

Whitehall Park School

LEARN, ENJOY, SUCCEED

Friday 22nd October 2021

Tel: 0207 561 0113

Email: office@whitehallparkschool.org.uk

Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

It's been an eventful first half of the Autumn term! Lots of new children and staff happily settled into new routines and life at Whitehall Park. Amongst other innovations, we have the Whitehall Way, we have a new and linked curriculum across the school, a new Phonics programme, a new PTA committee team and an exciting new plan for music teaching to start after half term. There will be a busy few weeks when we return. Monday 1 November is an INSET day for staff so do remember the school will be closed. Staff will be receiving professional development in reading, writing, positive behaviour and zones of regulation - a method of supporting and developing a child's self management of emotions. Autumn assessments across the school will take place over the first and second week. After these are marked and during the week of 15 November senior leaders and teachers will meet to look at this assessment data as part of ongoing analysis of individual and group pupil progress. This feeds into teachers' future planning and provides key information for the parent/teacher meetings (by zoom) on the afternoons and early evenings of 23th and 25th November - more details after half term.

Thank you all for your patient understanding as the school moves forward in these changeable times. Amanda Gorman, the American Youth Poet Laureate, in the Presidential inauguration address, inspired a nation to collaborate. I know as a school community, with the combined talents and aspirations of pupils, parents and staff, together we too can achieve great things.

*We are striving to forge a union with purpose,
to compose a country committed to all cultures, colors, characters, and conditions of man.
And so, we lift our gazes not to what stands between us,
but what stands before us.
We close the divide because we know, to put our future first,
we must first put our differences aside.
We lay down our arms so we can reach out our arms to one another.
We seek harm to none and harmony for all.*

Amanda Gorman, 2021

I wish you and your families a restful and safe half term break.

Miles

Black History Month

Whitehall Park has celebrated Black History Month by learning about Black British Pioneers in geography, history, art and literacy.



Year 1 - learnt about Marcus Rashford,
Year 2 - Trevor Nelson, Year 3 - Malorie Blackman, Year 4 - Mary Seacole, Year 5 - Trevor MacDonald
Year 6 - Altheia Jones-Leconte.

Please ask your children about their learning, I'm sure they will impress you with their knowledge.

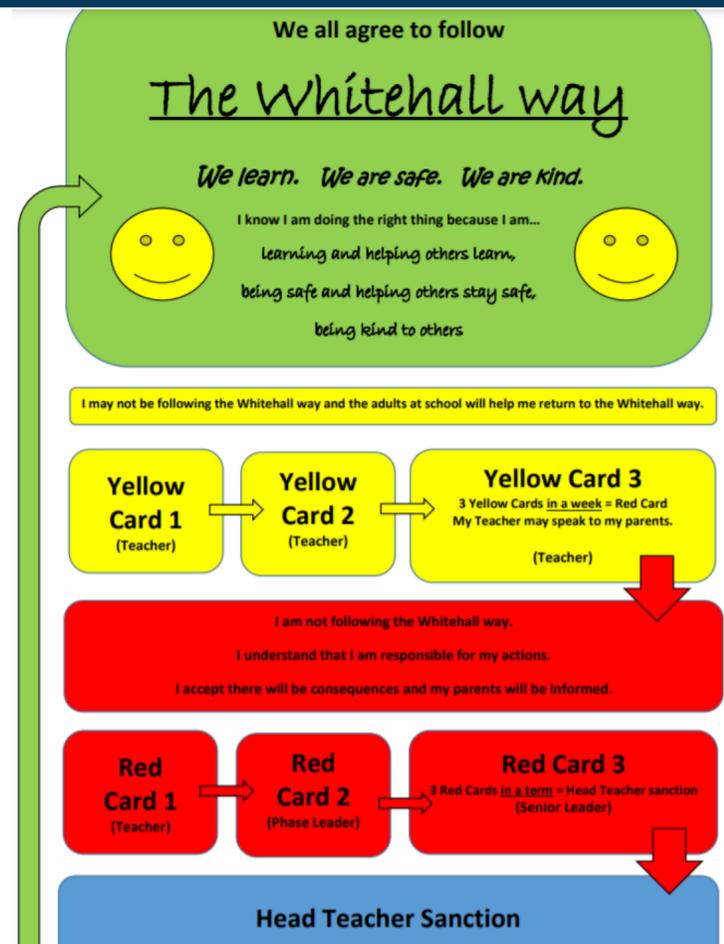
Year 4,5 and 6 had the privilege of taking part in a zoom workshop with the journalist Bryan Knight. He reflected on Altheia Jones-Leconte's story and also talked about the importance of oral history. As an oral historian, his work involves conducting and recording interviews with various people about their lives and past. They also heard a special message recorded for them by the journalist, Barbara Blake Hannah.

