



William Ford CE Junior School

Weekly Newsletter Spring Term 1 Week 3

Dear parents and carers,
What a creative week we have enjoyed here at William Ford. On Monday we joined, via Zoom, with schools across south and east London for a creative session called 'Balancing Me Sculptures.' This creative experience, organised by the Institute of Imagination, provided for all year groups learning and understanding about the brain with consideration of what makes us individual – unique! Also

incorporated into this was understanding of gravity and balance as the pupils created sculptures that not only balanced on their fingertips but also represented what made them special – or as the bible states – *fearfully and wonderfully made*. Not only was this a lot of fun but it created links between core and foundation subjects through providing creative ways for the pupils to express their understanding. As part of this partnership with the Institute of Imagination, we were also visited by a reporter and photographer who spoke to numerous pupils and staff along with taking many photographs. I will share these with you as soon as they are received.

National Education Union (NEU) Teacher Strike UPDATE

Due to the NEU strike action planned for Wednesday 1st February, William Ford C of E Junior School will only be open to the following classes:

- 3P
- All of Year 6

In addition, we will also be open for pupils who fall into the following categories:

- Looked after children/under the care of the local authority
- In receipt of an Educational Health Care Plan
- Classified under Child Protection
- Classified as Child in Need

Families of children within the above categories will be contacted by the office.

I also shared with staff this week that we have hosted a number of visitors at the school and received many wonderfully uplifting comments. In particular our visitors commented on:

- *The transformation of the school from two years ago*
- *Our displays across the school and the effort we have gone to immerse children in their learning and to create an exciting and engaging building*
- *The fact we are prepared to engage with organisations like Institute of Imagination on a large scale and to investigate creative ways of delivering the curriculum*
- *The fact we think beyond learning within the classroom and the range of extra experiences and cultural capital we offer*
- *Our upcoming school radio station – more on this soon!*
- *Our creative and relevant curriculum intent*
- *Our offer of 11 experiences for all pupils*

This is all wonderful. The school is also becoming widely recognised for its approach to education and will be published in further articles at a later date. I will leave you with my favourite piece of feedback this week:

"If only more schools could learn from William Ford and your approach to learning then we would all have more faith in education for the future."

I pray you all have a wonderful weekend.

Mr. David Huntingford
Headteacher



**Bible Verse
of the
Week**

Proverbs 31:8-9

"Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy."



The walls of **JERUSALEM** are broken down and the **GATES** have been burned (8:3)

All the people gathered together to read a book called the Law of **MOSES** (8:1)

God **LOVES** those that keep his **COMMANDMENTS** (1:5)

NEHEMIAH confessed his sins and the sins of the house of Israel (1:6)

SANBALLAT called the Jews **FEEBLE** and predicted they would fail in rebuilding (4:1-2)

Nehemiah received permission from **ARTAXERXES** to go to Jerusalem to rebuild the temple (2:1-5)

The returning exiles complained because they had to **BORROW** money pay **TAXES** (5:4)

NEHEMIAH



ORDER IN THE BIBLE
OT: #16



WRITTEN BY:
Nehemiah

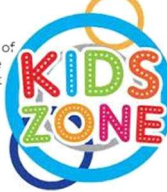


TIME PERIOD COVERED:
425 BC to 400 BC

The builders' sons and daughter were in **BONDAGE** and their lands and **VINEYARDS** belonged to others (5:4)

Sanballat accused the Jews of building the **WALL** because they were planning to revolt (6:6)

The joy of the Lord is your **STRENGTH** (8:10)



OVERVIEW

Many scholars feel this book is a sequel to Ezra, although Nehemiah is written in a very different style. Nehemiah was an engineer, not a priest like Ezra, or a prophet. He led a group of Jews in exile to Jerusalem to rebuild and fortify the city walls.

He helped Israel keep its foot out of several traps, the sinful habit of marrying foreigners who worshipped other gods.

Circle the **BOLD** words in the puzzle.

