



# Sheerness West Federation West Minster Primary School Week Ahead 21<sup>st</sup> September 2020



## Message from Mr Cooper ...

A huge thank you to all parents and children for the way that you are sticking to the one-way system, observing social distancing etc. at the start and end of the school day. Now, as well as getting Friday afternoons back to how they were before lockdown, we are changing the start and end of day times. Hopefully these changes will reduce the gap, wait and inconvenience for parents. *We are confident that we can do so safely, but especially need your help in sticking to the new times and social distancing next week please.* Once we all get used to the slightly changed system, I am sure it will become second nature. As I said, thank you all so much for your help.

We also had some socially distant filming take place across the federation, with the plan to create virtual tours of the schools to use to enable prospective parents and staff a chance to look round the schools at this time. The children and staff were amazing. These will appear on the websites once they are all checked to ensure that only those who have given consent are film stars! West Minster looks amazing...sometimes it is easy to forget just what wonderful buildings and outdoor spaces the children have.

I was also delighted to read a piece of work from Lewis in Year 3 which is more powerful than anything that I can write...reminding us all of the importance of being kind to each other:

### **What is Kindness?**

**Kindness is something simple that can be found anywhere and everywhere. Kindness is something that can make you feel happy, joyful and loved.**

### **What does Kindness look like?**

**Kindness is something that cannot always be seen, but you can feel it in your heart.**

**Kindness is where you help people when they fall over and you give them a plaster, hug or a smile. Kindness isn't just about people. It is about our planet too.**

Have a lovely weekend and stay safe.

## Message from Miss Brewer ...

This week our children have had a less formal timetable. We have allowed time for the children to reconnect with their friends, become accustomed to our new routines as well as to talk about and reflect on their experiences over the last few months. The children have appreciated this approach and this will continue, slowly building to our formal timetable over the next few weeks. Teachers are using this time to assess the children to identify gaps in their learning to support their forward planning.

Our beginning and end of day routines have changed and again we thank you for your patience and understanding. We have staff on duty in the playground in the mornings who are very happy to help.

## Message for the children from Miss Ovenden ...

This week has been really exciting as you have been able to start your PE and MFL lessons again. It has been great to see you on the field carrying out different activities. A big thank you to Miss Simpson and Miss Kuroishi for getting this organised in such a safe way. Please remember on your PE day to come to school dressed in your PE kit so you do not have to get changed.

It has been another busy learning week with Nursery and Reception looking at the story of Dirty Bertie and how to keep germ free. In Year One and Year Two you have been showing your teachers how clever you are at numeracy; practicing counting and showing you know the names of the 2D shapes. Ivy Centre has been busy with their topic All About Me; finding out who had the biggest feet and counting to their age. I was lucky enough to have a lovely piece of writing shared with me from a Year 3/ Year 4 class where you have been creating a leaflet about being

kind. The writing was beautiful and explained what kindness was. Finally in Year 5 and 6 you have been watching nature programmes and starting to write a script for the narration – I wonder if one of you will be the next David Attenborough? My favourite part of this week is that you are now staying later on a Friday which gives us time to celebrate all our achievements.

What a busy week you have all had, have a great safe weekend and we look forward to seeing you all back on Monday at your new times.

## Well done to Daisy Class and Orchid Class for having 97% attendance this week! (Friday – Thursday)

- **West Minster Primary School Website**

Our school website is a valuable source of information for parents, we are currently working to make it even more accessible and helpful.

- **Safe Internet Use**

Please click on the link for information from our website regarding online safety - <http://www.westminster.kent.sch.uk/parents/e-safety/>

- **Parking/Road Safety**

A polite reminder that we must be considerate of our neighbours at all times and please do not park in the staff car park as this is being used as an entrance for children.

This week's letters/emails sent and on our website and Class Dojo (<http://www.westminster.kent.sch.uk/>) were:

- Change of school times and PE day (Released 15 September)

### Future Dates

15 October - Kent Test

23 October – End of Term 1

2 November – Deadline to apply for a secondary school (Year 6)

## Additional message:

We have a **federation parent governor vacancy**, if any parents is interested in helping the federation in this way, or if you wish to find out more information about the role then please can they contact the school office, and let us know by Friday 25<sup>th</sup> September at the latest.

*As a Governor you have three main roles:*

To provide strategic direction for the federation

To act as a critical friend to the executive headteacher and leadership team

To ensure accountability

if we have more than one parent interested then we will give our further details and hold an election accordingly.