Ms Agatha treated us all to some delicious salt fish fritters which went down a treat with pupils and staff! The kitchen served a special meal to celebrate Black History Month of Caribbean Beef Curry, African Bean Stew and Jamaican Jerk style chicken, which the children thoroughly enjoyed.

As part of our Black History Month celebrations, we would like to invite children to come to school wearing their own clothes representing their cultural background. This event will happen on **Tuesday 2nd November**.

Flu Immunisation

Flu immunisation will take place at school Wednesday 24th November. Consent forms have been distributed to children. Please ensure you complete the form even if you **consent or do not consent** to nasal immunisation. All children must complete a form. As the nasal spray contains porcine, a pork derivative, If you would like to opt out of the nasal spray due to religious reasons, please contact the office for a flu injection consent form. The deadline to return consent forms is **Wednesday 10th November**



Things to Remember!

- 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.
- Lost property is kept in a trolley in the Office area and will be put outside the main door every day for retrieval of lost items. Please ensure every item is clearly labelled with your child's name so we can easily return to them.
- 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.



flu: 5 reasons to vaccinate your child



- 1. Protect your child**
The vaccine will help protect your child against flu and serious complications such as bronchitis and pneumonia
- 2. Protect you, your family and friends**
Vaccinating your child will help protect more vulnerable friends and family
- 3. No injection needed**
The nasal spray is painless and easy to have
- 4. It's better than having flu**
The nasal spray helps protect against flu, has been given to millions of children worldwide and has an excellent safety record
- 5. Avoid costs**
If your child gets flu, you may have to take time off work or arrange alternative childcare

For more information visit www.nhs.uk/child-flu

Celebrations of KS1

EYFS

As part of our learning about the Black History Month we have been researching Sir Frank's paintings and have created our own versions of 'runny' paintings inspired by his art techniques. In addition, we have read the story 'Handa's Surprise' by E. Browne and made African necklaces and looked at a variety of fruits from the story.



We have also talked about our bodies and how we can stay active and why it is important. We have read the story 'Funnybones' by J. and A. Ahlberg, learned about human bones and joined in with singing and dancing to the 'Skeleton bones' song.

This week we planned and wrote letters to the Prime Minister! First we discussed issues that we were passionate about and thought Boris Johnson might be able to help with, such as littering and homelessness. We then planned our letter orally and written to conjure up more ideas!



Year 1

In PE we have been doing lots of team building which helps us with skills that we can transfer into the classroom. We had to follow instructions, listen to our friends and work as a team to play lots of different games.

Also, some hand prints which we created after learning about racism and the need to stand united against racism.

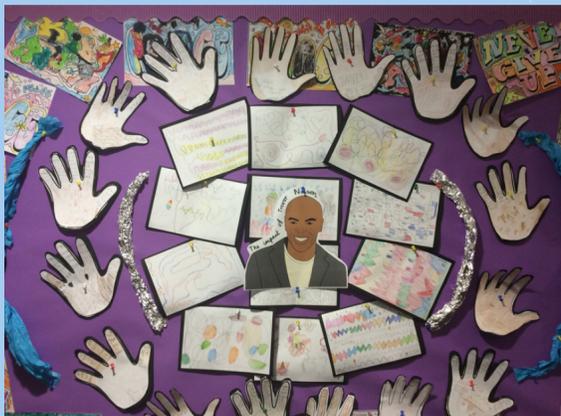


For Black History Month we studied a young, great pioneer - Marcus Rashford. While being a great football player he has been a great inspiration and role model for thousands around the world.