C	S	A	N	B	A	L	L	A	T	J	D
O	B	O	N	D	A	G	E	M	T	E	A
M	E	X	B	O	R	R	O	W	A	R	S
M	V	N	Q	M	T	H	T	A	S	U	K
A	I	V	E	A	A	H	L	L	E	S	Y
N	N	A	O	H	X	V	P	L	E	A	K
D	E	M	X	W	E	H	V	L	P	L	S
M	Y	E	O	Q	R	M	B	Z	A	E	W
E	A	L	D	S	X	E	I	U	X	M	G
N	R	L	O	V	E	S	G	A	T	E	S
T	D	S	V	F	S	S	T	K	H	L	G
S	S	C	A	S	T	R	E	N	G	T	H



SENDCO's Section

Resilience groups have started this week. If your child has been invited to one of these sessions, please give permission via ParentPay so they can attend. Children will be working with Mrs Finch, our learning mentor, on social skills, resilience, confidence, team work and speaking and listening skills.

House Point Heroes Reward Trip by Mya in 4W

On Wednesday, I went to see Babes in the Wood in a London theatre as me and another 35 pupils were House Point Heroes! It was so much fun on the coach and in the show there was a lot of singing and dancing. I liked it when the babes were lost in the woods and went to sleep. I loved it when we got to sing and dance – it was so much fun!



Playground updates

Our grass area and climbing frame are now complete! It has been fantastic to finally be able to open these areas and allow the pupils to play and enjoy these



enhancements to the school grounds. But, what next? Well there is a slight gap in the schedule before the team return to begin working on our multi-sports pitch. Whilst the material

for the pitch has arrived we are awaiting delivery of the goals then work will then begin. During the school holidays (most likely Easter) the markings for the athletics zone will appear!



TTRockstar Winners!

Year 3
Andrew 3M
Year 4
Zafrin 4D
Year 5
David 5A
Year 6
Abdul 6T



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](#).



Kerry's Korner

We are pleased to inform you that we will be hosting a number of parent workshops over the coming terms. These drop-in workshops will run either at the start or end of the school day.

The first one is **Understanding reading & ways of reading text - Miss Trubshaw on Thursday 2nd February at 9am.** We look forward to seeing you.



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.



Have you been wondering what your children were up to in school? Well, wonder no more....

Year Three

Where does time go? This last week has flown by and your lovely children have worked so hard this week. A lot of the children have been participating in Times

Tables Rock Stars at home and have earned lots of coins. They are

improving their speed the more they practise. This is really going to help them with their maths work in class so please encourage them to continue practising. In English this week we continued to read 'Around the World in Eighty Days'. The children have practised using subordinating conjunctions and have researched a country. They have also practised writing and answering their own questions. Next week they will be carrying out further research on one of the countries which Phineas Fogg visited. In History this week the children learned about Egyptian gods. They played a fun game where they had to match statements to the correct deity and wrote about one of the deities they had studied. In RE the children had the opportunity to look at and find out about the Jewish holy book the Torah. They were really interested to see how it was written in the form of a scroll. The children participated in a special workshop this week run by The Institute of Imagination. The children made exciting and creative sculptures based on the theme of 'balance'. Some of their creations were truly wonderful. Next Friday is also our special Egypt day so please remember to send your children to school in their Egyptian outfits.

Year Four

This week in Year Four, the children have started to work on instructional writing.

They examined the features of instructions and then worked with a partner to write a guide for a new pupil entering Year Four. The children also acted out some of their instructions and it made them realise how precise instructional writing must be. In maths, the children have been learning how to multiply and divide by 10 and 100. This week, geography involved the children developing their mapwork skills by using an atlas to identify the countries of Europe. In history, the children have continued their learning of why there was a move away from stone to bronze and the benefits this had for the people of this time. Our week began with an exciting afternoon of PSHE and creative learning through a nationwide online lesson led by the Institute of Imagination. On Wednesday morning, we were also lucky enough to participate in a nationwide webinar that explained the huge variety of career choices offered by the NHS.

