

Whitehall Park School

LEARN, ENJOY, SUCCEED

Friday 28th January 2022

Tel: 0207 561 0113

Email: office@whitehallparkschool.org.uk

Message from the Senior Leadership Team

Dear Parents, Children and Families,

We have had a very busy start to the year, with the children all enjoying their Spring term topics and teachers are in the process of planning some wonderful trips and visits as well as engaging in some exciting special experience days to give the children meaningful experiences which will bring the learning to life. Already the Year 6 classes have led a protest on Climate Change around the playground, the Reception classes have been transformed into planetariums and everyone is getting ready to celebrate National Storytelling Week next week.

At the beginning of the term we reintroduced the School Council, each class elected their representative and they are meeting regularly with Miss Taylor to discuss how we can improve life here at Whitehall Park School. Already they have been discussing some exciting ideas to improve the outdoor environment and having a wildlife focus for the Nature Area. These ideas include, introducing bug hotels and bird houses, continuing to improve the outside area by adding more plants and composting with left-over food from the school kitchen (when there is any!) We are really looking forward to seeing these ideas being out into action.

We are currently reviewing our school behavior policy, the Senior Leadership Team has started to gather thoughts and opinions our pupils across the school to evaluate and identify what is working well, as well as steps we need to take to improve school life in the classroom and on the playground. We have already been very impressed and extremely proud of how well our children can share their views and articulate their opinions and ideas and look forward to sharing the reviewed policy with you soon.

During Friday's assemblies we are celebrate the class with the highest attendance in each phase (EYFS, Key Stage 1, Lower Key Stage 2 and Upper Key Stage 2). Please do take a look at the statistics below, to see who our weekly winners were.

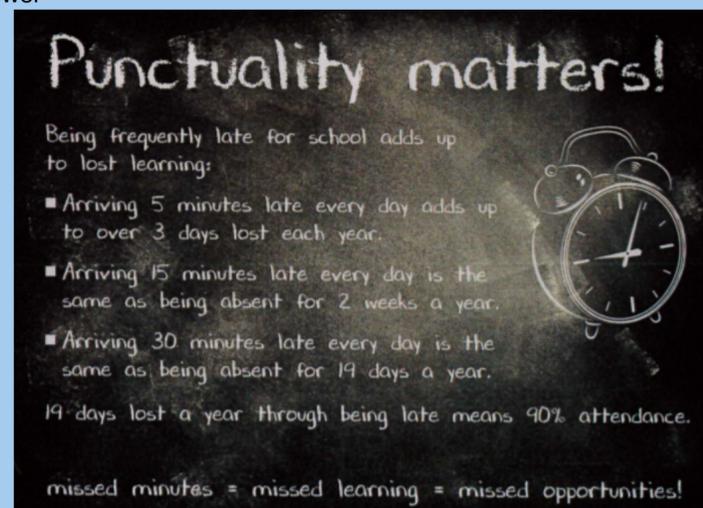
We would like to remind you of the importance of arriving to school on time. Arriving to school 5 minutes late every day can add up to 3 days lost of learning each year. We understand and appreciate that some mornings may be tricky however this can have a negative impact on your child's learning and attainment so please try your best to arrive to school on time.

We would also like to remind you that the last day of half-term is **Friday 11th February**. Home time will remain as the usual 3:30pm pick up and our after school clubs will be running as usual. Children will be expected back at school on Tuesday 22nd February as Monday 21st is INSET day and the school will be closed to pupils

Finally, we have a vacancy on our LAB committee for a Parent representative to join our fantastic team. If you are interested or know anyone who may be interested in a role within our LAB committee, please ask them to get in touch with a member of the Senior Leadership Team! Your school needs you!

Wishing you a restful weekend!

Ms Hatch, Mrs Coyle and Ms Seymour
The Senior Leadership Team



Holocaust Memorial Day

Whitehall Park children attended an assembly with Natasha Kaplinsky and Ed Balls to commemorate the Holocaust Memorial Day. We learnt about we can learn from the past to be better for the future, in a society based on tolerance and respect, free from prejudice, discrimination and hatred. We painted stones which will form part of a giant memorial for the Holocaust.