Here are some photos of the students cooking and eating salt fish fritters for BHM.



Year 2



In English we have had a Black History Month focus. Our British pioneer is Trevor Nelson! We have been developing our understanding of what Trevor Nelson achieved in the music industry and had some fun acting out interviews with him. Year 2 then wrote some brilliant interviews using second person and colons! We are super impressed with them.



In Maths we have been using bar models to represent addition and subtraction problems. We have developed our understanding of a part whole model to visualise a problem before we solve it! We have been using manipulatives, collaborative work and practical jottings to support us with this learning. Year 2 have been explaining their problems using mathematical vocabulary and using bar models to calculate missing parts of number sentences.



Celebrations of LKS 2



Year 3

In Science, we have been looking how soil is formed and what it is composed of. To see the different layers for ourselves, we went into the nature area at school and filled a jar halfway with soil. We then mixed it with water. After letting it settle overnight, we could see the different layers of the soil!



As we are also studying fossils, this week we watched an interactive live lesson called Museum Escape with Steve Backshall. It was live from the Natural History Museum! We helped Steve and a group of young paleontologists find clues to help us catch an evil fossil hunter



For Black History Month, our chosen author is Malorie Blackman. As her parents came from Barbados, in Art we decided to paint the Barbadian flag along with some other Caribbean flags. We loved it and we will put some of our great work on display!



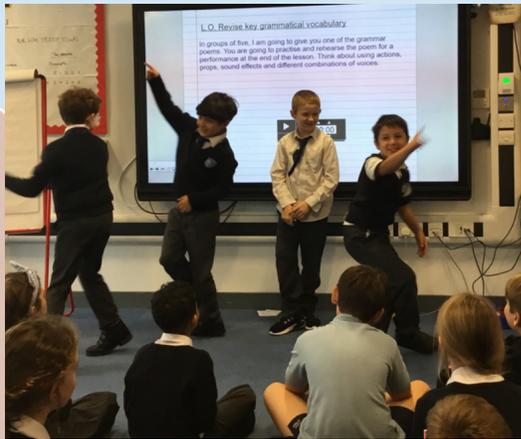
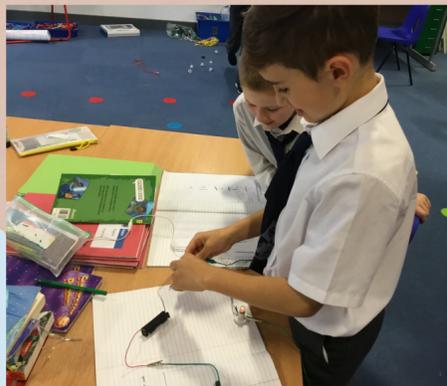
SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS



A team of year 3 boys went to the BPET football tournament on Tuesday and performed well against tough opposition from the other trust schools.

Although we did not win, the children represented the school well and a special mention should go to Tehray for being top goalscorer of the whole tournament with 9 goals. Thanks to Coach Jack and Ms. Kupperman for taking the team!

In science we looked at how adding more light-bulbs or batteries effect a circuit.



In English we wrote a biography on Mary Seacole and performed poems to help us revise key grammatical vocabulary.

The best woman who ever Lived!

Mary Seacole (Born Mary Jane Grant) was a British Jamaican healer. She was famous for what she did in the Crimean war. She wasn't allowed to go to the Crimea as a nurse but she went anyway and helped thousands of soldiers.

