



Whitstable Junior School

Learning today for life tomorrow

Week ending 6 March 2026



A message from Ms Kent & Ms Collin

Dear Parents and Carers

What a wonderful week we have had at Whitstable Junior School!



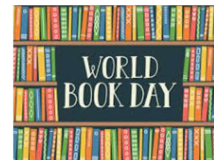
We were delighted to welcome Japanese students to our school who shared their rich culture with our children. Some of our pupils had the fantastic opportunity to learn origami, try their hand at calligraphy, and practise speaking Japanese. The visiting students also observed some of our lessons, creating a wonderful cultural exchange that broadened everyone's horizons. It was a truly enriching experience that brought different cultures together in our school community.

A huge thank you to our brilliant PTA for organising the school discos. The children had an absolutely wonderful time dancing and singing – the energy and joy in the room was infectious! Events like these are so important for building our school community and giving the children memorable experiences outside the classroom.

World Book Day was a fantastic celebration of reading. We saw a wonderful array of creative costumes and cosy reading outfits throughout the school. It was brilliant to see the children's enthusiasm for books and reading, and we hope this love of literature continues to grow. Thank you all for your continued support.

It's lovely to see the days getting longer and brighter. We've been making the most of the sunny weather, with children enjoying their time outside during breaks and outdoor learning activities. There's nothing quite like seeing happy faces soaking up the sunshine!

Wishing you a lovely weekend
Sarah Kent and Kirsten Collin

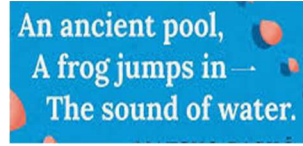


What have the children been up to this week?

Year 3 have been reading *Setsuko and the Song of the Sea* for Book week; the children have written a recount and explored how to write descriptions of characters. In maths, they have been looking at mass and capacity, learning how to compare and order amounts. In science, the children have started their new topic of Light and Shadows by identifying reflectors and light sources. **Year 4** have loved Book Week and exploring our text, 'Setsuko and the Song of the Sea', inspiring us to produce some beautiful artwork, haikus and letters to call the government to take action to protect our oceans and beaches. In maths we have been adding and subtracting fractions. On Wednesday, we were lucky enough to take part in some workshops run by students from Japan; we learned some Japanese words and phrases, made hearts and hats using origami and wrote our names in beautiful calligraphy using traditional ink and brushes. **Year 5** have been exploring the book: 'Turtle Rescue' for Book Week. They have been researching precise and ambitious vocabulary to write a description of the coral reefs and have used their previous learning to explore facts about ocean pollution and the effect on turtles. They have also chosen their own under water creature to research to create an imaginative info graphic page. **Year 6** had a fantastic and engaging week immersed in their focus text, *The Search for the Giant Arctic Jellyfish* by Chloe Savage. The children have thoroughly enjoyed exploring the story and have produced impressive work inspired by it. This has included non-chronological reports, rich descriptive writing, and independent creative pieces that showcase their imagination and growing confidence as writers. Alongside this, pupils have been developing their understanding of modal verbs and applying them effectively within their writing to enhance clarity and precision. In maths, the class has embraced their new algebra unit. The children have demonstrated great determination in learning to form and interpret algebraic expressions and equations, as well as developing their skills solving them. It has been wonderful to see their resilience and problem-solving abilities shine through. In science, pupils have been revisiting their learning from

Year 3 on the topic of light. They have been recalling key knowledge about different light sources and building on this through discussion and investigation. Music lessons have also been a highlight. The children have continued to develop their ukulele skills, working collaboratively to compose and perform their own songs. It has been fantastic to see their teamwork, creativity, and growing musical confidence. Well done, Year 6 for another brilliant week!

light source	light reflector
match	saucepan
the Moon	silver ring
lightning	fire
television	window

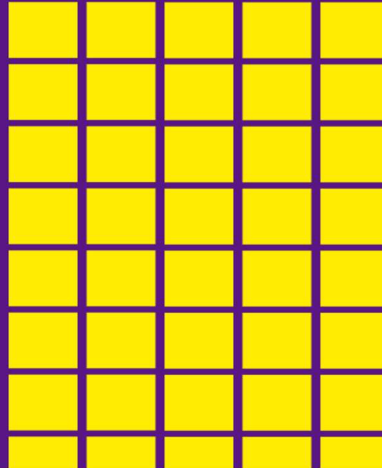


Times Table Fact of the Week

$$5 \times 8 = 40$$



$$40 \div 5 = ?$$



$$8 \times 5 = 40$$



$$40 \div 8 = ?$$

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 with the illness please as the school needs more info than "poorly".

We strive for at least 95% attendance. A few are teetering a little above and a little below. Let's make a concerted effort to get comfortably in the 95% range and upwards this term.

