

The Whitgreave Circle

We write it the Whitgreave Way!



All written by the gifted writers of
Whitgreave Junior School!

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A Midsummer Night's Dream



A Midsummer Night's Dream was based on a book published by a famous publisher who goes by the name of William Shakespeare. All of Whitgreave watched the play and were excited to get there. Once we did get there, we were on the edge of our seats waiting for it to start and die of laughter (It's a comedy). In one of the parts, one of the actors, broke down with laughter due to the fact that the actor who played Puck was being mischievous. On the other hand, the other actor managed to keep calm and stay in character!

After the Amazing Show

After watching the extraordinary show, every group did a literacy project focused on the show. Year 6, did a setting description based on A Midsummer Night's Dream and the forest it was set in; one of the pupils achieved a 5B! Year 5 did a comic strip based on a Midsummer Night's Dream to rewrite the story in an even funnier way! AMAZING! Year 4 published instructions to create a magic, majestic awesome potion for romance or something else of their choice. All the way down in Year 3, they did a fun activity called hot seating. This is where you sit in a seat and pretend to be a certain character and the other people had to guess who they were acting as.

As you can see, we gained a lot of great reading and writing out of this experience and we are very grateful that Mrs Merrick organised such a fun morning at the theatre - we will never forget our favourite character Puck!

By Cameron Morton



Cinderella Pantomime



Before the Christmas holidays, Mrs Redfern, as a treat organised for the whole school to go to watch Cinderella at the Wolverhampton Grand Theatre. The cast list included:

Julian Clary as Dandino, Joe Tracini as Buttons and Nicki Evans as the fairy godmother.

Luckily I managed to get some quotes off some staff and students from Whitgreave to see what they thought of the great day ...

Mrs Corns thought it was fantastic, she also loved the fact that all the pupils enjoyed it as well as she could see the joy on their faces. Alex Bood, one of our owls, thought that it was great entertainment and another one of our owls, Kennedy stated it was one of the best pantomimes she has ever been to. Finally, Mrs Barret told me that the singing and acting was great, it was a really colourful performance and her favourite part was the flying horse. She just had to mention that the 100 percent best part was our deputy head (Mrs Parker) going on stage and having to dance in front of over 500 people which involved twerking!

In the play Buttons kept trying to ask Cinderella to marry him. However, every time he tried to ask, he kept tripping over and falling face first on the stage which made us all laugh. Cinderella then managed to go to the prince's grand ball and fall head over heels for Prince Charming which led to an early engagement. This left Buttons alone, and when he heard the news about Cinderella being engaged to the prince, he became quite obstreperous and heart broken. In the end, Button realised that Cinderella and him were better off as best friends.

So as you can see everyone enjoyed the pantomime and we would all like to say a huge well done to Mrs Parker for having the courage to go up on stage and dance in front of the entire audience! Also we all would like to say a massive thankyou to Mrs Redfern for organising a fantastic day.

By Kayleigh Foyle



Whitgreave's Newest Addition



If you didn't know, in the school office, we have installed a beautiful, new fish tank which Mr Albutt and some especially selected children in the school are in charge of maintaining. They have the job of cleaning and changing the water, feeding the fish and ensuring the fish are healthy and happy.

On Wednesday 21st January 2015, Mr Albutt, and the children that are in charge of the fish, went on a trip to the Hollybush Garden Centre to purchase some colourful, neon fish for the tank outside the office.

I have asked Mr Albutt, and those in charge of the fish, what he thinks of them; and if it will have any effect on the school. When I asked Mr Albutt what he thinks of the fish tank, he said he loves them and he mentioned that they were 'his pride and joy'. Mr Albutt also thinks it will add to the scenery and provide a nice atmosphere at the entrance where every visitor will see them. I have also asked some of year 5 pupils what they think of the fish; Keenan Taylor described the fish as 'very colourful and very interesting'. Lily Tanner loves how bright and vibrant they appear and that they are fascinating. Omar Grant also thinks that the fish will improve the appearance of the entrance and will be nice for visitors to see when they come to the school. Whitgreave's newest additions have settled right into their new home and are very happy with their new environment thanks to Mr Albutt and everyone who gives their time to look after them.