Her begining
She was born in 1805 the 23rd of November. Her mother was a famous healer and her dad was a scotch soldier. She grew up and was born in Kingston, Jamaica. When she moved to England, she faced racism.

First Army Pre-arrival
She returned to Jamaica with a white husband Edwin Seacole. After 8 years Edwin died, Mary was heart-broken. A few years later her mother also died. Mary was not very happy at this time. Lots of family that belong to her were dying. She was only 16.

Year 4

Soldier Saver

Mary Seacole (Born Mary Jane Grant) was a British Jamaican healer. She was a determined hero who overcame the horrible racism, and saved thousands of soldiers.

The Begining

She was born in 1805 in Kingston, Jamaica. Her Mum was a black gamouze healer, and her dad was a white scotch soldier. Mary used to watch her mother and then use the medicine on her doll. 'The simplest remedies were perhaps the best'.

Adventure begins and Family Ends

In 1821, Mary travelled to England at age 16. She enjoyed it but faced racism. When she returned to Jamaica she made her own business selling items to other countries. After that, she decided to become a healer. She married Edwin Seacole in 1836 but she was only with him for 8 years and then shortly after her mother died too.

The War Begins

In 1853, The war began. Mary read about Florence Nightingale, a nursing nurse so Mary travelled to England to apply for being a nurse, but got rejected because of her skin color.

To accompany our learning on Mary Seacole, Myrtle class produced some Jamaican flag art.



Celebrations of UKS2

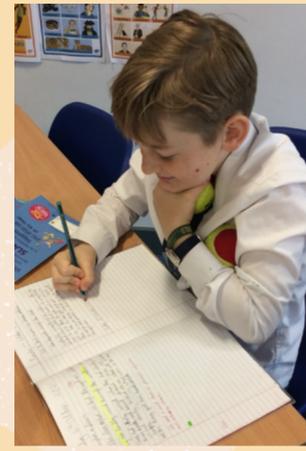
Year 5

We created travel brochures for Sir Trevor MacDonald's home country of Trinidad and Tobago. We learnt about the culture he came from and his journey to overcome stigma and become a New Icon.

We explored the various problems and troubles that refugees face in their journeys. Then we looked at how we could help refugees by giving some of our time or resources in order to unburden them of their problems and allow them to stand a better chance of a great life.

Our refugee Freddie is struggling to write the date because of all the "troubles" he has accumulated fleeing from his home country.

In PSHE we investigated rewards and why we do certain things. Is everything for a chance at getting a dojo?



Year 6

The Year 6s put their craft skills to the test. They created cushions with personalised covers and used an interesting marbling technique and sewing.



SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Raphy from year 4 was presented an award by the Islington Mayor for his Summer Reading Challenge achievements. This is the 5th year Raphy has received this accolade! Well done!



Our first bake sale of the year! Thank you to the Friends of WPS (PTA) for organising and bringing back the school spirit. Hopefully this is the first of many more school events to come!

GOLD AWARDS

Robin - Year 2 Basil - For out of this world contributions

Aiyana - Year 2 Chive - For being an amazing part of Chive class.

Isaac - Year 2 Chive - For always thinking outside of the box.

Izzy - Year 6 Cinnamon - For brilliant collaboration and inclusive talk partner behaviour.

Emir - Year 4 Clove - Outstanding work in English. Emir wrote an excellent biography of Mary Seacole this week.

Saara - Year 4 Clove - Outstanding effort in learning both at school and at home

Arya - Year 1 Jasmine - For always listening carefully to instructions and trying her best to work independently.

Michael - Year 1 Lavender - Michael has been really concentrating and become independent with his learning!

Nimah - Year 3 Rosemary & Thyme - For adapting to a huge change.

Libby - Year 3 Rosemary & Thyme - For showing patience and resilience.

Ken - Year 5 Mint - for amazing diligence in his art and emotional intelligence in situations that required bravery.

Miley - Year 5 Mint - for improving her handwriting and going above and beyond in her RE lesson and displaying impeccable behaviour