



THE WHITE HOUSE

PREPARATORY SCHOOL

WOODENTOPS KINDERGARTEN
& THE WOODENTOPS NURSERY

8th July 2016, End of Summer Term 2016 | 0208 674 9514 | office@whitehouseschool.com | www.whitehouseschool.com

End of Summer Term 2016...

The end of school year 2015-16 has arrived... what a fantastic and busy year we have enjoyed.

The academic year has been another successful and enjoyable one at The White House.

With new additions to the school including an improved IT suite and IT infrastructure as well as the development of the Early Years outside spaces, the learning environment at The White House is looking fantastic.

We look forward to the summer when all classrooms and communal spaces are going to be decorated with renewed carpets on the stairs and in the halls. September will be an exciting time to come back to school.

This year our children have risen to their respective challenges and made every effort to go above and beyond our high expectations to once again excel in every area.

It gives me great pleasure to announce this year's Castle House Cup has been awarded to **DRUMMOND** house. Well done to Abigail Green, Lucy Fradin and Sam Fradin who have led their house well as House Captains.

Finally I would like to mention our very successful Year 6 class. They have performed admirably this year achieving outstanding offers and

scholarships at some of the country's most prestigious schools. I thoroughly enjoyed our time together in Normandy. School life doesn't stop at academic success and I am very proud of every one of our Year 6 children who have set a wonderful example to next year's Year 6 elect (Year 5) behaviour, attitude, respectfulness, manners and commitment to school life in every area.

After 30 amazing years of The White House we look forward now to September and our continued success for the future.

I wish you all the very best at your new schools next year.

Have a very restful and relaxing summer.

Best wishes
Daniel Cummings
Headmaster



Day Nursery



During the summer term the day nursery children enjoyed their learning experiences through a range of interests including 'The Hungry Caterpillar' story; in which they began to understand about the life cycle of a caterpillar, healthy and unhealthy food, fruit tasting and exploring the fruits' sensory qualities. They then moved on to explore 'The Three Little Pigs' story and learnt about different types of materials that can be used for different purposes and began to develop an understanding of the moral of the story. Next their learning moved onto 'people who help us,' in which a couple of our parents kindly came in to talk to the children about their profession, the children then applied this learning and their knowledge during their imaginary role play on the Woodentops hospital ward. They also visited the local lolly pop lady and learnt about the importance of road safety. Most recently the children's learning has been focused on summer celebrations and events including celebrating the Queen's birthday, The White House School's 30th anniversary and finally getting active for Wimbledon tennis, in which the children have been developing their moving and handling skills through ball and racket activities.

Kindergarten

What a fun-filled term we had. As part of our topic, Kindergarten learned more about different animals like zoo animals, pets, and farm animals. We enjoyed reading books and singing songs about animals and even had the opportunity to pretend to be some of the animals. This term was a very productive term creating different animal crafts which the children can be really proud of. We worked hard to improve our pencil grip and we are showing great progress in number and sound recognition. We had great fun at The Woodentops Fun Day, Kindergarten took part in several different races and gave a short performance. The highlight of this term was definitely our outing to Godstone Farm where we were given the opportunity to meet the different farm animals.



Pre-Reception

Pre-Reception have worked very hard this year. We have focused on our sounds and started emergent writing. We have made positive progress with our numbers and enjoyed weighing, measuring and having an understanding of what floats and sinks. We now have a better understanding of recognising our 2D and 3D shapes and have been introduced to basic adding. We enjoyed visiting The London Transport Museum as part of our Transport topic. We have enjoyed pretending to be a bus driver or a pilot in a plane going on many an exciting journey. I wish them well in their Reception year.

Reception

Throughout the year the Reception was been working hard and have made great progress. The children have thoroughly enjoyed developing their writing skills and becoming confident writers. During the year we have enjoyed exploring different topics. During the Autumn term our topic was 'Toys' where we were able to visit Bethnal Green Toy museum to enhance our learning of this topic. Our Spring topic was 'Stories' where we were able to see a production of 'The tiger who came to Tea' at the Lyric Theatre. The Summer term topic was 'minibeasts', where we went on a minibeast hunt in Holly lodge, Richmond park. To end the year we had an amazing trip to Legoland, Windsor.



Year One

What a brilliant term we have had in Year 1!

Our topic started with a letter from Shipwreck Sam who had been stranded on a desert island and needed our help.

This led us on to a wide range of engaging pirate related activities, from applying for a job on board a pirate ship, writing acrostic poems, writing WANTED posters for Blackbeard, to making treasure maps. Our map work extended to looking at a wider range of maps and plans, including the children's route to school and exploring the local area, using Google Maps to locate our homes and learning more about our Capital City London. Pirate Day drew our topic to a fabulous finish. We all dressed for the occasion and had lots of fun making pirate grog, decorating biscuits, singing sea shanties and using our sewing skills to make puppets, which required lots of perseverance! I have thoroughly enjoyed my term teaching at the White House. The children are all very excited about their new adventures ahead of them and I wish them continued success as they move up to Year Two.



Year Two

What a fantastic year it's been in Year Two! The children have worked extremely hard this year and covered a great range of topics.

