



# Whitstable Junior School

*Learning today for life tomorrow*

**Week ending 8 December 2023**



## A message from Ms Kent

Dear parents/carers

It's certainly feeling a lot like Christmas at WJS as the sound of singing has filled the school in preparation for this week's nativity and next week's Carols. Our Year 3 pupils have shone with Christmas cheer in their Nativity performances this week creating, I'm sure, many precious memories for you. Please join me in thanking all of the staff at WJS who made this possible.

Children enjoyed a delicious Christmas Dinner on Wednesday – a heartfelt thank you to Tammy and Lorraine for cooking and serving nearly 200 Christmas Dinners all with a smile!

### Carols at the Church

We are really pleased to be gathering at the church this year for an afternoon of Carol Singing. Please come along at 2pm on Wednesday 13 December 2023 for our Christmas sing-a-long. Please fill in the following google link to indicate your attendance:

<https://forms.office.com/e/TFxqAHGgBJ?origin=lprLink>

The PTFA raised an astounding £1880 last Friday at our Christmas Fair. This brings the total for the library fund to almost £7000. Thank you once again to all who supported this event.

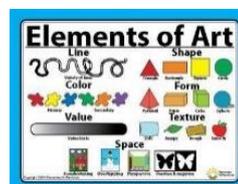
Don't forget WJS PTFA have organised a Christmas shopping day for next Tuesday 12 December 2023. It will be during the school day and gifts will range from £1 to £3. If you would like your child to shop, please send them in to school with money on the day.

Sarah Kent



## What have the children been up to this week?

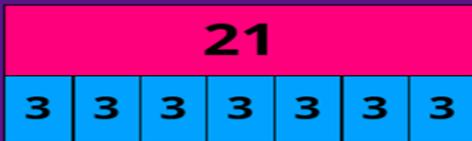
This week in **Year 3** children have been very excited about performing the nativity to the rest of the school and to their grownups. They have been trying on their costumes, practising the beautiful songs and working really hard at being wonderful performers! **Year 4** have spent their time recapping subtraction skills in maths, writing some amazing poetry in English and have been merrily singing Christmas songs too for music. In geography they have learnt all about terrifying tornadoes and how they are formed and have explored the vibrant world of Hindu weddings. **Year 5** have been starting their work on adding and subtracting fractions in maths. They have been writing their amazing Viking Sagas and in art they have been continuing to develop their understanding of lines. As the festive season has started, Year 5 enjoyed their Christmas dinner and later watching the Year 3 Nativity. This week, **Year 6** have been writing WWI poetry using figurative language to fully portray both the glory and the horrors of trench warfare. In maths, they have used units of measure to calculate mass, capacity and length. In science, Darwin's finches were the source of an experiment into adaptation of beaks on birds in order to best fit their food source.



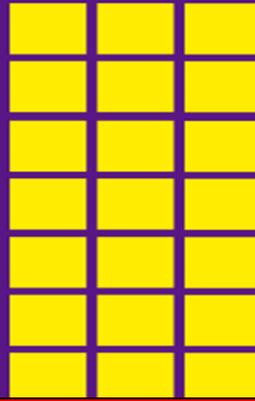
## Times Table Fact of the Week

$3 \times 7 = 21$  FACT

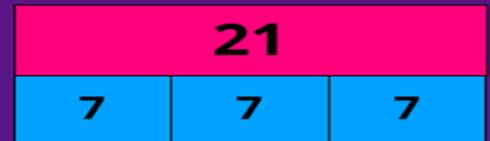
$$3 \times 7 = 21$$



$$21 \div 3 = ?$$



$$7 \times 3 = 21$$



$$21 \div 7 = ?$$

## Attendance

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

The children have been rewarded with “two keys for success” to celebrate two weeks whole school attendance of 95% this term! Well done to everyone who helped achieve this. Next Friday 15 December 2023, as a reward, children will be watching a pantomime version of **Jack and the Beanstalk** and can also wear pyjamas if they would like to. **Happy Days!**



**RE: Winter Wellness: A Reminder for Parents.** As we approach the end of Term 2, it's crucial to consider the inevitable occurrence of common colds and coughs, especially during the winter season. Your child's health and well-being are paramount and we want to provide you with essential information to help make informed decisions regarding their attendance.

**Common Guidelines:** Refer to government guidelines at GOV.UK for managing specific infectious diseases. Notify the school **every day** if your child is unwell, providing a reason for their absence. Medical evidence may be required depending on length and frequency of illnesses. Examples of evidence that could be used are prescriptions, doctors' appointments or letters.