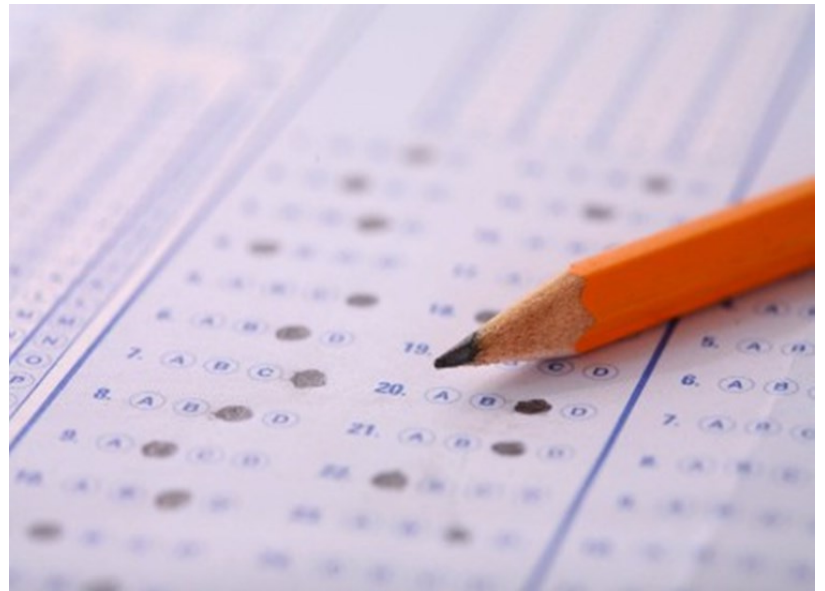
By Kennedy Smith





Y6 BOOSTERS!

Year 6 have been working hard in our lessons after lunch with Miss Guy, Mrs Barrett, Miss Blackburn, Mrs Hands, Mr Jones and Miss Bullock. We practice SATs paper questions for maths, comprehension and SPAG, as well as practicing entire previous SATs papers, whereby we are getting better and better! This is amazing revision for our upcoming SATs



which are quickly creeping upon us! All the pupils have been settled into their appropriate groups, according to their target and speed of work. Thankfully, all of year 6 are taking this revision very seriously and are working away productively, with their heads down and pencils ready for work. We all know that it'll be worth it in the end, when we all receive fantastic levels and achieve our targets; plus, we have so much to look forward to after we have finished out SATs- including Pioneer, Drayton Manor and the school production.

By Cameron Morton



Year 5

Sikh Gurdwara Trip



On the 8th of January 2015 Year 5 travelled on a bus to the Gurdwara just off the Cannock road. Year 5 went for our R.E topic as we are learning about Sikhism.

The trip was very helpful because Year 5's topic is Sikhism. One thing that I learnt was about the 5 K'S. They are the kirpan, kanga, Kara kesh and Kachera. The kirpan is a short dagger used as a last resort of those in peril. The kanga is a small wooden comb to keep their hair tidy. The Kara is a steel bracelet used to protect them and show bravery. The kesh is long hair they do not cut as they believe it is a gift from god.

The Kachera is a pair of shorts worn by Sikhs to keep their minds pure and to not have boyfriends and girlfriends.

When we go into the Sikh temple we took our shoes off because they believe it is disrespectful to their gods. Year 5 watched a detailed power point of the eleven gurus. After that, we went upstairs and the people offered us a little snack. The snack was a spicy curry and a sort of rice pudding.

Now you'll be able to read some quotes of pupils and teachers ...

Mrs Ceney complemented by saying they were very thoughtful and she learnt there were eleven gurus. Miss Godridge thought the Sikh members were very friendly and welcoming. Mr Bell was quoted as saying it was helpful for our Sikhism topic. Now you'll be able to read some of the pupil's opinions... Devonte said it was more of a treat than a trip because they were kind. Charel thought that the food was lovely. Chloe quoted by saying that the Sikhs were extremely generous.

In my own opinion I thought that the Sikhs were very generous.

by Alex Bood



Chinese New Year



In China, New Year's is celebrated differently to the UK; they do not celebrate on the 1st January like we do. Chinese New Year is the longest and most important celebration in the Chinese calendar. The Chinese year begins on Feb 19, 2015. Traditionally, Chinese New Year lasts from the last day of the Chinese New Year calendar to the 15th day of the first month.

