



William Ford CE Junior School

Weekly Newsletter Spring Term 1 Week 1

Dear parents and carers,

A Happy New Year to you all! I hope and pray you all had a wonderful Christmas and have happy and healthy new year. Can I also thank you for the numerous cards, gifts and messages that were passed onto myself and the staff – these were all very much appreciated at the end of a very busy term! No doubt Christmas was challenging for some you (as it was for the staff) as rising COVID infections hijacked some of your Christmas plans.

Can I take this opportunity to draw your attention to the advert on the next page to the vaccination clinic taking place on Sunday at Dagenham Library as the statistics keep showing that those who are triple jabbed so have very mild infections. I can certainly testify to this. As many of you will be aware, I first tested positive for COVID in November 2020 and I was very ill with the virus to the point it was difficult to climb stairs. Now that I have received my vaccinations, testing positive again just before the start of the Christmas holidays was a very different experience where it was not for the lateral flow test, I would not have realised I was ill.

No doubt you will have seen via the media the pressure all public services are currently under as staff are forced into Isolation due to COVID19. Already we have a number of staff in various departments who have been forced into

isolation along with absences for other reasons too. I am absolutely determined to do all I can to keep the school operating as close to normal as possible providing this is safe. By safe we mean in terms of the number of adults in the building, levels of infection across the school and any non COVID implications e.g. severe weather. The nature of COVID means that it can be rather last minute when we suddenly discover we have significant staff shortages hence may have to move some classes or year groups to remote learning. As a result, please ensure you do ensure your mobile phones are not on silent in the mornings, that the school has the correct email and mobile phone details for you and that school emails are not inadvertently entering your junk/spam folders. I appreciate that such a situation is hugely unsettling and appreciate the inconvenience and potential loss of income such a situation can cause but trust you understand that if we have limited adults in the building, we cannot safely operate as normal. We are already in discussion with supply teaching agencies but they are facing the same challenges with

isolation along with an increase in demand as every school works hard to stay open

Although we have only been back for two days, the school is as busy as usual and the pupils have adapted remarkably well to new classes (for Year Three) and to the return of bubbles, eating meals in classes and online collective worship. It is my intention to relax these measures as soon as it is appropriate to do so, in line with guidance from the Department of Education.

Our first online worship of 2022 has taken place as our Worship Council set us a very challenging series to cover. Yesterday we looked at 'why do bad things happen and whether God is control. We will be expanding this further over the current weeks as we look at what the Bible says around a host of difficult topics including racism, pandemics, climate change, global disasters, poverty and animal rights. Do keep the staff and Dagenham Parish Church in your prayers as we plan to cover these

challenging areas.

for its pupils.

I pray you all have an enjoyable weekend.

Mr. David Huntingford Headteacher 2 Peter 3:8-9

But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day. The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.









the temple, fire came down from heaven to **CONSUME** everyone's gifts (7:1) The celebration of the TEMPLE lasted SEVEN days

After Solomon dedicated

God promises Israel that he will FORGIVE those tha **HUMBLE** themselves (7:14)

all the other kings of the

King Solomon's evil son was named REHOBOAM (12:13-14)

God was with King **JEHOSHAPHAT** because he followed the ways of DAVID



ATHALIAH was an evil queen of royal house of JUDAH (22:10)

age SIXTEEN (26:1)



econd Chronicles covers the reigns of all the kings of Israel and Judah after the split of the united kingdom of Kings aul, David, and Solomon. Like 1 and 2 Kings, this book notes whether each king grieved or pleased the Lord. (Only a andful, all from Judah, pleased the Lord.)

The closing chapter summarizes the 70 years of captivity in the Great Exile and Cyrus, King of Persia, releasing the Jews to go home and funding the rebuilding of the Temple.

Kerry's Korner

Welcome back everyone, we have lots of exciting things coming in the next few weeks.

Year 4 will be going swimming this term - A letter will be sent out over the next few days with all of the information on when your child will be going.

Class 4B and some of Class 4A will start lessons on Friday 14th January 2022 until 25th February 2022

Class 4M and ome of Class 4A will start lessons on Friday 4th march 2022 until 1st April 2022 (and one more lesson on Friday 22nd April 2022)

We will also be sending out information on the upcoming after school clubs over the weekend, there are limited spaces so please remember if you have previously had a space on one of our clubs other pupils will receive priority to ensure fairness.

Get your COVID-19 vaccine done in your local area

Still need to have your first or second dose of the vaccine or your booster? Come along to a local walk-in clinic. It's quick and easy, no appointment needed, and you don't need to show proof of address, immigration status or your NHS number - just turn up!

Visit the walk-in clinic: Sunday 9 January, 10am to 3pm. Dagenham Library, 1 Church Elm Lane, Dagenham, RM10 9QS.

Anyone aged 12+ is welcome to have their vaccination (first, second or booster depending on what you are due).

Have questions or want to talk to someone about having the jab? Pop along to one of the walk-in clinics and talk to a member of the team for advice and answers to your questions.

For more information about local vaccine clinics go to:







Considerate parking

Parents we have received a number of complaints from residents about inconsiderate parking in the local area. Please support the school in maintaining good relationships with its neighbours by not parking on or in front of their driveways or in a manner that limits access to their properties. Thank you.



