



**Sheerness West Federation
West Minster Primary
School
Week Ahead
2nd November 2020**



Message from Mr Cooper ...

Well done everyone! We made it through term one without any disruption to learning, except for one class, with overall attendance encouraging, despite the situation. It is so so important that children are regularly in school whenever possible, given the time that they have missed. Thank you all for your help in this regard.

Parents, thank you for the trust that you have placed in the school and your tolerance of the more annoying of the measures which we have in place, they are only designed to help keep children and staff safe and bubbles separate. We are constantly trying to improve them to make sure that should we ever have a future confirmed case, the impact will be as small as is possible. Hopefully that won't happen of course.

The children have been superb in adapting to the new normal. They have worked hard, followed our new rules, and really impressed the teachers in how they are picking up the pace of their work now. There is no doubt that the longer gap in learning this summer has had an effect on where they are now with their work, compared to where they would have been, but there are also a lot of encouraging signs to show that they are beginning the process of catching up.

Well done to all our staff for their amazing work already in this regard, their amazing support for the children, and for remaining positive and showing great resilience at what is undoubtedly the most difficult time there has been to be a teacher or teaching assistant. We cannot thank all the staff enough. We have such a strong and professional team, but they are exhausted already I know.

We look forward to seeing all the children back in school on Monday 2nd November.

Please continue to stick to the government guidelines to stay safe and well over the half term break, but let the children relax and switch off a bit, as school is very intense.

Message from Miss Brewer ...

It has been a very busy start to the new academic year and there have been a lot of changes and matters to consider as we have adjusted back to school life from the summer months. The changes have been in the interests of ensuring the safety of all our staff and children and have been in line with the latest Government guidance. As we are now at half term and the days are getting shorter, being safe in the community is always very important but is particular so in the winter months. So please keep yourselves well and safe and we look forward to seeing everyone back on Monday 2nd November.

Message from Mr Cates . . .

As you know, you can always speak to one of us if you are worried about your child's learning, well-being or behaviour. In addition to this, From 2nd November, Kent Educational Psychology Service will be offering free consultations via video/phone call for 30 minutes, where parents/carers can talk to an educational psychologist. The aim of this service is to provide advice and guidance to parents and carers to support children's wellbeing and learning. Please follow this link for more information:

[file:///C:/Users/CatesN/Downloads/Letter%20to%20parents%20from%20Kent%20Educational%20Psychology%20Service%20Oct%2020%20\(1\).pdf](file:///C:/Users/CatesN/Downloads/Letter%20to%20parents%20from%20Kent%20Educational%20Psychology%20Service%20Oct%2020%20(1).pdf)

Message for the children from Miss Ovenden ...

Well done on such a busy and productive first term; you have all worked extremely hard and it is great to see the school buzzing again.

This week in Ivy Centre you have been exploring the seasons and making art work out of different resources you have collected – they look beautiful. In EYFS you have been looking at the story of Funny Bones and celebrating your first term in school with an exciting Spooky Day. You have all been very busy in Year 1 and Year 2 learning your fact family number bonds and writing some poetry that rhymes. In Year 3 and 4 you have created some brilliant Hercules 13 labour stories and finally In Year 5 and Year 6 you have written some clear instruction on how to survive the Blitz as you continue your look into the Battle of Britain.

You have all completed so much learning this term – what has been your favourite thing?

I hope you all have a restful and relaxing half term and I look forward to seeing you all in Term 2.

Well done to Bluebell and Poppy their attendance of 94% this week! (Friday – Thursday)

- **West Minster Primary School Website** <http://www.west-minster.kent.sch.uk/>

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

- **West Minster Facebook Page** <https://www.facebook.com/WestMinsterPrimarySchool/>

Our Facebook page is updated with any current information.

- **ClassDojo** <https://www.classdojo.com/invite/?s=5e835485d302677528890d7e>

Follow this link to get signed up to your child's page. You can have more than one adult to the child. ClassDojo allows you to have contact with the class teacher.

- **Safe Internet Use**

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

This week's letters/emails sent and on our website, Facebook page and Class Dojo were:

- Health check for Year R, 1 and Year 6 only (Published 22.10.20)
- PE Newsletter term 1 (Published on 21.10.20)
- Photo letter reminder – 9th November (Published on 21.10.20)
- Questionnaire to gather home learning information (Published on 20.10.20)

Future Dates

23 October – End of Term 1

2 November – Term 2 starts

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

9 November – Individual photos (unfortunately we will not be able to take sibling photos as well)

Attendance:

Please remember if your child is not attending school you must either phone the school office or text them on 07874873901 with the reason why they are not in.