Extended Schools

Breakfast club – opens at 7:40am and ends at 8:30am
Please note that the last entry for breakfast club is at 8:25am – the kitchen stops serving breakfast at 8:30am, therefore children who arrive later than this time will not be able to get any breakfast. If you will be arriving to breakfast club after this time, please make sure your child has already had breakfast at home.

After School Club – children will have a light snack at 3:25pm – clubs start at 3:40pm and end at 4:40pm.

Twilight – starts at 4:40pm and ends at 5:10pm with latest pick up at 5:15pm

Please note that if you book your child on Ad-Hoc after school club you must let the office know no later than 2pm.

A Message from the School Council

Hello Parents and Carers!

Over the last two weeks we have been looking at how we can make the playground safer and more enjoyable as well as how we can help wildlife in our school.

Ideas suggested to make the playground better include; ordering more equipment, adding more foursquare courts, allowing fewer people in the MUGA and adding AstroTurf to the Muga. Ideas for helping wildlife were; adding bird houses and bird feeders, adding a duck pond, planting flowers and making animal habitats.

SLT have agreed that these are excellent ideas and are currently in the process of finding ways to make our playground safer and more enjoyable.

James - Year 6
School Council Secretary

Things to Remember

- Office phone lines are open from **8am-5:15pm**. If you are calling outside of this time please leave a voicemail or email OfficeTeam@whitehallparkschool.org.uk and will follow up your query.
- Please ensure all your child's belongings are clearly labelled with their names. If you are missing any items of uniform, please check the lost property box located near the Office.
- Please ensure you book your children's school dinners on the Scopay app every Wednesday for the following week. Remember to inform the Office of any dietary changes.
- The Spring calendar will be attached to this email listing important upcoming events at school
- Term dates for next academic year are available to view [here](#).



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COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD



Stamp Collection

Stamp Collecting is a fun and interesting way to introduce children to many different aspects of places, people, history and much more.

There will shortly be an International Stamp Exhibition at the Business Design Centre, Islington and entry is free from 20th to 26th February. Stamp Active has a Youth Zone and we will be giving away a Goodie Bag containing a stamp album, mounts, stamp collecting guide, stamps, first day covers, activity books etc. to youngsters.

We will also be giving up to 100 children, free vouchers, worth £20, to spend with dealers at the show (limited number each day). There will also be fun activities including stamp art projects and a lucky dip. Displays of stamps will be there from all over the world. Everyone is welcome.

For more information, go to the Stamp Active website www.stampactive.co.uk



St Andrew's Meals

Whitehall Park School are keen to support this local charity working to feed hungry children across Archway. 43% of children in Islington are living in poverty and many children don't have access to food at home.

St Andrew's Meals is a great community charity that provides long life dinner kit boxes free of charge to local schools and children's centres. This way, teachers can give a box to a child to take home whenever they spot the need.

There are 4 main recipe boxes - curry, spaghetti bolognese, tuna pasta, and tacos and a kettle box for those in emergency accommodation. Each box generously feeds a family of 4 and costs the charity about £6 to put together.

Charities rely heavily on the generosity of the public. If you are able to support St Andrew's Meals to ensure families are able to eat, please scan the QR code to visit their website or click the link below for more information.

https://standrewsn19.org/Groups/367723/St_Andrews_Meals.aspx



Beat the Street

Islington is going to be transformed into a giant game and our school is invited to play!

Beat the Street is a free, fun, walking and cycling game which gets staff, pupils and their families out and about in the local area, having fun and keeping healthy. The Islington game runs from **23rd March to 4th May 2022**.

Beat the Street is designed to get children and communities moving by helping people to make small changes, such as walking or cycling to school every day, to improve health and help embed physical activity into everyday life. So far 1.5 million people and 4,000 schools have taken part in games across the UK and beyond. Evidence shows that the programme really helps adults and children become more active.

More information on the instructions of the game will be sent out soon.

