

Whitehall Park School

LEARN, ENJOY, SUCCEED

Friday 29th September 2021

Tel: 0207 561 0113

Email: office@whitehallparkschool.org.uk

Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents, Carers and Community,

Another sunny week at Whitehall Park - well mostly sunny! Your wonderful children have thoroughly enjoyed their learning once again and our teaching team have been equally inspired.

Many thanks for all the positive messages and support for the new location of the scooter park. This has eased congestion in the EYFS outside provision area and made the start of the day easier for children. Please thank Michael Ryan, our great Premises Manager when you see him next. Watch this space for the planned bicycle rack!

Sadly, we say goodbye to Coach Kobia, who has decided to move on for personal reasons. You will be pleased to hear that I have, however, managed to persuade and coax Coach Jack back to Whitehall. He will be supporting teachers in our plan for a more sustainable model of PE lessons and sports across the school.

I am in the process of finalizing the school priorities for development with my senior leadership team and wider teaching staff. We will then be able to share the key areas with the whole school community.

We would welcome sharing good news from the whole school community so please feel free to let us know of any happy events, such as births, sporting or musical achievements, family celebrations and other joyous occasions.

Next week we will be introducing a new concept to support and encourage all children in their learning, happiness, and wellbeing at school. The Whitehall Way will encourage all children, from the very youngest to the oldest, to follow three simple principles at school. We learn. We are safe. We are kind. Everything we do and say at school is covered by these three simple principles and create a safe and happy learning environment for all.

Ms Tyler and Mr Ridley

COVID Symptoms and Testing

If your child is presenting any symptoms, please ensure they do a **PCR** test. LDF/Lateral Flow Testing is for prevention only. Please send your PCR results, whether it's positive or negative, to the main office email address.

School Street Consultation

In September 2020, as part of our commitment to make our streets safer, greener and healthier, Islington Council introduced a trial School Street. The School Street temporarily prevents cars from driving on Ashmount Road and Gresley Road during pick-up and drop off times. It operates Monday to Friday 8.30am to 9.15am, 3.15pm to 4pm.

Now we want to hear from your school community, local people, and businesses about how you think the trial is going and whether the changes should be made permanent. How can you take part in the consultation?

Drop in and speak to us. We will be at the Whitehall Park School entrance on Ashmount Road on Monday 27 September, 8.30am - 5.30pm

Visit <https://www.islington.gov.uk/schoolstreetsconsultation> from Friday 24 September to get access to the online questionnaire. The survey closes at 11.59pm on 24 October 2021.

The outcome of the questionnaire, consultation events, and the monitoring data will feed into any changes we make to the School Street and our final decision on making the trial permanent. We look forward to hearing your views.

Flu Vaccine

Our immunization day will take place on 24th November. We will send out communication closer to the date with details.

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/>



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



Year 1-4's have been developing their ability to make good contact with the ball in tennis, focusing on the forehand shot.

Year 5-6's have been working on passing accurately, under pressure in rugby.

For the second PE lessons, the children have been developing their ability to understand and perform a variety of exercises for their health-related fitness lessons.



Reception have been working on developing their underarm throws at targets at a variety of heights.



Black History Month 4th October – 22nd October

Black British Pioneers

Each year group will be celebrating Black History Month by learning about Black British pioneers in a different area of culture through art, history, geography and literacy lessons.

EYFS - Art

Year 1 – Sport

Year 2 – Music

Year 3 – Authors

Year 4 - Scientists/Inventors

Year 5 – Journalism

Year 6 – Politics

In week 1 children will learn about their focus person's journey to being a pioneer, the challenges that they faced, their achievements and success. What was their impact on the world? They will learn about their roots, the geography of where they came from and the physical and human features of that country.

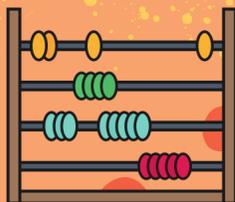
In week 2, children will complete a piece of writing about their pioneer, for example a diary entry written by the pioneer, a newspaper article or a letter written by the pioneer to someone in their lives about what they have achieved.

In week 3, children will complete art lessons based on the focus person's country of origin or their work. They will be taught PSHCE lessons, focusing on anti-racism.

This work will be displayed in our school and we will share the work the children have produced with you on our website.

The kitchen will be providing a special meal to celebrate Black History Month, every Thursday in October (07th, 14th, 21st).

Celebrations of EYFS



Reception have settled in to their class and have been busy discovering and exploring a variety of activities, working together and independently!



