



WESTON NEWS

ISSUE 20: 5th September 2019

Website: weston.cheshire.sch.uk

Facebook: [westonvillageprimary](https://www.facebook.com/westonvillageprimary)

Twitter: [@WestonVillagePS](https://twitter.com/WestonVillagePS)

Dates for your diary:

6th September – Stoke City 7s assembly
(freebies for Y2)

12th September – Amaven challenge day

12th September – Meet the Teacher (6-7pm)

19th September – Academy photographers
in (families, siblings, individual photos)

24th September – Scholastic book fair
every afternoon after school for a week

1st October – KS2 cross-country 4pm

4th October – Harvest service (no parents
due to hall space but donations of food
welcome)

8th October – Y1 & 2 harvest workshops

A message from Mr Cutts

I would like to wish a very warm welcome back to all our returning and brand new Weston pupils and families. I hope you have all had the chance to enjoy some family time over the last six weeks. I would also like to welcome Miss Watkins, who officially joined the Weston family as a class teacher this week. The staff have enjoyed a well earned break but have also been hard at work preparing for the year ahead – there is a lot to look forward to.

Look out for this fortnightly newsletter for an insight into what the children and staff have been up to at Weston, learn about what is on the horizon and find out about what is happening in school and in the community. If you are on social media, check out our official Facebook and Twitter pages (identical content). These give you a flavour of what is going in different classrooms. All other official communication will come via ParentMail. If you haven't already, it's easy to sign up and receive instant notifications – you won't miss a thing. You can even pay for school dinners, uniform and other items.

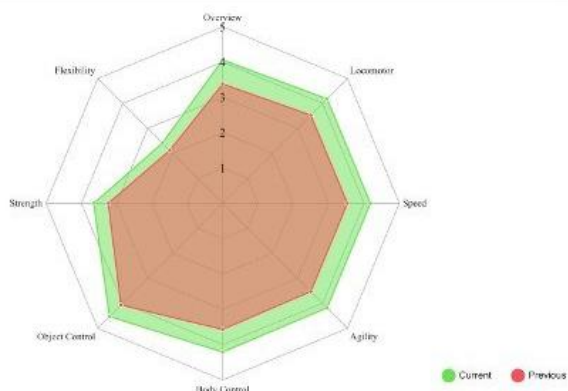
Clubs

Keep an eye out for information about the lunch time and after school club offer for this term. We have expanded the number of Sportscape after school clubs to offer more opportunities and variety to all of our pupils. Like last year, the Sportscape clubs will be provided free of charge as school will cover the cost. This is part of our commitment to fostering a lifelong love of sport and physical activity in all children. Information about Sportscape clubs will be sent via ParentMail this week. All other clubs provided by school will be free of charge unless specific materials are needed, in which case a small charge to cover the costs of materials will apply. These clubs will commence in the week beginning 16th September. Information regarding Miss Jolene's School of Dance after school club will also be available soon (charges apply).



Peanut Free School

Please be advised that we are a peanut-free school. One of our children has a severe peanut allergy and the only way to manage the risk to his health is to insist that no one brings peanuts or products containing peanuts into school. This includes children, staff and any visitors. The obvious risks are with packed lunches and when children bring in sweet treats for classmates on their birthdays. If you require any further clarification, please ask.



Amaven

This September sees the introduction of our Amaven approach to PE assessment and teaching, following a successful trial last term. The children's key physical skills, including flexibility, speed, body control, locomotor among others, will be assessed three times per year. The results will inform our PE planning and staff will work with a specialist teacher, Mrs Clogg, to co-deliver lessons and improve Weston's capacity to deliver high-quality, tailored PE lessons this year and beyond. Keep an eye out for information about how to access your child's physical literacy results and access a wealth of fun physical activities that your child can complete at home to help them reach the recommended 60 minutes of physical activity per day.

Bug Club, MyMaths, school website, TT Rockstars logins



This week your child will have all the relevant (for their year group) website logins stuck into the front of their home-school diaries. Please do login with your child and encourage them to use the websites regularly. As ever, in-school arrangements will be made for those children with limited or no access to the internet at home. We expect the children to read at home 5 times per week and for all of their home reading to be recorded in their home-school diaries. We spend a lot of money on Bug Club because we know that when children use it regularly, especially in Reception to Year 4, it has a massive impact on their reading comprehension. Of course, there are other high quality books in school and local libraries that the children can also access to help foster a love of reading.

Diaries

On the subject of diaries, in response to parent feedback, we have reviewed our approach to ensure there is more consistency from class to class. Teachers will check and write in diaries once per week. When children have notes from home in their diaries, they should show the teacher who will tick or initial to acknowledge that they have read it, or respond if necessary. We expect all reading to be recorded in diaries. It may not be obvious when a child has read with a parent volunteer in school as we do not give them access to pupil diaries.

Please make a point of reading the first 4 pages of the diary and sign the home/school agreement on page B. Please also complete pages 5, 6 and 7 as early as possible and no later than next Monday, 9th September. It is particularly important that we have up to date contact information, including more than one emergency contact. If other circumstances have changed, please let us know via an email to the office admin@weston.cheshire.sch.uk or by sending in a note in a sealed envelope. This includes the following: address, medical and dietary conditions that have come to light over the last 12 months.

The permissions on page 5 includes photos for use on our school Facebook page. We renew these permissions every year so even if you have previously given permission, we do require it again. We like to post regularly to give an insight into what goes on in school.

Meet The Teacher

Our meet the teacher evening is on Thursday 12th September from 6pm – 7pm. This is an opportunity to meet your child's teacher and find out about the curriculum and routines of the class as well as ask any questions. We encourage you to attend, if possible.



We recognise that many of you have more than one child in school.

