



# William Ford CE Junior School

## Weekly Newsletter Spring Term 1 Week 2

Dear parents and carers,

Our week began with a visit from Strider! Who is that you may wonder? Strider visits a number of schools trying to promote the benefits of walking to school. The WOW – or walk to school initiative – is something we at William Ford strongly believe in hence we have subscribed to this scheme. Each day children will be asked how they

have travelled to school and, if they have walked all or a significant part of their journey, they can earn a different badge each month. For those who live further away, this could be getting off the bus a couple of stops earlier or walking from Dagenham Heathway station rather than catching a bus. The benefits of this are huge! Not only

would this improve safety and congestion on Ford Road: an area I am often discussing with the local authority as it is an accident waiting to happen but also helps with air pollution in the area and climate change and our concerning levels of childhood obesity.

This last point is of particular concern to us as the life implications of obesity in childhood are often life lasting.

This is why we have worked hard

on our school menu to reduce

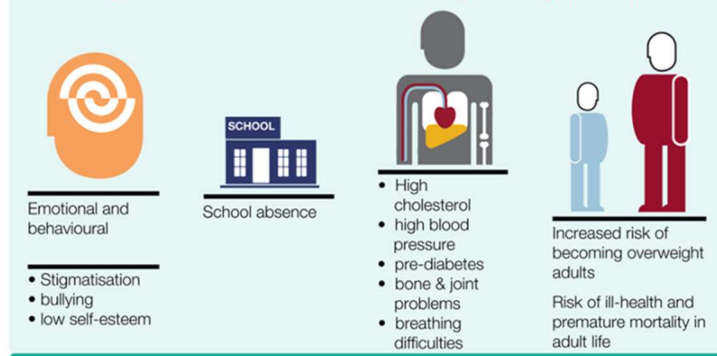
foods such as chips and

sausage rolls along with

spending nearly £100k

on our playground to

### Obesity harms children and young people



ensure our pupils are more active. We are also working hard to arrange various school sport trips for all pupils to expose them to a range of sports and physical activities that they would not usually experience. Please work with us on this important venture. You may well also find a nice financial saving as your car is used less: saving fuel and the possibility of a parking ticket along with a lot less stress as you walk past the ever-increasing traffic that occurs on Ford Road, Church Elm Lane and Broad Street.

### National Education Union (NEU) Teacher Strike

No doubt you have heard via the media that the NEU has called a teacher strike which currently will be held on the **1<sup>st</sup> February, 2<sup>nd</sup> March, 15<sup>th</sup> March and 16<sup>th</sup> March**. This is a nationwide strike due to a dispute with the government and not #}any aspect of William Ford leadership or governance. I will be writing to parents again once I have received further guidance from Barking and Dagenham but, as the NEU is the largest union in the school, **parents and carers should expect disruption as it is likely, albeit not definite, that the school will be closed to the majority of pupils**. The laws around operating schools during a strike are complex: please do not assume that if your child's class is open/closed during the above dates that your child's teacher is striking or not. We have a lot of part time working across the school and not all staff members are legally entitled to strike. Thank you.



Who's that behind the mask?

I pray you all have a wonderful weekend.

Mr. David Huntingford  
Headteacher

### Corinthians 6: 19-20

Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

**Bible Verse  
of the  
Week**



# EZRA

ORDER IN THE BIBLE  
OT: #15

WRITTEN BY:  
Scribe and scholar Ezra

TIME PERIOD COVERED:  
550 BC to 510 BC

## OVERVIEW

This book details the rebuilding of Solomon's Temple after the Great Exile. Ezra arrived in Jerusalem with another 2,000 exiles. His enthusiasm and power sparked a spiritual revival.

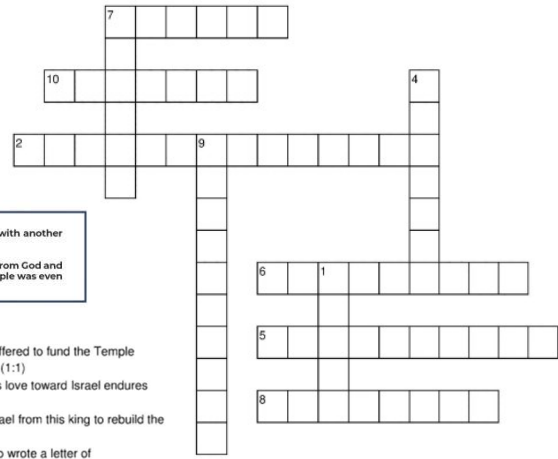
One problem before the exile was that men had married foreigners, who chronically drove them away from God and into idolatry. Ezra was dumfounded to find that people were already doing this again—before the Temple was even built! The men repented and offered to send these foreign wives away.

