

Dear families

Back to school

Pupils have had a really successful first week and it has been wonderful to see them working hard in lessons. They have shown real resilience by continuing with their studies even when the weather has been very warm outside.

Year 7 - End of School

Until further notice, we will be releasing Year 7 from school at 2:55pm each day to allow them time to get through the gate before the older years arrive. We will update you when this changes through this newsletter.

Y7 Meet the Mentor / Digital Learning and Wellbeing

On Thursday 21st September parents of new Year 7s will have the chance to come into school and hear from their child's mentor about how they are getting on at secondary school. There will also be a presentation in The Stage on the different digital platforms the school uses for homework in Year 7. We look forward to seeing Year 7 parents there - the session will begin at 4pm.

Y11 Skills for Success Evening

We are keen to see all Year 11 students and parents / carers on the 14th September from 4:45-7pm. We have short introductory talks at 5pm or 5:20pm. There is an opportunity for you to meet teachers and purchase revision resources. Following this there are interactive workshops for practical advice on revision techniques. Please check your email to let us know you are coming! Looking forward to seeing you there next week.

Curriculum Afternoons for Y8, Y9 and Y10

This term, we will run a series of curriculum afternoons for parents of pupils in Years 8, 9 and 10. The dates and timings are at the end of this email. On these afternoons, parents will have the chance to come into school and hear about what pupils will be learning about as well as looking at some of their child's work. You will soon be sent an email to confirm your attendance.

Timetables available on MCAS app

We encourage as many parents as possible to use the 'My Child at School' app which allows families and children to check their timetables, receive notifications from school and see positive and negative behaviour points. You can read more about the My Child at School app by following this link:

<https://www.thewhitstableschool.org.uk/information/communications-and-letters>

Well done to TWS pupil

We were very proud to hear that Dylan in Year 9 won the design competition for the Kent Mental Wellbeing Awards. The illustration has been transformed into a nine inch trophy and uses sustainable bamboo as its material.



**Artsmark
Gold Award**
Awarded by Arts
Council England



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The brightly coloured illustration impressed judges and it incorporated the three key themes of the award-kindness and compassion, wellbeing and mental health.

Year 8 Student Receptionists

This year, we will again give every pupil in Year 8 the opportunity to work alongside our reception staff to see how this part of the school functions, to look and develop some of the skills that this role requires and work effectively with members of staff. If you **do not** wish your child to be included in this activity please complete the form [here](#).

Uniform and Jewellery

From September 2023, we will continue expecting high standards of uniform. Pupils should wear full school uniform each day to school including a TWS school blazer, a white shirt, a school tie in the house colour, black trousers or a charleston style skirt, plain black socks below the knee and black formal school shoes.

Pupils will be allowed to continue wearing full PE kit on their allotted PE days. Please be reminded that no branded items of clothing or hoodies should be worn under any circumstance and pupils will have these confiscated if they do. Cycling shorts or hot pants are not part of the school PE kit and should not be worn.

Pupils should ensure they attend school not wearing any visible jewellery including ear piercings, facial piercings or false nails. Pupils wearing jewellery will have it confiscated and a parent will be responsible for collecting.

Equipment

At TWS we believe all pupils should be **on time and ready to learn**. Pupils should arrive to school promptly each day with the necessary equipment.

As a minimum pupils are expected to have:

- An appropriate sized school bag
- A clear see through pencil case
- Two writing pens (either blue or black ink)
- A pencil
- A ruler
- Courtesy Card
- Choice Card booklet.



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These items will be checked daily on the entrance to school. Pupils that do not own any of the above stationary items will have the opportunity to purchase these on the door. We will have new Courtesy Cards and Choice Card booklets for pupils that need them.

Please ensure that you send your child to school with the correct equipment to support their learning.

Key Future Dates**14th September 5pm-7pm** - Year 11 Skills for Success Evening**Wednesday 20th September 2:30 - 3:30pm** - Year 8 Curriculum Afternoon**Thursday 21st September 2:30 - 3:30pm** - Year 9 Curriculum Afternoon**Thursday 21st September 4 - 5:30** - Meet the Mentor / Digital Learning and Wellbeing (Year 7)**Wednesday 27th September 2:30 - 3:30pm** - Year 10 Curriculum Afternoon

Best wishes

The Whitstable School Team



Poppy Austin in our new Year 7 really impressed Mr Reeves with this wonderful painting of a landscape - well done Poppy!

We also loved the sketch of a 'Day of the Dead' skull drawn by Rupert Veale (saved for later in the year!)



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