



## William Ford CE Junior School

### Weekly Newsletter Autumn Term 1 Week 7

Dear Parents/Carers,

#### Important notice

William Ford Junior School has high levels of pupil mobility. This means that a number of new children join us across the year as well as sadly, some pupils leave us: usually due to families being relocated elsewhere in the country.

As a result, our Year Six classes do look somewhat different now compared with when they joined the school. It is our aim at William Ford to ensure all classes are equally balanced: with a mix of different academic levels, behavioural concerns along with other characteristics. Currently, this is not the case in Year Six.

Moving forward, the school will now mix classes at the end of Year Three and Year Five in order to ensure a level of balance. This also ensures pupils widen their friendship groups and learn to work with a variety of different children.

Post lockdown, all of our pupils have much missed learning to catch up hence I cannot ignore the fact that our Year Six classes are so unbalanced which impacts on the learning of all children. After much thought and consideration, I have decided to change the Year Six classes meaning your child may be allocated a new teacher. We will ensure that there is a fair distribution of pupils across all three classes whilst ensuring your child is still with some members of their friendship group. I am aware we have some children who, due to additional needs, could find this change particularly challenging. We will endeavour to ensure these children stay with their current teacher wherever possible. During our upcoming parents evening, your child's report will be given by their current teacher.

Rearranging classes mid-year is a big undertaking for the team. Year Six parents will be informed of whom their child's new teacher is next week and the new classes will begin after half term to mitigate the Covid19 effects of mixing classes.

I understand that this decision will not be popular with everybody but please be assured it is taken with the best of intentions. Please be aware that the school will not be receiving requests for children to be placed with particular children and/or adults.

Our worship this week has continued to look at the Lord's prayer, focussing on the line 'Hallowed be your name.' We have looked at the significance of many names used throughout the Bible as well as ensuring we do not use the names of God in an offensive or disrespectful way.

Mr. David Huntingford  
Headteacher

Exodus 20:7

You must not use the name of the Lord your God thoughtlessly.





## Meet our TEAM

### This week: Mr. Buckingham

Mr. Buckingham is deputy headteacher and has worked at William Ford for 20 years. In his spare time Mr. Buckingham loves to read a wide variety of genre. Before teaching Mr. Buckingham was a dispensing optician.

**Interesting Fact:** As a member of Association of British Dispensing Opticians, Mr. Buckingham can walk his sheep through the City of



London. That is if Mr. Buckingham had any sheep!



## Driving and parking



I am concerned at the number of reports I am receiving from parents and local residents regarding poor quality and illegal parking and driving outside of the school. Sadly, at my previous school, I had to manage a critical incident where a young pupil was hit by a car and dragged several metres. This left a lasting impact on the whole school community and I will do everything within my power to ensure this does not happen at William Ford. Already a number of parents have received Penalty Charge Notices. I am encouraging residents and parents with complaints to contact the Metropolitan Police as well as the local council.

## Kerry's Korner

### Keep our community safe

Thank you for supporting the safety measures we have in place at school's name. We must all work together to stop the spread of coronavirus, keep each other safe and avoid another lockdown.

### Visiting our school site

When dropping your child off, or waiting to pick them up, you must:

- wear a face mask (unless you are exempt from wearing one)
- stay at least 2 metres away from others

### Self-isolation

Do not send your child to school if:

- they are showing coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms
- someone in their household is showing symptoms

Please also self-isolate yourself and your family for the advised amount of time if you have just returned from a country on the Government's quarantine list.

### Tests

Arrange a test only if you or your child develops symptoms and please inform us of the results.



## New gate – exciting news!

You will remember that some weeks ago, I mentioned that the Local Authority have not only authorised but are also prepared to fund a new entrance gate to be installed from Old Dagenham Park to the school playground. This should make the drop off and collection of pupils much quicker after half term. We will be in touch to confirm arrangements next week – all being well!

## Key Term Dates

### Summer Term 2020 First Half (24 days)

Tuesday 1st September - Non-pupil Day  
 Wednesday 2nd September - Children return to school  
 Friday 25<sup>th</sup> September - Non-pupil Day  
 Friday 23rd October - Break up school – Half Term  
 Monday 2nd November - Children return to school  
 Friday 18th December - Break up school – Christmas



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....

the media of chalk and charcoal in an abstract way.



As part of our P.S.H.E. lessons we have discussed the important contribution the many members of our school community make each day that help the children learn at school. We also considered the role we play ourselves in ensuring we work and learn to the best of our ability. kind or helpful or for simply being a great friend.

### Year Five



This week in Year 5. we have continued to work on Michael Morpurgo's Friend or Foe and the children have been writing newspaper reports in the format of a double page spread reporting on the

evacuees' adventures searching for a crashed German bomber plane.

In Maths, we started the week looking at adding decimals in numbers with 1 and 2 decimal places and then we moved on to mental multiplication, using known number facts to be able to double and halve and then to be able to multiply quickly by 20, 25 and 9 with increasingly large numbers using known multiplication facts.

The children have also really enjoyed researching information about the planets and then presenting their

findings to the class in Science.

In history, we have been looking at what village life was like in Anglo-Saxon England after the Romans left.

Meanwhile, in RE, we have been looking at how the Qur'an is sacred to Muslims in RE, where it came from and why it is so important for their faith.

### Year Six

Year 6 have been analysing the original text of Oliver Twist as well as watching clips of the 1948 film in order to plan and write a character description of Fagin. In history, they have continued to look at a range of historical sources to learn about what life was like in a Victorian workhouse. They were very shocked to learn about the amount of food that they were given and that they were separated from other members of their family. In worship, we shared some of the meanings of our own names as well as discussing the many different names that people have for God and shared some of their favourite ones. In mathematics, the pupils have been converting units of measurement, revised different types of triangles as well as calculating missing angles. In PE, the pupils have been using the apparatus to practise balances on different parts of the body.



### Year Three

Year 3 have had another amazing week and have impressed us with their inference when reading. We are studying autobiographies based around the story of Red Riding Hood. We challenged our pupils this week by giving them an autobiography by the wolf so they could learn more about his character. In Maths, we have been deepening our knowledge of multiplication and division and have studied different strategies for remembering and using the 4s, 5s and 10s. We discussed safe passwords as part of our Computing curriculum and have updated our pupils' PurpleMash passwords so they now have one of their own choosing. Well done to all our pupils who have commented on our PurpleMash blog this week! Finally, we have been out and about around the school in our Art lessons and have recording the shapes we found.



### Year Four

This week in maths, Year 4 have moved on to formal written addition involving exchanging. The children have worked hard to set their maths work out correctly as well as complete their calculations accurately. Year 4 also started a brand-new unit of art. The children were challenged to represent the meaning of different words using