Way back in September, the class began learning about the Great Fire of London. They learnt about the events of the fire and famous people from the time, such as Samuel Pepys and King Charles II. The topic highlight for the children was visiting Pudding Lane - where the fire began - and the Monument - designed by Sir Christopher Wren - to commemorate the fire. The spring term was another hugely enjoyable term, with the children studying Rainforest habitats. The children learnt to classify animals and looked very closely at patterns and camouflage. This followed on from a workshop that they took part in on their trip to London Zoo.

In the Summer term, the children have been learning about the Human Body; the different systems and organs within it and the body's capabilities, and this was enhanced by a trip to the Science Museum.

Finally, the highlight of the year for many was the class's final outing of the year to Legoland. The children had a great time, despite the weather; enjoying the rides, shows and a fantastic lego art workshop.

The children are now looking forward to a well-earned rest before moving up to Year Three, where they can expect even more hard work - and fun!



Year Three

Year 3 have had a great year showing their impressive progress. They have studied a variety of fun and exciting topics and experienced some memorable trips. They have had a visit from the dentist, taken part in healthy living and Islamic workshops, and visited the theatre, Wimbledon Mosque, Leeds Castle, Westminster Abbey and Kingswood. The children experienced a fantastic Science week participating in some exciting experiments and dressed up as some excellent book characters for World Book Day. They have all produced some outstanding work for open days, Harvest celebration production and the Treasure Island production. Year 3 are now confident writers using an ink pen and have worked hard to develop the reading and mathematical knowledge. All the children have made it a fantastic and memorable year for all.



Year Four

Year 4 have loved reading the explosive, thrilling and action packed, Alex Rider-*Stormbreaker* by Anthony Horowitz this term. The highlight has been writing a script and making the trailer for a 'Stormbreaker Film' using a green screen. The class have been inspired to read a number of the other books in the Alex Rider series and as a result have written the most convincing pieces of suspense writing for the school magazine. Our focus has also been on the Olympics and we look forward to following it over summer holidays. Year 4 thoroughly enjoyed dressing up for their trip to Kentwell and soaked up the enriching experience after a year of studying the Tudors. They were proud of the beautiful pottery fish they produced for the exhibition.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Mwauk9rLI3Y>



Year Five

I cannot believe that it is nearly the end of the year for Year 5. It seems only yesterday that I was welcoming them into the year group and letting them know the expectations. They have all worked exceptionally hard and had an extremely productive year both in and out of the classroom. This term has thus, been no different to the rest, filled with lots of activities and events to keep us busy. It started with our trips to The Laurels for their annual Spelling Bee and Maths Challenge, where one of our Year 5 teams finished second! We have also visited the Churchill War Rooms on one of our trips out of school, a visit which proved extremely successful, as it aided some enormously detailed and empathetic 'Evacuee Letters.' I would like to say well-done also to all the children in Year 5 for their efforts in the summer play, learning their lines excellently, the production was a huge success. Overall I am extremely proud of all of Year 5 for their hard-work and dedication this year and I wish them a very restful summer.

Year Six

Year 6 have had a fantastic year and should be incredibly proud of their achievements. They started the year working towards their 11+ exams in which they all performed extremely well and have gained places at fabulous schools for the next academic year. More recently, they have been preparing for their SATs tests and completing a range of end of term projects including a 'whatever island' task in which they designed their own islands, and also a 'holiday' project, planning and presenting a holiday budget and itinerary for my family! They have also enjoyed completing their scrap books on an African country of their choice. The children have been super role models this year and have enjoyed their different positions of responsibility, always leading by example. They had a superb trip to Normandy with Mr Cummings, Barnaby and Marion and have more recently enjoyed preparing for both the Talent show and also the school production of 'Treasure Island'. Whilst they are inevitably sad about leaving The White House, they have lots to look forward to and I wish them all well in their new schools. They will be missed by everyone – a special class.



Boys' Sport

The boys have enjoyed an excellent summer term in sports. The first half of the term had lots of hard work in the run up to sports day, which proved to be a great success with lots of excellent individual performances and sportsmanship on display. Big congratulations to Stirling who were the winning house on the day.

As always, the children have greatly enjoyed their tennis sessions in the second half of the term. These are held at Grafton Tennis Club and always bring out more than a few budding Andy Murrays!

Finally, in their regular sports sessions, the boys have made excellent progress in cricket. This term has seen a much better tactical understanding of the game develop throughout the school and the result was a much better standard of cricket in the boys' fixtures. Special mentions for excellent performances for the Under 9 teams at home to Oliver House, and the Under 10s away at Rosemead.

The boys are now looking forward to the return of football and rugby in the Autumn term, where even greater progress awaits, I am sure.