Celebrations of KS 1



Year 1

In Year 1 had lots of fun hot seating.

The children took turns taking on the role of an alien and we asked them questions all about life on their planet.

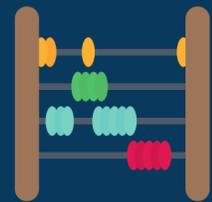


The children were great at using the question words; Who? What? Why? Where? When? and How?

We learned the difference between fiction and non-fiction texts.



In partners we searched for facts. We were very good at differentiating between a factual sentence and an opinion.



In Maths we practiced finding the difference between two numbers. We counted on the number line to check.



Year 2

In Art, we have been learning about the artist Stephen Wiltshire. He creates drawings on skylines by looking at the once and drawing from memory. To draw like Stephen, we first look at the shapes that make up building. We then went to the rooftop and drew the London skyline. We loved identifying the building we could see. Once we had drawn our landscape we then shaded in our pictures. We can't wait to keep drawing things around the school!



Last week Year 2 were given an exciting mission. They had to write a letter to Ms Tyler to persuade her to turn the roof top playground into a secret sky garden! Year 2 explored how it would make them feel, how it would develop them as learners and all of the things they would do there to build their argument. They explored this through discussion, drawing and drama and finally constructed their letters. They were absolutely brilliant and very persuasive. Watch this space!

In History we began thinking like historians! We played a game to identify whether sources were from the past, present or future. We talked about using sources as evidence and tried to infer information about our teachers by looking at items from their bags! Finally we talked about chronological order in relation to our school day. We practised ordering this in groups.



Celebrations of LKS 2

Year 3

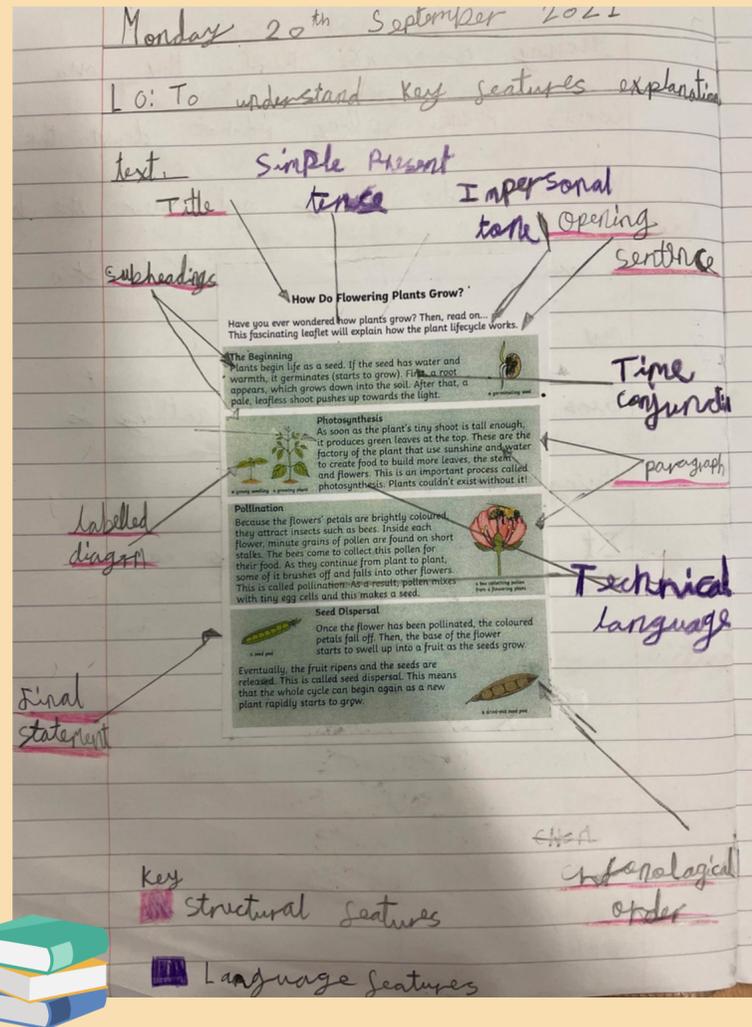
In Mathematics, Year 3 have been looking at how knowing our number bonds to 10 and 20 can help us with our calculations. Whilst still applying our knowledge of number bonds and known facts to help us, we have also been looking at how the calculation strategies of "round and adjust" to near multiples and near doubles can make us more efficient Mathematicians.



