



Whitstable Junior School

Learning today for life tomorrow

Week ending 6 October 2023



A message from Ms Kent

Dear Parents / carers,

It's been a week of Pizza making and visits to the beach here at WJS. Alongside the children continuing to work hard in class.

We are delighted to see our children engaging in reading this term and thank you parents and carers for all of your support with this. Reading for pleasure is not only a fabulous pastime but also unlocks the entire curriculum. At WJS we encourage all of our children to read every day. However, we can't do this without YOU! Encouraging positive reading habits is crucial for every child, in every year group. All classes have thoroughly enjoyed their visits to our local library. The library would love to welcome the children back, so why not pop along with your child on a regular basis to borrow their fabulous selection of children's books.

As we continue to explore the theme of 'care' in assemblies, next week we will think about how we can care for ourselves. On Tuesday the children can wear something yellow to mark Mental Health Awareness Day.

Lastly, I ask for your support when dropping your children at school to please not park illegally. There has now been an accident on Cromwell Road involving an illegally parked vehicle and a cyclist who was knocked from their bike. Thank goodness it wasn't a child that was involved but it will only be a matter of time unless this stops. It has been reported to the council and parking patrols have been requested, but please can we all do our bit so as not to endanger a child's life! Thank you for your support.

Wishing you a fantastic weekend.

Sarah Kent



What have the children been up to this week?

This week in **Year 3** the children have enjoyed making their own pizzas and learning about healthy eating. They have also been learning about soil composition in science and writing their very own recipes! In maths the children have been tackling column addition with exchanging and completing their reports on Woolly Mammoths for English. **Year 4** have joined Badger and Ratty as they tried to turn Mr Toad sensible (with dreadful consequences). In Maths, we have completed our place value unit and started addition and subtraction. For RE, we have explored the various Devis and Devas of the Hindu faith and discussed who we should trust and how to show trust amongst our friends in RSE. PE has continued with defending in football and practicing balances in PE. In Science, we have started an experiment to investigate evaporation. In **Year 5** English lessons the children have started learning about persuasive letters and how the use of modal verbs can influence the way their writing sounds. In maths the children have been refining their addition and subtraction skills and using rounding to estimate answers before solving sums. The children have also been on a geography field trip to the beach this week, and been able to see their learning about coasts in the real world. **Year 6** have been using their resilience skills to tackle long division! We are very proud of their focus and how they are challenging themselves. They have also started writing an information text about an animal that we have encountered in our Explorer books, including pink river dolphins and sloths. As part of their geography, they have been thinking about how valuable the rainforest is, creating posters to encourage everyone to protect it.



Times Table Fact of the Week

To help children know and retain all their times tables, we are sharing our Fact of the Week which also gets shared in assembly. If children learn them all, they will be able to calculate all times tables by the end of the year. There are **only 36 times tables facts** to learn!

$$2 \times 5 = 10 \text{ FACT}$$

World Mental Health Day

Every year we celebrate World Mental Health Day on 10 October. The theme for 2023, set by the World Foundation of Mental Health, is 'Mental Health is a universal human right'.

World Mental Health Day is about raising awareness of mental health and driving positive change for everyone's mental health.

To mark this day, we are inviting your child to wear non uniform with something yellow if they would like to.

If you wish to donate to support the work of Young Minds, please visit the school just giving page for Hello Yellow.

https://www.justgiving.com/page/kirsten-collin-1696416785959?utm_medium=fundraising&utm_content=page%2Fkirsten-collin-1696416785959&utm_source=copyLink&utm_campaign=pfp-share



Chartwells pizza making sessions

The children thoroughly enjoyed their pizza making session with Chartwells and made some delicious and healthy pizzas. The aromas from the kitchen wafting into the office left staff feeling hungry and dreaming of Italy! It also raised the question that has divided pizza lovers for generations – pineapple on pizza or not? It would seem the old adage of “you can’t please everyone” remains intact!



Football fixtures

Parents welcome to support and cheer the children on!



Tuesday 10 October – Year 6 boys' team vs The Whitstable & Seasalter Endowed School **home**

Thursday 19 October – Year 6 girls' team against Davington Primary – **away**

Thursday 19 October – Year 6 boys' team vs Davington Primary – **away**

Tuesday 28 November – Year 6 girls' team vs Ospringe Primary – **away** at The Mount Faversham

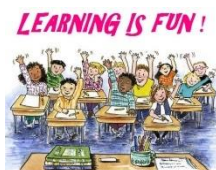


Attendance and illness

Attendance is:
95.19%

Thank you for ensuring your child is on time and ready to learn.
Gates open at 8.30am and close at 8.45am.

Our attendance increased to 95.19%! Let's keep working as a team and keep going!



Things of interest and help

All Wrapped UP - Riverside Church are working on a project with local schools and partners to provide Christmas presents and food hampers to families in need. **How can you help? By donating a new gift** for someone aged between 0-17 years (up to £20). These can either be donated directly to Riverside Monday – Friday 91m-4pm or we will be a collection point on Friday 10th November. By donating financially online: bit.ly/allwrappedupriverside or through the QR code.

The Far Skate Foundation - For all budding skateboarders, **The Far Skate Foundation** is a fantastic way to learn a new skill and burn off all that excess energy!

Year 6 Nurture Group - We are starting a Year 6 Nurture group and need wellies. If you have any you are able to donate, please do so. We are guessing sizes 3 – 5. Many thanks



Letters and emails

If you have a message, please send it to the office and it will be passed onto your child's teacher / dealt with as appropriate. Thank you.

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



Term 1 & 2 Dates

Tuesday 10 October – World Mental Health Day – wear something yellow

Tuesday 10 October – 6PM Year 6 parents/carers secondary school application support meeting

Tuesday 10 October – Boys' football match against The Endowed at WJS – kick off 3.15PM/ parents welcome

Thursday 12 October – After school club for Year 6 who enjoyed the rugby sessions

Monday 16 October – Black History Week

Tuesday 17 October – Food bank donations, collection at the gate

Wednesday 18 October – Individual school photos

Wednesday 18 October – Kent Test results emailed to parent/carers after 4PM
Wednesday 18 October – Parent/carers consultations evening 3.30 – 5.30PM
Thursday 19 October – After school club for Year 6 who enjoyed the rugby taster sessions
Thursday 19 October – Girls' football match against Davington Primary
Thursday 19 October – Boys' football match against Davington Primary
Thursday 19 October – Parent/carers consultations evening 4.30 – 8PM
Friday 20 October – End of term 1
Monday 30 October – Staff development day
Tuesday 31 October – Term 2 starts
Tuesday 31 October – Year 6 parent/carers to have completed secondary school application
Wednesday 1 November – NHS height and weight measurements Year 6
Monday 6 November – Year 6 bikeability until Tuesday 14 November
W/C Monday 6 November/ 13 Nov – Parent/carers tours for next year
Monday 13 November – Friendship, antibullying and Inter-faith week
Saturday 18 November – Open morning
Tuesday 28 November – Girl's football match against Ospringe Primary at The Mount Faversham
Friday 1 December – School Christmas fair 3.15 – 5PM
Wednesday 6 December – Christmas jumper and lunch day
Thursday 7 December – Year 3 morning performance of nativity to Year 4 and evening performance to parents at 6PM
Friday 8 December – Year 3 morning performance of nativity to Years 5 & 6 and afternoon performance to parents at 2PM.
Wednesday 13 December – Christmas carols in St Alphege Church from 1.30pm
Wednesday 13 December – Progress and Attainment Reports
Friday 15 December – End of Term 2