



Whitstable Junior School

Learning today for life tomorrow

Week ending 22nd January 2021



A message from the headteacher...

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a lovely end to the week with the sun shining and blue sky, even though it is a bit nippy. We hope your children have enjoyed the live lessons that started this week. We have had some lovely feedback about how these have helped to structure your days of home-learning. Later in the term I will gather your feedback on the remote learning we have provided at WJS.

We have had 29 laptops to give to families that found accessing the online learning difficult and these have made a real difference. 24 of these laptops were provided by the Government and the other 5 were as a result of the huge generosity of a member of the public who lives in Whitstable. I was contacted to ask if we could use a donation for lap tops, I of course said yes please. I then received 5 brand new Chrome Books a few days later. This kindness has warmed everyone's hearts here at WJS.

Next week we start the Lateral Flow Device (LFD) home-testing **for staff**. This is a voluntary, twice weekly COVID-19 test, for all staff who are coming onto the school site. Staff will be self-testing before the school day starts on Mondays and Thursdays. These are the optimum times to ensure that any staff who have been infected by COVID-19 can be identified as the viral loads is at its highest at this time. Staff who are identified as positive on Thursday morning could result in a bubble closure and we appreciate this may result in short notice for parents but will do our best to contact you as quickly as possible. Others who share the family home with the children who are sent home to self-isolate do not have to self-isolate unless the children present with symptoms or a positive test.

I am just sorting out the term dates for the next academic year and I will let you know what these are in the next few weeks. I know that some people are thinking ahead to holidays that they may want to book, fingers crossed that holidays will be something we can all enjoy in the not-too-distant future. Finally, thank you again for the unwavering support you have given the school over these last few weeks. We really appreciate every message and hope you too feel supported by us.

Warmest regards,
Annie Knoupe

Headteacher Award...



Congratulations to **Iris** in Year 3 for an amazing imagination and fabulous creativity in music lessons.



Kindness...



This week in Year 3 the children were learning about kindness. Charlie decided to put the learning into action. He woke up a little richer one morning this week with some money from the tooth fairy under his pillow. He decided to share this with his younger brother and use the rest to buy food so that he could donate to the food bank trolley in the supermarket. I was so impressed when I heard about this that I really thought I should share it with everyone. Well done Charlie.

Parent Evening and School Reports Update...

Normally we send home your child's full school report in term 4. However, this year we have decided to change this and we will be sending home full reports in term 6. This means we will be holding parents' evenings next term. Please see the date list at the bottom of this letter. Information on how and when to book these virtual meetings (if face to face remains an impossibility) will be emailed nearer the time.

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...

Term 3 2021

Monday 4th January – First Day of Term 3

Friday 22nd January- World Religion Day

Monday 1st February- Children's Mental Health Week and National Story Telling Week

Friday 5th February - Give Yourself a Smile Day

Thursday 11th February - Safer Internet Day

Friday 12th February – End of Term 3

Term 4

Monday 22nd February – First Day of Term 4

Tuesday 16th March- Parent Evening- 3:30pm-6:30pm

Thursday 25th March – Parent Evening – 5pm-8pm

Thursday 1st April- End of Term 4