BX Activities Sports Camp

This February, the BX Activities Super Camp will be returning! We have an action packed, fun filled week planned to keep your children active over half-term! We have both our football and Multi activity camps running, both packed full with exciting activities! We will of course have our inflatables returning along with plenty of daily challenges!

The camp will be held at Whitehall Park School and available for all children from Reception – Year 7.

February: Half-Term– Monday 14th February – Friday 18th February 2022 9.30 - 3.00pm
Optional early club (8.30am start = £6) and late club (4.00pm finish = £6). £10 for both (daily rates).

£120 for the full week. £30 per daily space

To book a place, please email BXactivities@gmail.com



Parents 5-aside Football

A group of WPS parents are looking to set up a weekly 5 aside football for parents.

If you are interested, please leave your contact details on this form <https://forms.gle/VZYudnjaJoB8KHPY7> to be added to a group chat and find the best day and time to play!



Join New London Children's Choir and develop your singing and musical skills.
Rehearsals every Sunday afternoon at All Hallow's, Gospel Oak.

Are you aged between 7 and 18?

Do you like to sing?



www.newlondonchildrenschoir.org.uk

For more info contact membership@newlondonchildrenschoir.org.uk

EYFS



On Monday, both Reception classes received an email which had pictures of an alien wondering around our school - it had made an incredible mess on the roof terrace!

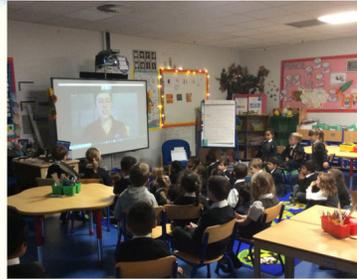


We mixed shaving foam with paint and painted on tin foil to observe and talk about what happens to the paint. During our creative explorations, we also looked at 'The Starry Night' by Van Gogh and have started to make our own versions of the picture.



Some of us decided to draw pictures of what the alien might look like, using our phonic knowledge to write labels and captions to describe the alien to others. In our creative area, we have been exploring using different mediums to create artwork.

In Year 1 we had the exciting opportunity to talk to a lady who works at NASA in Houston. We learnt lots of things about space and astronauts and had the opportunity to ask her questions. We found out that all of the equipment in the space rockets has to be clipped down so it doesn't float and that some astronauts are able to grow lettuce in space!



In Maths we have started learning about fractions, we folded paper squares to find halves and quarters and shared out counters with our friends.

Year 1

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

We are very excited to share our new crowdfunding project with you! We are aiming to raise £1,500 to put towards buying some LEGO Steam Park Sets which will be used in the Reception, Year 1 & Year 2 classes and during a LEGO afterschool club which will be run by Miss Thomson.

We would love it if you could donate using the link below to access our project page. Any contribution large or small will be hugely appreciated.

<https://www.rocketfund.org/p/early-years-key-stage-1-lego-steam-park-sets>



We have enjoyed starting a new book this week during English; How to Catch a Star by Oliver Jeffers. The children created freeze frames for the character and will be writing diary entries about his day.



Year 2

In English this week, we started our new book which is Leo and the Octopus. We have been looking at how Leo and the octopus are similar and what connects them together. We brainstormed our ideas and created paper chains to show the connection the two characters have.

In PSHE, we picked an animal that we related to the most and drew ourselves as that animal.

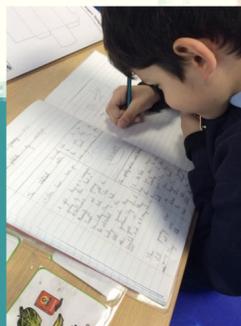
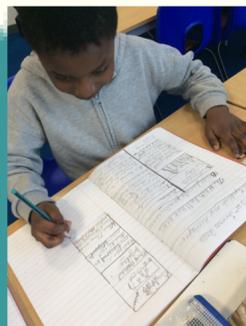
In Maths, we have started to learn about fractions. So far, we have learnt about halves and quarters. The children made groups and split them in half before practising with the cubes.



We also drew the other half of some pictures!



