

## Grammar Objectives of the Week: the use of the passive tense

Welcome to Term 6! The sun is shining, the exams are finishing soon and the long summer holidays are just appearing on the horizon. We are also nearing the end of a year-long focus on spelling, punctuation and grammar at WA. Semi-colons, commas, silent 'k's, brackets, dashes and speech marks are just some of the concepts that have exercised our minds over this time. Term 6 will be an opportunity to revise some of these objectives, to incorporate some new ones and to look forward to September.

We shall begin with a look at the passive tense – an idea we shall return to in coming weeks. You may not realise it, but you use the passive tense on numerous occasions every day. It is most straightforward to understand the passive tense through a basic comparison. *I ate the apple.* This sentence is active, because the agent of the sentence (*I*) has done the action (*ate*) to an object (*the apple*). *The apple was eaten by me.* This sentence, on

the other hand, is passive because the agent (*me*) has moved to the end of the phrase and the object (*the apple*) has moved to the beginning. Importantly, in this passive sentence the agent can be omitted altogether: *The apple was eaten.*

We often use the passive tense in factual writing, particularly when describing procedures or processes. *Nuclear waste will still be radioactive even after 20,000 years, so it **must be disposed of** very carefully.* The omission of a particular agent ("*...so we must dispose of it...*") leads to this sentence having a more scientific and objective feel and conveys the sense that it is people **in general** who must be responsible for this careful disposal.

This may all seem rather confusing at this stage, but I guarantee that by the end of this term you shall have a thorough understanding of how to form the passive tense and recognise when and why we use it.

By Mr Harris, Assistant Senior Leader - English

## Internship student goes back to primary school

As a Year 10 student, I have had the opportunity to participate in three different work placements. One placement was at Hallfield Primary School, where I worked as a teaching assistant in the nursery. Part of the duties were to supervise the children during class, break times, lunch time and after school until their parents collected them. During lessons, I used to help the teacher organise the children to ensure they were in their correct places, provide them with the correct equipment, assist them with their tasks such as counting up to 20 or more, recognise shapes and names, painting, speech and adding numbers.

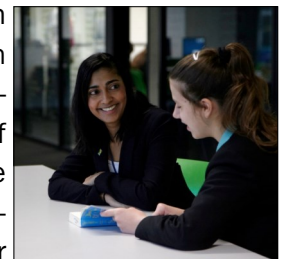


I feel that this experience has equipped me with skills and knowledge that I can transfer into my education and future work. Thank you very much to Hallfield for hosting me and providing this experience.

By Sara Alwan, Year 10

## Message from the Principal, Ms Bora

Welcome back to our final term this academic year! The main message today to parents is a reminder that your child's end of term assessments are going to be extremely important in determining your child's timetable next year for KS3, KS4 and Post-16 (Sixth Form). In particular, we will be conducting reading and spelling tests during the last week of term, the week beginning Monday 20th July, so it is very important that no student is absent from school during this time. As well as **reading, revising and practising questions** with your child, please also speak to them about being **realistic** about their career options. In order to pursue careers such as medicine, students will need to put in enough **revision** to ensure top **ranking** in their year group. Students should also be **reading** books for pleasure AND to improve their general knowledge in addition to using their textbooks. Please also use the WA curriculum booklets. Good luck!



## WA students support local toddlers



As part of the Teens and Toddlers programme, groups of WA students work with toddlers in a nursery every week. Last term, Thursday's group presented their work to the new head of the nursery. They explained the purpose of Teens and Toddlers and what they had learnt so far. The head was really impressed!

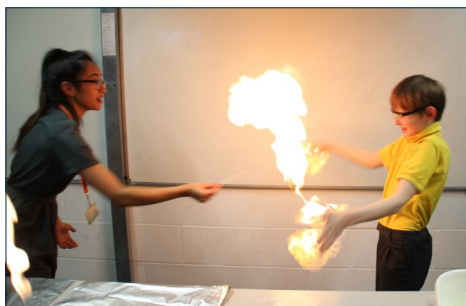
Wednesday's group are doing very well in the playground. They now know how to manage the short attention span of the little ones, how to redirect them and how to deal with being ignored.

The young people in these two groups have shown amazing personal growth and insight; well done!

By Mr Connick, Pastoral Support Worker

## WA meets new students at Induction Evening

At the end of term, WA welcomed its newest cohort of students and their families to purchase uniform and find out more



about life at Westminster Academy. We were pleased to see that next year's Year 7 showed lots of zest and curiosity as they visited different departments!

Huge thanks is due to our wonderful student helpers who gave beautiful musical performances at the Induction Evening and got lots of great feedback for their excellent tours of the Academy. We'd also like to thank our superb Parent Council who were on hand at the event to give valuable advice to parents of new students.

If you would like support from the Parent Council, or if you'd like to get involved, please contact:

[parentcouncil@westminsteracademy.biz](mailto:parentcouncil@westminsteracademy.biz) .

## What's on: Term 6

FREE IT classes for parents - Thursdays 4 - 6pm; WA Library

FREE Art classes for parents and community

FREE Adult English classes - every Wednesday

To express interest in any of the above, please email Mr Gothard: [AGothard@westminsteracademy.biz](mailto:AGothard@westminsteracademy.biz)

Progress Review Day - Friday 12 June

Year 12 Parents' Evening - Wednesday 24 June

Year 6 Induction Day - Friday 26 June

Year 8 Parents' Evening - Wednesday 8 July

Science Fair - Wednesday 15 July

Enrichment Day - Friday 17 July



Westminster

Join the Volunteer Police Cadets in Westminster!

We aim to provide new opportunities and activities for young people and improve relations between Police and Youth. Come to a VPC Meeting to find out what we do!

Open to young people 13-17 years old - Intake Date may apply.



Contact us on 07795256759 or email [Jon.Marsden@met.police.uk](mailto:Jon.Marsden@met.police.uk) for more information [www.met.police.uk/cadets](http://www.met.police.uk/cadets)

### Upcoming sports fixtures

Year 9 Football Development Tournament	05/06/2015	4:00pm	Paddington Rec
Year 7/8 Rounders	09/06/2015	1pm - 5pm	Paddington Rec
Year 7/8 Kwik Cricket	25/06/2015	1pm - 5pm	The Hub, Regents Park