



William Ford CE Junior School

Weekly Newsletter Autumn Term 2 Week 3

Dear parents/carers and pupils,

Covid-19

I am sure, like me, you are all excited about the prospect of a vaccine and the fact the end of pandemic may just be in sight. However, whilst this is indeed good news we do have to focus on the present.

Unfortunately, cases of Covid-19 do continue to rise across London and that does include Barking and Dagenham. At William Ford we have now had to manage a few positive cases which is not surprising. Currently, the number of cases we have had remains relatively low compared to other schools and I am delighted that there is no evidence at all of any in school transmission, with cases we have had to manage been traced to outside settings and contacts.

We must not become complacent and ensure we are doing all we can to control the spread of the virus. Firstly, parents please may I ask you again to observe social distancing regulations at the school gates and to wear a face covering unless exempt. There is evidence that authorities that have not asked their parents to abide by these measures have been much more affected by Covid-19. To support social distancing, I am delighted that our new school entrance will be open from Monday which will reduce our staggered starts. I must outline that this will be a significant change for the school so please bear with us whilst we try to get this right!

New school gate – arrival arrangements

From Monday, we ask that children in Year Three and Year Six along with any parent who has a child at Village Infants to arrive between 8:45-8:55 using the usual front gate. If your child is in Year Four or Year Five, please now arrive between 8:45-8:55 at our new entrance from Old Dagenham Park. There will be a high staff presence to greet you. This gate will be locked at 9am sharp and any child arriving after this time will have to enter through the school office, via the main gate. Registers will be taken at 9:00am; any child arriving after this time will be marked as late.

If you have children in multiple year groups, please continue to use the front entrance.

New school gate – collection arrangements

From Monday, please following these collection arrangements:

- Year Three – Front gate – 3pm
- Year Four – Park gate – 3pm*
- Year Five – Park gate – 3:10pm*
- Year Six – Front gate 3:10pm

Chewing gum and sweets

Please be reminded that pupils are not allowed sweets or chewing gum on site.



*If you have multiple children to collect, including from Village Infants, please phone the school office and we will arrange for your child(ren) to be accompanied to the front gate for you to collect.

I pray you all have a lovely weekend.

Mr. David Huntingford
Headteacher

Isaiah 40:31

but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary; they will walk and not be faint.





Meet our TEAM

This week: Mrs. Clark

Mrs. Clark has worked at William Ford for 25 years and is a Learning Support Assistant in Year 5 and a mid-day assistant. She has nine grandchildren and one great grand-child. Mrs. Clark's hobbies are travelling, cooking and gardening. Her favourite country is Australia which she has visited on numerous occasions.

Interesting fact: Mrs. Clark is a florist and produces excellent flower arrangements.



ParentMail – important!

We have recognized that not all families access their ParentMail account and some have experienced technical issues. In order to secure some significant financial savings for the school, we have terminated our contract with ParentMail with immediate effect. All correspondence from the school will be sent to your email account whilst we investigate alternatives. If your child is absent from school, please email attendance@williamfordschool.co.uk

Kerry's Korner – Happy Birthday

In class parties

As mentioned in our previous newsletter, we will be holding a class party on the last Friday of each month to celebrate the birthdays for that month. We have decided that we will provide each pupil with a bag of crisps, some cake and juice to enjoy during the party hence we do not require donations. The first party will be next Friday!

Birthday sweets

We are aware some pupils would like to bring in sweets to celebrate their birthday. Mr Huntingford has agreed that children may hand out small prewrapped bag of sweets/fun size chocolate bars for their classmates. These must not contain nuts or coconut. We do ask that no party bags or cakes are bought into school as they will have to be returned.

Home packed lunch

Can I just remind parents and carers that home packed lunch must not contain the following items: peanut butter, hazelnut spread, nuts and fizzy drinks.



