



Whitstable Junior School

Learning today for life tomorrow

Week ending 16th December 2022



A final message from Mrs Knoupe...

Dear Parents and Carers,

I really can't believe that the time is here for me to say my farewells. When I knew I was leaving at the end of July it felt so far away and not all that real.

Firstly, I want to say that there is absolutely no doubt that the past 13 years here at WJS have been the most remarkable and rewarding of my career in education. I started as Deputy Headteacher and then became DHT/SENCo and it then culminated in me having the best job in the world, Headteacher of a school I had longed to lead. It has been a privilege to get to know each and every one of the children who have passed through WJS and of course their families.

Although I'm sad to be leaving and slightly nervous about the change, I keep telling the children that I am also excited about the future and looking forward to new adventures. The best thing is I can move on secure in the knowledge that WJS is in a fabulous place. The team of people around and within WJS are truly fantastic. The school would not be where it is without their expertise, knowledge, dedication and commitment. I have been truly blessed to work with each and every one of them.

January sees Mrs Roy take on the position of Acting Head of School and I know how thrilled she is to have the opportunity to hold the fort until Miss Kent starts as the new Headteacher in April. Mr Cooper, Headteacher at Swalecliffe, will be in school on the first day of term, he will meet the children and become a familiar face as he supports the new temporary Senior Leadership Team. Ms Collin remains the AHT/SENCO with the added responsibility of Designated Safeguarding Lead and a new teacher Mrs Whiscombe starts as the year 4 class teacher for the rest of the year. I wish them all the best for their journey ahead.

Finally, that only leaves me to say, I hope you all have a marvellous Christmas and that you are able to spend time relaxing with your families and I wish you all the best in the New Year.

Warmest regards,

Annie Knoupe and Dexter 🐾🐾

p.s if you see me out for a walk in Whitstable, with Dexter, don't forget to say hello!



What have the children been up to this week?

As you can see it has been a busy final week of term 2 2022.

Year 3 have been total superstars and performed four incredible Nativity shows.

We are so proud of every single child, particularly as due to the dreaded bugs going around lots of children had to step up to understudy. They

were all incredible and it was even more special than

normal given the disruption to these events over the last few years. They also

found time to visit The Whitstable Library and appreciate some great books.

In Year 4 the children have been enjoying a new book called 'Coming Home' by Michael Morpurgo, drawing story maps and writing about their own journey home at the start of the Christmas holidays. They have also been finishing their natural disaster topic, looking at

earthquakes and tornadoes and making their very own telephones in science!



In Year 5, the children have had a great week writing and performing Space Raps. They have investigated what trade is and how we do it with America and created mnemonics and posters about the order of the planets. In Design Technology they have been designing and building the next space rover to go up to Mars!

Year 6 have been exploring how humans affect evolution and inheritance through cross breeding and genetic engineering. They have been putting the final decorative elements onto their Mayan masks. In history they have produced a visitor's guide to a Mayan city consolidating all that they have learnt over the term.

We also had 232 Christingles made this week. Mrs Harris managed to harness the generosity of Tesco which meant every single child had an orange to decorate for free.



IRock Performances...

Children who attend IRock Club put on a fabulous performance this week for the children and their families. I can't wait to see them at Wembley Stadium when they are rich and famous.



Community Information...

Hello from your local Dogs Trust Education Officer!
Join our Education & Community Officers, Amanda and Phil, for a FREE, fun family workshop to learn all about safe behaviour around dogs and being responsible around our four-pawed friends!

Monday 19th December

2pm - 3:30pm

Dogs Trust Canterbury

Radfall Road, Chestfield (Near Whitstable), CT5 3ER

To book or ask any questions please contact philip.marsh@dogstrust.org.uk



Medical guidance...



Find local services



Search this website...

One of our parents who is a Dr has forwarded this link to a website which gives some sensible advice and guidance around the childhood illnesses that are currently causing concern for parents and carers. There are sections for a lot of common childhood illnesses, with a very-new section added to cover the signs of Group A Strep/ Scarlet Fever. <https://what0-18.nhs.uk/>

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 8:45am. 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 and if we cannot contact you this becomes an unauthorised absence.

Headteacher Nomination Certificates...

Feel Proud of Yourself Certificates



Each week the teachers send me a nomination for the weekly Headteacher award. I can only choose one child each week which is the hardest job in the world. However, I wanted the children to know that during the term their name was put forward to me so therefore they should be very proud of themselves.

I thought it was important for the children to know how much all their hard work, kindness and commitment to our school values means to me and the rest of the adults at Whitstable Junior School. Every child who was nominated has received a Feel Proud of Yourself certificate. Well done everyone.

Sporting News...



**SPORTSPERSON
AWARD**



Summer - Football

Neveah - Football

Robert - Basket ball

Hugh - Basketball

This term our SPORTSPERSON AWARD badges have been awarded to children in Year 6 who have represented the school in sports fixtures. These children have caught the eye of both our staff and staff from other schools for their skill, commitment and sportsmanship. Well done everyone.

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 3 Starts Tuesday 3rd January

January

Tuesday 3rd January- Term 3 starts

Clubs start week beginning 9th January

Wednesday 11th Jan - Boys football match at WJS

Monday 16th Jan - World Religion Day

Wednesday 18th Jan - Sports Hall Athletics for Upper School

Wednesday 25th Jan - Girls football match at WIS

Week Beginning Monday 30th Jan - National Story-Telling Week

February

Wed 1st Feb - Speed Stacking Tournament

Friday 3rd Feb NSCPCC Number Day

Friday 3rd Feb - Winter Olympics Begin

Week Beginning Monday 6th Feb - Children's Mental Health Week

Tuesday 7th Feb Safer Internet Day

Thursday 9th Feb PTFA Disco

Term 3 ends 10th February