



William Ford CE Junior School

Weekly Newsletter Spring Term 1 Week 3

Dear parents/carers and pupils,

Thank you to all of the parents who attended our virtual training session on Purple Mash on Wednesday. The feedback I have received highlights how useful families found the session in supporting your home learning efforts.

We do recognise how challenging Remote Learning can be and appreciate the effort so many families are making to

try and keep their children at home during this time. Obviously, it is entirely appropriate for some children to be in school but I am pleased our numbers still remain lower than some of our neighbours.

We have received a few queries with regards to our new system of assigning tasks on Purple Mash. To clarify, all children will receive the same input but for English and maths, you will see two different choices of activities. All pupils should attempt the blue tasks unless you have received a separate letter from us inviting you to attempt the orange tasks.

We will also be providing a 'challenge question:' an extension to really challenge anyone who has found the set work relatively simple! We look forward to receiving your submissions to the various tasks we set!

Can I also remind parents that comments/questions submitted to blogs after 3:30pm may not get a response until the next day. This is not because the teachers stop working at 3:30pm – far from it! This allows them to concentrate their efforts in preparing and uploading the next day's learning as well as marking and providing feedback on that day's submissions.

Welfare calls

We recognise lockdown is challenging for adults and children hence we aim to call every family, at least once a week, to check everything is ok, if you require any support, help or resources for learning and just to have a quick chat. We do hope we can speak to pupils as well as adults.

Due to the number of children in the school, there is a good chance that the call will come from a member of staff who works within the year group but is not the class teacher. Also, as a number of staff members are working from home, the call is likely to come from a withheld number rather than the school's number. We will only be making calls during school hours.

We look forward to speaking to you!

For those who are requiring a school place, we do need to ask that you undertake another COVID test that will be sent home this Friday. Please conduct this test straight away, ensure it is properly registered and post immediately in a priority postbox such as Broad Street or Church Elm Lane, PLEASE DO NOT RETURN THESE TO SCHOOL AS THIS SLOWS UP THE RESULTS.

Finally, you will see that we have started to upload collective acts of worship onto Purple Mash. I do hope your whole family are finding these comforting, enjoyable and beneficial at this challenging time.

I hope and pray you all have a peaceful weekend.

Mr. David Huntingford Headteacher



John 16:33

"I have told you these things, so tha in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."



This week:

Mrs Noakes was an ex-pupil and has been our Family Support Worker for seven years. She is a big fan of Marvel movies and loves to decorate cakes although she admits there is room for improvement! Mrs. Noakes has a cat called Puss Puss.

Interesting fact: Mrs. Noakes is a distant relative of Bill Treacher who played Arthur Fowler in Eastenders.

Kerry's Korner

For those who are in receipt of Free School Meals, as of next week we will be issuing vouchers instead of hampers in order to limit the amount of time parents need to leave their homes.

Thank you for all of the positive feedback we have received with regards to our hampers. If you have any queries with regards to your free school meal voucher, please email me on family-support@williamfordschool.co.uk.

Please can you also ensure we have the correct telephone numbers for you on our school system. If you have recently changed your number, please let the office know.



New mathematics scheme

Many of you would have already noticed from the work being set on Purple Mash, that we are now using a maths scheme known as White Rose Maths. This is a scheme which is very popular throughout the country for a variety of reasons:

- It has open ended questions which are accessible to all children but provide a challenge for those who really want to develop their skills.
- There is a lot of emphasis on reasoning. Every lesson contains one or two reasoning questions which require the children to put into practice what they have learned and hopefully solve a problem.
- The scheme makes use of a lot of physical materials like counters, cubes and number lines. When all children are back in school they will find that lessons involve a lot more handling of objects.
- It is quite colourful and it uses a lot of pictures. This helps to engage the children and makes it easier for visual learners.

I hope your children are really enjoying the work and I am really looking forward to when everyone is back in school and we can have fun doing maths together.

White Rose Maths

Mr Pearson

Music Video Games - https://tinyurl.com/yyr6x4o6
Music Technology Club - https://tinyurl.com/yyebn32e



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



Year Three

Year 3 have completed another fantastic week despite the challenges of learning at home. We have continued to learn about lots of different countries around the world and this week gave extra focus to New Zealand and its volcanoes. We have now finished our maths unit of work on multiplication and division and will



soon be starting a unit about money. In RE we learned about the Torah and how it gives instructions to Jewish people about how they should live, and we made our own

instructions on how to be a William Ford pupil.

Year Four

This week, the children have continued to work hard both in school and online. We have been pleased to see more of the children are now uploading their completed work onto Purple Mash so that we can see how they are doing. Within English, we have been learning about the founder of our school, William Ford. We have made notes about his life and legacy and used them to write a personal history about him. We hope you have managed to post your palm oil letters to a retailer of your choice. Please let us know if you get a response back. We have also started our new topic in geography which is Europe. Over the next few weeks, we will start to examine places within Europe more closely. Science has involved the

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

Well, wonder no more....

children learning about the eatwell plate as well as designing and keeping a food diary over a minimum of three days. In French we have learnt about the weather which considering all the different types of weather we are experiencing lately, is definitely topical! The Year Four team would like to thank parents for their continued help with the children's online We are all missing the learning. children greatly but are very proud of their hard work in these difficult times. Well done Year Four! 😂



Year Five

We have been very pleased to see the children working at home engaging with the work that we have been setting. We have all been working hard to produce high quality and engaging tasks and it is encouraging to see it being made use of.

This week we have again been working on our cross-curricular Vikings project with both the children learning at home and those in school. In History, the children have moved onto researching about the Viking invasion of Britain when they first arrived on the island of Lindisfarne and the children have retold this via a comic strip in the vein of the Bayeux tapestry. They have then used what they have found out about these events in English to write the next chapter in their Viking story Viking arriving on a longship. In art, the children produced some fantastic drawings of longships last week and this week they have been able to follow the same video tutorial to draw some illuminated letters in the style of the holy books which would have been describing what it was like to be a produced by the monks in the monastery at Lindisfarne. In music, the

children have continued to learn songs based on Viking sagas.

While we have loved seeing the work that the children working at home have submitted, we really do want to see all of them engaging with all of the work.



As we continue to make calls to parents and children next week, we will be asking if

there is more we can do to help and encourage those children who are not completing the work to do so as it is so important for them to keep up their learning at this difficult time until they can return to school.

Year Six

This week in Year 6, the pupils have revised the key features of a newspaper report and planned their own based on the tragic story of Mallory and Irvine - two British Mountaineers who lost their lives when they attempted to reach the summit of Everest in 1924. Mystery surrounds the story to this day as to whether they actually reached the summit or not. In mathematics, they have concluded their learning on using

different
methods to
find
percentages
of numbers
and will
start a new
unit next



week. In science the pupils revised some of the different vital organs and their functions. The children have continued to use 2Logo for computer coding learning how to change the colour of the pen and have been introduced to the concept programming procedures. In RE, the children have continued to look at the lives of people who are peacemakers and this week found out about Owen Thomas, a pacifist during WW1.