



William Ford CE Junior School

Weekly Newsletter Summer Term 1 Week 2

Dear parents and carers,

Next week, Year Six pupils across the country will sit their Standard Assessment Tests, or SATS as they are most commonly known. Such testing has been paused across the country during the pandemic but, to the dismay of many, they have returned. I do not think it is any secret that in the vast majority of schools across the country, these tests are not popular with staff

or school leaders. But why? Yes there is the issue of league tables (although these will not be produced this year). Yes there is the issue that these provide a measure of school performance that does not take into account the wider curriculum or other excellent opportunities that many schools, including William Ford, offer its pupils. However, the main reason is the unnecessary pressure such testing places on pupils. These tests provide a narrow measure of pupil attainment, based (with the exception of writing) on performance on one day out of a whole primary school career. They do not take into account that your child excels in geography, is a gifted sportsman or can play a musical instrument. It does not recognise that maybe your child is fluent in two languages, has knowledge about space or dinosaurs better than most adults or is an incredible artist. Do we want our Year Six pupils to work hard and achieve well? Of course – this will provide the best start to secondary school for them. Is it the end of the world if your child does not perform well? Absolutely not. Compared to other places where I have worked in the past – and there have been a few – I am delighted that William Ford not only prepares the pupils well for SATS but also does not prevent participation in sporting events, narrows the curriculum or prohibits attendance on school visits such as our very successful France trip last week. I would argue these experiences are just as, if not more, important than SATS yet some schools would not entertain such ideas – especially at the start of the summer term. After two years of disrupted education, due to the pandemic, and a host of changes being made at William Ford to improve the school further, our pupils deserve to achieve well and we wish them (and the whole Year Six team) all the best for next week and assure them of our support and prayers.

As mentioned above, once again we had another very successful trip to France with our Year Five and Six pupils including a different chocolate factory (just over the border into Belgium) and a walk around St. Omer to spot various French buildings. You may remember last year when I first proposed these trips I said that these would be a trial to see how successful they were. We have learnt a lot through both trips – identifying successful and less successful elements on both. Overall, these day visits do provide a phenomenal experience for pupils and I will be rebooking for next year, looking at some tweaks from what we have learnt this year.



France is just one element of the 11 experiences we wish to offer all pupils before they leave us at the end of Year Six. Another is a residential which has been booked for Year Six this year and next. A further experience is to learn to cook a meal and as part of this, class 3H had a fantastic trip to Pizza Express in Upminster where they learnt to make their own pizzas which we then enjoyed in the park. Our other Year Three classes will be visiting shortly and we are still looking at other experiences for other year groups.

At the end of another very busy – albeit short – week, I pray you all have a wonderful weekend and once again, good luck to Year Six next week.

Mr. David Huntingford
Headteacher

2 Corinthians 4:16-17

That is why we never give up. Though our bodies are dying, our spirits are being renewed every day. For our present troubles are small and won't last very long. Yet they produce for us a glory that vastly outweighs them and will last forever!





Across

1. Seventy 'sevens' are decreed for your people and your holy city to finish _____ (9:24)
2. At the Temple, the antichrist will set up an abomination that causes _____ (9:27)
3. An angel approached Daniel coming with the clouds of _____ (7:13)
5. These will awake, some to everlasting love, others to shame and contempt (12:2)
7. This angel came to teach Daniel the meanings of difficult visions (8:16)
8. The three men in the fiery furnace were Shadrach, Meshach, and _____ (3:19)
10. Daniel said this being shut the mouths of the lions (6:22)

Down

4. Everyone whose name is found in the book will be _____ (12:1)
6. This animal had a prominent horn between its eyes in a vision (8:5)
9. The king during Daniel's time in Babylon (6:1)

DANIEL



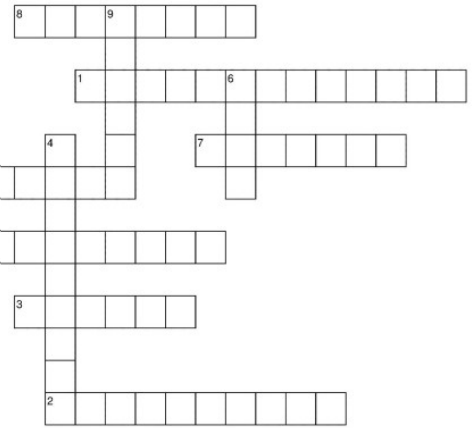
ORDER IN THE BIBLE
27-487



WRITTEN BY:
The Teacher



TIME PERIOD COVERED:
722 BC - 562 BC



OVERVIEW

Daniel contains the great stories of Daniel in the lions' den and Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego in the fiery furnace. It is also famous for its end-times prophecies that are closely being studied today.