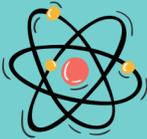
In science, the children have been looking at specimens of rocks and have been classifying them according to their characteristics. Children have learnt about the three different types of rock formations: sedimentary, igneous and metamorphic. Furthermore, they have conducted and devised experiments whereby they have compared rocks to see which types of rocks erode and to see which rocks are impermeable and permeable.



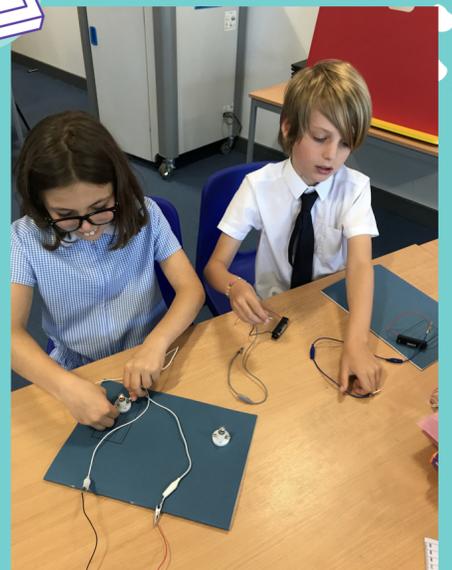
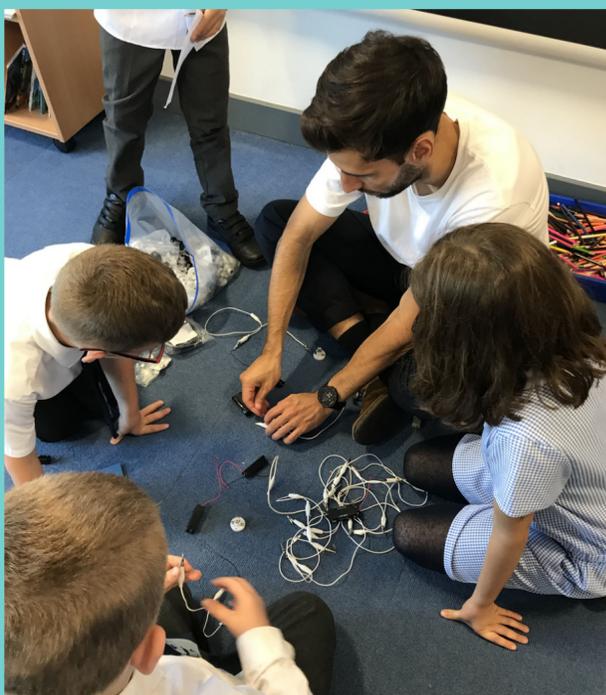
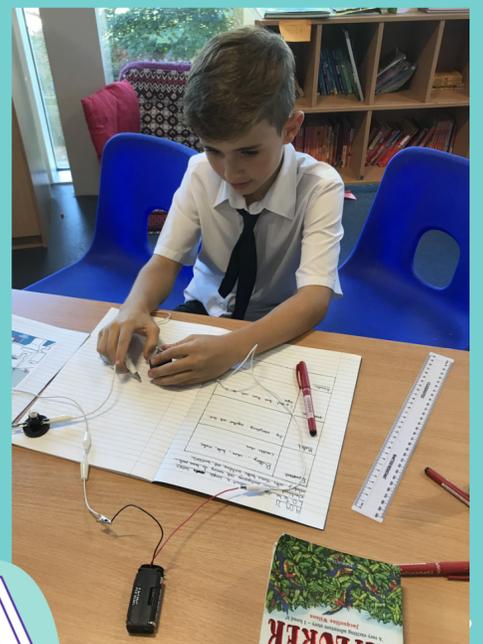
In English children have been identifying the key structural and language of an explanation text in preparation for writing their own explanation on the fossilisation process.



Year 4



'This week in Science, the children completed an electricity investigation: the children worked in pairs to construct a simple series electrical circuit, identifying and naming its basic parts, including cells, wires, bulbs, switches and buzzers.'