Times table Rockstars

This week Josette from 3D writes about 'Timestable Rockstars'

Today in the school computing room we learnt how to play Times table Rockstars! We log into it by using our Purple Mash log in. You then click on the games like the 'gig' and then practise your time tables. While you do that, you earn coins then spend them on your avatar. It was lots of fun and helps us to get better at our times tables. We can also practise at home.



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

Well, wonder no more....

break. After their well-earned rest, the children have jumped straight back into the various curriculum subjects. maths, we examined the 11 and 12 times tables and also completed an arithmetic test. The children should be taking these weekly arithmetic tests home each Friday so you can see how they are progressing and to help them with any questions they find tricky. In English, we recapped episode 6 of Carrie's War that the children listened to just before Christmas. Starting next week, the Year Four team will be uploading online work on to Purple Mash for any children isolating due to Covid19 but feel well enough to complete school work. We will endeavour to keep such work as similar as possible to the children's learning in the classroom. Although work will be uploaded on a weekly basis, we ask that the children only complete the work set on the days it is timetabled for to avoid having to repeat tasks when they return to school.

Happy New Year to all our parents.

It has been lovely to welcome our year threes back this week and those who swapped classes are settling really well into their new classes. We hope you all had a lovely Christmas and New Year celebrations and enjoyed spending time with your children. We have heard tales of all the fun things which children got up to during their holiday from school. We also want to say a big thank you to

those all who parents helped their children with the online work



on the Monday and Tuesday before Christmas. We enjoyed the rich variety of responses which the children came up with.

We have already started a new topic in English based on the exciting story of St. George and the dragon. You will find out a lot more about this over the coming weeks.

In maths we are now learning about multiplication and the children had an interesting lesson making groups of equal numbers using a variety of resources. We have also started thinking about how to stay healthy. Maybe you could discuss with your children the best ways to maintain a healthy lifestyle.

In the coming weeks there are all sorts of exciting new topics to engage the children's minds including such diverse subjects as earthquakes, spreadsheets and animals. We very much look forward to letting you know about all the great work your children are going to do in the coming weeks.

Year Four

It has been lovely to welcome the Year Four children back after the Christmas

Year Five

It has been great welcoming year 5 back; we hope you have had a lovely Christmas and happy New Year. In RE this week the children discussed in detail why Christians believe Jesus would return to Earth, what message would be sent from God and who would send that message and different ways the message could be sent. All children worked extremely hard debating their view and wrote down some thoughtful responses. We had great fun exploring Timetable Rockstars, a great resource that Mr Marbe has introduced to promote the accuracy and recall of the timetables within William Ford, if this could be practised at least 3 times a week we would very much appreciate it. In Maths, the children put their knowledge of perimeter and area into practice by measuring objects in and



outside the classroom, thev were all full of such great enthusiasm. In art the children enjoyed developing their observational drawing skills by duplicating a range

of different patterns.

Year Six

Year 6 this week have started their next English unit focusing on the narrative poem 'The Highwayman.' In Maths, they have been working with decimal numbers up to three decimal places. The PSHE lesson for this week invited the pupils to think about healthy eating and how they can eat a balanced diet, and in Geography they have begun to study Mountains, including comparing different mountains from around the world.



	<u>*</u>	
Year Three		
3D	Name: Harley	Name: Jerry
	For: Excellent independent work in maths.	For: Excellent contributions to whole class discussions.
3H	Name: Alexandre Ajayi	Name: Violet Read
	For: A superb start to the year, attentive and hard	For: Great attitude to work and always trying her best.
	working.	
3P	Name: Emmanuel Ayoola	Name: Ewura Aboagye-Sintim
	For: settling into his new class really quickly	For: excellent verbal responses in English
Year Four		
4A	Name: Ryan Braisher	Name: Sufian Islam
	For: Working hard and asking excellent questions in this	For: Settling down well after the Christmas holiday and
	week's R.E. lesson.	working hard in lessons.
4B	Name: Mikel Edobor	Name: Natasha Berner
	For: Making a positive start since coming back to school	For: Fantastic work in maths since returning to school
	and working hard in lessons	
4M	Name: Aimee Rugg- Bowman	Name: Dre Overare
	For: Always being motivated to learn, listening brilliantly,	For: fully engaging in all lessons and for making good
	always being helpful and having impeccable manners.	progress in maths.
Year Five		
51	Name: Gabriel	Name: Maddison
	For: Making a great start to the year with great focus and	For: Always trying her best in lessons and contributing
	a fantastic attitude!	well to class discussions.
5N	Name: Robert	Name: Abraham
	For: returning to school with his positive and	For: returning to school with his positive and
	hardworking attitude to learning.	hardworking attitude to learning.
5P	Name: Daniel Ologundudu	Name: Layla Akinlana
	For: some really fantastic contributions in R.E.	For: working independently in maths and becoming
		more confident when answering questions.
Year Six		
6A	Name: Adam Hamidi	Name: Jack Sallis
	For: being inquisitive in his English lessons.	For: thoughtfully designing his own evolved animal.
6M	Name: Nathania Ezra	Name: Millun Martin
	For: being helpful and generous.	For: his excellent contributions to our class discussions.
6N	Name: Mack Harvey	Name: Grace Abraham
	For: enthusiasm and interest in our geography lesson	For: hard work in all lessons this week



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