



Whitstable Junior School

Learning today for life tomorrow

Week ending 2nd September 2022



A message from the headteacher...

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you had a fabulous summer, the weather certainly did a good job of making it feel like a proper summer holiday.

A big welcome back to all of you and a special welcome to our new families and new staff. Mrs Jackson joins us as class teacher in Year 3 and in a few weeks, you will meet Mrs Banbury in the school office who is our new receptionist. Mrs Cullen has joined us as our school business manager and will be working at both St Alphege Infant School and for WJS, she will be with WJS in the afternoons.

It's been a fabulous first few days and the children have settled in beautifully. They all looked very smart in their uniforms, thank you so much for ensuring they come to school looking this good. We will be reminding children about shoulder length hair being tied up, no jewellery, no nail varnish, correct footwear and generally keeping to the school uniform rules.

Over the holidays we have had a number of works completed. The major one was we had a whole new heating system installed as our existing one was rather old. We just have to hope now that the rising energy prices don't mean we can't put it on!!! 😊

Over the next few weeks, the children will be re-igniting their passion and enjoyment for learning through many exciting topics and theme days. You will shortly receive a Curriculum Overview which will give you more information about what your child will be learning this term. Here's to a fabulous term ahead.

Wishing you a lovely weekend.

Warm regards,
Annie Knoupe

Kent Test...

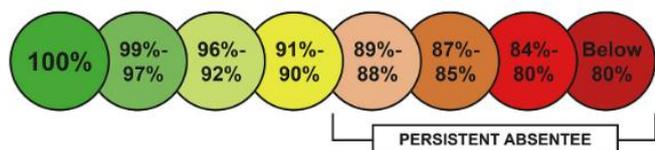
The date for the Kent Test for Year 6 children who have registered is the 8th September.

Year 6 parents and carers of children taking the test will have received an email today containing a letter that gives you information about the day. Furthermore, the children will be meeting Mrs Hitchmough so that they can ask any questions that they may have next week.

Attendance...

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

On Time: First Time, Every Time



Which CIRCLE are you in?

Attendance and Punctuality.

I am sure you share my view that attendance is hugely important. Your children will have the best experience possible at school, if they are here every day and on time.

If your child is too unwell to attend school then please phone the school office by 8:50am. We have a new phone system where you can choose option 1 and leave a message. If we don't hear from you we will have to ring you otherwise this becomes an unauthorised absence.

Class PE Days...

Don't forget that your child comes to school in their PE kit on their PE days.

Lower School

3O	Friday & Wednesday
3J	Friday & Thursday
4CR	Monday & Tuesday
4B	Monday & Thursday

Upper School

5L	Tuesday & Thursday
5H	Monday & Wednesday
6M	Tuesday & Thursday
6H	Monday & Thursday
6T	Thursday & Wednesday

A few other reminders....

Mobile Phones-Upper School children only (Years 5 and 6)

Children in Years 5 and 6 will bring a mobile phone contract home today. This needs to be signed and returned to school. All mobile phones must be switched off on the school premises and handed to the class teacher for safe keeping during the school day.



Cycling/Scooting to school

Any child cycling or scooting to school (and leaving this at school) needs to fill in a permission slip which they can get at the school office. Please email the school office to request a form and we will send it home with your child. All children MUST wear a helmet.



Bikes and scooters must be dismantled at the school gates.

School Dinners

The cost of school dinners is £2.60 and the credit limit allowance is £10. Chartwells will be sending out details of how to pay using Parent Pay in the next day or so. Your child can still have a school meal while the system is being set-up.

Free School Meals - If you are entitled to Government benefits then please complete the free school meal application forms on this link <https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/free-school-meals>

Packed Lunches

Please can children bring spoons if their food requires one. Unfortunately, we are unable to use spoons from the school kitchen for this.

Water Bottles

Please provide your child with a water bottle. Keeping hydrated through the day is very important.

Sickness absence

Please telephone the school on each day of absence before 9:30am (ideally by 8:50am) to let us know your child won't be coming in, otherwise we worry. Thank you.

Collecting your children after school

We understand that emergencies happen and sometimes you have been held up and need to change collection arrangements. If this happens, please telephone the office as early as possible, ideally before 2:30pm. Thankyou

Parent Communication

We communicate with parents via email or text message. There will be some occasions when we send home paper copies but we are working on ways to completely stop the need for this.

Letters

[Click here for the website where you will find all letters.](#)

Term Dates...

Term 1

September

Thursday 8th – Kent Test for Year 6

Friday 16th – Beatrice Potter Day and wearing jeans to support Jeans for Genes Day

Tuesday 20th – Meet the Teacher-Info to follow

Wednesday 21st - deadline for deposit for Year 6 Residential to Gillwell and Year 3 and 4 Road safety talks

October

Monday 3rd – Friday 7th – Celebrating World Space Week

Monday 10th – Friday 14th – Celebrating Black History

Monday 10th October – Wear something Yellow for World Mental Health Day

Tuesday 18th – Parents Eve (early)-info to follow

Thursday 20th – Parents Eve (late)-info to follow

Friday 21st 2022 - Term 1 Ends

Half Term Holiday:

Monday 24th October 2022 to Tuesday 1st November 2022

Term 2 Starts

Wednesday 2nd November