



WESTON NEWS

2022-23 ISSUE 20: 19 JULY 2023

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Dates for your diary (**new dates in red**):

Wednesday 19 July – Break up for summer

Monday 4 September – Teddy Bears' Picnic (new starters)

Tuesday 5 September – School reopens for all pupils

Thursday 14 September – Individual and siblings school photographs

Friday 6 October – Harvest festival

Monday 9 October – Year 6 to Crucial Crew event

Thursday 12 October – Book fair for one week

Monday 16 October and Wednesday 18 October – Parent consultations

Thursday 19 October – Aqua class assembly (arrive at 9.50am for a 10am start)

Friday 20 October – School closes for half term holiday

Monday 30 October – INSET day (school closed to all pupils)

Tuesday 31 October – School reopens for all pupils

Thursday 2 November – Friends of Weston firework display

Thursday 9 November – Blue class assembly (arrive at 9.50am for a 10am start)

A message from Mr Cutts

It's been a whirlwind end to the school year with so much happening across the school. This includes crucial activities such as transition days for all children including those starting at Weston in September and those leaving Weston this week to start their high school adventures.

We say goodbye to a few much-loved staff this week:

- Mrs Chadwick who is retiring and brings an end to 19 years at Weston.
- Miss Bell who is moving to TCT school Audlem St James in September.
- Miss Thomas who is leaving her maternity cover role to take on a permanent position at another school.
- Mrs Lloyd who has secured a pre-school position at another setting (we will still see her at The Hive)
- Miss Bradley, who spent a year with us as a midday supervisor and is now heading off to university.
- Mrs Gavin who leaves her cleaning position after a long association with the school.
- Mrs Henshall who completes her secondment to Weston as SENCO and will head off to lead SEND at a large multi-academy trust.

We will say hello to Miss Wilcox, who joins us as Gold class teacher until Miss Wright completes her maternity leave in December. Miss Wilcox is an experienced teacher, whose energy, enthusiasm

and values align with the school's. She has spent some time at Weston getting to know the school, staff and children, including the recent transition day. Miss Shearer-Davies, who currently works at the school as a midday assistant and teaching assistant will take on a full-time teaching assistant role from September. As well as Miss Wright returning, Mrs Armitt comes back in February from her maternity leave. We still have a vacancy for a midday assistant.



Farewell Year 6

We say goodbye to our Year 6s this week. They have a great deal to be proud of and we know they will find their own unique paths to success as they take on the next exciting stage of their lives at their respective high schools. We marked the goodbye in a few ways. The children put on a wonderful variety performance last week for a packed audience of family and staff, which allowed us to reflect on their



are then presented with them just before they leave as a memento of their time with us.

The children also enjoyed an activity day last Friday, followed by a leavers' party, campfire and then camp-out on the school field. There will have been some very tired children over the weekend



individual character, successes and aspirations for the future. It was full of singing and talent and included the Weston Book presentation. All the children are given a Weston Book when they start here which they fill, over the years, with pictures and writing from key moments in their Weston journey. They

but they will have been happy – a special way to mark the end of an era.

Dewa Trip

With excellent foresight, Blue and Green classes picked an excellent day for weather to visit Chester and enhance their knowledge of the Romans. They visited the Dewa centre before taking to the streets of Chester in role as Roman soldiers, marching and chanting in unison and learning about the impact of the Roman settlement in Chester.





Potteries Trip

Turquoise Class enjoyed a trip to The Potteries Museum and Art Gallery up Hanley duck. They had a look at some of the sculptures in the Art Gallery and took part in a clay sculpture workshop, where they drew portraits of a friend and then made a 3D model of their face out of clay.

They also enjoyed looking around the museum, especially the Natural Science section and seeing some of the old fashioned shops. They went into the Spitfire Gallery and had a class photo in front of the huge aeroplane!

Forest School

Some classes have been making the most of our Forest School over the last couple of weeks. Orange class completed a variety of nature craft activities. They made suncatchers using twigs and leaves; Created patterns with leaves and spray paint and painting pinecones. They also had a competition to see who could create the best badger picture with natural resources. They completed a colour scavenger hunt and finally made dens, which they tested to see if they were waterproof.



