



## William Ford CE Junior School

### Weekly Newsletter Autumn Term 1 Week 5

Dear Parents/Carers,  
Can I start by thanking you for following our new regulations around drop off and collection. All of us here at William Ford appreciate the efforts families are making to keep all users of the school site safe. Sadly, Barking and Dagenham does now have the second highest rate of infection in London so it is important we all continue to follow the rules.

These rules include:

- Anyone over the age of 11 to wear a face covering when dropping off or collecting children
- Remember the 'rule of six' and ensure you are not standing in a group of more than six people
- Leave the school premises as soon as possible after collection and drop off
- Do not arrive early for collection or drop off
- Phone the school office should you have any queries or concerns

One way we have had to adapt is that, sadly, we are no longer able to congregate in the school hall for our collective acts of worship. However, this week we have begun online worship where I have had the privilege of appearing 'live' to the children virtually from my office. Using the wonders of technology, pupils have been able to participate through class discussions, utilising the chat functions, and by me visiting each class with a mobile camera and microphone! Although this is far from normal, it is wonderful to be able to start our school day together; be able to hear some encouragement from the Bible and to remember that however difficult life is, God is with us.

Our current theme for collective worship is the Lord's prayer. We have begun by thinking about what prayer is: learning that we can communicate with God in a variety of ways and that we never have to worry about not knowing what words say or how to express ourselves.



Next week, we will be celebrating Harvest. My thanks to Dagenham Parish Church for preparing a worship for us which I plan to share with you via our Facebook group. Mr. Burgin's class will also be leading a worship for us too!

Each class has two RE lessons that focus on harvest and I look forward to seeing some of the pupils' work being displayed on our new harvest display in the school hall.

Finally, you should have received a letter from me outlining items that have been requested by the Food Bank run by Riverside Church. If you are able, donating food and other items is a great way for us to show our thanks to God. Please can any donations be brought into school next week.

Mr. David Huntingford  
Headteacher



#### Psalm 85: 12

The Lord will give his goodness. And  
the land will give its crops.





## Meet our TEAM

### This week: Mrs. Anderson

Mrs. Anderson ensures our school is kept spotlessly clean and has worked at William Ford for 8 years; she has been a school cleaner for 28 years! Mrs. Anderson is an expert fisherwoman who fished for a club in the men's league. She loves animals and has a dog and a cat and once woke up to find a feral cat in her bedroom!

**Interesting fact:** Tracy was once in the Angling Times and won the club man's hat trophy.



### Last Friday's Inset day

We hope all children enjoyed their three-day weekend last week. This training day provided staff with an excellent opportunity to review our curriculum: looking for links between subjects and ensuring our curriculum celebrates our Christian ethos. A lot of our units of study will now begin with a bible passage and some 'big' (tricky) questions for the pupils to consider and debate.

### Kerry's Korner

One important part of ensuring the safety and wellbeing of pupils, parents and our communities is testing for coronavirus. We all have a duty to make sure that the right people have access to get tested at the right time. Every time a test is used inappropriately, a person with Covid-19 symptoms may miss out on getting tested. Therefore, I ask that you all follow these principles:



- You should only book a test if your child has any of these three coronavirus symptoms:
  - a high temperature: any new high temperature where your child feels hot to touch on their chest or back (you do not need to measure the temperature)
  - a new continuous cough: coughing a lot for more than an hour, or three or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
  - a loss of, or change in, sense of smell or taste: a noticeable loss of smell or taste or things smell and taste different to normal
- Your child does not need a test if they have a runny nose, are sneezing or feeling unwell but do not have a temperature, cough or loss of, or change in, sense of smell or taste because these are not normally symptoms of coronavirus.
- If you are unsure about whether to get a test, please check the official list of symptoms on the NHS website, which is reviewed regularly: [www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/](http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/)
- Only the person with symptoms should get a test. You do not need to get a test for anyone else in the household unless they also have any of the three symptoms listed above. All members of the household need to self-isolate whilst waiting for the test result.

