



# WESTON NEWS

2022-23 ISSUE 9: 20 January 2023

Website: [weston.cheshire.sch.uk](http://weston.cheshire.sch.uk)

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

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

Wednesday 25 January – Blue Class assembly  
(arrive from 9.50am for a 10am start)

Wednesday 1 February – Choir to Young Voices  
in Manchester

Monday 6 February – Children's mental health  
week

Tuesday 7 February – Parish Council  
presentation to parents plus choir performance  
at school (details have been sent)

Tuesday 7 February – Safer Internet day

Thursday 9 February – Class and leavers  
photographs

Friday 10 February – Dress to Express day  
(details to follow)

Monday 13 February – Year 6 residential all  
week

Wednesday 15 February – Green class assembly  
(arrive from 9.50am for a 10am start)

Friday 17 February – School closes for half term

Monday 27 February – School reopens

Thursday 2 March – World Book Day (costumes  
– details to follow)

Thursday 16 March – Turquoise class assembly  
(arrive from 9.50am for a 10am start)

Monday 20 and Thursday 23 March –  
Parent/Carers consultation evenings (details to  
follow)

## A message from Mr Cutts

You will have seen in the press that following a ballot of members, one of the teachers' unions, the NEU, is going on strike across several dates in February and March. The NEU have called a strike based on what they describe as a real-terms 23% teacher pay cut over recent years leading to teachers leaving the profession in increasing numbers.

The relevant strike dates are 1<sup>st</sup> February, 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> March (national strike dates) and 28<sup>th</sup> February (regional strike date).

It is currently not clear how this will impact upon Weston. The DFE have issued updated guidance to schools and it will be for headteachers to make the decision whether to close or partially close the school. My intention will be to keep the school as fully open as possible whilst recognising that the decision to legally go on strike and forgo pay and pension is not one that will be taken lightly by any teacher.

The decision will be based on health and safety rather than curriculum fulfilment so even if the school is fully open on those days, learning may well be disrupted for some or all children.

I am aware that this may cause disruption and acutely aware of the upcoming Young Voices choir trip, which takes place on 1<sup>st</sup> February. As soon as I have a clear indication from teacher colleagues about their intention to strike, I will be able to plan for the days and at that point I will communicate to parents.

## The Cornovii Trust (TCT) Update

Now that our trust contains three primary schools, we are able to collaborate and share expertise even more effectively. As well as the headteacher group and the assistant headteacher group working closely together, just this term we have come together for writing moderation, phonics training

and are due to come together for training on attachment next week. In addition to the close work that is currently happening and that has been planned across the primary schools, all five schools in the trust: Weston, Alsager School, Brine Leas, Alsager Highfields and Audlem St James, also share and access other support and expertise. All of the children in TCT access excellent education, support and opportunities. We

are clear that our trust is a family, not a chain, with each school's autonomy and individual characteristics protected and promoted in the interests of the pupils they serve. [Find more information about TCT here.](#)

### Parish Council and Choir Event

We are excited to invite you to an event in conjunction with the Weston and Basford Parish Council, which will take place in the school hall on Tuesday 7th February 2023 at 6pm.

The dual aim of the event is to showcase the school choir, who will have recently performed at Young Voices, and to provide a forum for the Parish Council to engage with members of the school and therefore parish community.

The event will last around an hour. The choir will sing either side of a short parish council presentation and q & a session. This is designed to share what the Parish Council is about along with some of the challenges currently facing the parish. It will also flag up the major change that will be taking place at the end of March - the formation of a new Parish Council entitled Weston and Crewe Green.

All parents and members of the community are welcome to attend and refreshments will be served from 5.40pm, courtesy of the Friends of Weston. Parking will be on the school playground.

### Year 4 Instrument Lessons

Our Year 4 children have started their trumpet and trombone lessons. They have weekly lessons with a teacher from Love Music Trust, Mr Birch. They take their instruments home to practise in between lessons. As we all know, practice makes progress! Lesson 1 went well with the children able to produce a lot of noise on their innovative plastic 'brass' instruments - the pbone and ptrumpet.

### Year 6 Residential Trip

Our Year 6s are gearing up for their first ever school residential trip next month. We have been running residential trips successfully for decades and have previously taken children to the centre we are visiting this year – PGL at Boreatton Park. The children will take part in a range of adventurous activities designed to promote fun, teamwork, communication and character development – they will sometimes need to push themselves outside of their comfort zones. As well as this, they will develop their independence throughout the four-night stay. We will provide parents with regular updates throughout the week. The children are excited, the staff are ready for the increased workload and energy required to run such an experience and we know that it will be another great success.



## Blue Class Assembly

A reminder that it is Blue class assembly next Wednesday 25 January. Up to 2 people per child are invited to watch the assembly, together with some of the school. We will livestream the assembly into the other classrooms. The children have got lots to share including songs and some fascinating facts about Henry VIII! Please arrive no earlier than 9.50am ready for a 10am start. The assembly will last around 15 minutes.



## Stars of the Week

In Celebration assembly we celebrate lots of achievements and successes and reinforce our understanding of the Secrets of Success. We also celebrate a star of the week from every class who has demonstrated the Secrets of Success in different ways. Here are most of the most recent stars.



## Lost Property

This item is in the newsletter every week because it is always relevant. When they are unnamed, they are almost impossible to match to a child. **Please ensure that all pupil property is named.** We STILL have a large quantity of unnamed lost property, including jumpers and cardigans, bottles 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.



## ParentPay – Have You Missed Anything?

Here are the ParentMail communications since the last newsletter:

17 January – Parish Council and school choir event

17 January – A taste of America (school meals)

17 January – Boreatton Park final information letter (Year 6)



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

*Thomas Cutts*