Every year of the Chinese New Year calendar is named after an animal as you can see from the table below. This is a 12 year cycle and once the 12 year cycle is over the animal list begins again. The list in order is: Rat, Ox, Tiger, Rabbit, Dragon, Snake, Horse, Ram, Monkey, Rooster, Dog and pig.

Chinese months are in line with the lunar calendar, with each month beginning on the darkest day. New Year festivities traditionally start on the first day of the month and continue until the fifteenth, when the moon is at its brightest. In China, people may take weeks on holiday from work to prepare for and celebrate the New Year.

The Chinese New year's Eve dinner is the most important dinner. Dumplings are very popular in Northern China and are also one of the main dishes for New Year's Eve dinner. Conversely, very few people in southern China serve dumplings in New Year's Eve dinner. New Year Cake is also served, and is a solid cake made with glutinous rice flour together with some sugar. New Year Cake is popular in Eastern China. That's why on Friday 13th February 2015 we had a Chinese cuisine menu; we had different food such as:

Crispy Chinese Chicken or Mini Spring Rolls served with black bean sauce or curry sauce and rice or chips with salad or stir fried vegetables. For dessert we had Raspberry Yoghurt ice cream or Mango Cheese Cake which was all delicious thanks to the lunchtime staff.

Now after all I have taught you about the Chinese New Year you should now know how to celebrate it.

Rat	1924	1936	1948	1960	1972	1984	1996	2008
Ox	1925	1937	1949	1961	1973	1985	1997	2009
Tiger	1926	1938	1950	1962	1974	1986	1998	2010
Rabbit	1927	1939	1951	1963	1975	1987	1999	2011
Dragon	1928	1940	1952	1964	1976	1988	2000	2012
Snake	1929	1941	1953	1965	1977	1989	2001	2013
Horse	1930	1942	1954	1966	1978	1990	2002	2014
Sheep	1931	1943	1955	1967	1979	1991	2003	2015
Monkey	1932	1944	1956	1968	1980	1992	2004	2016
Rooster	1933	1945	1957	1969	1981	1993	2005	2017
Dog	1934	1946	1958	1970	1982	1994	2006	2018
Pig	1935	1947	1959	1971	1983	1995	2007	2019

By Omar Grant



Our Deputy Head



Have you ever thought you want to know more about our Deputy Head? Well here you will be able to get to know more about Mrs Parker including interesting facts, hobbies and interests and also likes and dislikes.

Mrs Parker was born and lives in Dudley (which is in the west Midlands). When she was in nursery she went to Roberts Primary School. Mrs Parker grew up with her sister who was named Claire who she got along with very well.

When I asked her what she thought of the school Mrs Parker told me she loves it and thinks the children are amazing and Mrs Parker loves coming to school in the morning!

Mrs Parker talked about how Maths is her favourite subject and could teach it all day. She now also lives with her husband and two children Eve who is 4 years old and Chloe who is 10 years old.



I am sure at least a million people have a favourite celebrity and Mrs Parkers is Olly Murs, Most of you know who he is! She loves food from the Indian restaurant which is her favourite food. Mrs Parkers enjoys watching EastEnders and it is her

favourite tv program. Now here is one of the less important ones but I will tell you anyways. Her favourite colour is Purple and that is also my favourite colour!

We are very grateful and lucky to have Mrs Parker at our school and we hope she is here to stay for a long time!

By Fremi



AMAZING ANCIENT EGYPT DAY



In January, Year 5 had an awesome Egyptian day which was followed by a visit from 'The Egyptian Man' - there was all sorts of weird and wonderful activities from an Egyptian quiz to pulling the brains out of a Egyptian mummy and completing the process with an old fashioned burial! A fun-filled day, I'm sure you'll agree!

Everyone in Year 5 had a lovely time and enjoyed every second of the day as each child took part. From the day, we learned that the Ancient Egyptians lived along the banks of the River Nile in Egypt. Farmers first settled in Egypt along the River Nile around 5000 B.C. and we also learned that Egypt is situated in the northeast corner of the Africa.

