



Whitstable Junior School

Learning today for life tomorrow

Week ending 12 January 2024



A message from Ms Kent

Dear Parents/carers

The children have enjoyed starting clubs this week with 91 children attending at least one club. We believe we have an amazing club offer at WJS. Evidence shows that attending school clubs impacts both on children's academic and emotional development. Clubs can provide motivation for children who may find school more challenging; it enables children to spend some less structured time with our teaching staff thus building positive relationships as well as developing a firm sense of belonging to our school community. Extracurricular provision can promote a range of specific benefits including enhanced confidence, resilience, relationships, and social and emotional intelligence. Developing this provision is a key objective on our school plan this year where we aim for ALL children to attend at least one club during the year.

Our club offer is carefully mapped out in consultation with the children to ensure we have something for everyone. Additionally, the school funds all school run clubs to ensure equality of access. Some of our paid for clubs offer free places for our Pupil Premium families, which we are looking at increasing. There are still places on the following clubs:- upper school netball, whole school eco, upper school change for life, upper school multi sports and whole school dance . If your child is not already signed up for a club please get in touch.

Pay it Forward

In the spirit of fairness and equity, we are introducing 'Pay it Forward.' You will notice from now on there will be an additional section in all trip letters where you have the opportunity to pay all, or part of the cost for another child to attend school trips. This is optional and is genuinely only for those families who are able to afford this to help families that can't afford school trips.

Wishing you all a cosy weekend,
Sarah Kent



What have the children been up to this week?

This week **Year 3** have revisited their learning from last term by taking a trip to France through their fantastic non-chronological reports they have written. They have particularly enjoyed learning all about the food you can enjoy there! In Dance, they have been working in teams to replicate movement inspired by machinery, learning the count of 8 as they go. **Year 4** have been honing their English skills by reviewing how to properly punctuate speech and improving their writing by using exciting ISPACE openers. In maths we have been multiplying and dividing by 10 and 100, spotting patterns and coming up with strategies to be able to do this quickly. We have learned about the journey our food goes on in our digestive system in science and have thoughtfully discussed the role of the ten commandments in Judaism as part of our RE learning. **Year 5** have had a busy week learning all about Theseus and the Minotaur through descriptive writing and how to use speech marks. Can your children remember the rules of speech punctuation? In history, the children have used primary sources of evidence to investigate the different sports from the Ancient Greek Olympics and compared them with their experiences of modern Olympics. In science the children have crashing cars to explore the effects of forces and gravity as we start our new topic of forces. In RE, the children have looked at Jesus' mission statement and how this influenced his church. Finally, year 5 are taking a pause in fractions after successfully mastering mixed number addition and subtraction. This week, **Year 6** have used hyphenated words to describe a deadly giant centipede and language of comparison to discuss little Farthing's similarity to a dog in their English lessons. In Maths, they have begun working with decimals, focusing on place value to begin with. The children continue to construct working circuits in science using the correct symbols to convey them as diagrams. They have also learned about the different biomes in South America in geography.



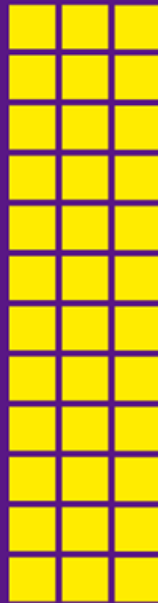
Times Table Fact of the Week

$3 \times 12 = 36$

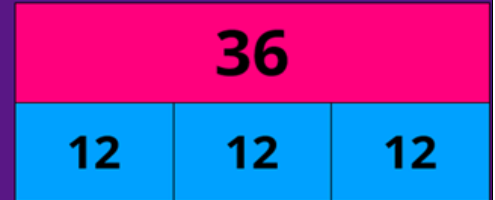
$3 \times 12 = 36$



$36 \div 3 = ?$



$12 \times 3 = 36$



$36 \div 12 = ?$

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.



This week's attendance is **93.94%**

Our weekly target is 95%. We understand it is the time of year for bugs, but if children are well enough, they can attend school with coughs, colds and sore throats.

Pupil leadership and team drivers go to...



Alice 5H



Jasper 4T



Maisy 6M



Harry 3O



Joke of the week

What did the buffalo say at school drop off? Bi-son



PE days/Outdoor learning, football and netball fixtures

PE days for Term 3 starting week 2. Please note that PE days for 6H have changed and are now **Monday and Wednesday** instead of Monday and Thursday. This is for the whole term.

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



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

Monday 15 January -Year 6 boys team vs Swalecliffe - **home**
Tuesday 16 January – Year 6 girls team vs Bysing Wood - **home**
Wednesday 17 January – Year 6 girls team vs Eastling – **home**
Monday 29 January – Year 6 boys team vs Joy Lane – **away**



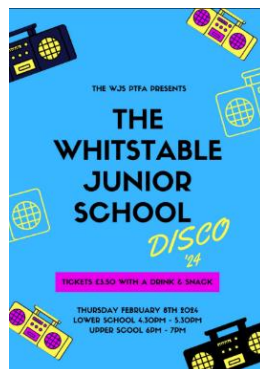
Netball Fixtures

Wednesday 7 February – Whitstable and Seasalter Endowed - 4.15pm finish – (friendly) **home**
Monday 26 February – Joy Lane – 4.15 finish – **home**
Monday 11 March – Davington – **home/away TBC**
Tuesday 23 April – Bysing Wood – return time 4.45pm – **away**
Monday 29 April – Herne Hill – **home/away TBC**
Tuesday 7 May – Whitstable and Seasalter Endowed – return time 4.30pm – **away**
Monday 13 May – Boughton-under-Blean – return time 4.45pm – **away**



Additional Messages

WJS school disco Thursday 8 February. Lower school from 4.30pm – 5.30pm and Upper School from 6pm – 7pm. Tickets available from the office next week at a cost of £3.50 which includes a drink and snack.



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.

information

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

Terms 3 & 4 - Dates

Monday 15 January – Year 6 boys football home game vs Swalecliffe

Tuesday 16 January – Year 6 girls football home game vs Bysing Wood

Wednesday 17 January – Year 6 girls football home game vs Eastling

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 (in class with your child). Enter through back gate please

Monday 29 January – Year 6 boys football away game vs Joy Lane

Thursday 1 February – Final payment for Gilwell is due. Please check SchoolMoney/Eduspot

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

Wednesday 7 February – netball friendly vs Whitstable & Seasalter Endowed - away

Thursday 8 February – School disco. Lower School 4.30pm – 5.30pm & Upper School 6pm-7pm

Friday 9 February – End of Term 3

Monday 19 February – Start of Term 4

Monday 26 February – netball vs Joy Lane - home

Monday 4 March – Whole School Book Week

Thursday 7 March – World Book Day – dress up as book characters

Friday 8 March – PTFA Thank You shop

Monday 11 March – netball vs Davington – home/away tbc

Monday 18 March – Year 6 Enrichment Week

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

Wednesday 20 March – Year 6 residential trip to Gilwell 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

Tuesday 23 April – netball vs Bysing Wood – away

Monday 29 April – netball vs Herne Hill – home/away tbc

Tuesday 7 May – Whitstable & Seasalter Endowed – away

Monday 13 May – Boughton-under-Blean - away