



WESTON NEWS

ISSUE 25: 22nd November 2019

Website: weston.cheshire.sch.uk

Facebook: westonvillageprimary

Twitter: @WestonVillagePS

Dates for your diary (new dates in red):

27th November – KS2 Sports Hall

28th November – Y5 Bikeability

29th November – Y5 Bikeability

29th November – Christmas Fair

29th November – Girls' football competition

5th December – Y2 Christingle service at All Saints

9th December – Red class nativity 1.30pm and 6pm

8th December – Choir performing at Wychwood Village Hall Christmas Fair (date change)

10th December – Choir performing at Shavington HS concert

11th December – Christmas lunch day

11th December – Whole school Fluenz

12th December – Y1 nativity 1.30pm and 6pm

13th December – Whole school trip to Regent Theatre

13th, 14th, 15th December – All Saints Christmas tree festival

18th December – Weston's Got Talent; party lunch; last day of term

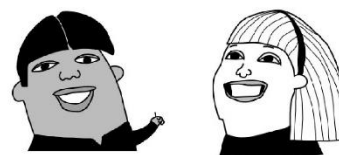
6th January – School reopens for Spring term

A message from Mr Cutts

The school council and safety ambassadors used an assembly on odd sock day last week, to deliver a strong message to the rest of the school on the subject of anti-bullying. It was fantastic to see such strong pupil leadership and such empathy from other children. Their message was built around these key points about bullying.

Top anti-bullying tips

Tips for children and young people



Are you a young person who's suffering at the hands of bullies? Or maybe you're witnessing others being bullied? Either way there are ways around it. Here's our anti-bullying tips for you.

If you're worried about bullying speak to someone you trust or you can call ChildLine on 0800 11 11

- It doesn't matter what colour hair you have; what trainers you are wearing; how you speak; how you walk; how you talk – **it is not your fault if you get bullied.** We are all different in some way and that's what makes us amazing.
- Whether you are a boy or a girl, old or young, big or small – bullying makes you feel rubbish and it's okay to be upset about it. **The important thing is that you tell someone about it.**
- If you feel you can, talk to a teacher you trust or your parents, brother or sister. If you don't want to do that **you can always call Childline** 0800 11 11 or visit www.childline.org.uk.
- Keep a record of what happened, when it happened, and who was involved. If the bullying is online, **keep the evidence** – save or copy any photos, videos, texts, emails or posts.
- It can be tempting if you are being bullied to retaliate – for example to send a horrible message back to someone; to try and embarrass and hurt the other person, or to fight back. **This is not a good idea – you might end up being seen as the trouble maker or get yourself even more hurt.**
- Think about other ways you can respond to bullying.** For example, practice saying: "I don't like it when you say that/do that – please stop." Think about other people who can help you if you are being bullied – this could be other classmates, or a teacher.
- Only hang out with people who make you feel good about yourself.** If someone constantly puts you down they are not a real friend and not worth your time.
- Be kind to yourself**, and do things that make you feel good, relax and make new friends. You might play an instrument; write lyrics; draw cartoons; dance; act or join a sports club. This is your life so make sure it's the best life possible – don't let anyone bring you down.
- Remember to be kind to other people!** Just because someone is different to you and your friends – that doesn't mean you are better than them or have a right to make them feel bad. If you mess up, say sorry. You don't have to be friends with everyone – but you should always show respect, make it clear that you don't like it when people bully others, and stick up for people who are having a hard time.



www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk



Please talk to us, not about us

Over recent weeks, a number of parents have told us about some of the messages that they have seen on the class group messenger/WhatsApp forums. A very small minority of parents have used these forums to send negative comments that are aimed at children, at other parents or at the school. We have no intention of interfering in private discussions, but group chats involving every parent in a class are not private conversations. Messages in these forums might as well be shouted across the playground, such is their reach. If you have a question, concern or complaint regarding the school, I would urge you to bring it to our attention in the first instance. We are fully committed to maintaining the positive relationship that exists between home and school as we recognise how valuable this is for the children. I would hope that parents can also see the importance of a partnership based on mutual respect. I must also point out how very grateful we are to the many parents who have emailed or spoken to us to offer their support in response to some of the negative comments they have read on class group forums.

