



Whitstable Junior School

Learning today for life tomorrow

Week ending 28th February 2020



A message from the Headteacher...

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to term 4. The weather has certainly been dreary and grey but life at WJS continues to be exhilarating and fun.

Year 3 have been excited to begin studying the book "Into the Forest" by Anthony Browne. So far they have predicted the story and acted out a scene from the book to think about the emotions and thoughts of the main characters. They have been putting their measuring skills to the test in Maths, converting mm and cms. They have also researched the life and works of Vincent van Gogh and worked to produce posters of information. They looked closely at his painting style and tried to create their own versions of his famous painting Starry Night.

This week, Year 4 began preparations for their upcoming soirée! For this, children had the opportunity to audition any hidden talents they may have in front of the whole year group - they were all truly brilliant, well done!

Year 5 have spent their first week back, exploring the amazing poem by Homer: 'The Odyssey'. The children have loved learning about the start of the adventures that Odysseus and his crew had after Troy. In RE, they have been studying Judaism and exploring the difference between Orthodox and Reform Synagogues; the children had great fun practicing writing out the Torah. Finally, the teachers have told me how amazing it has been to see the progress the children have made during their swimming lessons and what fun it has been getting back into the pool.

Year 6 have begun their gruesome lessons all about Crime and Punishment through the ages: this week they learnt about how the Romans dealt with criminals. The children were quite amazed that in Roman times if they did not keep the front of their house clean then this was seen as a crime and could be punished by flogging or beating! Children have also been having fun with numbers- amazing themselves at how quickly they have been able to find a rule and apply this to solve the nth term! Amazing!

This week we have also asked all the children, parents, carers, staff and governors what they think about changing the school House names.

WJS believes in these things:

- WJS thinks we should show we respect and include everybody.
- WJS thinks caring about the environment is really important for your future.
- WJS believes that children who come here should be given the "roots to grow and the wings to fly".
- WJS links all the learning here to our curriculum drivers; adventure, resilience, community, independence, challenge and curiosity.



- We think our school House names should connect to WJS beliefs and our curriculum tree.
- We are asking everyone if they think we should change the name of our houses to species of trees

For example;

- Oak House,
- Elm House
- etc



Why not different people?

- We only have 4 houses.
- It would be IMPOSSIBLE to choose 4 people who represent our wide and varied community.

Why trees?

- Trees are vital. As the biggest plants on the planet, they give us oxygen, store carbon, stabilise the soil and give life to the world's wildlife. They also provide us with the materials for tools and shelter.
- Trees help break the cycle of poverty and deforestation
- Trees help reduce human impact on climate change
- Forests are a largely untapped medical resource

TREES ARE AMAZING!!!

And we want our Houses to be named after something AMAZING!

The response so far has been phenomenal, thank you so much for spending time to share your thoughts with us. Deadline for completing the online survey is Friday 6th March.

Warm wishes,
Annie Knoupe

Headteacher's Award...



Olive in 3H For always working so hard. Showing bravery and sharing her musical knowledge. We are super proud of you. Well done!



WJS PTFA...

WJS ECO Disco Fri 28th Feb (tonight!)



Internet Safety...

Help and advice for families in a digital world Parent Info is a collaboration between Parent Zone and NCA-CEOP, providing support and guidance for parents from leading experts and organisations.



<https://parentinfo.org/articles/all>

Attendance and Punctuality...

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

**Whole School
Attendance
Since Sep 2019
96.13%**

**Tarik Tiger
100 % Attendance
Winners**



Class 4L

**Polly and Petur
100% Punctuality
Winners**



**Classes
3H, 3MC, 4O, 5M, 6H,
6RM**

Reminders...

- **Changes in your contact details**-Please remember to let us know if you move house/change mobile/home phone numbers so we can contact you in an emergency. Don't forget the majority of our correspondence is sent by email so if you're not getting any then something is wrong. Let the office know and we can check our system and if you need us to we will provide paper copies. We also need to know if you are not receiving texts from the school too. Any queries on the above then please come into the office or phone and the office team will be happy to help.
- **Clubs**- We take your children's safety very seriously and if they are due to attend a club after school and don't turn up we always give you a ring to check they are safely with you. Unfortunately, this can be a long process when there are many parents to contact. It would really help us if you could call the office in advance to let us know if your child is unable to attend a club. Children must also NOT be making choices randomly about whether they want to attend a club or not. If they have joined then we expect them to attend unless you have contacted us to say they are unable to. Thanks very much for helping us keep your children safe.

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/>

- Food Bank Focus Group Briefing Notes
- Food Bank Poster AW6
- Foster For Kent - Information Event
- House Point Survey Letter Feb 2020
- Invitation to participate May Day Poster Competition 2020
- May Day 2020. school poster
- May Day Posters Competition Guide 2020



- Wild Classroom
- Coronavirus PHE Advice Letter Feb 2020
- Coronavirus_advice_for_education_settings_poster

Important dates coming up...

28th Feb –PTFA Disco-Information to follow

March 2020

- Whole School Book Week - Monday 2nd March - 6th March

2nd March

- LS Game Zone Quex Park Forest School Reward Trip
- Year 5 Arts Workshops at The Whitstable School

5th March

- 4O Day at Quex Park Forest School Day
- Dressing up for National Book Day

9th March

- School Council Quex Park Forest School Reward Trip
- Year 5 Arts Workshops at The Whitstable School

12th March

- 4L Day at Quex Park Forest School Day

16th March

- Whole School STEM week - 16th March - 20th March
- School Council Quex Park Forest School Reward Trip

19th March

- 4W Day at Quex Park Forest School Day

23rd March

- National Well-being week - 23rd March - 27th March
- Arts Council Quex Park Forest School Reward Trip

25th March

- Yr 4 Musical Soiree (to parents/carers)– Details to follow

26th March

- NSPCC assemblies

27th March

- NSPCC Upper School workshops
- National Autism Day – Details to follow

30th March

- Arts Council Quex Park Forest School Reward Trip

Tuesday 31st March – Last day of term-End of Term 4

Tuesday 14th April- First day back-Start of Term 5