As Ancient Egypt is our topic this half term, we each made our own mini sarcophagus in Art. We even drew Ancient Egyptian hieroglyphics on them!



We had our own set of journalists at Whitehall Park School this week! Year 3 wrote an article on the incredible journey made by a family of refugees fleeing their war-torn country



As part of Holocaust Memorial Day, we each painted a stone to remember those who lost their lives during the Holocaust and other genocides around the world.



Year 4

In Year 4 this week, we have been continuing our work with Beowulf. We have been comparing the story with the 1998 film, particularly focusing on Grendel's mother and thinking of our own Kennings and alliterative phrases to describe her.



In history we have been researching Anglo-Saxon Shields and coming up with our own designs! We are hoping to create bigger versions of our designs using cardboard in the future!

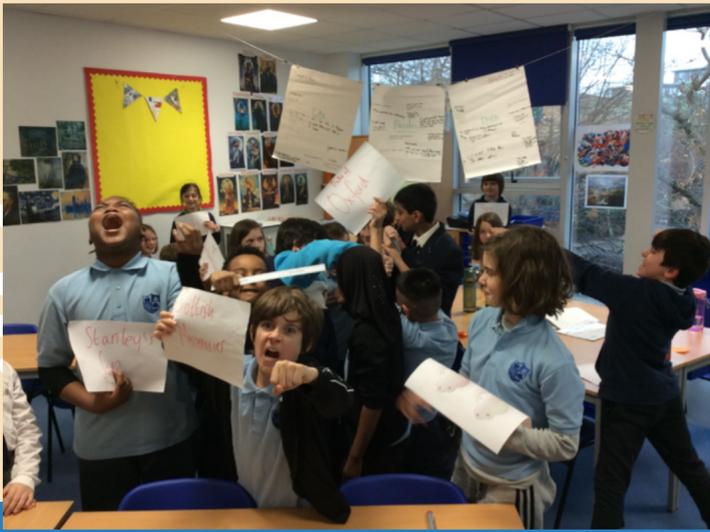


Year 5 recreated the Battle of Bosworth, the pivotal battle in which Henry Tudor took the throne and started the Tudor Dynasty. His son would grow up to be the famous Henry VIII. The kids loved hearing the story, especially the infamous betrayal of Lord Stanley.

Year 5

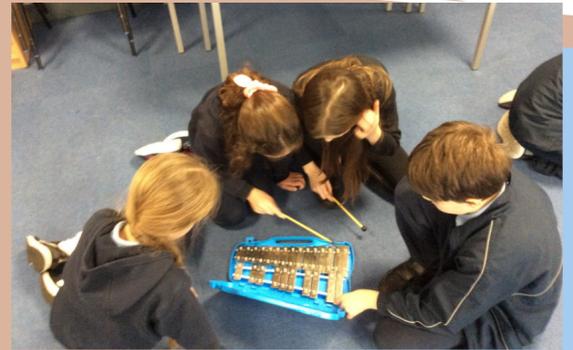


In Mathematics we explored angles around the classroom with home-made angle makers.

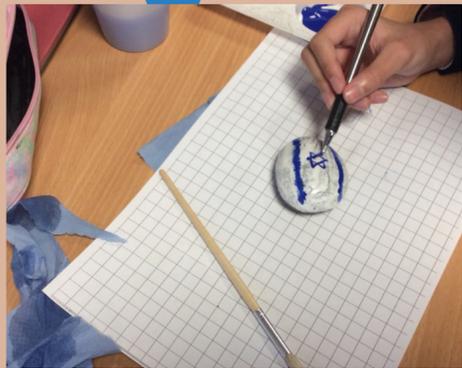
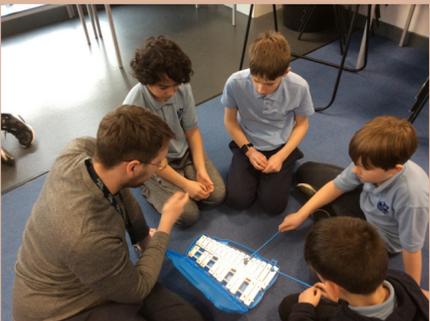


