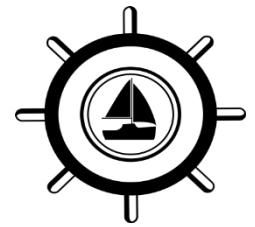


Whitstable Junior School



Sports newsletter- Terms 1 and 2 2020/2021

Welcome to our sports newsletter for Terms 1 and 2. It has been lovely to finally get back to face-to-face Inter-School competitions; allowing our very talented sports teams a chance to shine. It has also been a privilege to take over PE Leadership from Miss Leaver this year and I am really looking forward to developing the Sports Crew role within school, encouraging even more diversity into our sporting diet and planning a really spectacular Sports Week in term 6. It has been a busy start to the year in Sports and I would like to thank everyone who has represented our school at competitions or taken part in Sports Clubs so far.

Mrs Roy

Sports Crew

I would like to start by introducing our Sports Crew. The Sports Crew are made up of Year 6 children who, at the beginning of the year, applied for the role and wrote why they wanted to be a part of the WJS Sports Crew (apologise to Raff who is not in this photo but who is a fantastic member of the crew). It is lovely to see them wearing their pink t-shirts with pride and supporting their peers during lessons and lunchtimes. They were a real credit to the school during our open morning, when they set up a range of outdoor activities for the year 2 children to sample: all the while demonstrating compassion, humility and positivity in their interaction with others. In term 3, Sports Crew will be further developing their role through supporting the school's wellbeing by running **Yoga** sessions in the afternoon. This will allow children to learn how yoga can help focus their minds and maximise learning potential. Sessions will happen in classrooms. Healthy Minds, Healthy Bodies! They will also be looking at ways that we can include **Wake up and Shake up** into our morning routines.



Upper School Change for Life after School Club:

Mrs Migden and Mrs Barnet have thoroughly enjoyed running our Change for Life club this term. The children have sampled a wide variety of nutritious and delicious food from around the globe and discovered new activities that can be done from home, such as Speed-Stacking. They have also been appreciating a variety of different types of music to help widen their tastes and awareness. In term 3, Lower School will be experiencing the same fun-filled and exciting opportunities too.



To further raise awareness to the children of the importance of keeping active throughout the day, the children and staff all took part in National Fitness Day in Term 1, where they had to find as many opportunities to complete a selection of challenges; both in the classroom and outside.



Football

At the start of the year, Mr Kidd, held football trials so children in Years 5 and 6 could show him their football skills and try out for the school football teams. The trials were a great success with a brilliant attendance from both girls and boys. We were able to put together two really strong squads; a Boys Team and a Girls Team, each with 16 players.



In November we took both a boy's and girls' team to the inter-school football competition. The competition consisted of 15 schools from the Canterbury, Whitstable and Herne Bay areas. This is a very competitive event and both teams played with great passion, determination and pride; they were a credit to our school. The boys were put into a difficult league, but still managed to win their first game, which was amazing. Unfortunately, the results after that did not go their way and they did not manage to progress into the knockout stages, but we were immensely proud of how they played as a team and how resilient they were.

With regards to the girl's competition, they came up against some difficult opposition in their league games but deservedly finished second, putting them into the knockout stages. In the quarter finals they played amazingly and came out deserved winners. So then this led them into the semi-finals but unfortunately, they came up against a very strong team but still only lost by one goal. However, this wasn't the end for the girl's team as they had to play in a third and fourth playoff game against Swalecliffe. This was a really tense and closely played match that ended in a draw, which meant penalties were played to decide the winner. In one of the most exciting shoot out's we have seen Aurelia, our goalkeeper, managed to save 3 penalties and we ended up finishing 3rd in the competition, with Maggie ending up the 'Top Scorer'. We are so proud of both of our football teams; they really have represented WJS with purpose, passion and pride – such great teamwork.



The league season for both boys and girls has now virtually finished. The boys recently beat a strong Davington team, which showed them playing with enthusiasm, determination and fairness; they have always been a joy to coach throughout the season. The girls have played exceptionally well and are likely to end up as 'runners-up' in a very competitive league. They have gone from strength to strength and have played with such pride, resilience and intelligence. This will be the highest position the school has ever finished in the league and this achievement should not be underestimated. We have shared some wonderful memories this season and I'm sure all the players will remember these fondly.

Basketball

This year's basketball competition was held at Herne Bay High and was a great sporting achievement. This is a mixed year 5/6 competition with 14 schools entering. After narrowly losing the first game in the league stage, our team listened and learned from this experience and afterwards played with such determination and intelligence. The whole squad contributed in what ended up being a tournament win for WJS, highlighting great resilience and team work. The semi-final ended up playing to a 'golden-goal basket' after the game ended in stalemate. Raff scored the winning basket in spectacular style which resulted in him being

congratulated by all of his team mates. The final was dominated by WJS, and we ended up being well-deserved winners.



WJS got through the group stage, semi-finals and then into the final. Raff was amazing in the semi-finals as he took the golden goal and he scored which sent us to the finals. Aurelia was also a star player: she scored so many goals and we think if it wasn't for her we wouldn't have got through. Everyone really responded to Mr Kidd's advice and that helped enormously. In the final, it was very close and there were so many shots at goal. The final score was 3-0 to WJS and we were so happy; it felt amazing. We'll never forget that feeling.

Harley, Rufus, Molly and Olivia 6M

Looking forward to next term

In Term 3 and 4, we are looking forward to taking a group of Year 5s and 6s to a **Handball Competition**. We will also be attending our first **Speed Stacking Festival** in the New Year. We are also looking for Year 5/6 teams to attend a **Quick sticks Hockey Competition**. So if you enjoy either of those sports let Mr Kidd or myself know. There is also a **Cross Country event** for all ages in March.

Thank you for taking time to read our Sports Newsletter for Terms 1 and 2. I hope you all have a wonderful break and enjoy Christmas. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me either via the office or on the playground.

Kate Roy and Chris Kidd

December 2021