



Dear parents and carers,

Another exceptionally busy half term has passed for both students and staff. Which this term thankfully has been less busy in terms of Covid absence. We have found ourselves busy with the normal day to day which has been very welcome!

Our students impress in every lesson and continue to show enthusiasm and hard work both in the classroom and through participation in enrichment clubs. The real buzz of the school remains the school play and it has been delightful to see the dedication and application around this. I am very much looking forward to seeing the fruits of their work!

I wish you all a very restful break and look forward to welcoming everyone back for our final term of the year!

Adrian Cush

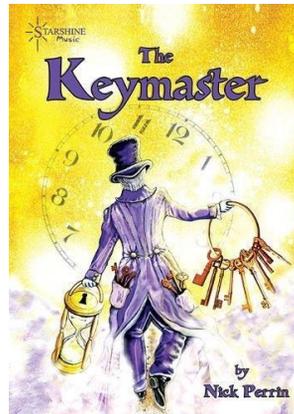
REMINDER – Please make sure that you have topped up your Parent Pay accounts ahead of the new term. There is a significant sum of money that needs to be paid. You must ensure your child's account is in credit, as there is a risk of the catering company refusing the purchase of future items.

REMINDER – We have a large amount of lost property. Please encourage your child/children to collect items from reception, and please label items clearly so we can proactively return items during the day.

Students return Monday 6th June - WEEK A

The last day of the summer term is Thursday 21st July at 12.35pm.

The cast and crew of our first school drama performance of 'The Keymaster' have been very busy rehearsing for the performances after half-term. Well done to the students involved for all of their hard work so far. It is going to be a fantastic performance!





House points

Total House points

Year 7

- 1st – Franklin
- 2nd – Mandela
- 3rd – Hillary
- 4th – Cavell

Year 8

- 1st – Franklin
- 2nd – Hillary
- 3rd – Cavell
- 4th – Mandela

Overall

- 1st – Franklin
- 2nd – Mandela
- 3rd – Hillary
- 4th – Cavell

Top Individual House points

Year 7

- 1. Jack Townsend
- 2. Daisy Collett
- 3. Conrad Richards
- 4. Kajetan Jazdzewski
- 5. Shiven Rao
- 6. Max Drummey
- 7. Erin Horseman
- 8. Sophia Brain
- 9. Jessica Shepherd
- 10. Kobe Bond

Year 8

- 1. Isaac Starren
- 2. Jack Happell
- 3. Leo Brown
- 4. Evan Smith
- 5. Joseph Stevenson
- 6. Thomas Samuel-Fagg
- 7. Finley Marshall
- 8. Maxwell Marshall
- 9. Viktorija Benaite
- 10. Adrian Rektor



Year 7 thoroughly enjoyed learning about forces with an egg-cellent experiment in Science!



Oliver Wraight in 7H climbed Ben Nevis recently as part of a fundraiser for the charity Mind. The ascent took under 4 hours with an average of 4 hours and the descent took only 2.5 hours with an average of 3 hours. The group raised £6000. Oliver said that the hardest part of the climb was at the top where there were no steps.

Well done Oliver!

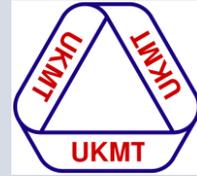


UKMT Junior Mathematics Challenge 2022

For the first time in the school's history, we had 48 students from Years 7 & 8 compete in the UKMT Junior Maths Challenge, where Whitelands Academy have set the bar in achieving great success. Overall, 12 students achieved the Bronze Award, 7 students the Silver Award and 1 student achieving the Gold Award.

In Year 7,

Erin Horseman – Bronze
Katie Lee – Bronze
Daniella Obeng – Bronze
Jessica Shepherd – Bronze
Max Drummey – Silver
Jack Townsend – Silver



In Year 8,

Maxwell Marshall – Bronze
Theodore Treguer – Bronze
Thomas Samuel-Fagg – Bronze
Arjun Bawa – Bronze
Nathan Chung – Bronze
Mason Waddup – Bronze
Bogdan Velicu – Bronze
Finley Marshall – Bronze
Finn Soutar – Silver
Jack Happell – Silver
Jensen Keeper – Silver
Leo Brown – Silver
Viktorija Benaite – Silver
Isaac Starren – Gold



Special mentions have to go to Jack Townsend in Year 7, who achieved a Silver Award and was best in his year group, but an extra special recommendation has to go to Isaac Starren in Year 8 who not only was the best in his year group by achieving the Gold Award but was also the Best in School. Not only that, but Isaac's high score of 106 enabled him to qualify for the next round of the UKMT Challenge, where approximately 5000 students around the country are able to compete in this special event.

We would like to congratulate all of our students who participated in the Junior Maths Challenge this year and to those who achieved an award, but once again, to Jack and Isaac for their remarkable achievements as well.

Mr Day

Film Club

Reviews

Big Hero 6 is about a young teenage boy who, after the mystery of his older brother's death, gathers a group of friends including the big, friendly robot Baymax, which his brother designed. Their mission is to find the unknown criminal who may be linked to the older brother's death.

We liked the comedic parts of the film as well as the characters' development and personalities. We didn't like how the end was a bit rushed and we could've seen more. We also didn't like how the robot, Baymax, died but then somehow soon after the robot was rebuilt.

