



Sheerness West Federation
West Minster Primary School
Week Ahead
30 November 2020



Federation Message from Mr Cooper ...

Parents Evenings

Thank you for the way that so many of you have already navigated the parental sign up process. I hope the guidance was clear. **For those of you have yet to sign then there is still plenty of time to do so.** We will only close bookings for each evening at 12pm on the actual day, so the teachers know who they are meeting.

Please remember my top tip, which is to get ready 5 or 10 minutes before your appointment time. Please note it also just does a countdown and stops the conversation, which may feel a bit rude...this is the system and not us!!!

Please phone the office if you have any issues with booking and hopefully the system will work, if everything were to go wrong, we would simply make phone calls instead...So don't panic!

Lockdown matters

As it stands, from Monday, across the federation, we will only have one class at West Minster not in school as we welcome back Snapdragon and Bluebell classes. So for all but Primrose class, both schools continue very much as normal for the rest of the children and staff. We will always inform you of any confirmed cases which have any possible impact on the children in school rest assured. Parents, equally, please let us know anything that we need to know regarding any test and either the positive or negative results as soon as possible if that does happen, preferably via Class Dojo, even if it is at the weekend, we need to know.

Thank you for your support in letting the school know promptly, all of you have been brilliant in this regard, it means that we can immediately take the appropriate action to keep everyone as safe as possible.

Please make sure that you and your children also stick to all the lockdown rules outside of school until Wednesday and then the new rules for Tier three.

For schools everything continues exactly as it is, whilst in the community there are a few things which will reopen as a result. If anything it is a step down from lockdown, but a small one, so please continue to stay safe.

For more information and guidance on restrictions please look at the government website: [gov.uk/coronavirus](https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus)

And finally, I will say this every week, all the staff are just amazing, especially the way they have just done whatever else they are asked to, to make things work for the children, at this most challenging of times. A special word for our wonderful office staff, who have answered parental questions about so many different things at the moment, and are checking the mail at all times of day and night!!! Thank you!!!

- **Applying for a Primary School place**

If you, or may be someone you know, has a child due to start school in September 2021 (whose date of birth falls between 1st September 2016 and 31st August 2017) you can now apply for a place at West Minster School via the link www.kent.gov.uk/primaryadmissions. Applications will close on 15th January.

We now have a virtual tour available on our website on the home page <http://www.west-minster.kent.sch.uk/> to show you our lovely school so that new parents do not miss out on their 'Open Day' experience. Please spread the word, thank you!

Message from Miss Brewer ...

Dear Parent/carers,

At West Minster the latest Covid related update is that we have been informed of *one more positive case of a child in Snapdragons who had already been self-isolating* for the previous two weeks and so therefore the school does not need to take any action apart from advising parents as promised and sending our good wishes. The child concerned will obviously return to school later than their classmates as a result. We look forward to seeing Bluebell and Snapdragon classes on Monday.

Have a good weekend and keep safe.

Message for the children from Miss Ovenden ...

There has been a lot of excitement in the school this week as one of the reception class found a hedgehog hibernating so they have been writing him letters and leaving out some food. They have been sharing what they have found with the rest of the school. It has been very exciting.

Also, in Reception this week you have carried on your topic of celebrations, looking at Hanukkah the festival of light. In Year 1 and Year 2 you have been looking at the story of The Tiger Who Came to Tea and the author Judith Kerr. You have looked at the different stories she has written and if they follow a similar pattern. In Year 3 and Year 4 you have learnt how to check your own answer to a calculation using the inverse method – by turning the question around it allows you to see if you have the right or wrong answer. In Year 5 and Year 6 you have been looking at different types of words and how by changing these it can make a sentence sound very different. In the Ivy Centre you have been looking at writing instructions and then following them making sure they are clear.

Again, this week some of you have been completing your work at home and you have been doing an amazing job – keep it up, it is lovely to see all the things you are getting up to.

Finally, today we all took part in another virtual assembly with Mrs Spokes; I hope you are all looking forward to taking your advent calendars home and being part of this exciting journey.

Have a great weekend and please keep safe.

Well done to Poppy Class their attendance of 96% 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:

- Free school meal voucher for Christmas holiday (Published 27.11.20)
- Parent's evening letter and booking guide (Published 25.11.20)
- General letters re update of cases from Mr Cooper (Published 24.11.20)

Future Dates

- Virtual Parent Consultations - Monday 30 November and Wednesday 2 December (all classes except the Ivy Centre and Bluebell class)
- Christmas dinner days and Jumpers days – Wednesday 16 December and Thursday 17 December
- End of term for the pupils – Thursday 17 December

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.

What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID 19

If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19, they must not come to school and should remain at home for at least 10 days from the date when their symptoms appeared. Anyone with symptoms will be eligible for testing and this can be arranged via <https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test> or by calling 119.

If you do carry out a test please could you inform the school as soon as you have the results either through class dojo (even at the weekend and evenings) or contacting the school directly as this will speed up sharing information with anyone that may have been a direct contact. Thank you.