

Whittington

Warbler



Autumn Term 2022





The end of a term brings with it a time to look back at the successes of the term and to look forward to the improvements to be implemented in the term ahead. As always, we started our school year by welcoming in new children and families, be it in Nursery or Reception, or into other year groups across school. This term, we have also had to say good bye to long-standing families that have moved away to other schools.

The start of November brought about a move from being a Local Authority school to becoming an Academy. We were welcomed with open arms, into a bigger family of schools in the JTMA and both staff and children are already reaping the benefits. Whilst there have been many positive changes, which are shared later in this issue, I am sure that you will agree that the things we hold dear - our ethos and values, our curriculum, the drive for school improvement and the day-to-day running of our school have all remained unchanged.

I can't talk about this term without reflecting on the hard work and dedication of the Whittington team of staff. As always, the staff here go above and beyond on a daily basis and work together to support each other and the children whatever their role in school. I am sure you will join me in wishing them all a well-deserved break over the Christmas period!

The lead up to Christmas is always so busy in school, we don't always take the time to reflect on what a privilege it actually is to work in a school at this time of year. We get to experience the magic of Christmas through the eyes of children. We are able to witness the delight that a visit from Santa brings. We get to hear the Christmas joy of Nativity plays and Carol Concerts. We are lucky enough to take 336 children to see a pantomime (Oh yes, we are!). Our school Christmas tree is decorated with hand-crafted Christmas decorations, all lovingly made by our children. We get to go home with glitter in our hair and hanging off our eye lashes! We are indeed very, very lucky!

While life outside of school is filled with the doom and gloom of a cost of living crisis, in school we can maintain the true innocent magic of Christmas. We hope that you have been able to feel it too with the events that you have managed to attend in recent weeks. We hope that the children have brought the Christmas spirit home to their loved ones!

On behalf of all of the staff at Whittington Primary and Nursery School we wish you a very merry Christmas and a happy, healthy, prosperous New Year!

We want to further improve our curriculum so that it builds on previous learning and continues to challenge us.



We want everyone to understand and follow our high expectations around school and in our lessons.

We want our teachers to show us how to become even better writers.



We want to use Rocket Phonics and a reading scheme to improve reading across the whole school.



What are we doing to improve our school this year? 2022—2023



We want all students to be involved in different areas of school life.



We want to make sure the curriculum in the Early Years helps the children to be ready for Year 1.



We want to help children by having additional tutoring if needed.



We want to become an Academy and to be part of a group of schools so that we can support each other.



Starting school

We are extremely proud of our new starter children, who have settled into school life exceptionally well. Such a big change is never easy, especially as some of our children had never been anywhere else before! During the summer, Nursery and Reception had some stay and play sessions, which enabled children and their parents to explore classrooms and meet peers and staff! The first term has provided all new starters with chances to familiarise themselves with the routines and structure of an early years day. We sing our special days of the week song and talk about the date the weather and the season. The children have become so independent, taking care of their belongings and putting their coat on by themselves, using the special coat trick! They have also learnt how to put on their all-in-one puddle suits!



During the first few weeks the children had lots of opportunities for child-led play, where teachers followed their special interests, as well as teaching some traditional tales. Our children have really connected with both their indoor and outdoor environments, exploring areas with awe, curiosity and wonder. As the children have become more confident within the setting, they have started to branch out and form some wonderful relationships with both staff and peers; this is when the best learning takes place!



Before lunchtime we do phonics; Nursery go on listening walks, where the children explore and discriminate environmental sounds. Reception have been learning new letters and thinking about different words that start with the sounds. They have also started to blend sounds to read and segment sounds to spell. At lunchtime the children sit in the hall with all friends and eat their dinner. Once they have finished, they for a play in the playground with KS1, which is lovely as they have lots of friends to play with.



After half-term we started our topic 'Do Bears Really Like Porridge?' The children were fantastic detectives when investigating our Goldilocks Crime Scene! They engaged fantastically and have learnt so much about different types of bears and their habitats! If you want to find out about bears, come and ask an Early Years pupil at Whittington Primary and Nursery School!



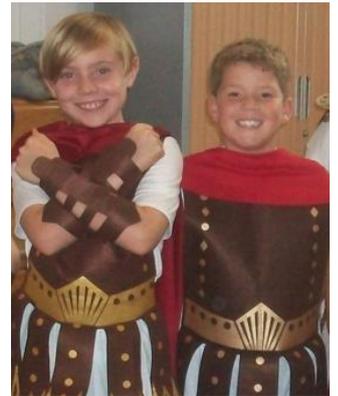
In Autumn 1, we were lucky enough to have a visit from some fluffy ducklings and went on a tractor ride to Sheepwash farm, where we went pumpkin picking! We have also been on a plane to India to celebrate Diwali, the festival of light! On Monday's the children participate in Forest School, where they have connected with nature, by carefully observing their surroundings and taking risks, which has helped build upon their resilience. On Monday afternoon's the children have PE, where they have learnt lots of new skills like jumping, completing obstacle courses, throwing and catching. Our new starters love coming to Whittington Primary and Nursery School with their friends and having the freedom to flourish, make sense of the world around us and discover who they are.