Year 6

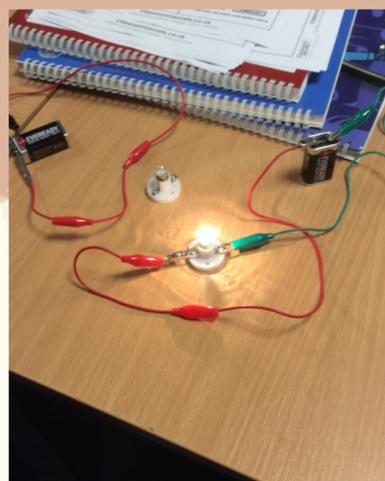
For DT the children have been looking at sustainability and researching which products and materials are sustainable and which aren't. The children conducted research on laptops to assess the sustainability of a Nike trainer. The children had to analyse all aspects of the trainer and identify the materials they were made of and whether they were sustainable.



In PE the children have been working on their fitness and this week strength. The children completed circuits and even devised their own fitness regime.



This week in Science the children were looking at volts and current and they had to devise their own circuits and test whether the voltage of a cell effects the brightness of a bulb.



In Geography Year 6 have been looking at the impact of climate change and what they can do slow to down the process. This week the children have been look at the myths surrounding climate change and producing an infographic refuting them.



GOLD AWARDS

Everyone in Sage Class - For creating their own story map related to our class story and using their developing phonic knowledge to label it. Sage class also listened attentively and made a good class discussion.

Conor - Reception Parsley - for fantastic independent writing

Jainna - Reception Parsley - always being kind and thoughtful towards others

Tahr Year 1 Jasmine - Tahr has been trying really hard during English time this week, he has thought carefully about his own story and done some great sounding out to write it!

Eleanor Year 1 Lavender - Eleanor has been working hard in class, paying attention and completing tasks to the best of her ability. Well done Eleanor!

Anna Year 1 Jasmine - Anna has been a superstar at following instructions this week, she has listened closely to what she needs to do to complete each task successfully. Well done Anna!

Scout - Year 2 Chive - For showing respect.

Ellie - Year 2 Basil - Continuing to challenge herself

Shirel Year 2 Chive - For being an excellent role model!

Archie Year 2 Chive - For being resilient in English.

Sahsenem - Year 3 Rosemary & Thyme - For showing compassion to others.

Samara - Year 3 Rosemary & Thyme - For her resilience with division this week!

Emmanuel - Year 4 Myrtle - For being resilient during math lessons

Melanie - Year 4 Myrtle - For showing resilience and independence in her work

Karim - Year 4 Clove - for resilience and relentless positivity

Kymani - Year 5 Chamomile - For writing an excellent diary entry in role as Jacques Francis, including all features from our class success criteria! Well done!

Ava - Year 5 Chamomile - For sketching an amazing portrait of Anne of Cleves using shading and showing resilience in swimming!



WPS SCHOOL COUNCIL

Class	Class Rep 1	Class Rep 2
Lavender	Franky	Genisia
Jasmine	Taylor	Lake
Chive	Oliver	Ines
Basil	Oscar	Zoe
Rosemary/Thyme	Santiago	Emily
Myrtle	Anna	Ismail
Clove	Mickey	Beau-Blue
Chamomile	Louis	Famke
Mint	Stefan	Coco
Nutmeg	Shafee	Sameer
Cinnamon	Billiemay	Margot
School Council Secretary	James	

CLASS ATTENDANCE

Class	Year Group	Attendance
Parsley	Reception	92.8%
Sage	Reception	94.1%
Jasmine	Year 1	98.2%
Lavender	Year 1	90.3%
Basil	Year 2	98.9%
Chive	Year 2	98.3%
Rosemary & Thyme	Year 3	97.2%
Clove	Year 4	97.4%
Myrtle	Year 4	98.0%
Mint	Year 5	88.1%
Chamomile	Year 5	93.7%
Nutmeg	Year 6	92.7%
Cinnamon	Year 6	94.8%