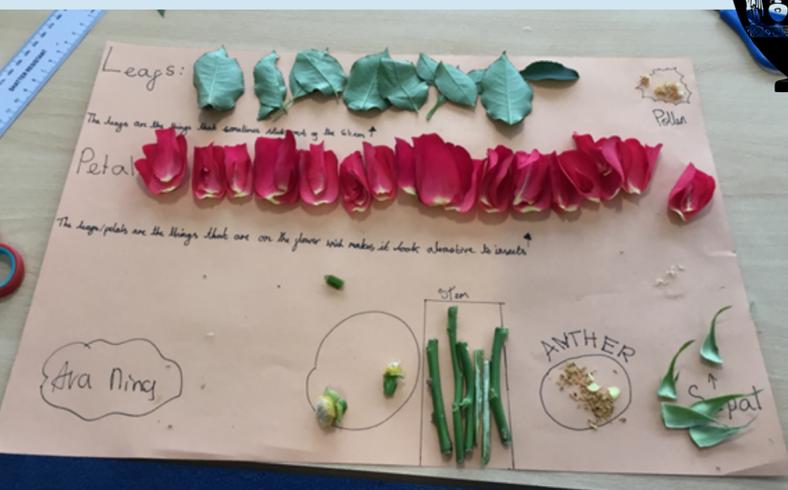


Celebrations of UKS 2



Year 5

Year 5 have been studying ancient Greece. The children created their own Greek City States, describing which ancient Greek innovations are the most important to their city, for instance Sport or Philosophy. They justified their choices and developed the history and culture of their city. We were also lucky enough to have the Ancient Greek god Athena join us for an afternoon. She wove wonderful stories heroes as well as hubris and had all of the children joining in. She shared all kinds of secrets about the Ancient Greeks, but I think some of mint class might have given her a run for her money when it came to their knowledge of Mythology.



In science we undertook a investigation to find the reproductive organs of a rose. Choosing the best tool for the task the children dissected each part of the plant and carefully labelled it. Spotting the difference between the Stamen and Stigma is hard! Can you tell them apart?

Year 6

In literacy, the children applied all the skills we developed over the past week and applied them to a descriptive scene setting. At the end of the week, the children also conducted peer assessment of their work. This can be challenging as they had to read their talk partner's work to them whilst simultaneously trying to retrieve examples of where they had met the success criteria. The final stage of this process which helps to build their metacognition, is to reflect on what they had done well and what they could focus on developing next time. We approached this in the form of two stars and one wish. After writing their wish, we agreed it as a next step for their writing



In PSHE the children have learned about zones of emotional regulation. It is really important for us to understand the signals our bodies are giving us towards our emotional state so that we can take actions to regulate our emotions and make positive choices. The children have painted pebbles to represent themselves and to place and coloured buckets showing which emotional zone they are in for each session.



During the week, we had focused on addition and subtraction methods. The challenge for the children was to think of the different strategies they knew for efficient addition/subtraction. For example, rounding the numbers then adjusting them worked really well for numbers such as $9,998+2458$. We also considered when it might be appropriate to use these strategies to multi-step problems. At the beginning of this week, we also explored using different practical resources to represent decimal numbers.



GOLD AWARDS

Canaan - Sage - for being very helpful to her peers and demonstrating brilliant good manners in the class.

Aiden - Year 1 Jasmine - Aiden has tried hard with all of his tasks this week and has made a real effort to be sensible during learning time on the carpet. He has written some fantastic sentences!

Marcario - Year 1 Lavender - Marcario has impressed me so much with his attitude towards his learning and behaviour in class recently. Well done Marcario!

Nina - Year 1 Jasmine - Nina has made a great effort to improve the presentation of her work. She is now able to write 1 number in a square and keep her writing on the line.

Vesta - Year 2 Chive - For always being focused!

Hanan - Year 2 Chive - For always being on task and trying her best.

Teddy - Year 2 Basil - Supporting others

Umut - Year 3 Thyme - For being resilient with maths and for making super contributions in class and making good choices

Jason - Year 3 Rosemary - For teamwork and kindness

Hugo - Year 3 Rosemary - For being an independent learner and always being ready to accept a challenge.

Dreemm - Year 3 Thyme - For being very kind and helpful to staff and her peers

Amelie - Year 4 Clove - Amelie has shown great perseverance this week.

Ben P- Year 4 Clove - Great focus and enthusiasm for learning

Haseeb - Year 5 Mint - Kindness to flowers

Robinson - Year 5 Mint - Excellent focus and effort combined with wonderful behaviour.

Chloe - Year 5 Chamomile - For writing an excellent informal letter in role as Odysseus to Penelope. Well done, Chloe!

Ayaz - Year 6 Nutmeg - For having made such a wonderful contribution to Whitehall Park School.

Hugo - Year 6 Nutmeg - Showing such enthusiasm in maths and aiming high in his independent work.

Alisa - Year 6 Cinnamon - For such powerful use of language in writing this week.

Nieko - Year 6 Cinnamon - For showing incredible resilience in his learning during a difficult week.