Hometime Pick-Up

Did you see the letter about hometime pick-up from September? Here is a reminder of the key points:

- No change to drop-off
- Don't drive onto the turning circle to collect at hometime – if you are driving, park at the pub; walk if you can; car share if you can; consider taking advantage of the Wychwood bus.
- Do not park on the roads surrounding the school
- Hometime for all children is 3.15pm – please avoid being late
- There are strict times for gate opening based on safeguarding
- Children should be collected from external classroom doors

Thank you in advance for your support in working with us to achieve a smooth, safe and successful hometime, in the interests of the whole school and Weston community.





Town Sports

Following success on the track, Weston took to the field at the Cumberland Arena on the final day of day sports, competing in long jump, high jump and javelin. They represented the school really well, wearing their Weston blues with pride. Our team won the Year 6 track competition, with Weston finishing 2nd overall on the track. Combined with our field results, we finished 4th in this district-wide competition. We look forward to building on this success at next year's competition.

Parent Governor

We handed out information and spoke to some parents on parents' evening about the opportunity to be a parent governor and serve on Weston's local governing board. Following an extensive review of the board, including skills and experience, roles and responsibilities, committee structure and constitution, we are now in a position to recruit a new parent governor. Information and nomination papers with be sent out at the start of September.



Transition Day

We hope the children enjoyed spending the day in their new classes with their new teachers and new classmates. Transition can be a time of high-anxiety for children. The benefit of a full day of transition is that teachers and children can start to establish the strong and positive relationships that underpin success at school. If your child expresses any worry about next year when you talk to them, this is

normal but please feel able to flag it to the teacher. Our relationship with you is equally important and together we can make school a place of happiness and success for all the children.

It was also wonderful to see our new Reception starters. We hope they enjoyed their time at big school and can't wait to see them on Monday 4 September for the Teddy Bears' Picnic!



Summer Sing

Last week, the Weston choir joined Springfield School and St Mary's Catholic Primary School for the inaugural Summer Sing at Springfield. All three choirs sang individually and came together for a wonderful final performance, which included makaton and loads of smiles. A cake sale supporting some fundraising for the schools involved went down very well but the children were the absolute stars of the show. All three schools should be very proud of their performers.



Red Class Assembly

Red class put on a wonderful performance for invited parents and family members in their class assembly. It's incredible to see how far they have come since the start of the year as they shared their learning with such confidence and enthusiasm. The Reception children have a lot to be proud of this year and we can't wait to see them shine again in Purple class next year.

Reception 2024 / Year 7 2024

The bell has sounded for the end of this year, but in many ways we look ahead to next term. With the application window opening for both primary and secondary places at the start of September, parents and children will need to start considering their options. I have already shown several prospective Reception 2024 parents around the school. Some admissions advice: if you have a child already at a school, you still need to complete an application within the window; don't just put one choice – carefully consider which schools you would be happy for your child to go to in the event that they aren't offered their first choice.



Guide Dog Assembly

We were joined by Finn in assembly. Finn is a 7 month old guide dog in training and he came in with two volunteers from the charity, who look after and complete initial training with the dogs until they are ready for advanced training. They told us all about the very important role of guide dogs and details of the training they require in order to do their job. It was fascinating. We supported the Guide Dog charity on Sports Day. Thanks to your generosity, we raised £269 in donations to the Just Giving page and a further £115.13 in cash donations on the day. Thank you to Mr and Mrs Clifford-Ball for supporting this fund-raising.



Sports Day

We enjoyed two wonderful sports days. One for the majority of the school and another for Year 6. This second Sports Day was needed due to Alsager School needing to move their Year 6 transition day at the last minute, creating a clash. Both events took place in front of supportive crowds and we were blessed by decent weather too! For the first time, we included an inclusive sport – the blindfold race. We intend to explore further inclusive options for next year's event. The children all pushed themselves and supported their team mates and there was some excellent athleticism



on display.

Ballroom Dancing Show

Mrs Chadwick put on her final ballroom show for an invited audience of parents last week. Her dancers performed wonderfully and the show included several costume changes, a range of dances and an abundance of smiles. We are really proud of the children and the effort they put in. Unfortunately, I neglected to take any pictures so you'll just have to trust me that they looked fantastic. It's the end of an era for Mrs Chadwick's ballroom dancing. I remember her first show at Weston many years ago. I was Bruce Forsythe and Mrs Rendall was Tess Daley! Years of memories. We haven't yet decided who the baton will be passed on to. Hot money is on Mr Robinson!