On 22nd September 2022 AD, the children in years 3 and 4 time travelled to Ancient Britain of 61AD. The school hall became the fort of the Roman 9th Legion, led by Prefectus Castrorum, (or Phil to his friends). Whilst the highly trained soldiers of the Roman army kept the fort safe, the Roman citizens went about their business. Jobs included; grinding powder to make ink; crushing herbs for the scented oils to use at the bathhouse; creating colourful mosaics to decorate the headquarters, shaping jars from clay to store foods and oils; hammering metal pins for our cloaks and making finger guards for the archers. The superstitious made magical charms for luck whilst the scientists mixed medicines in the Roman hospital.



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It was a busy day in the fort as news spread of a new rebellion by Boudicca and the Iceni tribe. Citizens were encouraged to apply to join the army in writing on wax tablets. The strongest and fittest were chosen for special training and the citizens were encouraged to work harder as supplies in the fort ran low.



We were then transported back to 2022 for an interesting afternoon as archaeologists and learnt how to dig with brushes and record our findings on a grid system. We made some amazing discoveries which helped us understand more about Roman life. We dug up jewellery, pots, leather goods, game pieces, and even bones!

It was such a fun way to learn about The Romans in Britain, and a day for the children to remember. Ask your child about 'creepy doll'!





Our Whittington Primary School Parent Council was established in 2018 as a voluntary group comprising of the Headteacher and interested parties from the parent cohort – one representative from class or year group where practicable.

- What is it? - The Parent Council is a discussion forum and advisory body. It aims to discuss/debate general issues that affect the welfare of children in school, including extra-curricular activities.
- What's involved? – Parents who are interested and are able to volunteer their time are invited to Parent Council meetings to discuss relevant issues with Mrs Leeson, Mrs Jakeman or another member of the Senior Leadership Team.
- How often? – Meetings will be held on Thursdays on a half termly basis, usually starting at 2pm.

Minutes of the meeting held on 24th November 2022



Mrs Foster, the Maths Lead at Whittington, came to talk to us about the amazing work she has done/is doing with Maths in the school and wider education network

Mrs Foster has been selected from over 1000 applicants and is now a Maths Specialist Teacher working with NCETM (National Centre for Excellence in the Teaching of Mathematics) for the North Midlands Hub. She is attending intensive training this year and supporting the school in moving away from the Power Maths booklets to embed their strong knowledge of the “Mastery Approach” to mathematics relying on the wealth of skills and knowledge of the teachers in school. At the moment this involves a whole-school focus on vocabulary; using the correct terminology and sentence starters to enable all pupils to understand and explain mathematical operations, patterns and reasoning. She has led the school through a recent review by the John Taylor MAT who gave highly positive feedback around the schools use of “Key Instant Recall Facts” and the way pupils articulated their Maths.

Mrs Foster is continuing to lead the school’s maths progression through a 3-year programme. This started in 2021-2022 with a focus on fluency, this year moving onto reasoning and next year looking at problem solving.

School Council meet Parent Council!

We were then treated to a presentation by 2 members of the School Council. They showed truly incredible leadership qualities in preparing and presenting a very professional, clear, informative 10-minute talk on: Who the Council is, how members are selected, what they aim to achieve, how they go about it and current projects. They then answered some challenging questions about their work!

Current leadership opportunities for pupils in Whittington include: School Council, Eco Council, House Captains, Choir Leaders, Club Leaders, Reading Mentors, Maths Mentors, Playground Buddies.



Sweet Treats Survey Results

A survey was shared with all parents to reassess whether to continue allowing children to share sweet treats with friends when it is their birthday.

302 responses were received (thanks to everyone!)

89.9% of responses were in favour of continuing the current practice where parents are free to celebrate their child's birthday as they wish - giving them a small sweet treat (or other small item) to share with their class IF they wish to. School were keen to stress that there is absolutely no expectation that this should happen - it is entirely up to individuals to do as they wish. School will continue to ask pupils to take any treats they are given home so that parents can decide if/when they are consumed. School is also initiating some links with a dental practitioner to help educate pupils within relevant science lessons. They are also considering other initiatives to educate and encourage pupils to take ownership of how much sugar is healthy for them.



Issues to be discussed at the next meeting:

- How to increase challenge - Emma Jakeman and some pupils
- Results of the Pupil Voice re: After school clubs
- How to improve Parent Council - Parent communication

The next meeting of the Parent Council is due to take place on Thursday 9th February at 2pm. Subsequent meeting will be held on:

- Thursday 23rd March at 2pm
- Thursday 25th May at 2pm
- Thursday 6th July at 2pm



Please contact Mrs Leeson via admin2@whittington.staffs.sch.uk if you would like to join our Parent Council. We would love to include some more parents!

Early years Autumn 2 Term Overview – Big Question: Do Bears really like porridge?