**Additional Information from the Department for Education (DfE):** Mild respiratory illnesses are usually acceptable for school attendance, including minor/moderate coughs, runny noses or sore throats. Children should not attend school with a temperature of above 38°C. Help to address mental health concerns by promoting school attendance; being in school can help alleviate underlying issues. We will support this and help students to learn skills in regulating.

We appreciate your partnership in prioritising your child's health and education. For detailed guidance, refer to the NHS "Is my child too ill for school?" via the following link: [www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/](http://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/)



## Pupil leadership and team driver awards go to...



Sinan – 4JW  
Community



Bodhi – 3O  
Challenge



Noah – 5H  
Community



Talulah – 6M  
Adventure



## Clubs

**Clubs running next week are:**

Monday Creepy Claws & Change 4 Life (lower school)  
Tuesday Glee & Dot Kids  
Thursday Craft  
Friday Football Futures

**E-mail sent this afternoon with information on after school clubs running during terms 3 & 4 along with how to book details.**

Exciting New photography club starts Monday 8 January x 11 weeks. From 3.15pm to 4.15pm. Cost is £95. To book visit: <https://www.ignitecreatiaveacademy.com/prodcut/wjsafterschoolclub/> or call 078944 19273



## Joke of the week

**Why can't pirates learn the alphabet? Because they keep getting lost at "C".**



## PE days/Outdoor learning and football fixtures

**PE days for the remainder of Term 2**

3B Tuesday and Thursday  
3O Monday and Thursday  
4JW Wednesday and Friday  
4T Monday and Thursday  
5L Wednesday and Friday  
5H Tuesday and Thursday  
6M Monday and Friday  
6H Monday and Tuesday



## Outdoor learning Term 3

Dates for the first two weeks of **Term 3**. Please note it will then be every other week for each class. Full PE kits to be worn and please send you child in with an additional pair of shoes. We are trying to keep excessive mud out of the classrooms!

3B Monday 8 January  
6M Tuesday 9 January  
4T Wednesday 10 January  
5H Thursday 11 January  
3O Monday 15 January  
6H Tuesday 16 January  
4JW Wednesday 17 January  
5L Thursday 18 January



## Football Fixtures

Tuesday 12 December – Year 6 boys team Herne Bay Junior – **away**  
Monday 8 January – Year 6 boys team vs Swalecliffe – **home**  
Tuesday 9 January – Year 6 girls team vs The Endowed – **home**  
Tuesday 16 January – Year 6 girls team vs Bysing Wood - **home**  
Wednesday 17 January – Year 6 girls team vs Eastling – **home**



## 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 2, 3 & 4 - Dates

**Monday 11 December – Flu jabs at school**  
**Tuesday 12 December – Year 6 boys vs Herne Bay Junior – away**  
**Tuesday 12 December – Children's Christmas shopping at WJS**  
**Wednesday 13 December – Christmas carols in St Alphege Church for whole school at 2pm. Parents welcome.**  
**Wednesday 13 December – Progress and Attainment Reports**  
**Friday 15 December – End of Term 2**  
**Wednesday 3 January – Start of Term 3**  
**Tuesday 9 January – Year 6 girls vs The Endowed – home**  
**Tuesday 9 January – Parents/carers times tables workshop in The Studio at 9.00am – enter through back gate**  
**Thursday 11 January – Food bank donation – non-perishables dropped at back gate**  
**Tuesday 16 January – Year 6 girls vs Bysing Wood - home**  
**Wednesday 17 January – Year 6 girls vs Eastling – home**  
**Monday 22 January – Science workshop**  
**Thursday 25 January – 5H Taster Day at The Archbishops**  
**Friday 26 January – Parents/carers maths games/times tables at 2.45pm. Enter through back gate**  
**Friday 2 February – Whole School Number Day**  
**Monday 5 February – Children's mental health week. "My Voice Matters" – activities TBC**  
**Tuesday 6 February – Whole School Safer Internet Day**  
**Friday 9 February – End of Term 3**  
**Monday 19 February – Start of Term 4**  
**Monday 4 March – Whole School Book Week**  
**Thursday 7 March – World Book Day – dress up as book characters**

**Monday 18 March – Year 6 Enrichment Week**

**Thursday 21 March – Poetry Day – Alan Durant AIM High Workshop**

**Wednesday 20 March – Year 6 trip to Gillwell Park**

**Tuesday 26 March – Parents/carers workshop for reading strategies – The Studio from 9am  
back gate please**

**Wednesday 27 March – Reports sent home**

**Thursday 28 March – Wear a hat day – Raising money for brain tumour research**

**Thursday 28 March – End of Term 4**

**Monday 15 April – Start of Term 5**