Group chats are great for helping parents:

- keep up-to-date with what's going on in class
- share information and reminders (for instance, about homework or bringing in materials)
- build relationships between children

Here is some general advice for group chat conduct and for the class reps who set the groups up:

Check members are parents before accepting them into the group

- For safeguarding reasons, it's important to check that all members are parents of a child in the class before allowing them into the group
- If you're unsure if someone is a parent of a child in the class, check with the class teacher before accepting them

Enable post approval

- Facebook allows admins to 'approve' posts by all members before they are posted onto the group
- If you decide not to approve a post, or to remove one, Facebook sends the member a message telling them which rule was broken
- For platforms that don't allow post approval (WhatsApp or an email chain), you'll need to read all comments carefully to see if they break any rules and then ask the parent to remove their comment if it does
- Reserve the right to remove parents from Facebook, WhatsApp or email groups if they violate the group's rules.

Group rules

Here are some suggested rules for class groups:

1. Be respectful to staff, children and other parents at all times
2. Don't use the group to complain about a child, a member of staff or the school. Raise complaints through the school's official channels so they can be dealt with in the appropriate way
3. Only share or post pictures of your own child. Get permission from another child's parents before posting or sharing photos of them

When to report something to the school

Speak to your class teacher, or a senior member of staff, if:

- Someone posts something in your group that is aggressive or abusive
- Someone in your group has broken a rule, or consistently breaks the rules, and hasn't responded to your requests or warnings about their behaviour
- Someone says something that suggests that a child may be at risk of harm
- Someone makes an allegation about inappropriate behaviour by a member of school staff

The school will decide what further action should be taken.

Great Fire of London day

Purple class thoroughly enjoyed their Great Fire of London experience last week, courtesy of a travelling history company. They took part in lots of interactive and immersive activities which enhanced their understanding of the fire and of Tudor England.



Indoor sports hall athletics

Every child in Year 1 and 2 attended an indoor athletics event at South Cheshire College last week. It was a fantastic opportunity to children to put the skills they have working on in PE into action through competition with children from other schools in the area. The children represented the school well and had lots of fun.

Class Assemblies

We have enjoyed two class assemblies over the last fortnight. First, Yellow class shared their excellent self-penned show on the theme of World War Two, their current history topic. Blue class entertained us with their eclectic display of songs, acting and reading drawn from some of the work they have completed so far this year, from Roman marching, to electric circuits, to narrative writing, to languages. Both assemblies were very well put together by the staff and children.



Diabetes Day

Phoebe in Orange class very bravely spoke to everyone in Key Stage Two about her experience of living with Type 1 diabetes, having been diagnosed earlier this year. She talked about how she checks and regulates her blood sugar levels and what she has to do when they are too high or too low. Lots of children were able to share their experiences of family who live with the condition and it gave everyone a real insight into type 1 diabetes – a condition that Phoebe and others will have to manage throughout their lives. Phoebe is a real inspiration as she has adapted to it very well and it certainly doesn't prevent her from enjoying and getting the most out of school and life.



Children in Need

Thank you for supporting our fundraising for Children in Need. The children enjoyed the various activities and Chelsey was delighted to win the limited edition Pudsey Bear that was donated to school by Olly's grandma. We raised almost £200.



Friends of Weston

The Christmas Fair is just a week away. There is something going on in every class in school, from colour tombolas, to games and stalls, the secret present room and much more. This year's raffle is the biggest ever, with prizes valued at a combined total of more than £1000. Please do buy your raffle tickets and get involved. Thank you to those parents who have sent items for the colour tombolas. Please keep sending in your items! Every penny raised by Friends of Weston is spent on the children.

Book People's Big Boost

Don't forget that if you're buying books for Christmas, The Book People are running a 'Big Boost' campaign, which is their brand new fundraising scheme. Every time you place an order with them over £10, they'll donate £1 to a school of your choice (Weston) for us to spend on books! Just go to thebookpeople.co.uk/bigbookboost



Football

The school team have had a lot of success so far this season but weren't able to progress beyond the knockout stages of a competition last week, against some very challenging opposition. The team played well and put in some committed performances. They will have lots more opportunities this season to compete against other schools.