Our first small question was *'Is Goldilocks good or bad?'* The children arrived at school to find a crime scene! There were three chairs, muddy footprints, a bowl of porridge all over the floor and bear paw prints. The children used critical enquiry and problem-solving skills to investigate what happened. Our police officers and detectives found out that it was



Mrs Loundes, who had acted just like Goldilocks. Later that week the children retold the story of Goldilocks and the Three Bears without using the book. The children felt like goldilocks was bad, however they changed their minds after listening to the story 'A Chair for Baby Bear', where

goldilocks told the truth, said sorry and sent baby bear a new chair; the children then decided that Goldilocks was good!



The next question was 'Do Bears Live in Houses?' The children went on their own bear hunts and discovered that brown bears live in caves. Ducklings went on a bare foot, bear hunt walk, sequencing the different stages of the story! The children learnt positional language such as under, over and through. Michael Rosen, the author of the story, saw how immersed the children were and even responded to our amazing learning via twitter!

Ducklings recalled that Winnie the Pooh and Bumble bear loved honey and that Paddington loved Marmalade sandwiches, so we decided to do a taste test of our own. More children preferred the marmalade sandwiches! Reception had their own Teddy Bear picnic, where they enjoyed marmalade and honey sandwiches. Nursery and Reception have discovered that there are 8 different species of bears and that they do not live in houses and they do not all love porridge and honey! They learnt the habitat for each bear, for example Polar bears live in the Arctic and Pandas live in bamboo forests.

Reception emailed Chester Zoo and Highland Zoo to find out what they eat; they told us they have Andean bears (like Paddington bear) and Sun bears. From this, the children also learnt that some bears are omnivores, which means they eat lots of fruit and vegetables. They learnt that polar bears eat meat, particularly seals and that Pandas eat bamboo.



More recently the children have been learning what hibernation is and they have explored which animals hibernate and why. They have also been identifying which animals are nocturnal and they have learnt that not all nocturnal animals hibernate. They have learnt that hibernators miss Christmas! Our early years children are now learning all about why and how we celebrate Christmas, through the Christmas nativity story.



A month into our academy conversion

The story so far...

We officially converted to an Academy and joined the John Taylor MAT on 1st November 2022 and so much has happened already!



English and Maths Review

This term, we welcomed the JTMAT Maths Lead, and the English Lead into school to come and look at Maths and English in Whittington

The outcome of both reviews was very positive and we had some actions to work on. Staff have been keen to implement the suggestions and are able to talk about the impact that they have had on learning.

We look forward to an Early Years review with the JTMAT taking place at the start of the Spring term.

Subject Leader Meetings

As a Local Authority school, we worked in isolation and had to actively seek professional development opportunities for our staff. As part of the JTMAT, we have already been able to send some of our subject leaders to network meetings. This gives our staff the opportunity to share best practise from Whittington and to glean new ideas from colleagues in other schools. So far, the following staff have had this opportunity:

Mrs Hargrove – English

Mrs Foster – Maths

Mrs Hemmings – Science

Mr Gibbs – Computing

Mrs Cameron - History/Geography

JTMAT Christmas Concert

On 1st December, a group of Y5/6 children volunteered to take part in the JTMAT Christmas Concert. Rehearsals took place during the day, followed by 2 evening performances for parents. All of the JTMAT school were represented.

This was a wonderful event and gave our children the opportunity to feel part of our bigger family of schools – working together and playing together!

Behind the scenes

- Through the JTMAT, our Admin team have received training and have moved to a new finance system.
- The structure of our Governance system has changed in line with the requirements of the JTMAT.
- We are about to implement a new system for recording our School Improvement Plan, School self-evaluation form and performance management
- We have met with the Attendance and Intervention Manager, the Chair of the Trust Board and the Primary School Improvement Partner





Christmas Begins!

As part of our annual Christmas traditions, every pupil in school makes a decoration for our Christmas tree. Then, during a Thursday assembly, we put on the Christmas tunes, have a good old sing along and let the festivities begin!



Meet the new School Council...



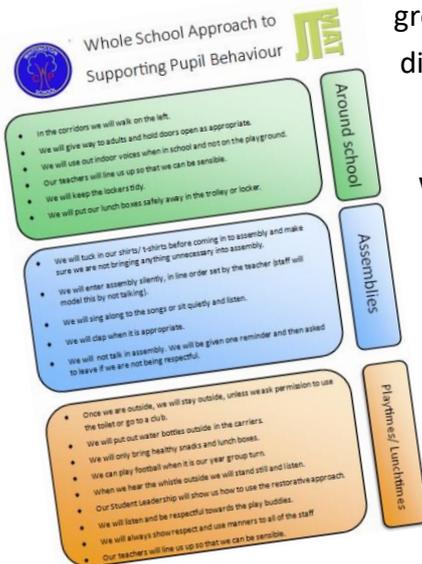
Hi, we are members of the school council and we wanted to let you know what we have been up to so far this year.

First, we turned the school improvement plan into child friendly language so that everyone in the school can understand it more easily.

We then set up a suggestion box as we wanted everyone in school to be able to give their ideas to

school council easily. We have had some

great ideas already. For example, new club ideas and requests for different lunchtime games.



We have linked up with the pebble project [Home - \(pebblesproject.org\)](http://pebblesproject.org) as we want to help raise some money so that they can have so more equipment to help them learn.