- Bailee and Chloe



What was it about?

About a boy called 'Hero' who learns how to make friends after a very emotional time in his life. He also learns how to let go of people.

What did you like?

I liked when they become superheroes and show how they made their gear.

What didn't you like?

I didn't like when Baymax said something like 'My only purpose is to get you back to help'. Are they not friends?

- Isobel

I found this movie funny but emotional at the same time. Big Hero 6 is about a boy who loves bot fighting but he warmed up to a marshmallow like robot. I loved when Mr Callaghan was unmasked in the lab because it brought drama. I didn't like when Hero blamed Mr Callaghan and made Baymax destroy him.

- Lucy

I like the plot of the film and how it had all the different plot twists. My favourite character was Fred because he was quite a funny character. My least favourite part of the movie was when Tadashi died because it was really sad how he went to go save Callaghan and he just betrayed the Hero. Out of 5 I would give it 4.

- Olivia



English work

After reading Brian Bilston's reverse poem about refugees, year 7 students had a go at writing their own. Well done to the students whose excellent poems are featured below. Remember to read them from top to bottom then bottom to top.

Football

Football is horrible
I will not be convinced
It is good
Instead
I will believe
It is a waste of time
It is boring
Never in a million years will I say
Football is a great part of my day.
- Taio Cook

Animals

They have no need of our help
And don't try to convince me that
Animals are going extinct
They are no help to us
So do not tell me
They need us to save them
Never in a million years will I not say
They don't need us
So do not tell me
Animals are great
- Ally Lawton

Books

Books are pathetic
So don't tell me that
They're like movies without pictures
They don't provide any sort of entertainment
I don't believe that
Books will always be for me
- Olivia Tomlins

Alone

You are all alone
So do not try to convince me that
You are loved,
You are not alone,
You are happy.
Instead say
You're invisible to everyone
No one cares about you
So don't tell me that
You are surrounded by loved ones.
- Ainhoa Silva Gomez-Menor

Social Media

Social media is the best
You cannot say
There are better uses of time
I believe that
It is the greatest thing in the world
Stop saying that
It damages your eyes
It's a no brainer that
It drowns out all problems
I will never agree that
Social media is addictive
Because no matter what
Social media is better than real life
It is wrong to say that
It can affect your future
- Daniella Obeng

Reading

We have continued to add to our library with help from students who have been suggesting books. We recently added the Carnegie Awards shortlist to the shelves and recommend those to anyone wanting to read the very best in new Young Adult fiction. Following lots of requests for reading recommendations, we have put together a list of fantastic books, many of which can be found in our library. Please remember to return library books after half term.

Fantasy

David Almond – Skellig
Jenny Nimmo – Midnight for Charlie Bone
Michelle Paver – Wolf Brother
Cornelia Funke – Dragon Rider
Susan Cooper – The Dark is Rising
Akwaeke Emezi – PET
Rick Riordan – Percy Jackson series
Phillip Pullman – The Northern Lights series
Madeleine L'Engle – A Wrinkle in Time
Kalynn Bayron – This Poison Heart

Action and Adventure

Siobhan Dowd – London Eye Mystery
Paul Jennings – Unbelievable! (Short stories)
Frank Cottrell Boyce - Millions
Anthony Horowitz – Alex Rider series
Louis Sachar - Holes
Eva Ibbotson - Journey to the River Sea
Alan Gibbons – Shadow of the Minotaur
Malorie Blackman - Noughts and Crosses
Geraldine McCaughrean - Where the World Ends
Lissa Evans - Wed Wabbit

Science Fiction/Dystopia

Robert Swindells - Hydra Average
Ann Halam – Dr Franklin's Island
Suzanne Collins - The Hunger Games series
Veronica Roth - Divergent Series
Allison Allen-Gray - Unique
George Orwell – 1984
Douglas Adams - Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy
Patrick Ness - More Than This

Mystery/Crime

Mark Raddon - The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time
Arthur Conan Doyle - The Hound of the Baskervilles
Ransom Riggs - Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children
M.A. Bennett - S.T.A.G.S
Andy Mulligan - Trash
Jason Reynolds - Long Way Down
Lemony Snicket – Series of Unfortunate Events

Family and Relationships

Sue Townsend – The Adrian Mole series
Anne Fine – Goggle Eyes
John Green – The Fault in our Stars
Becky Albertalli - Simon vs. the Homo Sapiens Agenda
Jennifer Niven – All the Bright Places
Sharon Creech – Heartbeat
Malorie Blackman – Pig Heart Boy
Bali Rai – (Un)Arranged Marriage
Yen Mah Adeline – The Chinese Cinderella
Alice Oseman – Heartstopper

Real-life issues

R.J. Palacio - Wonder
Kwame Alexander - Rebound
Benjamin Zephaniah - Refugee Boy
Angie Thomas - The Hate U Give
The Boy at the Back of the Classroom
Malorie Blackman – Pig Heart Boy

Historical

Michael Morpurgo – Private Peaceful
Frances Hardinge – A Skinful of Shadows
Sally Nicholls – Things a Bright Girl Can Do
Kevin Crossley-Holland – The Seeing Stone
Anne Frank – The Diary of a Young Girl
Marcus Zusak – The Book Thief
John Boyne – The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas