

4th September
2020

Term 1 - Wk 1

After School Clubs

No after school clubs are running this term.

Nut Free Please!



Dear Parents,

Welcome back to a new school year! It's fair to say I've been looking forward to welcoming back our whole school community since March 21st, so Wednesday was a very special day indeed. I've been hugely impressed by how the children have returned to school – not only following our School Rules and Values Code, but also respecting the new procedures we have had to put in place. I think Y3 have been particularly remarkable, arriving this week having spent just a few hours at WJS during the Summer Term, but showing real confidence and resilience in their approach to life at the Junior School. Thank you for your support with the transition, I'm sure you've had many conversations around the dinner table, in the car and on your travels about a full return to school.

Now we're back at school, as a staff we're beginning to have conversations about how we can continue with the WJS way of life whilst following guidance. A huge part of our school is the school trips, visitors, themed weeks, opportunities for pupil leadership and I believe it's crucial our pupils continue to experience this. My concern is if we don't, school life may solely centre on the learning in the classroom. Of course that's hugely important but it's not the be all and end all. School community and experiences are also vital for children during their school journey. Once certain decisions have been made, I'll share them with you.

We have a new School Development Plan, and over the next term I will share the headlines, so you are clear on our journey for improvement. Our main piece of work is to continue embedding our school curriculum. We are excited about 'The Widcombe Way' here's an overview of the themes which will be covered.

	Autumn	Spring	Summer
Year 3	Explorers	Machines	Digging up the Past
Year 4	Jungle Fever	We can be Heroes!	Lasting Legacies
Year 5	A Magic Carpet Ride	The Land of the Rising Sun	Breaking Boundaries
Year 6	Migration	Peace & Conflict	Identity

Thanks to those Y3 parents who attended the Information Session on Wednesday. You all should have electronically received a letter from your child's class teacher, termly topic web and timetable, so you're aware what your child will be covering this term.

If at any point during the school year you have a query, concern or comment please do not hesitate in making contact with your child's class teacher and then a member of the Senior Leadership Team (myself, Miss Smyth, Mr Seatter and Mr Harley).

Enjoy your weekend; brunches, meeting my sister's new puppy and recharging ready for a full week at WJS. *Miss Taylor*

School Housekeeping Reminders

Medicines in School

Just to remind you, medication is only permitted in school when prescribed by a doctor. In this instance, we need to have written consent and instructions, from the child's parent or carer, so that the medication can be administered correctly. Forms are available in the office. Prescribed medications, in clearly labelled containers, need to be handed into the office for storage.

All medicines, except Asthma inhalers and Epi Pens, which are stored in the medical room, will be kept in the first aid cupboard in the school office for use when necessary. These will be collected and carried by staff when children are off site. Children should not bring in any non prescribed medication under any circumstances. This includes cough sweets, painkillers, such as Calpol, travel sickness pills and homeopathic remedies. Thank you for your assistance.

NUT AWARENESS - We are a Nut Free School!

We have a number of children with potentially severe allergies to nuts, including peanuts, coconut and all tree nuts. Tasting even a small trace of nuts could cause serious illness for these children.

Due to the possible severity of this allergy, please DO NOT send peanuts, peanut butter, Nutella or nut products in your child's snacks, lunches or mufti day cakes. We also ask that you please check ingredients on ready-made foods, if nuts are listed as an ingredient please save them for home. Items made in a factory using nuts, but not listing them as an ingredient, would be suitable to bring to school.



We will be including allergy awareness in our healthy eating learning at school and ask that you reinforce these messages at home by asking your child/ren not to share food or snacks with other children, not to share cutlery, or bring birthday chocolates, cakes or sweets containing nuts into the playground to share. We want our school to be a safe place for all our children and hope that you will support us in this aim.

School Uniform

Please make sure all uniform, bags, pencil cases and lunch boxes are named, with a sew-in tag or permanent laundry marker our lost property boxes, located outside the school office, are filling up already!

Don't forget to label bike helmets and scooters, if ridden to school. Thank you.

Coats/Shoes

Please make sure you send your child to school with a named waterproof coat and robust shoes as we play outside in all weathers!

Mobile Phones

Mobile phones should only be brought into school if your child walks by themselves. In this instance, please remind your child to hand mobile phones into the school office as soon as they arrive. We have set up a named bag system to store them to comply with COVID guidelines.

Nasal Flu Vaccination – Electronic consent

The Virgin Care Team will be visiting Widcombe Juniors on the **morning of 20th October** to administer the free nasal flu vaccination programme. This year all school children in Reception to Year 6 are eligible.

Flu vaccination is one of the most effective interventions we have to reduce pressure on the health and social care system which is going to be more important than ever this year. For this reason, it is essential we deliver the vaccine to as many children as possible to prevent the spread of infection to those most at risk in society.

In light of the above they are expecting demand to be high and therefore if you have not already done so we urge you to follow the below link to consent to your child's vaccination now. Even if you do not want your child to receive this vaccination, please complete the consent form stating "no" consent. You will also find answers to your FAQ's on this link.

<https://schoolimms.virginicare.co.uk/flu/2020/banes>

If you have any difficulties with completing the consent form please contact the Immunisation Team on our Single Point of Access (SPA).

Tel: 0300 247 0082 Email: vcl.immunisations@nhs.net

School Age Immunisations Team
Virgin Care Services Limited

Dates for your Diary

Friday 11th September	Year 4 Rainforest Themed Morning in school
Monday 14th September	School Council/House Captains/Librarians/Worship Ambassadors/ Equalities Team Elections
Friday 18th September	Link Parents' Meeting
Friday 25th September	European Languages Day – whole school event focusing on French
Monday 28th September	Year 2 Open Morning
Monday 4th October	Year 2 Open Morning
Friday 9th October	Harvest Collective Worship
Mon 19th – Fri 23rd Oct	Sports Week
Mon 19th – Fri 23rd Oct	Parents' Evenings – details to follow
Tuesday 20th October	Nasal Flu Vaccination Programme – all children with parental consent
Friday 23rd October	Last Day Term 1

Every week we will update this section with upcoming events, sometimes event dates do change due to unforeseen circumstances, please make sure you check regularly to make sure you are up to date with school events.