As a team we have also come up with the standards that we want for behaviour around school - during assemblies, playtimes and when moving around school in the corridors and cloakrooms.

Some of us met with the Parent Council to explain what we do and what we have been up to. Next, we would like to meet with the school governors to share our ideas and progress with them.

Finally, we have updated the website so that everyone can see what we do!

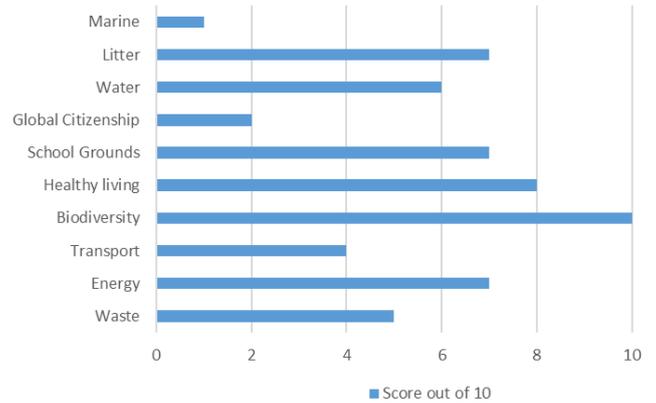
Eco Council News

Eco Award Audit



This term we met with the Eco team to complete our Eco Schools Audit. There are ten areas for the Eco School Award and we have to choose at least three to work on over the year. The children collaborated in year group teams to answer ten questions in each section. They also had to do some fact-finding by asking other children and staff and checking areas in school. Here are the results. We will be creating our action plan next term and aim to work alongside WFEG on some

exciting community projects.



Eco Craft Workshop



Many of the Eco team came to an after-school workshop to make Christmas decorations using natural and recycled materials. We started the session by collecting willow whips, twigs and yew branches from the grounds and then learnt how we could change them into decorations. We created wreaths and ribbon trees. We also painted pine cones to create mini Christmas trees!

We also recycled old cardboard to create abstract painted trees using masking tape and then peeling it off once the paint had dried to reveal the shapes. Recycled buttons were added as baubles.

We used left-over yarn and fabric to make gnomes. We all had a great time making our creations ready to help us celebrate Christmas. We hope it gives you some ideas too.

Merry Christmas! Mrs. Richardson, Mrs. Loundes & the Eco Team.

Why don't you have a try at some of these at home too? Don't forget to recycle your cards, wrappings and packaging and your real trees.

Happy Christmas

Mrs. Richardson



Year 5/6 have had a very busy term! We have been looking at WW2 and have used the book 'Letters from the Lighthouse' as our whole class reading text. The children have had great fun finding out about the countries that were involved in WW2 and why the conflict started. They looked at the life of a child during the war and found out about being an evacuee. We then found out about the Battle of Britain and made Anderson shelters to show how people protected themselves during the war. We finished off the topic by looking at propaganda and D-day celebrations. During the term we had a visit from Linda Lovell, who taught us how to dance the American jive, cha cha cha and the mamba. The children loved learning all the new dances and I think we have a few people heading for the strictly ballroom in a few years time!



Since half term we have been looking at how things changed after the war. We have looked at the decades from the 60's through to the 80's, looking at music, moon landings, fashion, technology, toys and television. We focused on the artist Roy Lichtenstein and the children used pop art technique to create a pop art image of themselves.

The year 5's have been working super hard on their carol concert, which was held in St Giles church. They loved learning the songs and retelling the Christmas story.



Extra-Curricular -@Whittington

Our amazing school council have recently introduced a suggestion box for pupils so that they can put forth their own ideas to help the school. A number of these ideas have been about starting new clubs here at school which we have introduced this term. A few new start-ups have been:



We have started a Pokemon club where six children battle out twice a week each lunchtime to see who will become a Pokemon Master!

A new coding club began earlier this term where expert Year 5s have been teaching some aspiring Year 3s on how to improve their coding skills by creating fun games!



A team of Year 3/4 girls and boys also took part in a football competition earlier this year at Erasmus Darwin Academy. The team were superb and managed to make the final game and score two goals! Well done to all involved!



Rocket Phonics

A huge thank you to parents who turned out for the reception and year one Phonic Parent Information Evening. It was lovely to see so many of you (especially considering England were playing that evening!)

Below is a brief overview of what Rocket Phonics looks like at Whittington:

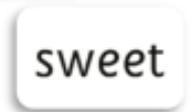
Monday - introduce new letter sound - blending focus

Tuesday - formation of letter and spelling - segmenting focus

Wednesday - repeat cycle with a new letter sound - blending focus

Thursday - repeat cycle formation of letter and spelling - segmenting focus

Friday - common exception words (tricky words).



What is blending?

- This is the process of using phonics for reading. Children identify and blend the individual sounds together to hear and say the whole word. Eg. c-a-t, cat!
- On Monday and Wednesdays, we introduce a new sound and work on our blending skills. We read a Big Book altogether, before working independently in our Pupil Practice Booklets.



What is segmenting?

