



Whitstable Junior School

Learning today for life tomorrow

Week ending 21st April 2023



A message from Ms Kent

Dear Parents and carers,

It is with enormous pleasure that I write my first Newsletter as Headteacher at WJS. I would like to start by extending a huge thank you to the whole school community for making me feel so welcome. Parents and carers on the gate stopping for a chat; children around school sharing all the fabulous things about WJS with me; and staff for answering my endless questions.

I have hugely enjoyed meeting all of the classes this week for circle time where the children have shared what they love about the school. These conversations have demonstrated what a super learning offer the children at WJS have.

It was a pleasure to welcome our year 6 parents to our workshop which explained upcoming SATs tests and the transition process to secondary school.

School Values

This term we will be exploring the theme of **TRUST**- What is trust and how do we show others that we can be trusted?

We will be discussing and reinforcing the key qualities of being trustworthy:

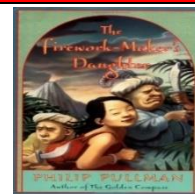
- Being honest,
- Having integrity (what does this mean?)
- Keeping to your word,
- Showing loyalty,
- Being consistent, never letting people down: if they say they are going to do something, then they so it.

If you would like to reinforce this work at home here are some ideas:

<https://kidsrkids.com/blog/teaching-kids-the-importance-of-trust/>

What have the children been up to this week?

Year 3 have started looking at our new text, 'The Firework-Maker's Daughter'. We have been experimenting with different magical ingredients to come up with our own exciting firework concoctions, ready to write instructions. In French, we have been securing our knowledge of the numbers 1-10 by singing songs and playing 'snap'.



This week in **Year 4** the children have been planning their own legends, modelling their work on Beowulf and using the terrifying monsters they created last term!

They have also been tackling equivalent fractions in maths and continuing to practise their times tables.

In science, the children have started learning about 'living things' and how to group them into categories.

In **Year 5** we have launched the Viking ships this week with their investigations into Men and Women of this time.

They have written amazing setting descriptions of a Viking town and explored the Viking belief of Valhalla. In

Science, the children have been revising their previous Changing States knowledge by Escaping from a kitchen using

codes linked to evaporation, filtering, solids, liquids, gases etc... In our Outdoor learning, the children have been

practicing their first aid skills and making sure they know what the recovery position is. **Year 6** enjoyed a

fabulous sporting afternoon on Wednesday, run by the PE department and 6th form pupils from The

Whitstable school. The children had so much fun developing their team work skills as they completed

various activities designed by the 6th form pupils, all based around different elements of bench ball. A

lovely start to their transition journey.



Attendance...

Attendance

is:

93%

Thank you for ensuring your child is on time and ready to learn. Gates open at 8.30am and close at 8.45am. Let's try and increase attendance next week!

Getting Your Child to School Really Matters

Did You Know...?

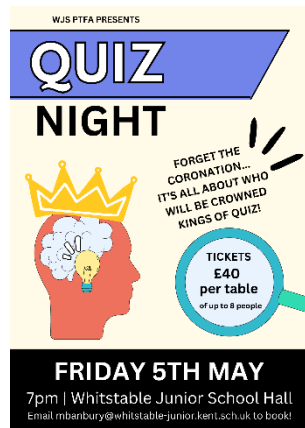
In a School Year, if Your Child is Late Every Day By...	Your Child Would Have Lost (Approximately)	or They Would Have Missed (Approximately)
5 Minutes	3.5 Days from School	20 Lessons
10 Minutes	7 Days from School	41 Lessons
15 Minutes	10 Days from School	55 Lessons
20 Minutes	14.5 Days from School	82 Lessons
30 Minutes	22 Days from School	123 Lessons

Please Encourage Punctuality to Maintain Attendance




Reminders...

PTFA Quiz Night!



Friday 5 May at WJS at 7PM. Who will be crowned?

Please remind your Year 6 children that mobile phones must be switched off  when they come to school.

This Sunday at 3pm the government is sending emergency alerts. Sound will be heard on all phones and tablets across the UK. Here is a link from the government website to support you in answering any questions the children may have. <https://www.gov.uk/alerts>

Pupil Leadership Team Driver Awards go to....



Lauren – 3O
Curiosity



Sonny– 4CR
Challenge



Aimi – 6H
Independence



Clara - 5L
Community



Portrait competition

Some of the children recently drew portraits of members of staff as part of the Sky Arts Portrait Artist of the Year competition for schools. We have just found out that a portrait of Mr. Guilder by **Beau McGrory-Banville** in year 6 has been chosen and will feature either within an episode of Portrait Artist of the Year on 21 June 2023 and/or within an on-air gallery that will run on Sky Arts across the week of 19-23 June 2023. **Congratulations Beau!**



E-Safety Advice

All of the children receive E-Safety training and advice as part of their weekly computing lesson. Here are a few useful web links that provide up to date advice.

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parents-and-carers>

https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-wellbeing/positively-online?gclid=aw.ds&&gclid=EAlaIqobChMIwMbrMaD_gIVJ-



Letters ...

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

PE Days - please refer to the website for information. Also be aware that the PE days will be changing on the weeks with Bank Holidays due to a 4 day week. The office will text out to keep you informed.

Term 5 Dates...

Monday 24th April – Clubs for terms 5 and 6 start

Tuesday 25th April – Year 3 start swimming at the Whitstable Pool until the end of Term 5 (4B – 2.30pm – 3pm and 4CR – 3pm – 3.30pm) **Please see letter for further details**

Thursday 27 April – **Teachers strike day but WJS will be open to ALL classes.**

Friday 28th April – Year 4 start swimming at the Whitstable Pool until the end of Term 5 (3J– 2.30pm – 3pm and 3O – 3pm – 3.30pm) **Please see letter for further details**

Friday 28 April -Morris Men in to perform to WJS and St Alphege at 11.15am

Monday 1st May – Bank Holiday – School Closed

Tuesday 2nd May – **Teachers Strike day but WJS will be open to ALL classes.**

Thursday 4th May – Netball match – at home – against Herne Bay Juniors

Friday 5th May – **Kings Coronation Celebration Day – more details to follow**

-PFA Quiz night in the school hall – more details to follow

Monday 8th May – Bank Holiday – School Closed

Tuesday 9th May to Friday 12th May – **Year 6 SATs Week – more details to follow**

Thursday 18th May – Netball match – here – against Swalecliffe Primary School

Friday 19th May – CACOT Fund Raising event – more details to follow

Friday 26th May – last day of term 5