

Whitehall Park School

LEARN, ENJOY, SUCCEED

Friday 10th September 2021

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Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parent, Friends and Community,

Welcome back! It's wonderful to actually be able to open the whole school after such a long disruption. We hope you are all well and managed to enjoy the summer even when it wasn't as sunny as hoped.

We especially welcome all the new children in Reception and indeed across the school - starting school is such an exciting new chapter in a child's life.

We know you will join us in a warm Whitehall Park welcome back to Helen Tyler as our Headteacher. She is still recuperating from her accident and will gradually be increasing her time back in school. In the meantime our Senior Leadership Team will be supported by Mr Ridley who's friendly face you've have seen at the gate already!

We also welcome all our wonderful new class teachers: Ms Brackley, Ms Thomson, Ms Foster, Ms Stirling, Mr Sweetland, Mr Nutch, Ms Shale, Mr Firminger, Mr Bell and Coach Kobia. Our teachers are supported by our new TAs who have joined the team: Ms Begum, Ms Kupperman and Ms Honour.

The new school year at Whitehall Park has started really well. The children have come back to school with great excitement and we have been impressed with their enthusiasm and engagement with their learning.

Sadly, as you know, Marion Piacenza, our Office Manager is moving on. She will be very much missed by the whole school community, but we wish her all the very best for the future. Our amazing PTCA have organised a wonderful picnic at the school for staff, parents and children to attend on Wednesday 15th September. More details can be found further below.

Yesterday and today the Meet the Teacher meetings for Years 1 and 2 were well attended. Other Year groups will have similar meetings next week so please do try to make these. Due to ongoing Covid-19 precautions these meetings were held in the school hall, but we look forward to welcoming parents back into school at some point in the future.

We wish you all an enjoyable weekend!

Mr Ridley, Mrs Coyle & Ms Seymour

Prospective Parent Tours

We are so pleased to announce that we have scheduled our in person school tours for prospective parents! Tours are by booking only so please visit our website to book a slot:
<https://www.whitehallparkschool.co.uk/events/>

Marion's Farewell Picnic

Date: Wednesday 15th September. 3:30-5pm.

Parents & Carers arrive at normal pickup time (3:30pm) from either gate. Please wait outside in the playground until directed by staff. Please be considerate of dismissal that will be going on at the same time by standing to one side.

Children who will not be doing clubs can stay within the premises during the outdoor party, and later leave with their usual parent or carers.

As per COVID-19 protocol, we are unable to provide refreshments so please bring your own picnic foods and drink.

We're looking forward to this small get together and really hope this will be the start of many family gatherings this year. Fingers crossed!

Meet the Teachers Sessions

Meet the teacher sessions are under way and are going great. These will take place in our well ventilated hall. Below are the remaining sessions:

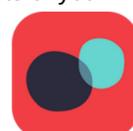
Monday 13th Sept - Year 3
Tuesday 14th Sept - Year 4
Thursday 16th Sept - Year 5
Friday 17th Sept - Year 6

All sessions will run from 3:45-4:45pm. An electronic version of the session will also be circulated in due time for those who were unable to attend.

We kindly ask that you wear a face covering and sanitise your hands on arrival.

SCOPAY - School Dinner App

This year we have a new catering company who will be supplying our school dinners. The London Borough of Islington provides free school meals to all children. We have adopted a new school lunch booking app, SCOPAY. It's great to see so many of you engaged with it and choosing meals with your children. If you are having any technical difficulties please send over screenshots of your error messages to the office so we can help.



Things to Remember!

- Both school gates are open from 8:45-8:55am. If your child arrives after this time please bring them to the office and sign them in. If assembly is taking place in the morning you will need to stay with your child in the office area until assembly has ended. Please ensure you are punctual for school as this can heavily impact learning time.
- If there are any changes to who will be picking up your child after school, please inform the Office via email or phone no later than 2:30pm each day.
- Class timetables are available to view on our website <https://www.whitehallparkschool.co.uk/timetables/>
- Lost property will be put out in the playground every home time for you to look through. Please ensure all items that your child brings to school are clearly labelled with names so we can easily return them to you.
- If your child has a PE lesson or physical activity after school club, then they are welcome to wear their PE kit to school rather than uniform. We understand and appreciate the inconvenience of changing multiple times a day.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION



Extended School Provision

Our Extended School Provision has resumed from this week. Reception children will be able to join clubs from Monday 13th.

For Breakfast Club doors open at 7:40 and close at 8:25 with the last serving being at 8:30. The cost for this is of £3 per session.

All After School Clubs start at 3:30 and end at 4:35, pick up time is 4:40. For Reception, Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3 we use the Ashmount Road gate for dismissal; for Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 we use the Hornsey Lane Gate.

If your children are signed up for a physical activity, it is recommended that they wear their PE kit to school – they do not require specific gear for Ballet, Zumba or Capoeira.

Our Twilight session runs from 4:45 with the last pick up at 5:15. The cost for this is of £3 per session.

We still have some spaces available in our Extended School Provision, so please contact Miss Angela Volpe on extendedschools@whitehallparkschool.org.uk and/or 02075610113 extension 2.

