



Whitstable Junior School

Learning today for life tomorrow

Week ending 14th October 2022



A message from the headteacher...

Dear Parents and Carers,

The week started in a glorious blaze of yellow when we could all wear yellow for World Mental Health Day. You raised £65.70 for YoungMinds. Thank you so much.

It has also been Black History Week for all children. This is such a wonderful week for us and the children have really enjoyed all that they have done.

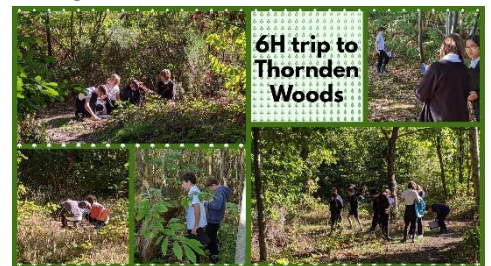
Year 4 have been planning their very own creation story in literacy, based on the incredible myths we have been reading in class. They have also been working hard in maths, doing column addition with exchanging. As part of black history

week, the children have also learnt about the slave trade and the impact of activists like Martin Luther King.

In Year 5 children have very much enjoyed being problem-solving detectives, using methods to visualise and calculate tricky multi-step problems based on the skills of addition and subtraction. As it has been Black History Week, the children have loved learning about Barack Obama and Louis Armstrong. In literacy, they have continued using persuasive techniques when writing about plastic pollution. Do we have the next Greta Thunberg or David Attenborough in our midst?

The children in Year 6 have been exploring the history of slavery through first-hand sources of evidence, ranging from the middle passage, life as a slave, and the civil rights

movements. They demonstrated their understanding by creating drama and writing a diary entry. They have also looked at the inspirational life of Harriet Tubman and Marcus Rashford and how they overcame barriers to fulfil their dreams. They also visited Thornden Woods to consider exploration and had a fabulous time.



Year 3 have worked hard in literacy, drafting letters to send to musical theatre star and children's author, Carrie Hope Fletcher. Once these are written up neatly, they will be sent to the Marlowe and the children will keep their fingers crossed for a response. The children have also spent some time reflecting on the impact of Rosa Parks on the civil rights movement as part of Black history week. The children have blown their teachers away with their thoughtful contributions to some serious discussions.

On Friday the School Council Representative and the Pupil Leadership Team visited The Guildhall in Canterbury and met the Lord Mayor of Canterbury and the Sherrif. We were so proud of all the children who asked amazing questions and behaved so sensibly.

We ended the week with our celebration assembly, as normal, but this week we had the special prize of 4 tickets to the Marlowe to see the British Astronaut Tim Peake given it has been Space Week. WJS have had a whole galaxy of fun! The question posed: "Are there more stars or planets in space?" Children have been sharing their opinions and ideas in a whole range of ways in a eager attempt to persuade Miss Oliver and be the lucky winner of the competition. The winner was Finn in Year 3 who believed there are more planets than stars. We really hope he has a wonderful time at the Marlowe next year.

Wishing you a lovely weekend.

Warmest regards,

Annie Knoupe



Attendance...

**Attendance
up to today
94%**

A reminder that holidays cannot be authorised unless for exceptional circumstances and these are very few and far between.

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.

Sports news...

Our first football match of the season.

Congratulations to our Girls Squad, who played their first match against Reculver Primary School yesterday.

The girls played amazingly well as a team and although they conceded 4 goals in the first half, they soon demonstrated amazing WJS spirit and resilience and came back in the second half to score 2 goals.



The final score was 4-2 but overall the second half really showed the determination and ability that this team has. A huge well done for representing WJS so well. Awesome!

Welcome to the Times Tables Hall of Fame Luke...

**TIMES TABLES
ROCK STARS**



**HALL OF
FAME**

Headteacher Award...



Headteacher Award Jack in 6H



Jack's teacher told me that he is a super mathematician who challenges himself well in lessons with lots of problem solving. He shows great resilience always challenging himself to improve. He is also super kind and helpful with a good sense of humour – and he is a pleasure to teach! Well done Jack.



WJS House Certificate Winners ...

These children were selected by the Pupil Leadership Team as this week's House Point Certificate Winners for demonstrating our curriculum drivers in their learning. Well-done everyone.



Letters

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

Term Dates...

Term 1

October

Tuesday 18th – Parents Eve (early)

Thursday 20th – Parents Eve (late)

Thursday 20th - Flu Vaccines for all children in school

Friday 21st 2022 – **PTFA Cake Sale- Please bring in donations of cakes in the morning- Sale at the end of the day.**

Term 1 Ends

Half Term Holiday:

Monday 24th October 2022 to Tuesday 1st November 2022

31st October – deadline for Year 6 Parents to complete Secondary Application Form online

<https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/school-places/secondary-school-places#tab-2>

Term 2 Starts

Wednesday 2nd November