- This is the process of using our phonics skills to support spelling and writing. Children listen to the whole word and break it up into the letter-sounds. Eg. 'lunch' can be segmented as l-u-n-ch.
- On Tuesdays and Thursdays, we focus on segmenting using the sound taught the day before. We use our mini whiteboard and pen on these days- to write words and to play bingo using the sound mats. We then work independently in our Pupil Practice Booklets.



What are 'tricky words'?

Tricky words are words that early readers will struggle with. This might be because they have unusual spellings, contain new sounds and graphemes or don't follow ordinary phonemic rules. Many tricky words are ones that we use often, so it's important to teach kids how to spell and pronounce them. We work on our tricky words on Fridays.



Reading Mentors

Practise makes perfect! Research shows that daily reading is critical to children's development. Not only does it improve children's language skills but it also encourages empathy, develops focus and teaches children about the world around them. In fact, studies show that reading for pleasure is more likely to determine whether a child does well at school than their social or economic background. With this in mind, we have a reading mentor scheme where children from Year 6 go in and read with younger children to help further develop their love of reading. It has proven to be very popular.



Helping my partner with their sounds makes me really happy. We get on well together and we do high fives when we've finished the book. Mollie Y6

I am always happy to go to reading mentors because my partner loves to read and she is always pleased to see me. Eliza Y6



I like being a reading mentor because I enjoy helping children learn how to read. I can see how well my partner is progressing and this makes me feel proud. Dom Y6





In the Autumn term, the children in year 3 and 4 learnt all about the Harvest Festival and it's meaning to Christians, as part of their learning in Religious Education. In early October, the children took part in a fantastic Harvest assembly, which they shared with their parents, families and the rest of school.

The children worked hard to learn the words and actions to all of songs, including; 'Making a list for Harvest', 'Little Mouse' and 'We can help.' Some of the children prepared a dance to the 'Harvest Hoedown', and others came up with a beautiful ribbon dance to accompany 'I can eat a rainbow.' Some silly scarecrows joined the stage and danced in their wellies to the song 'I'm a scarecrow!' Other children prepared information about Harvest in other countries and spoke their lines clearly and confidently.

The children had lots of fun preparing and performing their assembly, but also thought carefully about the real importance of the Harvest festival.

We would like to thank all of our families who generously donated much-needed food items, which were given to the Lichfield foodbank. In total 91kg of food were collected, providing the equivalent of 217 meals for families in need in our local area. These donations were once again very gratefully received.



The students, parents, and staff of

**WHITTINGTON
PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Thank you for your Harvest food donations!

The food weighed 91kg,
the equivalent of 217 meals!

Thank you for helping us support
people in need in Lichfield and the
surrounding villages

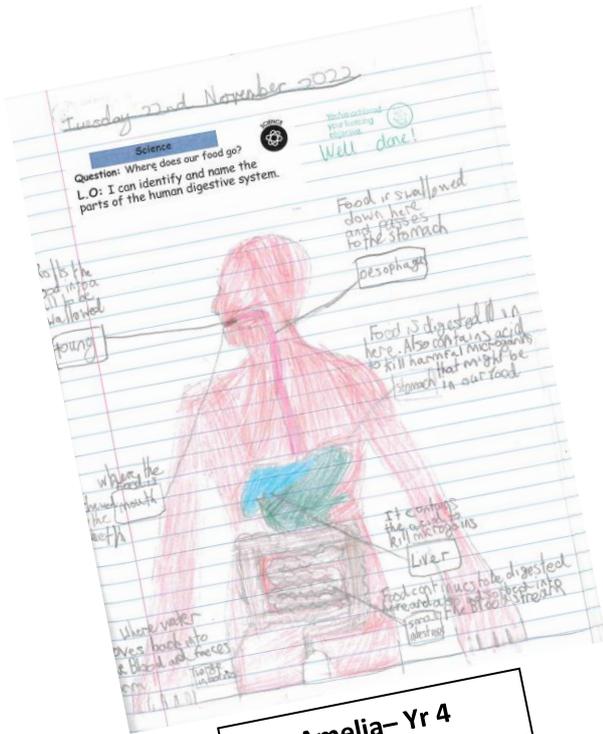
Find out more: www.lichfield.foodbank.org.uk

Lichfield foodbank is run in partnership with local churches
Registered charity number: 1162359 / Registered in England & Wales