WF Christmas card competition

This school-based competition is being run by Miss Ibukun. The requirements are:

- Has to be linked to the nativity story
- A5 size (A4 piece of paper folded in half)
- Be bright and colourful
- Can be 2D/3D
- Design it any way you want (draw, crayon, paint)
- The design must fill the whole A5 side
- Name and class must be printed on the back
- Due in 1st December
- Winners announced on 4th December

First prize winner - To win an art set

Second prize winner - A mindfulness colouring in book

Third prize winner - A pack of colouring pencils

Purple Mash competition

One of the best things about this time of year is the sending and receiving of cards. Purple Mash need a new official festive card for 2020 and we thought who better to design it than the incredibly creative Purple Mash community!

- Children enter their work by submitting it to the 'Festive Card Competition' Display Boards.
- They should submit their work to the age appropriate board and use 2Simple to produce.
- There is a video in Purple Mash showing how to do this.
- They can save and edit their work as often as they like before submitting it – it should only be submitted once it is completely finished.
- The competition is open from the 2nd to the 23rd November 2020.
- Winners will receive 10 printed copies of their card, a £10 Amazon voucher and a 2Simple Goody Bag. Their card will be made into an e-card through Purple Mash.



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

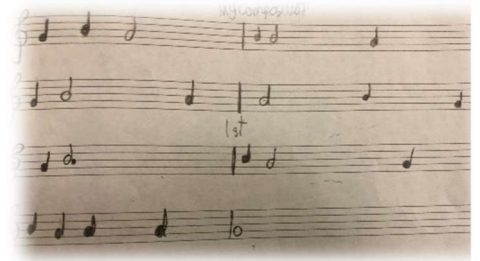
Psalm 34:14 - Seek peace and pursue it.

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

Well, wonder no more....

In history, we have increased our knowledge of the Stone Age by going on a virtual tour of the village of Skara Brae and discovering what housing was like in the Neolithic times. Maybe your child could tell you about the things discovered there.

accompany the instrumental solo, transcribing these onto manuscript paper and then trying them out on glockenspiels.



The children have enjoyed creating printed patterns in art and the results were very effective. A lot of excitement was had in art as we got creative using the printing blocks we made to create patterns with a mixture of colours.

Year Five

This week in Year 5, we have continued our cross curricular English and Geography unit on St Lucia, looking at hurricanes with the children and preparing news reports about hurricanes and their devastating effects on the land and people.

In maths, we have been focusing on formal written methods for addition and subtraction and applying these skills to solve real-life problems involving money and finding change.

We have continued to work on forces in science with an investigation on air resistance and how the shape, size and weight of an object affects the speed at which it falls.

In RE, we have been continuing our studies of Islam, this week finding out all about the festivals that Muslims celebrate.

In music, the children have been having great fun studying the song 'Living on a Prayer' and have been composing their own pieces to

Year Six

Year 6 have been working on Christmas poems to enter into a school competition. They have focused on using figurative language and the true meaning of Christmas. In mathematics, they have been calculating the perimeter of compound shapes as well as using formulae to calculate the area of triangles and parallelograms. They have also revised the names and properties of 3D shapes. In science, pupils have thought about how factors such as climate change and technology could impact future human evolution. In PSHE, they have been learning about understanding disabilities and watched a clip of Archie, a boy with cerebral palsy and discussed how it effects his life.



Archie doesn't let his disability get in the way of the things he loves to do such as basketball. He likes people to help him but to check with him first to see whether he actually needs it. You can watch the clip with your child through *BBC Learning Clip 13703: Archie's story*.

Year Three

This week, as part of their English work, Year 3 have immersed themselves in our new fiction unit focusing on the book 'Storm' by Alan Marks. They have considered the emotions and thoughts of the main character based on their behaviour, have studied the authors use of direct speech and have written a descriptive paragraph about the setting of the book.

For our maths lessons, they have practised doubling and halving numbers less than 100 and have begun to find fractions of amounts.

In our RE lessons the children have learned about the Grace and have composed their own version.



They have also been learning about music notation in order to play simple songs using glockenspiels. Well done Year 3.

Year Four

This week in English, Year 4 have examined what life was like at the front line during the First World War. We then took the role of a soldier in the trenches and wrote a letter to a family member back home.

Within maths, we have begun finding fractions of amounts.

In science, the children have constructed a Venn diagram to sort objects according to whether they are mains or battery operated.