The first six chapters are history and include all the stories listed above. In Chapter 7, the book begins to prophesy about the future.



Kerry's Korner

Important information and reminders for parents

The sun is shining so it must be time for sunscreen, sun hats and most importantly water bottles. Please provide your child with a reusable water bottle for school that they are able to refill throughout the day.

We have received a number of reports of headlice in various year groups - please ensure you check your child's hair and use treatment if required.

With the current changes to the cost of living please take the opportunity to apply for free school meals as there may be a possibility that you qualify [Free School Meals \(Pupil Premium\) | LBBB](#) If you have no recourse to public funds you can also make an application for free school meals. More information is available here [Free school meals | NRPF \(nrpfnetwork.org.uk\)](#) an application form can be requested from our school office.

Please remind your child to bring their PE kit to school at the start of each term and it should remain in school during term time. PE kits should not be worn to school.

GOOD LUCK YEAR 6!

This week Kyla in 6M writes about our amazing Year 6 pupils.

For the past few weeks, Year 6 have been working exceptionally hard to prepare for our SATs and I am certain that we will do brilliantly! Every day, Year 6 pupils have been studying for their reading, grammar and maths tests. Even though the last two years have been especially difficult, we have studied hard and are proud of the work that we have done. We are all amazing – best of luck year 6!



Rock Star Day!



We're pleased to announce a new special day in our calendar: **William Ford Rocks**. On Tuesday 28th June, we will hold a day dedicated to multiplication, including celebrating the huge amounts of progress the children have made. There will be competitions, certificates and trophies. The children (and staff) will also be allowed to come to school on this day dressed as a rock star!

Thank you for supporting your child at home with learning their tables, and please encourage them to continue to practice using www.trockstars.com or the multiplication page of their homework diary.

PARENT SURVEY

A huge thank you to all parents who completed this for us. I have analysed all of the results and will be sending out a summary of what the results tell as the resulting actions.

Collection of Year 3/4 pupils

Under no circumstances will Year Three and Four children be released into the care of a Year 5 or 6 pupils. Parents need to collect children themselves. One Year Three child was seen running away from their sibling this week leaving them panicked. Parents need to collect younger children themselves to ensure they are safe. Thank you.

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

Well, wonder no more....



Year Three

We have had a short but exciting week in year 3. Your children have been working incredibly hard despite the ever-changing weather.



In Maths

we have started our new topic on length and perimeter. This week we have been learning how to use a ruler to measure correctly. We have also been estimating lengths and converting different units of measurement. Next week we will be comparing lengths and performing calculations involving length. In RE the children continued the topic of Gospel. This week they have learned about the message in the parable of the Good Samaritan. The children discussed what it means to be a good neighbour and the meaning behind the story. Next week the children will be writing their own version of the parable. In English we are continuing to read 'Ottoline and the Yellow Cat' as a basis for our literacy work. We have written about characters in the book so far, describing their feelings and leading onto planning and writing a postcard about a fun visit or experience the children have had. 3H really enjoyed their train trip to Pizza Express in Upminster, widening their experience of a variety of curriculum areas. They had a wonderful time preparing their pizza dough and toppings and they greatly relished eating their own handiwork. We all hope you have a restful and calm weekend.