We ask that you choose just one teacher to meet (or two if both parents are able to attend). As a school, we value a consistent approach and any information regarding homework and behaviour, for example, will be the same from class to class. We send out parent information leaflets every term per class, which detail the curriculum and other expectations. If you are particularly keen to meet with more than one teacher, please make arrangements to catch up with the relevant teacher at another time. We have an open door policy and teachers are available at the end of most school days or other times by appointment.

If at all possible, please don't bring your children. If this is unavoidable, please keep them with you rather than letting them wander through school or play outside. You will be able to park on the school car park or the Key Stage Two playground.

Secrets of Success

We continue to underpin our school ethos of success for all being demanded, desirable and achievable with the Secrets of Success. Through this approach, we really single out the characteristics of successful people and actively promote and reward those qualities. The Secrets of Success are 8 qualities which we believe are essential to ensuring success at school and beyond. These are:

Try new things

Work hard



Concentrate

Push yourself



Imagine

Improve



Understand others

Don't give up



What is success?

Success isn't just about money.

It is about happiness, choices and feeling good about yourself.

Successful people feel good about:

- how hard they have tried
- who they are
- what they spend their time doing
- the choices they have made in their lives.

Like last year, we will award dojo points to children when they demonstrate these skills. This year we will acknowledge more individual success in these areas and make a point of regularly sharing individual pupil's dojo totals with their parents.

Water Bottles

We encourage children to bring a water bottle to school and take it home every day to be washed. Children also have access to water fountains in school. Please note that children are not permitted to bring anything other than water in these bottles. They are allowed to bring an additional non-fizzy, sugar-free drink with their packed lunch, to be drunk with their lunch at lunchtime.

PE Kits

Please ensure that your child's PE kit is in school every day. Sometimes they will need to wear it on days other than their usual PE days. Please check page C near the front of your child's home-school diary for a reminder of our uniform policy, which lists the school PE kit and acceptable uniform.

Parking

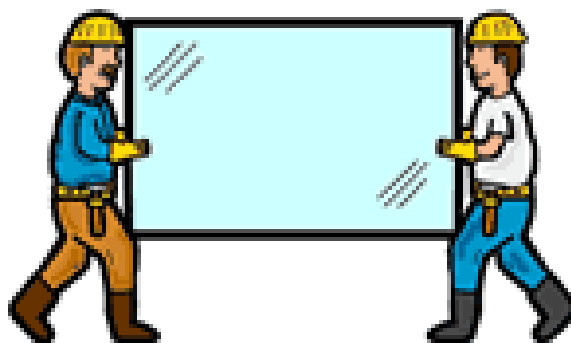


As ever, we are incredibly grateful to The White Lion for allowing parents to park at the beginning and end of the school days. We ask that you respect the local residents and keep pedestrian safety in mind by not parking on Poppy Close, East Avenue or Cemetery Road.

The school gates are kept closed throughout the school day in the interests of pupil safety. Parents are not permitted to park or drop-off on the school car park at the start and end of the day without prior permission. We plan to replace the gate with an electronic one this year that can be remotely opened and closed from school to make it easier for parents to access school during the day.

Changes

You may have noticed a different look to the building this September. Work to replace all of the external windows and doors is almost complete, ahead of schedule. It was anticipated that the work would cause some disruption to Key Stage 2 classes this week but, happily, that is no longer the case. Work will be completed soon. Later in the year, we intend to replace blinds and carpets to give the school a real facelift. We also intend to update the school wifi and some hardware to take Weston to the cutting edge of primary school tech and enhance not just computing lessons, but the entire learning experience for all children.



Lost Property

Please ensure that all pupil property is named. We amass a huge quantity of lost property every term, lots of which is never claimed, including school shoes, trainers and even coats. Being responsible for your own property is a life skill and we ask that you reinforce this at home in order to keep lost property to a minimum. We still have a substantial amount of unclaimed lost property in school from last year which we will retain until October half term.



The Hive

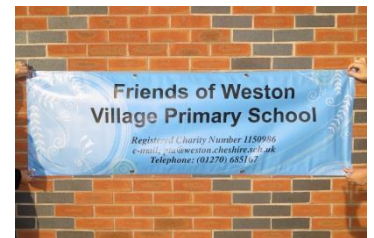
Our out of school and holiday club is called The Hive @ Weston Village Primary School or 'The Hive' for short. All information regarding the club is available on the school website or from the school office. Following a number of positive changes to the running of the club and the success of the club through the summer holidays, we will be fully open in the October half term holiday and I am confident that we will be fully open during all other school holidays. More information will follow.

Inhalers

If your child suffers from asthma and requires the use of a salbutamol inhaler, please ensure that they have two in school – one which will stay in the teacher's cupboard and one to keep in their school bag. You will know that the inhalers have an expiry date and it is expected that parents will be aware of these and replace inhalers accordingly.

Friends of Weston

We are blessed to have such an active parent group who raise lots of money for the school to spend on things that enhance the children's experiences at school. The Friends of Weston run several successful events every year and are always keen to recruit new members to the team. All parents are welcome at meetings and support of any kind is both vital and very much appreciated. Why not join the Friends of Weston facebook page. Dates of upcoming meetings and events will be shared via ParentMail. Last year broke all records for fundraising thanks to the tireless efforts of the team and the wonderful support of the whole school community. There are exciting plans ahead for the money raised that will benefit every child. I very much look forward to another excellent year packed full of fun for the children and their families.



Parent Helpers

We are incredibly grateful to the parents who volunteer their time to come into school for a morning or afternoon on a regular basis to hear children read. If you helped in this way last year and would like to continue, please let me or the class teacher you worked with know if you haven't already. If you are able to commit to coming into school on a regular (weekly) basis, please let me know and I will be happy to discuss the role and the necessary process before such a role can commence.

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

Thomas Cutts