Everyone took part and had a cracking time and learnt a lot about Ancient Egypt, here is some quotes of pupils and teachers... Tino said that the Egyptian day was very good and educational. Tadiwa also said, 'I think the day was very fun and educational.' The teachers enjoyed it equally as much as the children, Mrs Ceney commented, saying, 'I thought it was funny that the man looked like Howard Carter' and Miss Godrich said 'the day was very fun and educational'. As you can see children and teachers alike had a wonderful and wacky day, we want to say a big thank you to the Egyptian man for making our day so exciting.

By Megan Rudge



WJS's MINI OFSTED



Regarding our recent visit, from a local inspector Mr Edge, the school was re-viewed in order to establish where we are in terms of teaching and learning. The inspection was like a 'mini Ofsted.' Ofsted is a government body that makes sure all schools and nurseries are checked and graded when required. There are 4 Ofsted grades: Outstanding, Good, Requires Improvement and Inadequate.

During Whitgreave Junior School's inspection from Mr Edge, we achieved a 'Good with elements of Outstanding', here are some of the things the inspector, Mr Edge, had to say about the school:

SCHOOL LIFE:

Mr Edge thought that the school is 'welcoming and has a vibrant ethos, in addition, the school has a wide range of facilities to support children's learning. Furthermore the school is extremely safe and all children are confident to come to school.'

CHILDREN'S BEHAVIOUR

Mr Edge also thought that 'The children are very well – behaved and seemed to be interested in the learning process. Moreover, the children demonstrated very good social skills and interacted well with each other.'

TEACHING AND LEADERSHIP

Mr Edge strongly thought that 'the teachers were very passionate about teaching the children and the leadership is extremely good and both teachers and leaders are very good examples all children'.

THE NEXT STEP TO A BETTER SCHOOL

So after hearing all of the fantastic comments that were said by Mr Edge, there is always room for improvement. At Whitgreave, the first thing we need to do is: Continue to develop and embed the new Whitgreave curriculum in writing, reading maths and science, which also consists of afternoon lessons. Another thing we need to do is: to have more provision on gifted and talented children, and to involve parents in home work activities.



WJS's MINI OFSTED



WHAT WJS'S PARENTS CAN DO

Children need to attend school every day to raise the school's and individual's attendance. In the event that your child misses a day school, they will miss important events that may make a significant difference to their levels and improvement of grades.

MR EDGE'S RECENT VISIT

On Tuesday 3rd March 2015, Mr Edge returned, to the school. He stayed at the school from 8:15 – 2:30—during his stay, Mr Edge talked to a range of staff including Mr Albutt, Mrs Redfern, Mrs Parker and TAs Mr Jones and Miss O'Sullivan. Mr Edge also had a fantastic tour of the school that was led by Tino (y5), Viktor (y6) and Hannah (y5). Concluding this visit, we achieved The Quality Mark for Maths and Literacy— something Ofsted will surely be impressed by!

By Tinodaishe Musabayana



SCIENCE AMBASSADORS



This year, the school has introduced 'Science Ambassadors', who walk round class during Science taking pictures with our very own digital camera that Mrs Barrett has kindly given them. There are also stickers, certificates and brand new science postcards awarded to children that have impressed the ambassadors.

At the end of the lesson, the science ambassadors hand out a sticker and certificate to the well-working and sensible child during that lesson. Although there are certificates and stickers for well-behaved children, there are postcards also available to send home to parents, from the Science Ambassadors, to tell them how well they are doing in science (1 per week).

The Owls have asked some of the children think of Science Ambassadors: Jamie Cohen thinks that Science Ambassadors help make children sensible and well behaved, in science. Kayleigh Foyle also thinks that science ambassadors are a good influence on the school and Keenan Taylor says that they help the school in science.

The following children were lucky enough to be nominated by their teachers to be the Science ambassadors for the year: Katelyn Henry (year 6), Cameron Morton (year 6), Kennedy Smith (year 5), Alex Bood (year 5), Noah Stokes (year 4), Callum Hackett (year 4), Hayden Aston (year 3) and Lily Causer (year 3). Who will be the ambassadors next year we wonder?



BOOK WEEK AT WHITGREAVE



Starting from Monday 2nd March 2015, Whitgreave and the nation celebrated National Book Week. We had a visit from a famous author who goes by the name of Harriet Goodwin and a visit from an illustrator who showed us how to make our drawing stand out. We also made our own front covers- each class had a unique front cover and, to top it all off, we had a visit from the man himself Willy Wonka- who came in because he needed our help as his recipe room had been flooded! Harriet Goodwin left a comment on her site saying that she was so happy to be at our school and that she wishes to come back to Whitgreave again! What fantastic feedback!