Lovell Homes

The school liaison team from Lovell Homes came into school this week to run some workshops with the children in some classes around health and safety. The children enjoyed the fun activities and learnt a lot. The team will be back next month to run workshops with the other classes and, in the future, we will continue to work closely with them on other projects and visits to the site at the end of East Avenue.

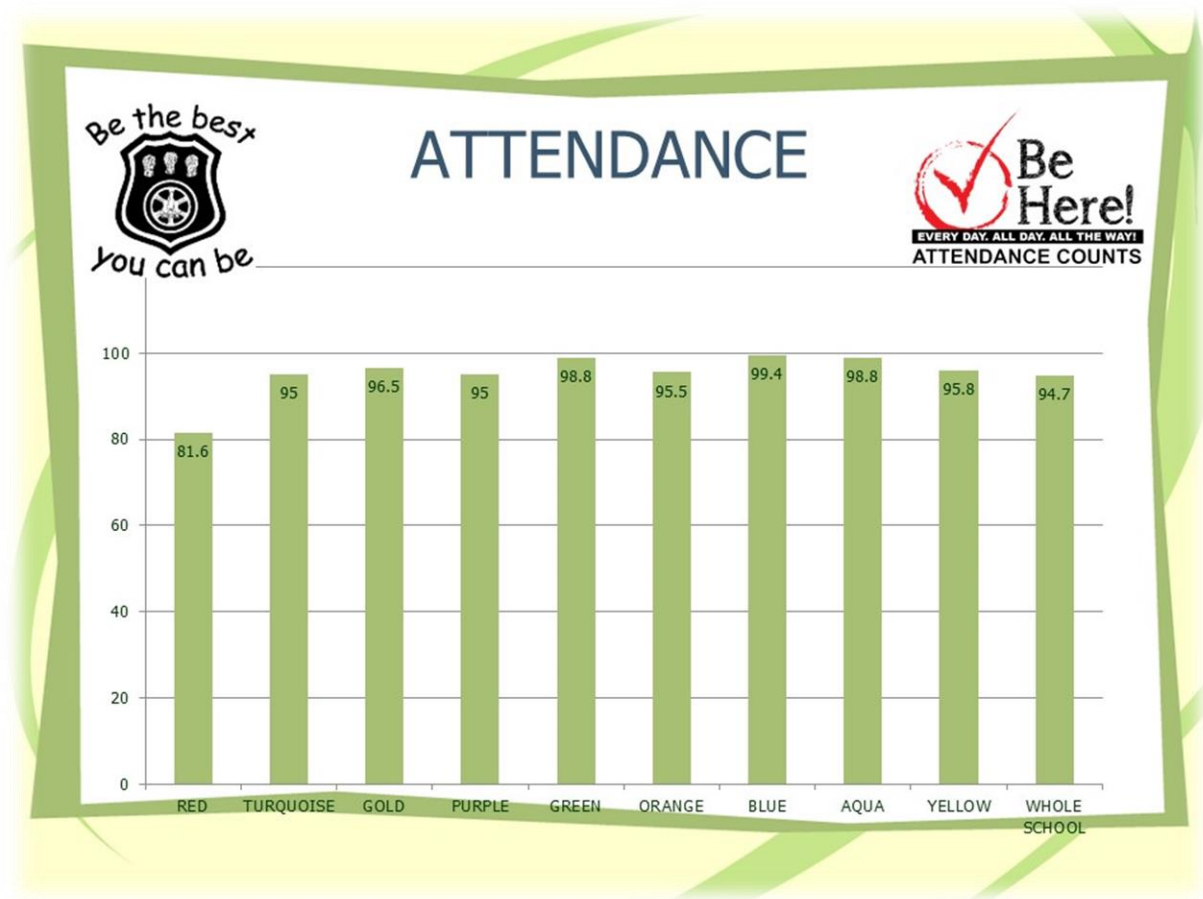


Celebration Assembly

Here are our most recent stars of the week. They devoured their well-deserved biscuits (I ought to keep a vacuum cleaner in my office permanently!) It was lovely to hear them chat about what they are learning, what they get up to with their friends and what they have coming up in their busy lives. It is one of my highlights of the week! Every child really embodied our **secrets of success** and we are proud of them all.



Here are our most recent weekly attendance figures. Our school target is 97%.



Thomas Cutts