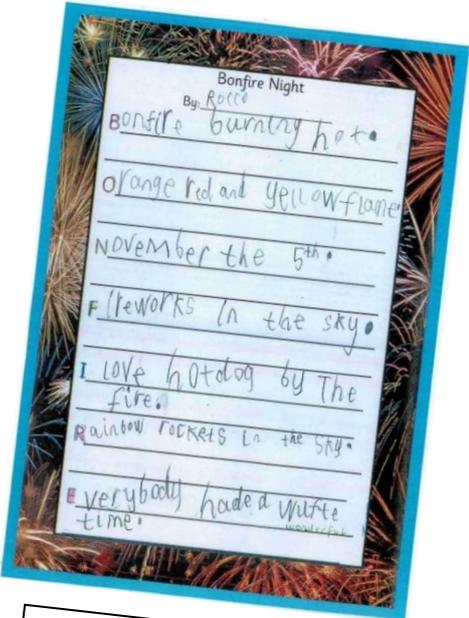


Celebration of Learning

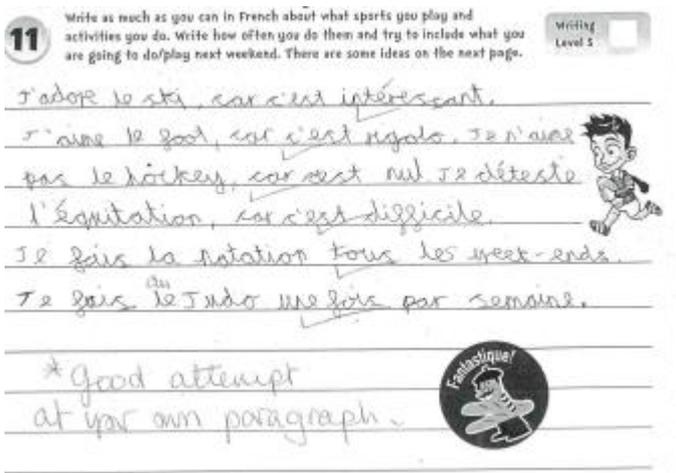
At Whittington we are always proud of the work the pupils produce. Here is a selection from across the school that we have chosen to share and celebrate with you.



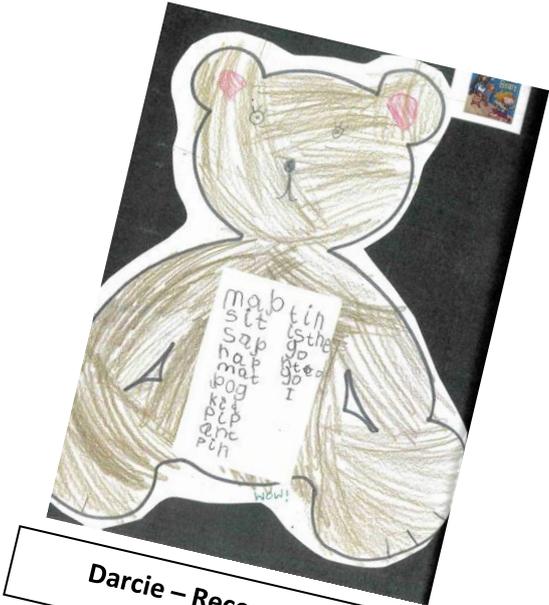
Amelia - Yr 4



Rocco - Yr 1



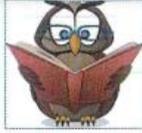
Sam - Yr 6



Darcie - Reception

L.O. To write a shape poem with 2 poetic devices

Simile (shining like a diamond)
Alliteration (shiny, shimmering star)



You've achieved your learning objective.



George- Year 3

History

Thursday 24th November

L.O: To write a report on what it was like to live during the 1970's



WHAT WAS LIFE LIKE IN THE 1970'S?

The 1970's was often seen as a decade of upheaval and change. Whereas the 1960's was viewed differently, as it was a fun and chilled decade, which is why they called it the Swinging 60's! The 70's was mostly about the money being paid for important jobs, this caused a plethora of strikes, unemployment and shortages but because of that the population in the UK decreased drastically. This report gives an overview to show what life was really like in the 1970's.

Fashion

The fashion in the UK was a very hippy-style as many people wore hot pants, maxi dresses, platform boots and perms, which would really stand out and pop with different colours. Jumpsuits were also a popular piece of clothing a bright floral pattern was very common or a glittery design was popular some would shimmer like a disco ball! A glitz hambag would always be a popular thing in the 70's as all the women loved them!



Lara- Year 6

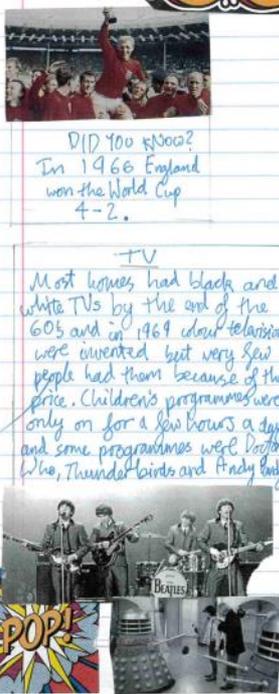
History
60s
 L.O: I know some key facts and information about the 60s decade.
 Wednesday 9th November

60's
 Life was gradually back to normal in the swinging 60's after the war.

Music
 In 1960, a band called The Beatles were formed and they were one of the most popular bands ever. They were so popular that the excitement was called Beatlemania and they had fans that followed them around. Another musician that was hugely popular in the 60's was Elvis Presley. Others were The Who, The Beach Boys, Tom Jones, David Bowie and The Four Seasons. People listened to music through record players.

TV
 Most homes had black and white TVs by the end of the 60s and in 1969 colour televisions were invented but very few people had them because of the price. Children's programmes were only on for a few hours a day and some programmes were Doctor Who, Thunderbirds and Andy Pandy.