### Site Safety

Please could I ask all parents to support us in ensuring the road to the school is kept safe by ensuring that your children dismount their bikes and scooters. Parents please can you also ensure you keep your children with you when waiting to enter the school site rather than allowing them to play chasing games – this helps maintain social distancing. Finally, I have received reports that some of our pupils are not keeping themselves safe when crossing roads. Please remind your child(ren) about the importance of road safety. Thank you.

### Key Term Dates

#### Summer Term 2020 First Half (24 days)

Tuesday 1st September - Non-pupil Day  
Wednesday 2nd September - Children return to school  
Friday 25<sup>th</sup> September - Non-pupil Day  
Friday 23rd October - Break up school – Half Term  
Monday 2nd November - Children return to school  
Friday 18th December - Break up school – Christmas



Learning from Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace, to work diligently, act generously and live at peace with everyone.

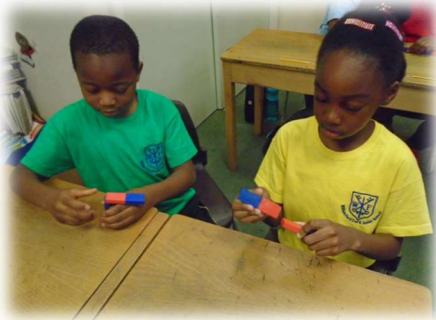
*Psalm 34:14 - Seek peace and pursue it.*





### Year Three

Congratulations to Year 3 for another excellent week of learning. This week our children have given spirited performances of their own poems to their class to bring to an end our poetry unit. We have now begun our next unit which focuses on autobiographies and have studied the beginning of an autobiography by Red Riding Hood. Our Maths focus this week has been on mental addition and subtraction strategies. We have learned about life in early civilisations by recreating a market to explore what life was like before the invention of coins.



In Science, we have gotten hands on with magnets: testing out how the poles affect whether they will attract or repel each other. We look forward to applying this newfound learning into our upcoming investigations into which type of magnet is strongest and which materials are magnetic.

### Year Four

This week in English, Year 4 have been working on using evidence from a text to support our opinions. We read about Neil Armstrong's life and then wrote about the sort of man we felt he was, using details from the text to provide supporting evidence. After learning about primary and secondary evidence in our history lessons, Year 4 have moved on to examining the importance of time lines.

# Have you been wondering what your children were up to in school?

## Well, wonder no more....

We sequenced a range of pictures depicting different periods in history in the order we thought they happened. Next week, we will find out if we were correct!



Maths lessons have moved onto adding and subtracting 1, 10 and 100 to numbers up to 10,000. This has proved a little tricky for some of us and could be something that is further practised at home. In R.E. we have begun our topic on Hinduism. We discussed and wrote some facts we already knew about this religion, and we asked some questions that we would like to find the answers to over the coming half term.

### Year Five

This week in Year 5 we have continued to read Michael Morpurgo's Friend or Foe and the children have been searching the text using their inference skills to work out what other characters think about the boys. They have also been looking at the use of standard and non-standard English by comparing the way the local people speak to that of the army officers.

In Maths, we have continued to work on mental strategies for adding and subtracting and using these skills to solve real life word problems.

We have started to prepare for Harvest Festival in worship and in RE. We studied the story of Joseph and thought about how we can be prepared for difficult times ahead. The children have started to plan what they would ask our world leaders to do to solve issues like hunger and climate change.

The children have especially enjoyed the restarting of Music and French lessons where they have had the chance to start learning to sing 'Living on a Prayer' in Music and to name various parts of the face and head in French. We hope that they have been sharing their learning with all of you at home!



### Year Six

This week, Year 6 have been working hard on their diary entries as Oliver Twist. They have been working hard to switch the tense in their diary entries for a particular effect on the reader. They have also been working on editing and improving their work. Next week they will be introduced to the character Fagin! In mathematics, the pupils have been working on algebra and the order of operations as well as practising a range of arithmetic skills. In science, they have continued to learn about evolution and inheritance and in particular have been working on adaptation and how animals and plants have adapted in order to survive the environment they live in. All three classes have been developing displays to promote reading and some of the children have been thinking about what their desert island book would be. It may be nice for you to share with your child your favourite childhood book and why you enjoyed it so much – it could become one of their favourites too!

