Skateboarding!

What is skateboarding?
History of skateboarding
Components
Tricks

1 Famous Skateboarders

2 Backflip

3 Tony Hawk

4 Competitions

5 Tricks

6 Pop shovels

The difference between doing sound design for video games and then

Its that movies include more **MOVIES**
harder work than video games

Video game sound design is **bit easier**

Coronavirus!

Why is the **FACE** important?

What to **DO** Coronavirus?

How **DEEP** A Virus?

Who **Can** Catch **COVID**?

Safe

We would like to celebrate some of the amazing Personal Interest Projects (PIP) that our children have been working so hard on over the last few weeks. We have had a huge range of PIP projects including: wildlife, origami, sound design, WW2 and COVID-19.

The children have all worked extremely hard on their projects and enjoyed presenting them. Here are a couple of photos of their projects.

Almost Indestructible insects
By Brandon

1 Ingot beetle

2 Tiger moth

3 Cockroaches

4 Velvet ant

5 Regenerating flatworms

6 Today's special - a jellyfish not an ordinary one

GOLD AWARD



We are always incredibly impressed with how well our children are doing at school and are so proud of their achievements. Each week we celebrate our achievements in our Golden Book assembly, where we celebrate everyone's green behaviour and learning and even award exceptional learning with special stickers and certificates!

Reception

Dexter - Sage - for creating an amazing Outer space scene using Lego and junk modelling resources

Maryam - Sage - for being a great listener during carpet sessions and her great improvement in addition work in Maths.

Genisia - Parsley - For giving all of the home learning tasks at home all of her effort. Well done for sticking at them Genisia!

Year 1

Isabella - Jasmine - Amazing efforts in writing! She wrote a beautiful story!

Olmajer - Lavender - Has worked through challenges online and working hard to do his best everyday.

Theodore - Lavender - Has tired hard to work through his learning and produced really great learning this week in english.

Atticus - Lavender - For working really hard through this term online and doing extra work to help with his learning

Oliver - Jasmine - Fantastic efforts in maths. Always going above and beyond!

Year 2

Ferdi - Basil - Ferdi has written some amazing work this week! He has done a fantastic job of thinking about the features needed in his writing, the purpose of his work and the vocabulary he uses to engage the reader

Roman - Chive - I have been really impressed with Roman's story writing this week! He has put lots of effort it and it has paid off! Well done Roman!



GOLD AWARD

Year 3

Kaitlyn - Thyme - for being an amazing and supportive friend. Kaitlyn has written lovely paragraphs for her myth and is always seeking opportunities to improve.

Michael W - Thyme - Michael for his contribution and participation on zoom and, for being confident in sharing his build up for his myth with the class. Well done Michael.

Year 4

Selin - Myrtle- Selin was super enthusiastic during our Roman Day. She answered questions, listened to our visitor from the Roman Baths and made a great effort with her Roman costume. Brilliant Selin!

Tiger - Clove - for being top form and making some excellent contributions to our live Zoom session on Roman day.

Lino - Clove - for really engaging in Roman Day and providing some insightful contributions and for really stretching himself with his learning in all aspects of the curriculum

Sylvie - Clove - For producing an amazing poster on the Roman Baths with lots of interesting facts.

Matilda - Clove - For being an absolute pleasure and delight to teach the past two years. For always being enthusiastic, resilient, and eager to learn. We will really miss you! All the best of luck at your new school.

Anmol - Myrtle - Anmol has really engaged in our topic of the Romans in particular with David our virtual visitor from the Roman Baths. Well done Anmol!

GOLD AWARD



Year 5

Tommaso - Mint - For working hard to produce a beautiful model of Antarctica and its famous penguins as well as sharing lots of interesting facts.

Genevieve - Mint - For writing and recording an excellent, informative breaking news story announcing Shackleton's return. For also working hard on her Antarctica project, producing a very informative PowerPoint and poster about Antarctic animals.

Hugo - Mint - For writing and recording an excellent, informative breaking news story announcing Shackleton's return. For also working so very hard on his Antarctica project, producing a very informative PowerPoint about penguins.

Saima - Chamomile - I am very proud of Saima she has completed all learning since the beginning of the school closure and produced some excellent pieces of work. Well done!

Nieko - Chamomile - Nieko has worked extremely hard this week and should be very proud of his efforts. He has shown independence, resilience and confidence! Well done – you are a superstar!

Year 6

Sebastian - Cinnamon - For working so hard on his PiP project- even after completing his presentation Seb continued to work on it and develop his project.

Kanye - Nutmeg - For being resilient in his Maths learning! Keep this up Kanye, I am impressed with your progress with decimals, percentages and fractions!

Malaika - Nutmeg - For putting in 100% of effort across the curriculum! Keep it up!