WHAT WE DID ...

YEAR 3

In year 3, their whole week was based on Horrid Henry and Tony Ross. The books they focused on were Horrid Henry's Nits, Horrid Henry's New Teacher and Horrid Henry's Sports Day. They also made their own version of the comic Horrid Henry and the Nits including freeze frames. To finish the week off, they made a poster for their own new teacher and they also wrote an apology letter from Henry to Miss Battle-axe.

Year 5

In year 5, their whole week was based on Clive Staples Lewis and his book from The Chronicles of Narnia, The Lion, Witch and the Wardrobe. Year 5 also made their own interactive quiz including hyperlinks. Their work in year 5 also included illustrations of characters out of The Lion, Witch and the Wardrobe, reading comprehension, imagining you are Lucy out of The Lion, Witch and the Wardrobe, biography of C.S Lewis, drawing the settings of Narnia and to top it all off, year 5 made their own chapter for The Lion, Witch and the Wardrobe.

Year 6

Year 6 unfortunately did not get to do any activities except for the workshops and the illustrations due to SATS.

We all had a fantastic week and loved every second and we would like to say thank you to all the visitors who took their time to come to our school so... THANK YOU!



MAD ABOUT SCIENCE!



On Tuesday 6th January, all of the school were gathered in the hall with Radioactive Ryan to begin The Mad Science Workshop. Year 3/4 were doing rockets and robots meanwhile, year 5/6 learned all about gravity using balloons! We had such FUN!!

Children and staff alike really enjoyed the day, Miss Corns thought 'it was really good because it made the children laugh and was educational at the same time'. Mr Albutt thought 'it was something different and good to see the children enjoying their science'. I also got Miss Barrett's (the science leader) opinion- she shared her favourite 'I enjoyed the part when Radioactive Ryan had to wear big gloves and build a satellite in little boxes!! The Owls also asked some of the children's opinions of the day- Fremi, in year 4, thought 'it was all around ... fantastic' and Hayden from year 3 thought 'it was cool and mad'. All round fantastic reviews!

By Tino and Omar



Here is where we were trying to make a ping pong ball fly!



Here we were making an air balloon fly using a hair dryer!



A STEP BACK IN TIME...



Year 3 had a fantastic day at the Black Country Museum on the 30th of January. We went for our topic which was the Victorians in History.

Everyone enjoyed the brilliant visit to the Black Country museum and both Year 3 teachers thought it was a great trip for the children to learn a lot about what it was like to live in Victorian times. When I asked Miss Laffan if she would like to go again she replied “Yes, it was a really good day and everyone had a lot of fun”. Miss Davies also loved the trip and would love to come back but when it wasn’t raining!

When at the Museum we split into small groups and stayed with an adult as we walked all around learning all about the Victorian times. The mine was the scariest place at the Black Country Museum and everyone was scared when we had to turn all the lights off. When all the lights were turned off a voice came out of nowhere and explained what life was like working in the mines. I learnt that children as young as 10 were working in the mines for 10 hours a day. We all visited many other places such as the church, chemist, sweet shop and school.

