

## Our Trail Begins...

We explored White City's streets and green spaces and uncovered some of its amazing history. We began by becoming Street Detectives and researched the names of local roads.

Our school is on Commonwealth Avenue. Many of the other streets nearby are named after Commonwealth Countries that were once run by the former British Empire.

### 1. Can you find the streets that match these flags?

South Africa Road, Australia Road, Canada Way, India Way, New Zealand Way



In 1906, White City was made up of large arable fields near to Old Oak Farm. The area changed quickly after this.

We learned that White City is named after a big exhibition which took place here in 1908. It celebrated a new alliance between France and Britain, the 'Entente Cordiale'. The grand pavilions were painted white or decorated in white marble making it 'The Great White City'.



The 1908 Olympics were planned to be held in Rome, Italy. However, Mount Vesuvius volcano erupted in April 1906, damaging the city of Naples. Money intended for the Olympics was instead used to help rebuild the city.

Britain offered to host the Olympics

in London instead and built a new stadium on the exhibition site.

### 1908 Olympics: Curious Facts

- Great Britain was the only team in the women's archery event
- The tug of war was won by a City of London Police team
- Bicycle polo made an appearance as a demonstration event
- Dorando Pietri caused controversy in the Marathon because he was helped over the line by officials
- All the judges were British (Yes, really!)



There is now a road called Dorando Close named after Pietri. Can you find it on the map?

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# WHITE CITY

## Discovery Trail

Explore your local environment



St. John XXIII Primary School with Hammersmith & Fulham Urban Studies Centre explored the local area of White City and Hammersmith Park to make this Discovery Trail. Look inside to discover all about the stories of the past and special places nearby.



# Timeline

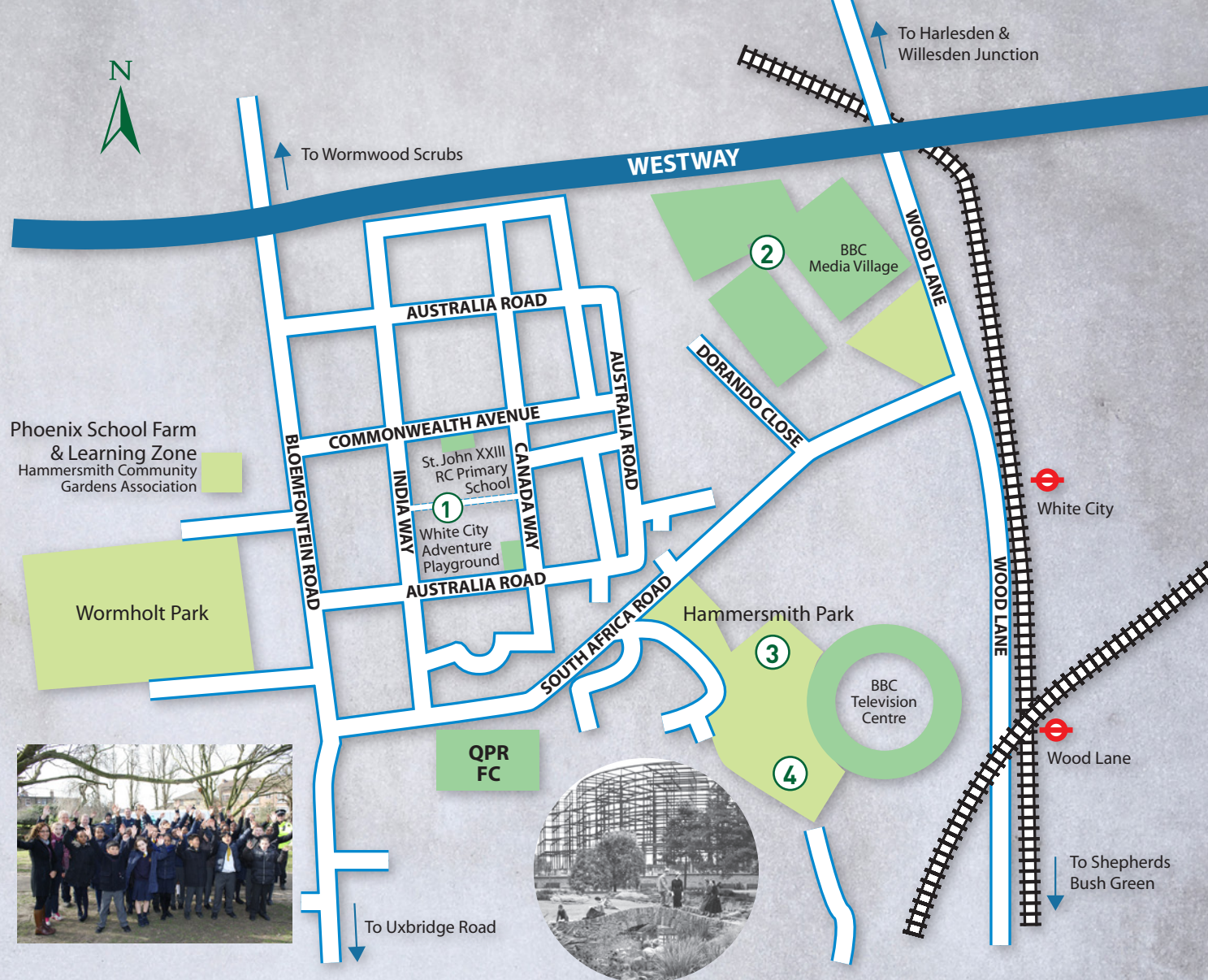
- 1900** The area now called White City was a collection of farms, fields and gardens
- 1904** Entente Cordiale signed between France and Britain
- 1906** Mount Vesuvius erupts
- 1908** Franco-British Exhibition
- 1908** The Olympics needed a new home and came to London. The White City Stadium was opened by King Edward VII
- 1910** Japanese Garden of Peace created at the Japan-British Exhibition
- 1914-1918** Some of the larger buildings were used for the manufacture of aeroplanes in the First World War
- 1935** White City Estate construction started
- 1939-1945** Second World War
- 1954-1955** Hammersmith Park was built when the former White City Exhibition grounds were redeveloped
- 1965** Pope John Roman Catholic Primary School established
- 1966** The White City running track hosted one of the 1966 World Cup matches
- 1985** The White City Stadium was demolished
- 2010** The Japanese garden was restored for its 100th birthday. It is the oldest traditional Japanese garden found in a public place in Britain.
- 2015** Buildings at the former BBC site start to be redeveloped
- 2015** Pope John Roman Catholic Primary School changes its name to St John XXIII Catholic Primary School in celebration of its 50th Birthday

