



Whitstable Junior School

Learning today for life tomorrow

Week ending 31 October 2025



A message from Ms Kent & Ms Collin

Dear Parents and Carers

We hope you all had a great week with your children. We have enjoyed hearing about their half term ventures – both, local and further afield.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your continued support with attendance. At the end of Term 1 our attendance was 95.4% compared to 94.7% this time last year. We remain committed to maintaining high attendance standards at Whitstable Junior School and this comes from a place of caring. Most children will do better socially, emotionally and academically if they are in school and we know education matters. We want to work with you ensuring the very best for your child. 96% is considered good attendance. This equates to no more than 7-8 days missed across the whole academic year. Anything below this may trigger a call or meeting from a member of our team.

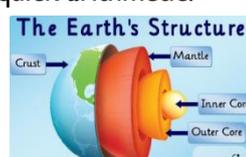
We are always here to listen and support when there are challenges. This might involve attendance rewards for your child, allocating a mentor to work with you and your child or signposting you to outside agency support. If your child is facing barriers to attendance, please contact the school office so we can work together to find solutions. As we move into the winter months, please continue to strive for the very best attendance for your child.

Wishing you all a great weekend.



What have the children been up to this week?

Year 3 have started reading *The Iron Man* by Ted Hughes in English; the children have looked at the first few chapters and have had a great time asking the seagulls a range of questions about what they saw when the Iron Man fell off the cliff. In maths they have started looking at multiplication and division by grouping. In PE, the children have begun their gymnastics learning by exploring balancing and travelling. Next week we will begin looking at our Nativity performance and asking children if they would like to have a speaking part in the play. **Year 4** have been learning about the area of 2D shapes in maths and finding strategies for working out their areas and comparing the areas of different shapes against one another. In English, we have started looking at a picture book called 'The Midnight Fair'. We were inspired by the beautiful artwork in the book to create our own watercolour pieces. We have begun our geography topic of 'Natural Disasters' by looking at the layers of the Earth, creating our own detailed cross-section diagrams. **Year 5** have started their exploration of coasts, identifying physical and human features and how Whitstable harbour has changed over time. In science, they have been recapping vocabulary to describe the properties of materials and those that are natural and synthetic. In English they have been exploring the Christmas truce of 1914, emphasising with the characters, and writing complex sentences. **Year 6** have come back to an intriguing term. The week started by looking at dinosaurs, poetry from the first world war and discovering who the Mayans were. In science, the children have been looking at evolution and inheritance by answering the question is a T-Rex more like a chicken or a gecko? During English, they have been exploring poems by Rupert Brooke and Wilfred Owen about being a Soldier in WWI. They have been very analytical, comparing the differences between them and looking at the poetic features. In maths, the children have been looking at mental strategies to help them with quick arithmetic.



Times Table Fact of the Week

$$2 \times 12 = 24$$

24

2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2

$$24 \div 2 = ?$$



$$12 \times 2 = 24$$

24

12

12

$$24 \div 12 = ?$$

Attendance



Thank you for ensuring your child is on time and ready to learn every day. Gates open at 8.30am and close at 8.45 am. Children are registered in their ready to learn time, therefore prompt attendance is essential. If your children are late, please bring them into the office. The school logs a reason for lateness which should come from parents/carers rather than children and we need to ensure children have a lunch booked if needed. If children are absent due to illness, please call the school office by 8.50am. You will need to call the school each day of absence.

PE Timetable for Term 2 & Upcoming Football Fixtures

Children **come to school** wearing **full PE kit** (inc. jogging bottoms and jumpers if necessary – not skins) on the following days.

- 3H** Tuesday and Friday/**3M** Thursday and Friday
- 4J** Monday and Tuesday
- 5H** Tuesday and Wednesday/**5PW** Thursday and Friday
- 6L** Wednesday and Friday/**6T** Monday and Friday



Boys Football : Parents/carers welcome (matches subject to change)

- Wednesday 12 November** WJS vs Herne Juniors – **away** (grass)
- Wednesday 19 November** Thornden Wood v WJS - **away** 3:30pm start (grass)
- Wednesday 28 January** WJS vs Hampton – **home** (astro)
- Wednesday 4 February** WJS vs Davington – **away** (grass)
- Thursday 12 February** WJS vs Swalecliffe - **home** – (astro)

Girls Football : Parents/carers welcome (matches subject to change)

- Thursday 13 November** - Davington v WJS - **away** 3.30pm start (grass)
- Wednesday 19 November** - Thornden Wood v WJS - **away** 3.30pm start (grass)
- Thursday 26 November** – Hoath & Chislet vs WJS – **away** (astro)
- Thursday 11 December** Bysing Wood vs WJS - **away** 3.30pm start (grass)
- Wednesday 4 February** WJS vs Davington – **away** (grass)
- WJS vs Joy Lane – TBC



Outdoor learning

Children to wear PE kits on relevant days. Please ensure they have a change of shoes so we can keep mud out of the school.