### Across

- King Cyrus brought back to Israel Temple articles stolen by this king (1:7)
- Name of the governor of the Jerusalem as the Temple was built (4:3)
- At the time the Temple was being rebuilt after the exile, the prophet Haggai was prophesying as well as this famous prophet (5:1)
- Families that returned from Babylon after the exile gave gifts to rebuild the Temple, including 61,000 of this measurement of gold (2:69)
- The exiles celebrated this holiday in Jerusalem for the first time in 70 years (6:19)
- Israel was already in trouble for marrying this type of women (10:17)

### Down

- This King of Persia offered to fund the Temple rebuilding for Israel (1:1)
- The Lord is good; His love toward Israel endures (3:11)
- A decree came to Israel from this king to rebuild the Temple (6:12)
- Name of the king who wrote a letter of encouragement for Ezra (7:11)



## SENDCO's Section

This week is assessment week and children have been working extremely hard to complete tests in reading and maths. When they come home, please talk to them about their day and talk about any worries they may have.



## TRockstar Winners!

Year 3  
**Parker 3M**  
Year 4  
**Kostya 4D**  
Year 5  
**Zaiya 5H**  
Year 6  
**Tasnima 6I**



## University of Sussex Visit

### Naomeeh 6T writes about the Brilliant Club visit.

On Thursday, we travelled to The University of Sussex. We had the opportunity to spend the day looking around the university, we even got chance to sit in a lecture theatre! We were able to ask some teachers and students questions about university. It was a fun and enjoyable day because we learnt about university life and what it would be like to study there. This trip has made me consider attending university in the future.

## Kerry's Korner

We would like to remind parents that we do not allow chocolate bars and as snacks or part of the home packed lunch. Chocolate covered biscuits such kit kat or penguins are ok. Please also remember that we are a nut free school. Lunches must not contain fizzy drinks or sweets. For ideas and recipes for school lunch boxes you can visit

[Lunchbox ideas and recipes – Healthier Families - NHS](https://www.healthierfamilies.nhs.uk/lunchbox-ideas-and-recipes)



## Playground updates

We now have (faux) grass in the playground! It may be AstroTurf but this will provide a wonderful surface for the children to sit on and relax along for those who

like to show off their gymnastic skills! Now, attention has been moved to the climbing area! This is now installed and the grass around this being laid.



Some of our pupils have also had the opportunity to see the builders in action as part of our exposure to careers of the future! Some of these new areas will open next week!



## REQUEST FOR COSTUMES



If you have any children's dressing up clothes that need a new home, we would be very grateful for any kind donations. Thank you for your support.

## Ben Kinsella Trust filming

You may remember that when class 6T visit the Ben Kinsella Trust last November, we were filmed! This video can now be viewed here:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hg5DmWyoKhY>

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

## Well, wonder no more....



### Year Three

This has been a tough week for year three for all sorts of reasons. As well as enduring the cold weather the children have been sitting tests this week. Then a huge disappointment for 3M when they couldn't complete their trip to Pizza Express. In the light of these setbacks the children have done remarkably well to maintain their focus and their excellent behaviour. It has not been all tests though and all the children have learnt the story of Abraham in RE as they thought about how Judaism was founded. The children made their own comic-strips to retell the story. Next week they will be taking a detailed look at the Torah – the Jewish holy book. In



Geography the children worked together to create their own volcanic island complete with buildings and a volcano. The children demonstrated lots of creative skills in this task. All the classes in year three have now had the opportunity to make their own papyrus-style paper as part of their art project on Egyptian scrolls. It was a delightfully messy experience. Thank you for your continued support and we wish you a restful and joyous weekend.

### Year Four

An exciting development occurred this week when the workers who are erecting the new playground climbing frame 'discovered' a range of prehistoric artefacts. The Year four children studied the 'William Ford Hoard' and then researched, using iPads, what the artefacts were made of and why Stone



In R.E. the children have enjoyed interviewing a member of staff about their Christian beliefs and how their faith affects the way they live their lives. The children thought of some rather challenging questions and produced very detailed follow-up work from their interviews. This week in science, we have started our new topic, 'States of Matter'. The children spent their first lesson examining the properties of solids, liquids and gases. 4B had the amazing opportunity to have a cookery lesson with Mrs Watkins (school cook) on Wednesday. (The other Year 4 classes will have the same opportunity in the coming weeks). During the session they followed a recipe to make chocolate-chip biscuits. They had great fun measuring out the ingredients, mixing them all up and then rolling out the dough and using cutters to create their biscuits. Their results were DELICIOUS!

