



Whitstable Junior School

Learning today for life tomorrow

Week ending 13th December 2019



A message from Mrs Knoupe...

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year and Welcome Back!

Welcome back to term 3 and a huge welcome to new members of the WJS family. We have some new children who have joined us and they have been made to feel part of our family already by their lovely class mates. We also welcome 3 new staff members. Mrs Reed has joined us to support as an LSA in 4W. Mrs Williams has replaced Miss Meyler in 3G as LSA and Mrs Faux-Bowyer is supporting as an LSA across lower school.

Whilst this is a short term, 6 weeks in total, we have lots of exciting and inspiring things in store for the children. This week has been no exception. Upper school have started the New Year by thinking about how they can make fresh starts, building new friendships or discovering a new talent or interest. Year 5 have been inspired by Viking women; learning about their daily life and how important they were to the Viking history. They have also been getting sticky in science by making solutions with sugar and liquid. Year 6 have been flexing their writing muscles by completing their stories based on a virtual world as well as learning all about how to calculate missing co-ordinates in all 4 quadrants (the teachers tell me that the children have really enjoyed the challenge this week). Year 3 have begun learning about the United Kingdom and have used their atlas skills to locate cities in the UK. They have also thought about where magnets and forces are seen and used as an introduction to their topic, 'May the Force be With You!' Year 4 have used chalk to draw around their bodies and label what they could remember from previous learning. They then played bones bingo! The Shang Dynasty has proved to be full of exciting learning already, including learning that they had a line of Emperors that led the Dynasty. Finally, Year 4's imagination took flight with the tale of Shen's Magic Paintbrush in Literacy. Shen can paint steaming pots full of fish and oysters to feed the hungry people in her village, but then evil strikes.

We also started our "Yoga Ready for Learning" sessions this week. Well done to the Sports Crew who have visited each class after lunch to run these sessions and who have been filming videos so that from next week all each class needs to do is find the yoga video and press play.

3G were the first class to take part in our "Micro-Forest School" sessions. The sessions saw an afternoon of great fun and collaboration, team building and yummy toasted-marshmallow eating taking place. The children have told me how much they enjoyed this. Everyone in school will get an opportunity to do this.

Next Friday we celebrate World Religion Day, which is a great opportunity to help our children expand their horizons and continue our task of widening the children's knowledge and understanding of the many world religions practiced today. The day will be child led, promote empathy and equality for all and enable the children to decide what aspects of their religion they wish to learn about. Year 3 - Sikhism, Year 4-Buddism, Year 5 -Taoism and Year 6 -Hinduism. On Thursday the whole school will hear from Pema Deki (Emma Slade- the first woman to be ordained as a Buddhist Nun) in assembly and Year 4 will have a further opportunity to explore her faith with her. We are so pleased she has been able to come along to WJS.



Next week also sees the launch of our exciting 4 week Attendance and Punctuality Challenge that will run from 13 January to 17 February. We are encouraging your children to be IN SCHOOL and ON TIME every day. Prizes to be won within two categories to ensure every child has the best opportunity to win one. The first is for children who achieve 100% attendance and 100% punctuality and the second for children who have been absent from school due to sickness but have 100% punctuality for the days they have been here! We appreciate this time of year can be challenging with the pesky bugs 🐛 and viruses 🦠 but we are confident we have many Attendance & Punctuality Heroes here at Whitstable Junior School.

I look forward to seeing everyone next week for more fun and exciting learning.

Warm wishes,
Annie Knoupe

Headteacher's Award...



Dylan 6RM for showing showing determination to challenge himself and a love of learning. Well done.



Reminders...

- Children should arrive at school through the back gates and the gates shut at 8.50. If children are late then parents need to ring the bell and accompany them to the office.
- Healthy fruit and snacks are encouraged for break time to help your children learn as well as possible through the morning.
- School dinner cost goes up to £2.35 from January.

Attendance and Punctuality...

Please phone the school office before 9am if your child is going to be absent.



**Whole School
Attendance 96 %**

Tarik Tiger Attendance Winners



Waiting patiently for the scores on the doors. Which class will have Tarik join them for the week?

Polly and Petur Punctuality Winners



Waiting patiently for the scores on the doors. Which class will have Polly and Petur join them for the week?

Letters this week.... Don't forget you can find all the letters we email out to you saved on the school website. <http://www.whitstable-junior.kent.sch.uk/>

- Girls Sport Coaching Offer Letter
- Boys Sports Coaching Offer Letter
- Sportshall Athletics Competition Letter
- iRock School of Rock Letter
- Chartwells Change of Menu Letter



Important dates coming up...

Monday 13th – Friday 7th - Attendance and Punctuality Challenge

Thursday 16th January- Visit from Pema Deki

Friday 17th January – World Religion Day Celebration

Monday 20th – Friday 24th January – WJS Winter Themed Arts Week

February 2020

Monday 3rd February – Friday 7th – Story Telling Week.

Friday 7th February – NSPCC Number Day – Wear a number for the NSPCC.

Tuesday 11th February – Safer Internet Day. Visit by Bigfoots Theatre Company for workshops on Cyber-Safety.

Friday 14th –End of Term 3