Year Four

This week, the children have continued to work hard developing their

understanding of decimals within their maths lessons. Next week in maths we will be writing, comparing and ordering decimals. In English, we have worked through last week's possessive apostrophe work so the children could see where they had made errors and why. We have also planned our story endings based on our text 'Journey to Jo-Burg'. Next week, the children will use their plans to write their story endings which will be used as the basis of our half-termly writing assessment. In science, the children have researched the melting points of a range of substances ready to plot them on a graph next week. Our trip to Colchester Castle in drawing closer, so we have compared a factual and fictional account about the founding of Rome and the growth of the Roman Empire. Next week we will be comparing a Roman soldier and a Celtic warrior



and considering who we think would be most efficient in battle. In R.E. this week we have learnt about Peter's Denial of Jesus and created our own freeze frames of these. Next week we come to the end of our Salvation unit in R.E. so the children will be completing an assessment task based on their learning. In music we were introduced to a new note, 'A' on our clarinets. It was very tricky but the pupils coped well. Next week we will continue to practise this and learn more about the composer, Tchaikovsky. This week was the final Year Four swimming lesson. It has been a joy to see just how much the children have grown in confidence and skill over the recent weeks.

Year Five

Year 5 were very lucky to start the week with a visit from a representative of Stand By Me (the charity which we sponsor a child in Columbia through),

Colin Norford, head of fundraising for the charity. He gave us a wealth of information about the charity and really inspired us to think about how we will create our own information leaflets. Over the coming weeks in English, we will be designing and creating these leaflets with the hope of sending a



select few out for parents to read. In maths we have begun a new unit, decimals and percentages. We have been using our previous knowledge of fractions to help us understand decimals. We have also been recapping our place value knowledge to show a good understanding of the digits after the decimal point. We have had our second week of our mixing and looping lessons at Dagenham Park School and have thoroughly enjoyed adding sound effects to our music. Next week will be the last lesson using this great facility. In science this week we have begun a new unit about the properties of materials. We created and carried out a series of experiments to help us identify various properties of a selection of different materials. Next week we will be finding out about soluble materials.

Year Six

Year Six have had another productive week in preparation for their SATs next week. Many of the children have been exceptionally diligent in their approach to their revision. We have been thrilled to see how hard the children have been working and we wish them every success next week. We look forward to seeing them at the year 6 breakfast club on Monday morning. All the very best Year 6.



| Year Three | | |
|------------|---|---|
| 3D | Name: Uwa Egiarhuoyi For: Settling in brilliantly and adapting to our school and class routines | Name: Aisela Muslika For: Always beautifully behaved and making excellent progress in reading |
| 3H | Name: Dylan Kerkhof For: super effort in maths this week! | Name: Joanna Etim For: her kind, helpful attitude towards others and always being willing to assist in any way she can. |
| 3P | Name: Reggy Hart-Mead For: fantastic measuring in maths | Name: Jasmine Ali For: excellent effort to improve her maths work |
| Year Four | | |
| 4A | Name: Arth Patel For: Good listening in class and enthusiastic contributions to class discussions | Name: Jackson Holdich For: Perseverance in maths when he has found it a little difficult, resulting in accurate work |
| 4B | Name: Zara Joeseeph For: always being considerate and helpful to others. | Name: Izabella-Rayne Wabara For: showing great effort and enthusiasm to her learning. |
| 4M | Name: Joy Olakehinde For: being polite, friendly and respectful to those around her. | Name: Ewaen Egiarhuoyi For: settling in brilliantly in his first week and adapting quickly to new class routines |
| Year Five | | |
| 5I | Name: Jessica Msellem For: Always being a pleasure to teach and working so well with others. You're a star! | Name: Cristina Berry Rodrigues For: Working really hard in class and contributing greatly to class discussion. I am so proud, keep it up! |
| 5N | Name: Yixuan Li For: her outstanding behaviour and effort across all areas of school. | Name: Margaret Edwards For: her outstanding behaviour and effort across all areas of school. |
| 5P | Name: Chrystal Kabwe For: settling in well to your new class and showing kindness to your new classmates. | Name: Khadijah Ayoola For: showing a huge improvement in her attitude to learning, especially in maths. |
| Year Six | | |
| 6A | Name: Leonella Vumuka For: attending all lunchtime boosters and making huge progress in maths. | Name: Chibumnuche For: listening attentively in class and always asking for help. |
| 6M | Name: Jasiek Kyereh-Diabour For: always working his hardest in every lesson. | Name: Natalie Clement For: The huge amounts of effort she has put into her mental arithmetic. |
| 6N | Name: Louis Mills For: a diligent approach his revision and completing extra work in his own time | Name: Charlie Gibbons For: a diligent approach to all work and always being kind and helpful |



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.