We've had a great start to the term with PE! Everyone has been putting in maximum effort and enthusiasm which has been so inspiring to see. The children will be learning two different sports activities per term.

Year 5 and 6 will be focusing on tag rugby and health related fitness.

Years 1 - 4 will be also looking at health related fitness, in addition to tennis. Whilst Reception will be focusing on hand to eye co-ordination/ throwing and catching.

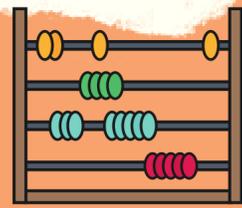


Celebrations of EYFS



We have been enjoying our time settling in this week. We have been exploring resources inside and outside the classroom, building friendships and learning classroom rules.

We're all excited for this new adventure!



Celebrations of KS 1

Year 1

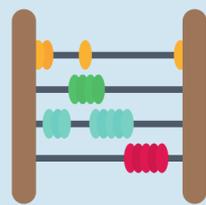
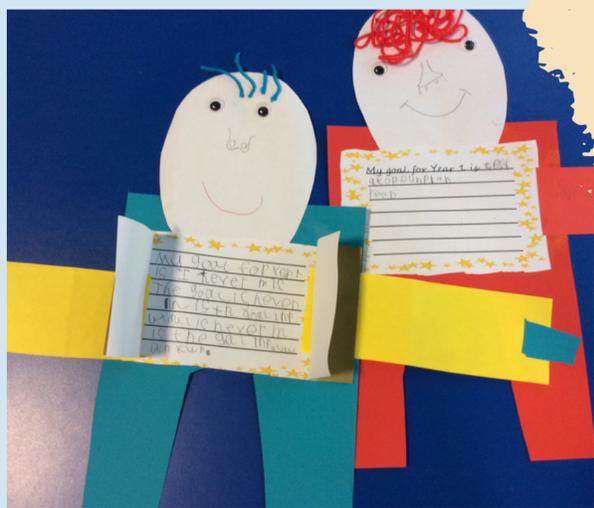


We created timelines of events and talked in our groups about which events we thought happened the longest time ago.



This week we made paper people and thought about targets which we would like to achieve during our time in Year 1.

We also have been learning to use tens frames to find the number bonds to 10.



We went into the woodland area to explore and we talked all about what history is.



Year 2 have started the year by exploring numbers to 100. We have been learning about tens and ones and practising making them using concrete resources. We have also learnt how to partition 2-digit numbers.

Year 2



This week Year 2 have been learning all about persuasion! They have been focusing on why we should not litter and delivered brilliant speeches for this.

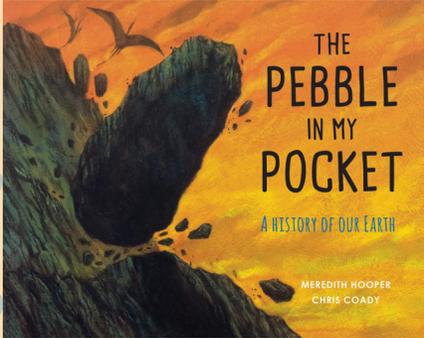
Year 2 have started looking at Stephen Wiltshire's sketches. This week we practised our sketching skills by drawing our partners. Year 2 were such great artists and models!



Celebrations of LKS 2

Year 3

This week in Year 3 the children have been immersed in their topic Stones and Bones. As part of this topic in English we started looking at a new text called Pebble in my Pocket. The story outlines how every pebble has its own story. The book traces the journey a pebble takes- from the moment the Earth first formed, to the moment you pick it up and put it in your pocket.



In computing the children have been learning how to navigate their way around Google Classroom and learnt how to use Times Tables Rock Stars.



In history the children have been focusing on the skill of chronology and understanding how the Stone Age fits into history. They have been learning about what prehistory is and how historians piece together history using fossils and artefacts.

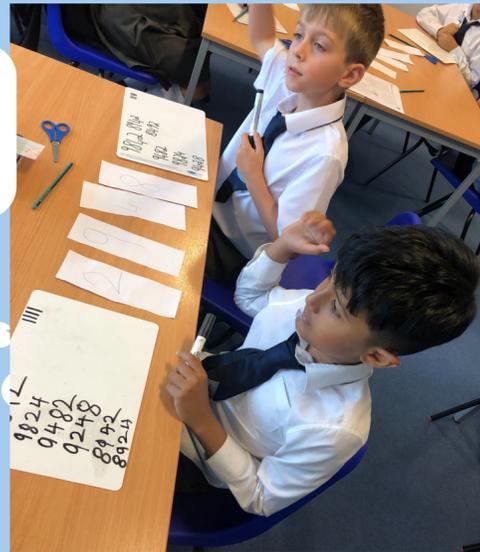


Across Year 3 the children have been engaging in some team building games to cement strong bonds and relationships in the classroom.

Year 4

In year 4 this week we have been playing dice games that help us learn about place value.

Year 4 spent time creating a class charter based on the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) which strives to ensure children's rights are acknowledged and upheld in every aspect of life.



