



Whitefriars School

NEWSLETTER

February 2021

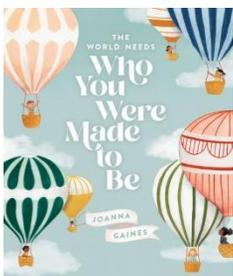


Children's Mental Health Week



We are proud to host Place 2 Be, a children's mental health charity, in our school and we were delighted to support Children's Mental Health Week. During the week lots of lessons focused on how children can look after their mental health. This year's theme was 'Dress to Express' and our children dressed in clothes to express who they are. They wore colour to

express how they're feeling and the world we live in. It was a great opportunity to encourage self-expression and celebrate a diverse range of emotions. It was lovely to see all their photos. During the week we also highlighted the importance of reducing the use of smart phones to improve mental health. The pupils were also provided with lots of activities that allowed them to focus on their mental health. These included Heartbeat Exercise, Tense and Release Muscle Relaxation, Senses Countdown and Body Scan.



Primary section pupils also listened to the story 'The World Needs Who You Were Made To Be' by Joanna Gaines. The text was selected as it celebrates how creativity and acceptance can come together to make for a bright and beautiful adventure. The book follows a group of children as they each build their very own hot-air balloons. As the children work together, using their own skills to fill the sky with beautiful

colours, we discover that the same is true for life - it's more beautiful and vibrant when our differences are celebrated. Pupils learnt all about the features of a hot balloon and how they work. They were given the challenge to design and make their own hot air balloons to reflect their personality and as a way of expressing themselves. Here are some of the amazing hot air balloons created!



Value of the month



Thoughtfulness

- **Thinking of others**
- **Being generous**
- **Making time to think**



Article 13 : Your right to have information.

Dates for March...

- 3rd ~ Year 9 & 10 Parents' Evening
- 4th ~ World Book Day
- 24th ~ Year 8 Parents' Evening
- 24th ~ Primary Parents' Evening
- 25th ~ Primary Parents' Evening
- 31st ~ Last Day of Term
- Primary Pupils - 2pm finish
- Secondary Students - 12pm finish

Job Vacancies



From time to time we have job opportunities which are advertised on our schools' websites. Please click the 'Staff Vacancies' button on our website for further information on any of our current vacancies or follow this link <http://heathlandwhitefriarsfederation.net>



Article 19 : You should not be harmed and should be looked after and kept safe.



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Safer Internet Day



On Internet Safety Day we provided the pupils with lots of learning about how they can stay safe online. Pupils produced individual pledges about what they would individually do and these were merged together into our Whitefriars School Safer Internet video.

Pupils focused on how to personally stay safe online and how to know if something online is trustworthy. EYFS and KS1 focused on the importance of staying safe online by making sure a grown-up is always in the room and has given permission to go online. They learnt to never send messages to anyone online or click on adverts without their adult to help them. KS2, KS3 and KS4 pupils focused on the choices they make each day to stay safe online.



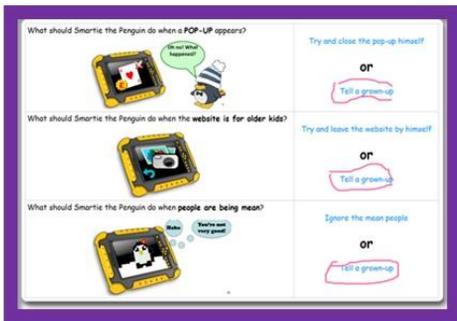
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Stargazing

Our latest Headteacher's Challenge involved stargazing and looking up into the night sky. The pupils were challenged to observe the stars, to reflect on what they learnt and how this made them feel. This was a magical way to bring Science alive and to experience the beauty of our natural world. Looking up at the great canopy of space was a powerful experience. Congratulations to the following pupils who received a Headteachers Challenge Certificate. Well done!

- Abaan – 4 Corvus
- Anaya – 2 Phoenix
- Annie – 7 Kapoor
- Dominika – 5 Pisces
- Hanaan – 7 Kusama
- Jalak – 6 Draco
- Raihan – 7 Hockney
- Rayyan – 2 Phoenix
- Rohitha – 10 Lennon
- Yusuf – 4 Hercules
- Zainab – 3 Aquarius



I pledge to stay safe online by...

1. NOT telling them where I live.
2. NOT tell them my full name.
3. NOT tell them where my school is.



Article 29 : Your right to become the best that you can be.



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International School Award



We have been awarded Foundation Level of the British Council's prestigious International School Award in recognition of our work to bring the world into the classroom. The international dimension of the

curriculum allows young people gain the cultural understanding and skills they need for life and work in today's world.

Thoughtfulness Art Project

We had so many amazing projects created capturing thoughtfulness during Lockdown! We were so impressed by your creativity and the thoughtfulness shown. Here are some examples.



House Events



Our House Events continue virtually. Pupils were challenged to make a model of an animal using household and recycled objects. It was fabulous to see the very creative designs.

Congratulations to the following winners who have all gained 10 house points:

- Frashostra ~ 7 Wiley (Newton)
- Maria ~ 7 Wiley (Newton)
- Aun ~ 7 Kusama (Mendelev)
- Annie ~ 7 Kapoor (Hawking)
- Raihan ~ 7 Hockney (Franklin)
- Koan ~ 9 Adichie (Franklin)
- Rohitha ~ 10 Lennon (Mendelev)

University-Style Lectures

We regularly run university-style lectures for our pupils as part of our pathways education. We are delighted to have continued to offer these online. Pupils enjoyed the following lectures:

- How has the Earth shaped human history?
- What makes someone who they are?
- What traits are inherent in different species?
- How have women contested power throughout history?
- Was Alexander the Great so Great?



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Holocaust Memorial Day



We made a special assembly for our pupils on Holocaust memorial Day. The assembly helped pupils understand what we remember on this day and allowed them to reflect on what can happen when prejudice and persecution are left unchallenged. The assembly talked about all of our responsibilities to stand against these processes when we see them in our own communities.

Virtual Clubs



We ran a series of virtual clubs for our pupils. These included Comic Book Club, High Intensity Interval Training, Politics Club, App Development Club, Debate Club, Games club, Korean Club, Astronomy Club and Harry Potter Club. Pupils also had the opportunity to take part in a virtual trip to Paris and in a live cooking show where they made cupcakes. It was great to see the high levels of enthusiasm for all these clubs.



Article 28: Your right to learn and go to school.



Article 15: Your right to meet with friends and join groups and clubs.



Over the half term holiday, lots of children took part in the Whitefriars School Cook-Off! All of the entries were absolutely incredible and Miss Taylor was very impressed. Here are the star chefs:

Nursery: Natalia

Reception: Zainab

Year 1: Artemis and Hussein

Year 2: Ayani, Shyla and Muzhda

Year 3: Kush, Zainab, Eduard and Abdulbasith

Year 4: Yusuf, Hakam and Bixente

Year 5: Jiya, Khushi and Zaina

Year 6: Ayaan and Madina

Thank you to everyone who entered!