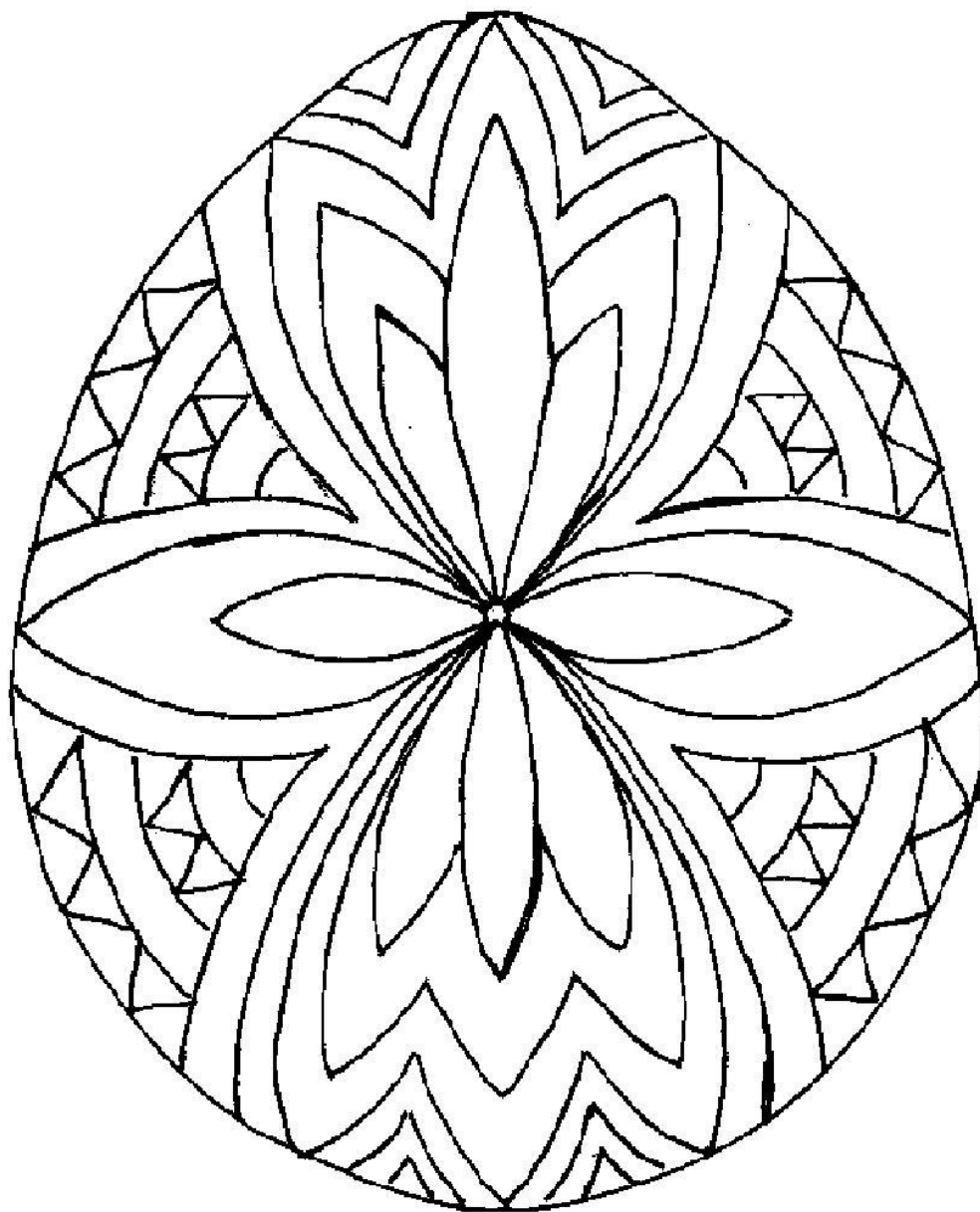
As you can see, we all had a fantastic day at the Black Country Museum and since going on the trip, we have created Victorian timelines and we’ve been learning about Victorians railways.

By Hayden and Nate



Easter Egg Competition

In this Easter egg competition, colour the Easter egg at home or school. Then bring it back to school and Miss Guy will choose a winner and the winner will get a prize!! Make sure it is beautifully bright and colourful– best of luck!!



Egg-cellent Jokes



5 funny Easter jokes

Q: How does Easter end?

A: With the letter R!

Q: How does the Easter bunny travel?

A: By hare plane!

Q: What do you call a dumb bunny?

A: A hare brain!

Q: How does the Easter bunny keep his fur neat?

A: With a hare brush!

Q: How does a rabbit keep his fur looking good?

A: With hare spray!



What's Next?



We would like to thank everyone who contributed to the Whitgreave Circle and we hope that you enjoy reading it!!

We wish you all a Happy Easter!

WHAT TO EXPECT IN THE NEXT ISSUE...

Interview with the Governors

Talented Footballers and Athletes at Moreton

Plans for the Summer

Red Nose Day

Big Band Fair and Science Week

Learning Mentor

Prefect Assemblies

Brass Players and an Interview with Mr Gray

Achievements this Year

Goodbye Year 6!

Attendance

Pupils of the Year