The White Lion

If you made it this far down this bumper newsletter before 3pm today, well done! You get to see this reminder for a White Lion hosted end-of-term party for all parents and children!

Congratulations!

A few end of year congratulations are in order. Firstly, congratulations to Mrs Lloyd who has passed the EYITT with flying colours to achieve Early Years teacher status. Congratulations also to Miss Thomas, who has completed her two year Early Career Teacher (ECT) induction with flying colours.

Also congratulations in advance to two members of staff who get married (not to each other!) over the summer holidays – Miss Bell and Mr Robinson. We wish them all the very best for their special days.

Congratulations

SEN Coffee Afternoon and the Den

We invited lots of parents into school last week of children with additional needs to share a cup of coffee and a biscuit as the initial step in putting on a regular coffee afternoon. The aim is to bring parents of SEND children together in a supportive network involving other parents and school staff. We intend to use it as a chance to talk and share, provide information and practical guidance and host guest speakers. We held the event in the classroom that will become the DEN (develop, educate, nurture) – a dedicated environment for supporting key skills such as communication and interaction. We are excited about the plans and hope that parents can support us with donations of money and resources, as requested by Mrs Loveland over on Class Dojo. We can't wait to share the space with you. Thank you so much for your support.





Primary College 2023

Year 6 attended Cheshire College South and West and joined hundreds of children from across Crewe and Nantwich for the 29th Primary College events. They had an enjoyable day learning lots of new skills and having a go at new subjects. They enjoyed bricklaying, beauty, falconry, art and design, business, engineering and lots more, and represented the school very well.

Haircuts and Piercings

I would like to draw all parents' attention to our school uniform policy. While your child attends Weston, we expect them to conform to this. I specifically want to point out the following regarding piercings and hair styles:

Pupils are permitted to wear watches. For safety reasons, the children are only permitted to wear small stud earrings, which must be removed for PE lessons and after school sports clubs.

Pupils are not permitted unnatural hair colour (hair must be one colour) or extreme hairstyles, including designs or lines shaved into hair.

With regards to piercings, due to the healing time and curriculum requirement to participate in all PE lessons, the start of the summer holiday is the ideal time for piercings, if any, so as not to impact on your child's education. They must be able to remove and replace their own earrings. From a health and safety perspective, we will take a more firm stance on this next year.

With regards to hair styles, more and more children are coming to school with lines shaved into their hair. This is not acceptable and is typical school policy. Again, I suggest that this is a summer holiday hair cut. If your child comes to school with lines shaved into their hair from September, we will be contacting you to request that it is rectified. Please help your child to adhere to the policy and get in touch if, for any reason, they are struggling to do so.



The 8 Secrets of Success



Results 2023

As you know, primary school children are assessed against a number of metrics. As a school we prioritise the whole curriculum and personal development as the best foundation for building future success. Our Secrets of Success also promote qualities such as Improve and Work Hard and Don't Give Up, and we are really proud of the children's attitudes to school. When it comes to tests, we have an aspiration for

children to do their very best but we are very careful not to pile undue pressure on them. After all, the tests provide one indication of how well the children have been taught and what they need next. Unlike GCSEs, the children won't put their phonics screening check score on their CVs.

With all of that said, we are delighted that once again Weston has performed well above available national averages in all areas including the Early Years Good Level of Development, the Year 1 Phonics Screening Check, the Year 2 key stage 1 SATs, the Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check and the Year 6 SATs. Full results will be published on the website once this year's national data has been validated in the new school year. Well done to all the staff and children for their hard work.

ParentPay – Have You Missed Anything?

Here are the ParentMail communications since the last newsletter:

26 June – Sports Day – Guide Dogs fundraiser

26 June – Friends of Weston Money Monsters

3 July – NEU teacher strikes

7 July – Year 6 leavers' performance

5 July – Cannabis edibles

14 July – Annual school reports

17 July – Important – changes to pick-up arrangements

18 July – Year 6 WhatsApp

18 July – Conwy Centre residential 2023 (Y4 parents)



Have a wonderful summer!

Don't hesitate to ask if you have any questions.

Thomas Cutts