95

PE Timetable for Term 4 & Upcoming Football & Other 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** Wednesday and Thursday
- 4J** Monday and Thursday
- 5H** Wednesday and Thursday/**5PW** Tuesday and Friday
- 6L** Wednesday and Friday/**6T** Monday and Friday

Big up to the boy's and girl's football teams against Thornden Woods Primary this week. 8-0 to the girls and 8-1 to the boys!



Not to be outdone, our netball team won their first game of the season against Davington 4:3. Celebrations all round!

Netball –
Monday 9 March WJS vs St Mary's - home



Outdoor Learning – Term 4

3M 10 March/24 March
5PW 11 March/25 March
4J 12 March/26 March
6L 16 March/30 March
3H 17 March/31 March
5H 18 March/1 April
6T 9 March/23 March



Lunch Menu w/c 9 March

Cheese and Tomato Pizza with Potato Wedges 🍷	Beef Bolognese with Wholewheat Pasta 🍷🍷	Roast Chicken with Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Chinese Sticky Lemon Chicken with Wholegrain Rice 🍷🍷	Fish Fingers with Chips
OR	OR	OR	OR	OR
BBQ Vegetable Wrap with Potato Wedges 🍷🍷	Vegetarian Bolognese with Wholewheat Pasta 🍷🍷	Roast Quorn with Roast Potatoes and Gravy 🍷	Cheesy Vegetable Hotpot 🍷	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				
Crunchy Apple Slice 🍷	Strawberry Shortcake Mousse	Oat Cookie 🍷	Apple Crumble with Custard 🍷	Chocolate Ice Cream

PTFA Playground Update

A huge thank you to everyone who supported the school disco this week! We are also incredibly grateful to all the volunteers who kindly gave up their time to make the event such a success. All proceeds from the disco will go directly towards our Playground Project.

Thanks to your generosity, we have now raised an amazing **£1,993**, which is **17% of our £12,000 target**. You can follow our progress or make a donation here:

👉 <https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/whitstable-juniors-playground-project>

Our next fundraising activity will be **The Thank You Shop**, taking place **next Friday, 13th March**, during the school day. Children are invited to bring cash in a sealed envelope, which they can use to purchase gifts for anyone they would like to say “thank you” to. **Gift prices range from £1 to £4.**

Thank you for your continued support — together we’re making a real difference!



Additional Messaging



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 (dates in red indicate a date change)

Wednesday 11 March – Parent/carer lunch with 4J
Friday 13 March – Thank You Shop
Wednesday 18 March – Quicksticks Hockey HBHS (LS 9 – 11 and US 1 – 3.30M)
Friday 20 March – Walk for Water
Friday 20 March – Red Nose Day – crazy hair day and/or wear something red
Friday 27 March – After school clubs finish
Monday 30 March - £100 residential trip instalment due
Wednesday 1 April – iRock concert at 2.15pm. Enter through front gate.
Thursday 2 April – Art installation opening and celebration “Windows to the World” at 2.45pm
Thursday 2 April – End of Term 4
Monday 20 April - Start of Term 5
w/c Monday 20 April – Year 3 & 4 swimming lessons x 4 for Year 3 and 5 for Year 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
Monday 4 May – Bank Holiday
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
Friday 22 May – End of Term 5
Monday 1 June – Start of Term 6
Monday 1 June – Kent Test application for year 5 opens
Wednesday 3 June – Friday 5 June – Year 6 residential
w/c Monday 8 June – Years 5 & 6 Swimming lessons x 5
Wednesday 10 June – Dynamo Cricket (Boys) US 10 – 3.30pm Chestfield CC
Friday 12 June – Summer Fair TBC
Monday 15 June – Year 4 Otterden trip
Wednesday 17 June – Football Tournament LS - Herne Bay High 1.30pm – 3.30pm
Thursday 23 June – Sports Day
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
Thursday 16 July – Leaver’s Disco
Friday 17 July – End of Term 6
Monday 20 July – SDD
Tuesday 21 July - SDD
TERM DATES 2026/2027
Term 1 Starts Wednesday 2 September 2026/Term 1 Ends Friday 23 October 2026
Term 2 Starts Monday 2 November 2026/Term 2 Ends Friday 18 December 2026
Term 3 Starts Monday 4 January 2027/Term 3 Ends Friday 12 February 2027
Term 4 Starts Monday 22 February 2027/Term 4 Ends Thursday 25 March 2027
Term 5 Starts Monday 12 April 2027/Term 5 Ends Friday 28 May 2027
Term 6 Starts Monday 7 June 2027/Term 6 Ends Friday 16 July 2027
SDD Days:
Tuesday 1 September 2026/Friday 30 April 2027/Monday 19/Tuesday 20/Wednesday 21 July 2027