



# Whitstable Junior School

Learning today for life tomorrow

Week ending 26 January 2024



## A message from Ms Kent

Dear Parents/carers

This week we have been exploring Integrity and the children have been asked to consider the question: 'Who are you?' We talked about how it's OK to have different language and a different manner around different groups. But some things SHOULDN'T change... Their character, values, and basic decency. My key message to the children is: **Integrity is about the person you are when no one is watching. The person you are when you're not just on your 'best' behaviour. Is there some consistency? I hope so...**

We discussed as children they are still developing their sense of self and of right and wrong and how we are here to help them along this journey. We don't expect perfection - we encourage reflection and a restorative approach when things go wrong.

I hope you enjoyed coming in to share maths games today and that this will inspire you to play games which can help your children develop their mathematical thinking at home. Many thanks to all of you who came - we know how much this means to your children.

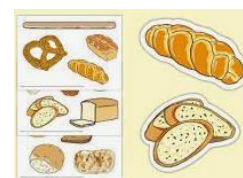
As a host school for the annual Science Workshop: creating awe and wonder, we were fortunate enough to be given free places for some of our Year 6 children who were randomly selected but have shown an aptitude and interest in science. The children spent the day being inspired by a very knowledgeable scientist, Andrew Smith, who brought with him a wide variety of live animals (from tarantulas to lizards, to cockroaches and snakes), artifacts, and fossils. The children could not stop talking about all the amazing facts they had learned and were impressed with themselves for overcoming any barriers they may have had about some of these beautiful creatures.

Wishing you all a storm free weekend,  
Sarah Kent



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

This week **Year 3** have enjoyed starting their new unit of work on measure in maths, learning about millimetres, centimetres and metres. They have focused on how and when to measure using which unit of measurement and applied these skills through their own learning. The children have also enjoyed discovering more about what artefacts can tell us about the past in their Indus Valley topic. The children have also enjoyed speed stacking this week as part of their P.E. lessons and have shown brilliant co-ordination. In English **Year 4** have finished their informal letters from Ming about their incredible adventure with the terracotta warrior; they were great at remembering to include all the relevant features of a letter. During our maths lessons, we have used manipulatives and part-whole models to support us in dividing a 2-digit number by a 1-digit number. Please ask your children to show you how amazing they are at this! In P.E we have learned new dance moves and practised our hockey skills in games. As part of RE learning, the children explored what Humanism teaches about how to make moral decisions. The children really enjoyed giving good and questionable advice in our 'conscience alley' activity we did as part of this lesson. **Year 5** have continued their learning of Greek myths looking at Perseus and Medusa and the qualities needed to be heroic and brave. They have also explored the concept of fatal flaws within Greek characters. In maths they have been exploring division through partitioning and bus stop method. In history the children were learning about the origins of democracy and how not everyone has always had the right to vote. This week **Year 6** have been comparing fractions and decimals and learning ways to find equivalents. In English exciting things have happened as the eggs hatched and challenged the children to imagine a dragon life-cycle. The children visited other year groups to present their delicious ideas for bread making and have investigated variations in brightness of bulbs in a range of circuits.



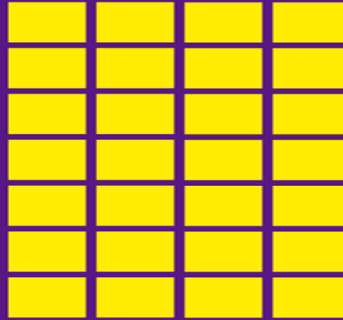
## Times Table Fact of the Week

$$4 \times 7 = 28$$

28

4 4 4 4 4 4 4

$$28 \div 4 = ?$$



$$7 \times 4 = 28$$

28

7 7 7 7

$$28 \div 7 = ?$$

## 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. If your children are late for school, please bring them into the school office rather than dropping them at the front gate. The school needs to log a reason for their lateness which should come from parents/carers. Many thanks



## Pupil leadership and team drivers go to...



Xander – 6M  
Adventure – for doing an amazing impression of a lizard



Lexi - 5L  
Community – for holding a door open



Bella – 3B  
Challenge – for getting all the answers correct in maths



Ariana – 4JW  
Community – for being a super sitter in assembly



## PE days/football and netball fixtures

A reminder that children should wear their school jumper over their PE kits and not skins. Thank you. PE days for Term 3

**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



### Football Fixtures

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 4 March – Ethelbert Road – return time 4.45pm - **away**  
 Monday 11 March – Davington – **home**  
 Tuesday 23 April – Bysing Wood – return time 4.15pm – **home**  
 Monday 29 April – Hernhill – return time 4.45pm **away**  
 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

**Friday 2 February Number Day** - Children can wear their own clothes with a number on them if they wish.

**Reports to Parents** - Please note a change to date as we get to grips with our new assessment system INSIGHT. Full reports will be with you week commencing April 29th.

**Library Book Pack Up** - If any parents can help to box up the books in the library from 1pm on Friday 9 February, last day of term, it would be greatly appreciated. We are having the floor laid over the half term period.

**Student Contact Book** - Please can you use the children's school contact books. Relevant work is stuck into them including times tables - and they are a great way to communicate back and forth with the children's teacher for appointments and non-urgent messages. If they have been lost, a replacement can be bought from the school office at a cost of £1.

**Attendance Forum** - Don't forget the Attendance Forum for parents/carers on the 5 February at 2.30pm. Please book spaces via the office and enter through the front gate.



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

information

## Terms 3, 4 & 5 - Dates

**Monday 29 January – Deadline to apply for parent/governor position**

**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**

**Monday 5 February – Attendance Forum at 2.30pm in The Studio. Please book a space through the office, enter through front gate.**

**Tuesday 6 February – Whole School Safer Internet Day**

**Wednesday 7 February – Netball friendly vs Whitstable & Seasalter Endowed - home**

**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**

**Monday 4 March – Netball Ethelbert Road - away**

**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**

**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**

**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 – home**

**W/B Monday 29 April – Reports sent home**

**Monday 29 April – Netball vs Hernehill – away**

**Tuesday 7 May – Whitstable & Seasalter Endowed – away**

**Monday 13 May – Boughton-under-Blean - away**