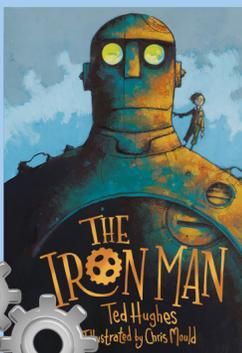
In English we have started reading The Iron Man and have been creating story maps of the first chapter.



In art we have been creating Picasso inspired self portraits



On Wednesday morning we had our first mindfulness assembly where we trained our brain to focus more.



Celebrations of UKS 2

Year 5

In art, we created self-portraits inspired by Roy Lichtenstein's dot technique. First, we traced over pictures of ourselves and then used paint and an ear bud to dot them helping us form our pictures with lots of dots! We are very pleased with the results!

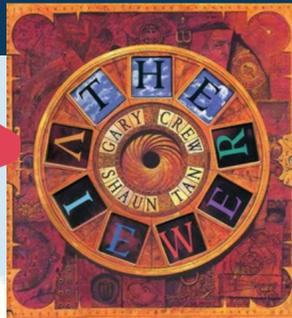


In English this week, we have been researching and planning to create a Greek Gods and Goddesses fact file. We focused on Zeus, Hera, Athena, Aphrodite, Hermes, and Poseidon who are all mentioned at points in our current text, 'The Adventures of Odysseus.'

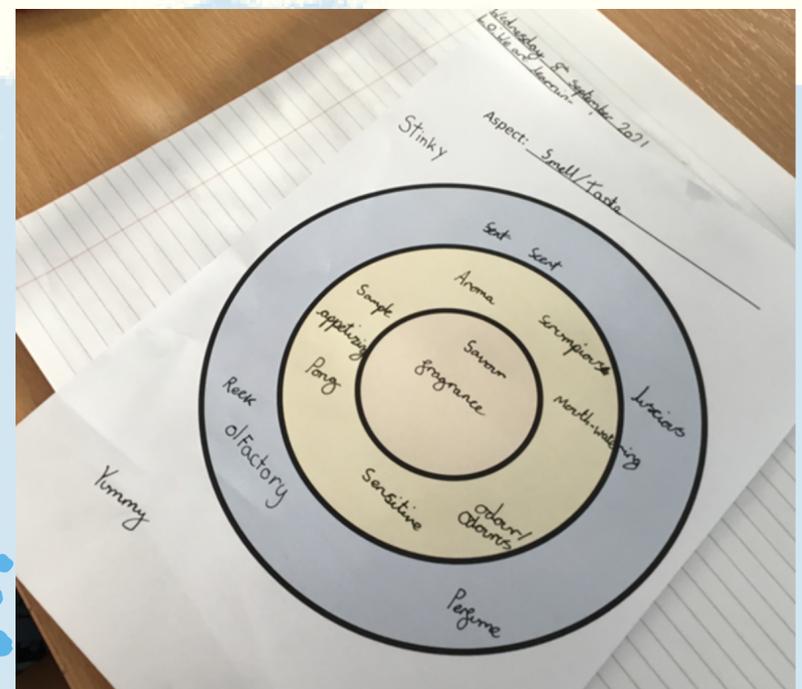


Year 6

Year 6 have made an excellent start to the school year and have impressed Mr Bell, Mrs Gilmour and Mrs Barry with their positivity, enthusiasm and maturity in their behaviour. We certainly look forward to appointing each member of year 6 with a role and responsibility in the forthcoming week so they can model this behaviour to children in the other year groups - applications opening soon!



Our book focus this term is The Viewer, an illustrated book about a boy whose curiosity leads him to explore the city dump. We are going to rewrite this as a chapter book and will start off with a descriptive scene setting. Today, we were wowed by year six researching different vocabulary that they could use to describe different aspects of the dump.



With words such as nauseating, ramshackle, repugnant and ominous, we are sure there are going to be some absolutely absorbing descriptions when we come to write them next week

GOLD AWARDS

Well done to everyone in Sage and Parsley class for brilliant settling in and demonstrating a great attitude to new learning in the class!

Amelia - Lavender - For always being a role model in behaviour and attitude towards her learning and looking after the classroom

William - Lavender - For independently challenged himself during handwriting. Well done!

Alice - Jasmine - For always trying her best in class and listening well.

Atticus - Basil - For always being a role model student
Awarded by Staff

Oskar - Chive - For having a positive attitude towards his writing.

Zoe - Rosemary - For showing kindness and setting an example.

Stanley - Myrtle - For always trying his best and for always contributing in class discussions.

Jack H - Clove - Outstanding effort with his writing!

Amani - Mint - Amani sung loudly and well in assembly and class. Not only this but her effort in class has been huge! She has worked so hard all week and is a brilliant role model in Mint Class

Hope - Chamomile - For always being ready to learn and striving to achieve in all lessons!

Anouk - Cinnamon - Anouk has demonstrated exceptional learning behaviours all week particularly modelling how to be an effective talk partner.

Helen - Nutmeg - Consistent hard work and good behaviour