Year Five

We have had a jam-packed week here in Year 5. In English, we continued reading and analysing the narrative 'Beowulf'. As the anticipated fight between Beowulf and Grendel approaches, the children have been summarising what they have read so far and have produced some excellent role-playing scenes to show their understanding. The children independently retrieved and recorded research on the history of Beowulf and where the story originated - they couldn't believe the original manuscript can be found in the British Library. We have continued long multiplication in maths this week with increasing difficulty - the children have learnt many strategies to tackle such problems and are becoming more accurate. Could you please ensure that your child is practising their times-

tables at home using TTrockstars as this will support their learning. Forgiveness is something we have been looking at in RE and how we can use the gospels in the bible to help us forgive others no matter the circumstance. The children have been elated that we are beginning our first DT unit on structures. Our first session began with a healthy competition - building a stable bridge using only 3 pieces of card. Can you believe that Okigbo, Robert and Chidimma built a bridge which took 1.6kg of weight! Swimming is going swimmingly (excuse the pun!) and we have noticed the children making great progress and their confidence in the water is improving.

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 wrote fantastic diary entries from the perspective of Ruby, explored descriptive language and learnt how to use colon and semicolons. In maths this week, the children learnt how to find percentage of amounts, so it would be great to get them solving all your calculations next time you go to a sale. Next week we will be finishing the unit and moving onto decimals. In RE this week, the children explored how Christians express their beliefs about Jesus, writing their own recipes on how to be great peacemakers like Owen Thomas and Desmond Tutu. In science, the children discussed things they already knew about the human body and where different organs were placed in the body.





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
Year Three			
3M	Name: Palash For: enthusiastic effort in all lessons, especially history this week.	Name: Adesewa For: helping to keep the classroom tidy.	Name: Manha For: being a good influence on those around her, setting a good example.
3N	Name: Kacie For: trying really hard to work independently in maths	Name: Cairon For: being helpful and working well with his friends	Name: Iustin For: for being a calm influence in the classroom and being ready to work.
3P	Name: Elidar For: working hard to improve his reading.	Name: Sama For: being helpful to other children.	Name: Kamso For: helping to spread peace around the classroom and school.
Year Four			
4B	Name: Priscilla For: working diligently and trying her best in all lessons	Name: Sami For: working well with his partner in English this week	Name: Dara For: settling in well into his new class and working well with all his peers
4D	Name: Royal Praise Giving his time generously to help others in PE and cooking lessons this week.	Name: Fiona Working diligently and becoming more confident in working independently.	Name: Aisela For: living at peace and setting a good example by doing the right thing at all times.
4W	Name: David For: working diligently and putting in 100% effort in all lessons this week.	Name: Emmanuel For: working well in Literacy, when writing instructions.	Name: Lillie For: living at peace: giving her all especially when working in a group in reading.
Year Five			
5A	Name: Awesome For: his creative work in History this week.	Name: Chidimma For: displaying excellent teamwork.	Name: Clara For: for always being ready to learn.
5H	Name: Sindi For: perseverance with her maths this week even when she found the work challenging.	Name: Ryan For: always being kind, helpful and supportive to others.	Name: Reggie For: always being ready to listen in class straight away and setting such a great example to others.
5N	Name: Believe For: continuing to be a role-model for excellent behaviour and attitude to learning.	Name: Maddie For: her caring nature and for encouraging others to persevere.	Name: Ana For: demonstrating excellent cooperation and listening when working with others.
Year Six			
6I	Name: Temi For: Working hard in all lesson this week.	Name: Crystal For: Always showing kindness to others.	Name: Robert For: Focusing more in lessons and trying his best.
6P	Name: Layla For: working diligently and trying her best in English to write descriptive phrases.	Name: Maddison For: acting generously by always helping others in class.	Name: Joanna For: living at peace and being a calm presence in school.
6T	Name: Jomiloju For: working diligently and having a positive attitude towards her learning.	Name: Cristina For: supporting and helping others in class.	Name: Abdul For: settling well into his new class and working well with his peers.



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.