Toys
 Children played with the new Lego, Troll dolls, Meccano and Etch a Sketch. Lego was made in Germany and Etch a Sketch did not have a pen.

POP!


History
 L.O: I understand a key event of the 60s: The Moon Landing
 Thursday 10th November

APOLLO 11 MOON landing!

When Neil Armstrong first stepped on the moon he said "This small step for man, a giant leap for mankind."

On July 20th 1969 America finally won the space race, a race between Russia and America to get a man on the moon! The heroic passengers on board Saturn V were Neil Armstrong, Michael Collins and Buzz Aldrin. It took 4 days, 6 hours and 15 minutes to get to the moon and the whole mission took 8 days and 3 hours. Over 400,000 people worked on the project and 600 million people watched it on TV. It cost around \$25 million for NASA, The America space company. In space, Collins stayed on the Columbia Command Module, staying behind while Armstrong and Aldrin went to the moon. Once they came there, they stayed for 3 hours, collecting dirt and rocks, and, of course, leaving the U.S. flag.

MAN ON THE MOON


Thomas - Year 5

Friday 23rd September

History
 L.O: I can write a recount about the Roman day.
 Write in detail about the activities you took part in during our Roman day in school.

Roman day

Yesterday a man came in and put on a Roman day for us because we are learning about the Romans.

First I went into the hall and around me were lots of tables full with Roman activity.

But first he told me to sit down and then he talked to me about the activities on the tables.

My first activity was making a finger guard and then I went and got a bag to put all my things in.

My second activity was making doctors and so I made some lavender and I put it in the moin and tie it.

So after I finish the doctor I became the leader not for long because it was play.

Liddy - Year 4

7 Write in French in the speech bubble below about the sports you like and don't like.

Writing Level 2-3

J'adore - I love
 J'aime - I like
 Je n'aime pas - I don't like
 Je déteste - I hate

J'adore le foot car c'est super!
 J'aime le football car c'est intéressant!

Je n'aime pas la boxe car c'est nul!
 Je déteste le ping pong car c'est nul!

good answers of your own

Bon Travail

Georgia - Year 4

Monday 7th November 2022
 L.O: To write a set of instructions.

Foil Stars

You will need:
 Tin foil
 Sticky tape
 Scissors
 Glue
 Glitter
 An art straw

• First cut the tin foil.
 • Next put the straw on the long side of the foil.
 • Then cut strips of the shorter side of the foil.
 • Finally roll the straw up in the tin foil & tape it.

Well done Lucy

Lucy - Year 1

30 1 1 2 2

Dividing fractions by integers

Fluency

① $\frac{3}{5} \div 2 = \frac{3}{10}$ ✓
 $\frac{3}{5} \times \frac{1}{2} = \frac{3}{10}$ ✓

② $\frac{1}{4} \div 2 = \frac{1}{8}$ ✓
 $\frac{1}{4} \times \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{8}$ ✓

③ $\frac{1}{2} \div 2 = \frac{1}{4}$ ✓
 $\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{4}$ ✓

④ $\frac{1}{6} \div 2 = \frac{1}{12}$ ✓
 $\frac{1}{6} \times \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{12}$ ✓

⑤ $\frac{1}{8} \div 2 = \frac{1}{16}$ ✓
 $\frac{1}{8} \times \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{16}$ ✓

⑥ $\frac{1}{4} \div 7 = \frac{1}{28}$ ✓
 $\frac{1}{4} \times \frac{1}{7} = \frac{1}{28}$ ✓

⑦ $\frac{7}{8} \div \frac{3}{1} = \frac{7}{24}$ ✓
 $\frac{7}{8} \times \frac{1}{3} = \frac{7}{24}$ ✓

⑧ $\frac{7}{9} \div \frac{3}{1} = \frac{7}{27}$ ✓
 $\frac{7}{9} \times \frac{1}{3} = \frac{7}{27}$ ✓

⑨ $\frac{5}{12} \div \frac{6}{1} = \frac{5}{72}$ ✓
 $\frac{5}{12} \times \frac{1}{6} = \frac{5}{72}$ ✓

⑩ $\frac{2}{5} \div \frac{4}{1} = \frac{2}{20} = \frac{1}{10}$ ✓
 $\frac{2}{5} \times \frac{1}{4} = \frac{2}{20} = \frac{1}{10}$ ✓

Lyla - Year 6

R and ps.

Each set of scales is balanced.

a) Work out the mass of one book.

$\frac{3}{5} \div 2 = \frac{3}{10}$
 $\frac{3}{5} \times \frac{1}{2} = \frac{3}{10}$

b) Work out the mass of one cup.

$\frac{2}{20} \div 2 = \frac{1}{20}$
 $\frac{2}{20} \times \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{20}$

Mo works out $\frac{10}{25} \div 5$

The answer is $\frac{2}{5}$

What mistake has Mo made?

$\frac{10}{25} \div 5 = \frac{10}{125}$
 $\frac{10}{25} \times \frac{1}{5} = \frac{10}{125}$

He multiplied the denominator and not the numerator.

