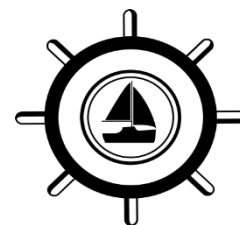


Whitstable Junior School

Sports newsletter- Terms 1 and 2 2023



Welcome to our Sports Newsletter for Terms 1 and 2. What a fantastic start to the new academic year we have had: electing new Sports Crew and House Captains who have been amazing at helping to raise the profile of sports within the school community. Both groups of Year 6 children have represented the school perfectly; demonstrating all of our values and working together as a team. We are very proud of them.



We also started Term 1 with additional Rugby Taster sessions for Years 3 and 6 during the school day and then as two ASC, run by Mr Roger Dengate. This was such a great opportunity and it was lovely to see all of the children joining in.



We are also proud to say that we have maintained our Gold Sports Games Award for 2023 and continue to work closely with Inclusive Sports and HBHS to ensure that all of our children enjoy being active, understand the importance of being healthy, and are exposed to a range of sporting activities.



Sports House Captains:

For the very first time, the Year 6 House Captains put together their own presentation which explained why they should be selected for the role. All of the children gathered together in their house teams to listen to each presentation before voting for their favourite representative. It was great to see the children deliver such confident and purposeful speeches.



Since being elected, their hard work and dedication has continued to ensure that our Curriculum Drivers are embedded into the children's everyday activities by setting termly challenges for the children to complete. I know that every Friday the children are covered in stickers that show they have achieved their challenges. Below are the challenges set for

this term. If you have any ideas for further challenges please do not hesitate to let your child know so they can tell us!

New driver challenges – see the house captains at Friday lunchtimes!



Show us your best stick or rock mountain



Say 'hello' or 'goodbye' in six different languages



Tell us 3 facts about animals that live in the sea or ocean



How many laps of the all-weather pitch can you do in a minute?

Sports Crew:

As always, we have a fantastic group of Year 6 children who make up our Sports Crew. They also had to explain why they should be considered for the role by writing letters of application which outlined what skills and attributes they thought were required for the

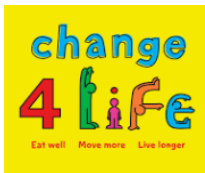


role. Once selected they attended training at Herne Bay High School, run by the Schools Games Co-ordinator, that ensured they developed the skills and ability to be able to



communicate effectively and the correct team ethics to be able to run their own lunchtime sporting activities during the year. They have done an amazing job so far, organising and looking after PE equipment and running basketball and cricket games during lunchtime; ensuring that they encourage other children to play and at the same time model good teamwork. They were a real credit to the school during our open morning when they set up a range of outdoor activities for the year 2 children to sample: all the while demonstrating compassion, humility, and positivity when interacting with our visitors.

Change for Life After School Club:



Due to the success and popularity of this ASC, this year Mrs Dean and Mrs Browning have ensured that they run this club for both Upper and Lower School children throughout the year. The ASC is designed to inspire children to want to cook and be active, as well as challenge the children's perceptions of food, educate them on the importance of a healthy diet and teach them a wide



variety of simple recipes that they can recreate at home. The children have sampled a wide variety of seasonal, nutritious, and delicious food, from tasty milkshakes to exciting kebabs, and discovered new activities such as Speed-Stacking or calming yoga. They have also planted their own vegetables to use later in the year.



In addition to this fantastic After School Club, we continue to offer a wide range of sporting and enrichment activities for all of the children, opening for Term 3 and 4 early for any disadvantaged families to ensure they have the best opportunities possible. This year we also ensured that our Term 1 and 2 ASC offers were bespoke to our children's interests by completing a pupil voice survey of the types of ASC they would like to attend and then designed our offer around that.

Inclusive Sports:



We continue to work with Inclusive Sports who support our ethos of ensuring that every child in the school embraces physical activity and overcomes any barriers that may be preventing them from taking part. Every Tuesday, the children enjoy a range of enrichment activities provided by Inclusive Sports. So far this year, the children have loved improving their dodgeball skills. Joe has also been working with some of our year 6 girls to inspire them to enjoy team games; preparing them for their football matches this term. Next Term, the children will improve their hand-to-eye coordination by learning how to Speed-Stack.



Please also remember that Inclusive Sport run a **Whitstable Holiday Activity Camp** for ages 5yrs to 16yrs from Monday 18th December to Thursday 21st December at The Endowed School Whitstable. This holiday camp provides a safe and caring environment where children can have fun, make friends and take

part in memorable experiences, as well as have warm and nutritious meals. There will be a wide range of activities available such as traditional sports like football, basketball, and tennis as well as new games like Pickleball, Curling, and Boccia, with special offers for disadvantaged families so please enquire online <https://www.inclusivesport.net/book-online> or call our office for more information.

Football

A slight change this year with regard to how our football teams were selected. To ensure that we were as inclusive as possible, any year 6 child who wanted to play for the school team signed up and became part of our Football Squad. All of these children then had access to training every week before different children played in the different matches: the girl's team with Joe from Inclusive Sports and the boy's team with Pete McCalla, a very kind parent who has given up his time to support us. We want to say a huge thank you, your time has made such a difference.

So far, the boys and girls have played half of their matches in the league, with 3 more exciting games to play next term. We may not be winning the competition but we are so proud of the teamwork, respect, integrity, and dedication that they have shown.

We have also had an amazing gift from Whitstable Football Club of free family tickets to a home game between November and January; with a children 'eat-free' voucher as well! Such a great offer that I know a child from each class in the school has cherished. Staff were asked to watch out for children who were challenging themselves to get involved in the football lessons in Term 1 or those who may not usually have this opportunity.



In Terms 3 and 4, we are looking forward to competing in the postponed Basketball competition, plus many more competitions such as Speed Stacking, Handball and Cross-country Running. We also look forward to the start of our Netball League games which I know the Netball team and Mrs Reed are very much looking forward to.

Thank you for taking the time to read our Sports Newsletter for Terms 1 and 2. We hope you all have a wonderful break and enjoy Christmas. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me either via the office or on the playground.

Kate Roy PE Lead 2023