



Whitstable Junior School

Learning today for life tomorrow

Week ending 11th December 2020



A message from the headteacher...

Dear Parents and Carers,

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the staff team at WJS. This has been a really tough week and yet again the magic of the WJS family spirit has shone through meaning the school has continued to run smoothly in spite of all the practical challenges. We really do have such a wonderful and committed team of people caring for your children.

I wrote to you earlier this week explaining that in order to support those families that take the decision to keep their child at home between now and the end of term 2 (18th December), I will not seek to enforce a penalty notice. However I must also make it clear that teachers cannot teach children in their class at school and be expected to provide remote or home-learning for those who choose not to come into school; the workload and logistics for doing so would be impossible. The Oak National Academy is an online school created during the pandemic and is available to everyone. There are free, high-quality video lessons and resources available for you to share with your child. Here is the link; <https://classroom.thenational.academy/> Click on the Key Stage 2 tab (pink in colour) and choose your subjects. In addition to this, your child could read daily and practice TTRockstar and Spelling Shed.

We also have the Nasal Flu Vaccines on Tuesday 15th December. If you have chosen to keep your child at home this week I'm afraid you would be unable to bring your child in just for the vaccine. We have been made aware that you can approach your GP to find out how to access this in another way.

We have made the decision that school dinners will begin again after the Christmas holidays. For the rest of term, we will only be providing those children who are eligible for Free School Meals with a school packed lunch. We hope that the Festive Packed Lunch will go ahead but will confirm either way on Monday next week

As you are aware, we have a range of Christmas activities planned for the last week of term which we hope will be a lovely way to end a quite challenging year for everyone. We will do our very best to make sure that the children have a fun-packed festive week. I'm looking forward to being back in school on Wednesday 16th December, all being well.

Warm regards,
Annie Knoupe

Christmas Activities next week...

- A virtual festive **Jack and the Beanstalk Panto** will be available for the children to watch in class, during the course of the week, at time that is convenient to the class teacher.
- On Tuesday 15th December, the children are invited to watch a virtual **i-ROCK Christmas festival** at 2pm, in their classrooms.
- On Wednesday 15th December, the children have their **class Christmas parties** in the afternoon.
- On Thursday 17th December, our Year 3 children will be presenting their virtual **Festive Sing up to parents** and all of the children in the school will have the opportunity to make Christingles.

Year 3 Learning...

In PE, Year 3 have been using the climbing apparatus and practicing their rolls. In Art, they have been finishing their collages of sea creatures using a wide range of media, their collages are looking very creative. Their writing this week has been based upon a wonderful short film called The Eye of the Storm. They have been using amplification skills to add more details to their sentences. In numeracy,

they have recapped shape, addition and subtraction in a Christmassy context and of course they have been singing their Christmas songs, in preparation for their performance next week.

Year 4 Learning...

This week year 4 have been creating tornadoes using bottles and water and have been finishing off their final Chris Ofili artwork pieces. They have also been busy writing their own poems about leaving school for Christmas in the style of Micheal Morpurgo's 'Coming home'.

Year 5 Learning...

This week year 5 have been developing their curiosity in Science through studying a book by Markus Motum, entitled 'Curiosity. The Story of a Mars Rover' whilst organising planets by size and distance, as well as learning about the phases of the moon. The children have also been reinforcing their understanding of Space through writing their very own instructional and explanation texts. Lastly, the children have reinforced their understanding of shape through calculating area and perimeter.

Year 6 Learning...

In year 6 this week, the children have had fun transporting themselves into a virtual world of fantasy and adventure as they finish writing their stories based on the book 'Virtually True'. Children have also finished designing their moving toys, which has demonstrated their understanding of how a cam and follower work- the children are now enjoying seeing their creations come to life. During Science, the children have continued to develop their understanding of evolution and heritance by completing experiments that have helped them understand more about natural selection and adaptation.

Festive Clothing Day...

It is wonderful to see everyone looking so festive today for our Festive Clothing Day in aid of Save the Children. Thank you for all your donations and we will let you know how much we have raised once we have counted the money after its quarantine period!



WJS Amazon Wish List...

I'd like to say thank you to everyone who has already purchased something from our wish list. We have been bowled over by your generosity. The link to our wish list is here should you wish to have a look at the items on there. [WJS Amazon Wish List](#) (You might need to press Ctrl on your key pad first and then click on the link to make it work, it depends what device you are using.)

Santa's Grotto...



This year Whitstable Rotary Club have arranged a new initiative for children to visit Santa on Zoom. The cost is £5.00, which goes to charity.

They will plan these visits for Saturdays 12th and 19th December. Click on the link to take you to their website which will give you more details about how to book the event. <http://whitstablerotary.org/>

Self-isolation due to COVID19.....

If **ANY** member of the household has symptoms of COVID19 the rest of the household **must** self-isolate until a negative test result is returned or a period of 14 days has passed since symptoms began (10 days for the person with symptoms).

Letters

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/>

Term Dates...

December

w/c 14th Virtual Panto – Jack and the Beanstalk

15th Flu Nasal Spray Whole School- you MUST register your child for this.

Virtual IRock concert for children

16th Children's Christmas Packed Lunch followed by party afternoon (Paid for by school)

17th Year 3 Christmas Festive Sing Up (Zoom invites to follow)

3MC - 1:30-2pm

3H - 2pm-2:30pm

Christingle making - all year groups

18th End of Term 2

January 2021

4th Start of Term 3