### Year Five

In English this week, the children enjoyed exploring the meaning of words in context, including some unfamiliar words, through careful inference. Amongst the words were 'reluctant', 'elaborate', 'interlocked' and 'extortionate'. Next week, our pupils will be learning about the narrative poem Beowulf, exploring its theme of heroism, loyalty and revenge, to name a few. In RE, we continued our Christianity unit on Gospel. After reading a selection of verses from the Gospel of Matthew in the New Testament in the Bible - each illustrating an important



foundation for Christian living - the children were excited to dramatise an example of one of these. In Matthew 6: 24 it says, "No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money," and some groups effectively acted out a scenario relating to this verse. Next week, we will be learning about the Gospels' teaching on forgiveness.

### Year Six

This week Year 6 have been exploring characters emotions in English, after reading the first couple of chapters of *When the Mountains Roared*, children considered how Ruby the main character is feeling based on events. Children explored the features of a diary entry and next week they will write their own from the perspective of Ruby. In maths this week, children began understanding fractions as decimals and percentages and next week they will build upon this and find percentage of amounts. In RE this week, the children explored how Christians express their beliefs about Jesus, looking at the work of Owen Thomas and Desmond Tutu. In art, children created their own photomontage using different images to create a new image. Next week, children will use iPads to take photos using macro settings. Children had a fantastic opportunity to write a letter to a child from a school in Germany. They enjoyed reading the letters we received and responded to the questions whilst wanting to know more about their Pen Pal. Children explored a range of games using Scratch in computing this week, they took inspiration from them to make improvements and adjustments to their own game.





Each week, staff select three children from each class who have shown effort and commitment to upholding an aspect of our school vision, shown at the bottom of the page. Congratulations to this week's 'stars of the week' for their tremendous endeavours!

	Working diligently	Acting generously	Promoting peace
<b>Year Three</b>			
3M	<b>Name: Orisha</b> For: listening well and for making excellent progress in maths.	<b>Name: Kayla</b> For: always offering to help others and for helping out around the classroom.	<b>Name: Mia</b> For: Being settled, organised and calm at the beginning of each day.
3N	<b>Name: Muhammad</b> For: working exceptionally hard in PE this week.	<b>Name: Dhruv</b> For: always being polite and helpful to his peers and adults in school.	<b>Name: Cherie</b> For: being much calmer in the classroom and ready to work.
3P	<b>Name: Jada</b> For: focusing well in lessons and tests.	<b>Name: Joseph</b> For: being extremely helpful to other children.	<b>Name: Maysan</b> For: helping to spread peace around the classroom and school.
<b>Year Four</b>			
4B	<b>Name: Aydin</b> For: being more focussed in class and working hard in lessons.	<b>Name: Adam</b> For: working well with others in our cooking lesson this week.	<b>Name: Kostya</b> For: being focused and ready to work in lessons.
4D	<b>Name: Zafrin</b> Doing working hard I in all of her assessments this week	<b>Name: Tharik</b> For: giving up his time and being helpful around the class	<b>Name: Avani</b> For: always being a calm and always doing the right thing in class and around the school
4W	<b>Name: Ahmad</b> For: working diligently and putting in 100% effort in all lessons this week.	<b>Name: Bethany</b> For: working well with others in all lessons and always showing a positive attitude, especially during assessments.	<b>Name: Harley</b> For: living at peace and giving his all and showing the values of the school throughout the school day.
<b>Year Five</b>			
5A	<b>Name: Robert</b> For: his amazing acting in RE this week!	<b>Name: Ifekitan</b> For: being helpful to those around here.	<b>Name: Mwene</b> For: being a calming presence in our classroom.
5H	<b>Name: Victor</b> For: constant great effort across the curriculum.	<b>Name: Arth</b> For: his generosity and support in class.	<b>Name: Tanatswa</b> For: settling into his new class and school so peacefully.
5N	<b>Name: AJ</b> For: producing effective work with impressive detail.	<b>Name: Jasmine</b> For: being helpful by always willing to take on classroom jobs.	<b>Name: Ted</b> For: being a role-model of maturity and for his sensible conduct.
<b>Year Six</b>			
6I	<b>Name: Neema</b> For: Working hard in all lesson this week.	<b>Name: Arian</b> For: Being a star pupil with excellent manners!	<b>Name: Kayden</b> For: showing kindness to others and always being helpful.
6P	<b>Name: Joey</b> For: working diligently and trying his best in all areas of the curriculum.	<b>Name: Edwin</b> For: acting generously by always sharing his ideas with the class.	<b>Name: Rayan</b> For: living at peace at all times, being a calm presence in school.
6T	<b>Name: Nathaniel</b> For: great contribution during class discussions.	<b>Name: Daniel</b> For: always being generous with his time and volunteering to help around the classroom.	<b>Name: Kevin</b> For: being focused and prepared for his learning.



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

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