- 6T** Monday 3 November/Monday 17 November/Monday 1 December
- 3M** Tuesday 4 November/Tuesday 18 November/ Tuesday 2 December
- 4J** Wednesday 5 November/Wednesday 19 November/Wednesday 3 December
- 5PW** Thursday 6 November/Thursday 20 November/Thursday 4 December
- 6L** Monday 10 November/Monday 24 November/Monday 8 December
- 3H** Tuesday 11 November/Tuesday 25 November/ Tuesday 9 December
- 5H** Thursday 13 November/Thursday 27 November/Thursday 11 December



Lunch Menu w/c 3 November

School lunches are £3.20 per day. **PLEASE NOTE: MENU BEING UPDATED AS EGGS WILL NEVER BE AN OPTION. OPTION 4 ON MONDAY WILL BE HAM/CHEESE/TUNA**

Please note that we are fixing the kitchen boiler as quickly as we possibly can. Unfortunately, we are still waiting on a part and can therefore only supply cold lunches until further notice.

The potential menu for Thursday is below.

Menu for 6 November



Open days for September 2026 intake

Tuesday 4 November from 9 – 10am
Thursday 6 November from 9 – 10am
Monday 10 November from 2 – 3pm
Wednesday 19 November from 9 – 10am
Tuesday 25 November from 2 – 3pm
Open morning Saturday 15 November from 10 – 12pm



Additional Messaging

Please note that only analogue watches or basic step trackers are allowed in school. No watches with the capability to take photos or to store/watch downloaded videos are permitted.



We are now running two breakfast club sessions : 7.30-8.30 £5.00 / session. 8.00-8.30 £2.50 / session.

There are still a few spaces available should you require

<https://www.whitstable-junior.kent.sch.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=5194&type=pdf>



Have your say regarding Kent Policing via the following link: [Public consultations](#)



Canterbury Family Hubs

Timetable

27th October to 19th December 2025

Closed on Bank Holidays

Coastal Family Hubs:

Herne Bay
03000 422889
Memorial Park,
Kings Road,
Herne Bay, CT6 5RG
CanterburyFH@kent.gov.uk

Whitstable
03000 421554
Tower Parade,
Whitstable, CT5 2BJ
CanterburyFH@kent.gov.uk

Briary
03000 420897
Greenhill Road (West),
Herne Bay, CT6 7RS
CanterburyFH@kent.gov.uk

Letters and email

If you have a message, please send it to the office and it will be passed to your child's teacher / dealt with as appropriate. Do not contact the office if you require paper copies. Please refer to the date section of the newsletter for upcoming trips.



Dates

Monday 3 November – Skip2Bfit workshop and 2 mins of skipping. Ropes available to purchase at end of school day with 10% discount

Friday 7 November – Year 4 trip to Westgate Gardens. Aqualab.

Tuesday 11 November – Remembrance Day – Year 6 to Cenotaph

w/c Monday 10 November – September 2026 parent tours

w/c Monday 10 November – Anti-Bullying Week

Friday 14 November – Children in Need – Herne Bay High Dance Dash

Saturday 15 November – Open Morning for September 2026 parents

w/c Monday 17 November – Inter-Faith Week

Monday 17 November AIM High Writing Day for Years 5 & 6 with Sam Gayton

Wednesday 19 November – Year 6 trip to cathedral

Tuesday 25 November – Fire Safety Talks – Whole School

Tuesday 2 December – Year 4 Sound Workshop

Friday 5 December – Christmas Shop

Tuesday 9 December - Year 3 nativity to parents 2pm and 5pm

Friday 12 December – Christmas Fair 3.13pm – 5pm

Friday 12 December – After school clubs finish

Wednesday 17 December – Christmas jumper and lunch day/party in class & Father Christmas

Wednesday 17 December – Progress Attainment Reports to parents

Friday 19 December - £100 residential trip instalment due

Friday 19 December – Christmas carols at St Alphege from 2.30pm – parents welcome

Friday 19 December – End of Term 2

Monday 5 January – Start of Term 3

w/c 21 January – NSPCC assemblies in phases

Monday 3 or Wednesday 5 February NSPCC workshops for Years 5 & 6

Friday 6 February – NSPCC Number Day

Thursday 12 February – School Disco – Lower School 4.30pm – 5.30pm/Upper School 6pm – 7pm

Friday 13 February - £100 residential trip instalment due

Monday 30 March - £100 residential trip instalment due

Monday 27 April – Parent consultation – time TBC

Wednesday 29 April – Parent consultation – time TBC

w/c 11 May – Year 6 SATs tests

Monday 1 June – Kent Test application for year 5 opens

Wednesday 3 June – Friday 5 June – Year 6 residential

Friday 12 June – Summer Fair TBC

w/c Monday 29 June – Transition Week – ALL schools on Thursday 2 July

Thursday 2 July – New Year 3 Parent Meeting at 9am

Wednesday 1 July Kent Test application closes

w/c Monday 6 July – Year 6 Production

Wednesday 15 July – Full Reports to parents

Wednesday 15 July – Year 6 Leavers Celebration in St Alphege church from 11am for Year 6 and 2pm for parents

Friday 17 July – End of Term 6

Term 2

Finish: Friday 19 December 2025

Term 3

Start: Monday 5 January 2026

Finish: Friday 13 February 2026

Term 4

Start: Tuesday 24 February 2026

Finish: Thursday 2 April 2026

Term 5

Start: Monday 20 April 2026

Bank Holiday: Monday 4 May 2026

Finish: Friday 22 May 2026

Term 6

Start: Monday 1 June 2026

Finish: Friday 17 July 2022

Staff Development Days

Monday 23 February 2026

Monday and Tuesday 20/21 July