## 2. Look at the Olympic Medal Table. How many medals did Great Britain win in 1908?

(Read the curious facts to find out why we were so successful). Cross the marathon finishing line as though you just ran 26 miles!

The White City Estate started to be built in the 1930s but was delayed by the Second World War. The White City Stadium later became a greyhound racing track for many years.

1908				
THE GREAT STADIUM SHEPHERD'S BUSH				
MEDAL WINNERS				
GREAT BRITAIN	36 GOLD	51 SILVER	38 BRONZE	
U.S. OF AMERICA	23 GOLD	12 SILVER	12 BRONZE	
SPAIN	8 GOLD	6 SILVER	11 BRONZE	
FRANCE	5 GOLD	5 SILVER	9 BRONZE	
GERMANY	3 GOLD	5 SILVER	6 BRONZE	
HUNGARY	3 GOLD	4 SILVER	2 BRONZE	
CANADA	3 GOLD	3 SILVER	10 BRONZE	
NORWAY	2 GOLD	3 SILVER	3 BRONZE	
ITALY	2 GOLD	2 SILVER	0 BRONZE	
BELGIUM	1 GOLD	5 SILVER	2 BRONZE	
AUSTRALASIA	1 GOLD	2 SILVER	2 BRONZE	
RUSSIA	1 GOLD	2 SILVER	0 BRONZE	
FINLAND	1 GOLD	1 SILVER	3 BRONZE	
SOUTH AFRICA	1 GOLD	1 SILVER	0 BRONZE	
GREECE	0 GOLD	3 SILVER	0 BRONZE	
DENMARK	0 GOLD	2 SILVER	3 BRONZE	
BOMBEHA	0 GOLD	0 SILVER	2 BRONZE	
NETHERLANDS	0 GOLD	0 SILVER	2 BRONZE	
AUSTRIA	0 GOLD	0 SILVER	1 BRONZE	



## 3. Explore Hammersmith Park near the former BBC site.

We discussed how we could improve the park with Mick the Gardener, the

tree surgeons and the Parks Police. What suggestions do you have to make our park an even better place?

## 4. Wander through the peaceful Kyoto Garden (originally built to commemorate the Japan-British Exhibition in 1910).

We planted flowers here to make it even more beautiful. Look carefully at the rocks in the dry garden. Can you spot a crane and a turtle?