Girls' Sport



All the girls have had an impressive year with regards to sport. Autumn term saw some super progress in netball and some impressive wins for all year groups especially year 3. Spring term saw the focus move to hockey with some challenging fixtures and tournaments. All year groups played well and produced some impressive wins especially the U11's who performed outstandingly at the tournament hosted by Garden House School finishing 4th out of 8 schools. The U11's also participated in the ISA hockey tournament. The summer term saw a variety of rounders fixtures played weather permitting and every single girl showed there enthusiasm and dedication resulting in every year group finishing the year undefeated. Special mention needs to be made to the U11's who played superbly all year across all areas of sport and the Year 3 girls who were undefeated in netball. The girls have also shown progress and skill in athletics and swimming with some impressive individual performances on sports day and the swimming gala. The girls should all be proud of their achievements. I have thoroughly loved teaching every single one of them and wish them every success for the future.

Drama

This year, Drama at The White House School has been full of creativity, assemblies and exceptional performances.

Our budding young performers from each class have produced some fantastic work, and as I write this, they are currently rehearsing the last few details for this year's school play, "Treasure Island".

This year also saw the introduction of our Friday drama club. This has been a huge success, and I was very proud to watch they're final performances of "Peter Pan" and "Honk" last week. They sang beautifully, danced fantastically and acted with great confidence. Drama club will return next term, when will be getting into the Christmas spirit very early (September in fact!)

Our Musical Magic workshops continue to be very popular. Can you believe that we have run twelve already? With two more planned for the Summer Holidays, we are preparing for what promises to be a fun couple of weeks, full of jazz hands.

Our most exciting news though has to be about LAMDA. This year saw the best results the school has seen, with every candidate awarded either a Merit or Distinction for their verse and prose. I am extremely proud of all the children who took part in the exams, and impressed with how much they have grown in confidence.

I wish you all a wonderful summer, and who knows what theatrical moments September will bring...



Music

As we come to the end of another busy year, I reflect on what the children have achieved in the Musical life at The White House - there has been so much!

Our Assemblies this year, Harvest, Spring and the Nativity were all huge successes, with beautiful singing from the classes, choirs and confident playing from the orchestra.

Our two musical evenings for instrumental pupils showed how the children have improved over the year on their individual instruments. We listened to pianos, violins, guitars, oboes, flutes and singers who all performed with style and poise. Thank you to Victoria Sutherland, Nick Williams and Andrew Prosser for their work with instrumental lessons. The summer term started with the Inter-House Music Competition, which was won this year by Drummond, with Jessica Yarker and Caspar Burman the individual winners. It was all adjudicated by Peter Gritton, who gave helpful tips to all the performers including a bowing lesson to all the parents!

We had two successes at 11+ with Caspar Burman being given a Music Award, to Trinity School with automatic membership of the renowned Trinity School Boys Choir and Sam Fradin being offered a music scholarship on the oboe also at Trinity School.

Many children have taken practical music exams, all successfully with several merits and a number of distinctions – excellent!

The memories I have of happy smiling faces running into the Music room for rehearsals and music lessons is testament to the importance of music in the general education of our children and this cannot be underestimated. I trust that this will continue to thrive in the future.



A final word...

Goodbye...

We say goodbye to Richard Wilson who will be moving away from London and will be relocating to Derbyshire. Emily Cleveland is also leaving to teach in West London and we wish her all the best.

Deonie de Witt is relocating to Chichester and will be leaving at the end of the term.

We say goodbye to Joya Logan who will be leaving to pursue her professional singing interests and music tuition. We also wish Barbra Wharton and her family the very best in their move to Horsham. Finally thank you to Susanna Hammond who has worked brilliantly with the Year 1 class this term.

The White House would like to thank all of the staff for their hard work and contribution to school life.

Hello...

Every year brings exciting changes and this year I am pleased to welcome Charlotte Bryers who joins us with ten years' experience teaching at both Thomas' Clapham and Eaton Square School Pimlico.

We are also delighted to welcome Sarah Douglas who joins us from Griffin Primary Wandsworth where she held the position of Maths Leader and Year 6 class teacher. Sophie Zarod-Hall joins us from Dulwich College South Korea having previously taught Year 3 at Dulwich College, London. I am also delighted to welcome Lucy McEwen as Year 1 teacher. Lucy is currently teaching year 1 at Pembridge Hall School.

Finally I am pleased to introduce Sarah Nesling who will be teaching music across the school, she is an accomplished pianist and violinist and is leaving her role as Head Music for Ewell Castle Prep School after five years.

We welcome our new teaching staff to The White House and I look forward to the enthusiasm and new ideas that will undoubtedly accompany them.

Many thanks to the WAPS committee for their fundraising efforts this year the Summer Ball raised a staggering amount for Great Ormond Street Hospital (current count puts the figure in excess of £12500.). Congratulations to all the children that received prizes at this year's prize giving and I look forward to Rafi Davis and Amelie Zwi representing the school as Head Boy and Head Girl in September. I would like to thank the Fradin and Chatterjee's families' for their kind donation of our new Head Boy and Head Girl Honours board which we look forward to adding many more names to.

We look forward to seeing you all on **Monday 5th September 2016.**

SAVE THE DATE : FRIDAY 16TH SEPTEMBER

Mary and her family welcome you to evening drinks in the garden at The White House School.

Have a very enjoyable Summer break from all the Staff at The White House Preparatory School and Woodentops Kindergarten and Woodentops Day Nursery.



Accredited Member