



Whitstable Junior School

Learning today for life tomorrow

Week ending 5 December 2025



A message from Ms Kent & Ms Collin

Dear Parents and Carers,



Please welcome our newest pupil, Claude Gigglesprout. He's already been up to all sorts of festive antics around the school, and we'll need everyone to keep a close eye on him. Make sure you check our Facebook page daily to see what mischief he's been getting up to – you won't want to miss his adventures!

Thank You to Our PTFA 📺 A huge thank you to our wonderful PTFA for organising today's Christmas shop. The children had a fantastic time choosing special gifts, and it was lovely to see their excitement. We're incredibly grateful to all the volunteers who gave their time to make this event such a success. Your continued support means so much to our school community. And they made **£805.00!!!!**

School of Noise Workshop 🎵 Some of our children had the opportunity to take part in the School of Noise workshop this week. They thoroughly enjoyed the experience and it was wonderful to see them exploring music and sound in such an engaging way. Thank you to everyone involved in making this happen.

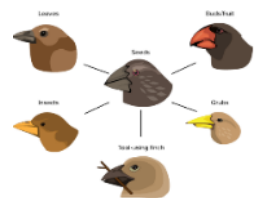
Year 3 Nativity – Next Week! ★ We're looking forward to welcoming Year 3 parents and carers to our nativity performance next week. This is always a highlight of our Christmas calendar, and the children have been working incredibly hard on their performances.



Wishing you all a wonderful week ahead.

What have the children been up to this week?

In **Year 3** this week, the children have been continuing to write their sequels to The Iron Man. In maths, they have been recapping learning from the year so far and showing the teachers how much they have remembered. In addition, the children have begun making gifts to sell at the Christmas fair next Friday. The highlight in **Year 4** this week was certainly our amazing sound workshop, facilitated by 'School of Noise'. The children enjoyed exploring how sound works through a range of hands-on activities, including: playing fruits and vegetables, using a telegraph machine to send morse code messages and playing a theremin. In English we have begun our new topic of explanation texts, explored features and implemented them into our own writing. In geography we have been learning all about how tornadoes are formed and about tornado tourism in the USA. We have been really proud of how resilient **Year 5** have been with their assessment this week. They have also been braving the weather for their beach trip, completing their fieldwork activities to analysis back in class. In art, they have started their final projects, applying their pointillism skills to recreate a Whitstable beach scene. **Year 6** have been busy thinking about their internal voice in English this week and retelling a story from one of the character's points of view. They have used flashbacks to take their audience back in time. In maths, the children have been finishing their work on dividing fractions and looking at fractions of amounts. Furthermore, they have been channelling their inner Charles Darwin in science looking at adaptation and how he noticed this with Finches. They carried out an investigation into how the bird's beaks are designed for certain food. In art this week, the children have been finishing off their Modroc masks and some have started to paint - we can't wait for you to see them!

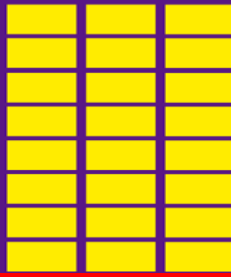


Times Table Fact of the Week

$$3 \times 8 = 24$$

24							
3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3

$$24 \div 3 = ?$$



$$8 \times 3 = 24$$

24		
8	8	8

$$24 \div 8 = ?$$

Attendance



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. 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 28 January** Hampton vs WJS – **home** (astro)
Wednesday 4 February Davington vs WJS – **away** (grass)
Thursday 12 February Swalecliffe vs WJS - **home** – (astro)
Wednesday 25 February Thornden Wood vs WJS – **away** (grass – studs needed)

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

- Thursday 11 December** Bysing Wood vs WJS - **home** 3.30pm start
Tuesday 20 January Joy Lane vs WJS – **away** – (grass – studs needed)
Wednesday 21 January St Mary's vs WJS – **home** (astro)
Wednesday 4 February Davington vs WJS – **away** (grass – studs needed)
Wednesday 25 February Thornden Wood vs WJS – **away** (grass – studs needed)



A new pupil started WJS this week – Claude Gigglesprout

Monday morning Ms Collin was very surprised to see a new pupil had arrived in the office. He said he didn't have a name but he was joining the school for a short period. After a school competition, he has been named **Claude Gigglesprout**. On Tuesday, dressed in a Whitstable Junior School jumper, he was caught trying to go on a road trip in the school mini bus – all by himself! What a handful he is! We couldn't find Claude on Wednesday but he was finally spotted on top of the Christmas tree. Maybe he fancies himself as the next Sir Edmund Hilary but he shouldn't be climbing up there! Claude helped Tammy make the apple and golden syrup sponge for pudding on Thursday. What a kind elf but, oh boy, what a mess he made! He was missing again this morning but after staff searched high and low and were just about to get very worried, he was found on the photocopier. Nobody knew what he had been up to at first but soon discovered he had been photocopying himself at great expense in FULL colour! He printed off his copies and delivered one to each class to be sure he said "Hi" to everyone. Oh dear Mr Gigglesprout, what are we to do with you? I think we are going to have to keep a much closer eye on you next week!