Whoops-a-Daisy Angel

Year 1 and 2 performed this year's nativity, 'Whoops-a-Daisy Angel' to the school and their loved ones this week.



It is a delightful story of a disorganised but lovable angel who is chosen to show the way to Bethlehem. The year 2 children told the story so clearly and confidently. The angels, shepherds, wise men, Mary and Joseph all did a fantastic job. Whoops-a-Daisy performed brilliantly. The year 1 children sang clearly and enthusiastically.

Well done to everyone who took part. You were truly magnificent – especially when the music stopped and you carried on singing. True professionals!





Cathedral Christmas Tree

Every year we donate money to Lichfield Cathedral, which enables us to decorate our very own Christmas tree located inside the cathedral.

In July the early years team came up with the idea of using the celebration of the Queens' Jubilee as the design for our tree. As our Queen sadly passed away in September, we decided to change our tree theme to honour our late Queen.

We have designed decorations that represents our late Queen and the things she loved so much in life. Some of the children have made salt dough Paddington Bears, others have decorated paper crowns with jewels and gems. During forest school the children along with Mrs Welch- painted some acorns to make a garland and Nursery children decorated silhouettes of her beloved corgi dogs.

For a small donation, visitors to the cathedral are able to vote for their favourite tree. The Christmas tree celebration is open until 2nd January and all money raised helps to preserve the 900-year-old building.





REMEMBRANCE DAY
Let Us Forget

MKC Heroes (Military Kids Club)



I am not a badge of honour,
I am not a racist smear,
I am not a fashion statement,
To be worn just once a year,
I am not a glorification,
Of conflict or of war.
I am not a paper ornament
A token,
I am more.
I am a loving memory,
Of a father or a son
A permanent reminder
Of each and every one.
I'm paper or enamel,
I'm old or shining new,
I'm a way of saying thank you,
To every one of you
I am a simple poppy

Again this year we were invited down to the Cenotaph in the village to take part in the Remembrance Service. The Year 5/6 Military children were joined by other members of the community from St. Giles Hospice, DMS Whittington and the Parish Council. Throughout the whole service the children showed great respect and understanding of this significant occasion. Some of the children volunteered to read a poem which they performed brilliantly reading their lines clearly, despite being in front of a large crowd. They listened to readings from the Bible and heard the 'Last Post' played on a bugle to mark the 2-minute silence and laid a wreath from school.

This year the Service pupils in school all contributed towards a poppy wreath to mark Remembrance Day. They all painted a bottle bottom red which was then arranged into a wreath. Unfortunately, the windy weather wasn't on our side this year so the finished wreath was displayed in the school hall rather than outside. The Year 5/6 children also did a fantastic job of selling the poppy memorabilia. Thank you for your very generous donations towards this special charity- we will let you know how much we collected soon.



Next week the children will be making a Christmas tree decoration- look out for snowmen making their way home!

Year 1 and 2 Christmas Bauble Workshop.

Squirrels, Hedgehogs and Shrews got the chance to participate in a Christmas Bauble workshop.

Each child got the opportunity to paint a snowman design onto their own ceramic bauble. The children used a variety of colours to create these whilst taking great care and caution.



All of the baubles produced were beautiful and every child was so very proud of their work. They got to take their baubles home and place them proudly on their Christmas trees!





Play- leaders

Improving Lunch Times

As part of our aim to make lunch times more active and enjoyable for the children, we have been working hard to develop our play-leader programme. At the beginning of the school year, our group of Year 6 play-leaders had a half day training session where they learnt how to lead activities and create games for the other children. Following a large delivery of new equipment, the play-leaders have been putting their training to good use at lunch times. They organise the equipment daily to make sure there is a variety of activities on offer throughout the week and then lead and support the other children in games and challenges. Although we are still in the early days, it is already having a positive effect on the activity levels of children at lunch time and is helping to teach the children the value of looking after their own equipment, as well as offering our play-leaders a great experience of leading others. We hope they continue to build on this initial success into the new year and keep improving lunchtimes!



Tues 3 January	INSET training day
Wed 4 January	Children back to school

Tues 10 January	Young Voices - Choir
	8pm PTA
Sun 15 January	Deadline for applying to primary schools

Mon 30 January	Mrs Puttock starts working in Squirrels class
Thurs 2 February	Mrs Hawkins leaves to go on Maternity leave

Thurs 9 February	2pm Parent Council
Fri 10 February	PTA Valentine's disco
	6.15-7.15 Reception and KS1
	7.30-8.30pm KS2

Wed 15 February	Parents' evening
Thurs 16 February	Parents' evening
	Children break up for half term
Fri 17 February	INSET training day

Tues 28 February	8pm PTA
Thurs 2 March	World Book Day

Mon 6 March	Y6 leave for Paris trip
Fri 10 March	Y6 return to school

Wed 14 March	7pm Spring musical evening
Fri 17 March	Red Nose Day

Thurs 30 March	2.15pm Nursery and Reception Easter assembly for parents
Fri 31 March	Break up for Easter

A snap shot...