Lunch Menu w/c 8 December

School lunches are £3.20 per day. Menu being updated as eggs will never be an option under Deli option 4

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Cheese and Tomato Pizza with Potato Wedges 🌱	Beef Meatballs in Tomato Sauce with Wholewheat Pasta 🌱	Roast Chicken with Mashed Potatoes and Gravy	Oat Crusted Chicken with Potato Wedges	Fish Fingers with Chips
OR	OR	OR	OR	OR
Vegetarian Cottage Pie with Gravy 🌱 🌱	Veggie Chilli Con Carne With Crispy Tortilla with Wholegrain Rice 🌱 🌱 🌱	Vegetable Pastry Slice with Mashed Potatoes and Gravy 🌱	Macaroni Cheese 🌱	Quorn Dippers with Chips 🌱
OR	OR	OR	OR	OR
Jacket Potato with Baked Beans or Cheese	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans or Cheese	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans or Cheese	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans or Cheese	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans or Cheese
HOT DISHES ARE SERVED WITH TWO VEGETABLES				
Egg/Cheese Sandwich or Wrap	Ham/Cheese/Tuna Sandwich or Wrap	Ham/Cheese/Tuna Sandwich or Wrap	Ham/Cheese/Tuna Sandwich or Wrap	Ham/Cheese/Tuna Sandwich or Wrap
DELI DISHES ARE SERVED WITH MIXED SALAD				
Chocolate Marble Cake 🌱	Orange Glazed Sticky Sponge Cake with Custard 🌱	Lemon Cookie 🌱	Crunchy Chocolate Mousse	Berry Blondie

Additional Messaging

Please remember to order RSVP regarding your child's Christmas Lunch as they have to be ordered even if your child is Free School Meals. This Monday 8 December is the deadline.



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 8 December – 5H trip to Canterbury Mosque
- Tuesday 9 December - Year 3 nativity to parents 2pm and 5pm (children back in school at 4.40pm)
- Friday 12 December – Christmas Fair 3.15pm – 5pm
- Friday 12 December – After school clubs finish
- Friday 12 December – No Football Futures after school club session
- Wednesday 17 December – Christmas jumper and lunch day/party in class & Father Christmas
- Wednesday 17 December – Progress Attainment Reports to parents
- Thursday 18 December – Glee Club performance – 4pm (invitation only)
- Friday 19 December - £100 residential trip instalment due
- Friday 19 December – Christmas carols at St Alphege from 2.30pm – parents welcome
- Friday 19 December – Football Futures after school club session

Friday 19 December – End of Term 2
Saturday 20 December – Whole school online bookings open for after school clubs
Monday 5 January – Start of Term 3
Friday 9 January – Whole school panto at 9.30am
Monday 12 January – World Religion Day
Monday 12 January – After school clubs start for terms 3 & 4
Tuesday 13 January – AIM high maths day. Years 5 & 6
Wednesday 14 January – HBH Arena Cross Country Cop. Years 3/4 & 5/6 1.30pm – 3.30pm
Wednesday 14 January – 5H Parent/Carer lunch
Wednesday 21 January – 5JW Parent/Carer lunch
w/c 21 January – NSPCC assemblies in phases
Tuesday 3 or Thursday 5 February NSPCC workshops for Years 5 & 6
Tuesday 3 February – Number Day
Thursday 5 February – Year 3 Beany Trip
Friday 6 February – NSPCC Number Day
Friday 6 February – Year 3 Trip to Beany
Monday 9 February – Safer Internet Week
Wednesday 2 February – Sports Hall Athletics (HBH) 9.30 – 12.30 Year 5 & 6
Thursday 12 February – School Disco – Lower School 4.30pm – 5.30pm/Upper School 6pm – 7pm
Friday 13 February – £100 residential trip instalment due
Friday 13 February – End of Term 3
Tuesday 24 February – Start of Term 4
Wednesday 18 March – Quicksticks Hockey HBH (LS 9 – 11 and US 1 – 3.30M)
Friday 27 March – After school clubs finish
Monday 30 March - £100 residential trip instalment due
Thursday 2 April – End of Term 4
Thursday 23 April – New to Tennis at UKC Tennis Centre – Years 5/6 10 – 12pm
Monday 27 April – Parent consultation – time TBC
Wednesday 29 April – Parent consultation – time TBC
Thursday 7 May – Tennis Tournament Year 3/4 at UKC Tennis Centre 10 – 12pm
w/c 11 May – Year 6 SATs tests
Friday 15 May – Year 6 End of Sats trip to Betteshanger
Monday 1 June – Kent Test application for year 5 opens
Wednesday 3 June – Friday 5 June – Year 6 residential
Wednesday 10 June – Dynamo Cricket (Boys) US 10 – 3.30pm Chestfield CC
Friday 12 June – Summer Fair TBC
Wednesday 17 June – Football Tournament LS - Herne Bay High 1.30pm – 3.30pm
w/c Monday 29 June – Transition Week – ALL schools on Thursday 2 July
Wednesday 1 July – Dance Competition TBC (Boughton Village Hall)
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 2026

Staff Development Days

Monday 23 February 2026

Monday and Tuesday 20/21 July