



WESTON NEWS

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Website: weston.cheshire.sch.uk

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

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

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

22 March – Wear odd socks for Down Syndrome Day

22 and 25 March – Parent/Carer consultation evenings (**Turquoise/Aqua to follow**)

23 March – National Day of Reflection

Thursday 1 April – Break up for Spring break

19 April – School reopens for Summer term

Monday 3 May – School closed for Early May Bank Holiday

28 May – Break up for half term break

Monday 7 June – INSET day – school closed for all pupils

Tuesday 8 June – School reopens for all pupils

A message from Mr Cutts

It has been fantastic to have a school full of children once more. The impact of the lockdowns and partial school closures on the children's education and wellbeing may not become fully apparent for a long time but we have built in a framework which will help us to identify where children might be in need of additional support for their emotional wellbeing, including further staff training to secure our expertise in this area.

Similarly, we are making use of the government's catch up premium funding to identify and fill gaps that might otherwise limit a child's ability to make progress in their learning. Some of this involves staff training so that all children continue to receive the very best quality education. Among other strategies, the funding will also enable us to provide high quality intervention where needed. The research tells us that the highest impact of such an approach comes from it being delivered by experts who know the children. To this end, look out for Mrs Rendall, who is returning to help us deliver some of this intervention, together with existing school staff.

The buzz is back in the building and we are very pleased by the way the overwhelming majority of children have returned. They are keen to learn and show those Secrets of Success, very well-

mannered around the building and warm and caring on the playground. We don't take this for granted and recognise that cracks may appear as time goes on and children find their resilience tested in the ways that happen in schools to produce the very best learning and development. If this happens, we will continue to work with you and to prioritise well-being.

National Day of Reflection

Next Tuesday is a National Day of Reflection to mark a year since the first national lockdown. Everyone's lives changed on 23 March 2020 and since then, some people's lives have been impacted upon considerably. For the children, their education and social contact have been affected significantly over the last 12 months. There are many aspects of this period for us all to reflect upon, from remembering those lives that have been lost to considering how valuable certain aspects of life are that we might previously have taken for granted, such as spending time with family and being able to attend school.



To mark the day, we will have a virtual assembly and explore some of the themes in an age-appropriate way in the classroom, with one or two related activities. We will also hold a minute's silence.

At 8pm on the day, there is a hope that people will come together on their doorsteps, with candles, torches or mobile phone flashlights and create a collective beacon of hope and support to others. We are all living through such a unique moment in history which has had an impact on everyone. For our children, the opportunity to acknowledge this and to look forwards with hope, is a positive way to support their ability to process it all.

In conjunction with Marie Curie, the symbol for the day is a daffodil. Here is a link to some lovely daffodil colouring sheets, which the children might like to colour and stick in their windows. <https://www.mariecurie.org.uk/get-involved/day-of-reflection/show-your-support#templates>

All Saints Church in Weston will be open from 12-2pm on 23 March for anyone who would like to call in for a moment of reflection and to light a candle.

New Build

What a difference a day makes! In one day we went from foundations to a fully assembled classroom. The classroom was designed in conjunction with school and custom built in a factory. On the build day, the walls and roof were assembled on site with the help of a crane. Since then, all of the solar panels have been installed on the state-of-the-art classroom, which promises clean energy generation and zero running costs. Over the next few weeks, the classroom interior will be fitted and we remain on-track for a grand opening after Easter. The children loved watching the build and are very excited!



Fun Learning

The school is a real hive of learning and fun. With talk of children needing to renew their stamina for learning, we take the view that when someone is engaged and enjoying what they are doing, they are more inclined to embrace the challenges, push through and feel the intrinsic reward that comes from a job well done. There is also much talk of the impact of the lockdown on childhood obesity and the fact that children have been less active over the last year. With all of this in mind, the teachers have continued to invest their planning efforts into learning activities that are fun and not just functional and, where possible, activities that aren't fully sedentary and involve sitting at a desk all day.

Children across the school have enjoyed a range of activities this week that have got them out of their chairs or have excited and inspired their imaginations, such as Orange Class's work on rainforest which has transformed them all into conservationists, Blue class's playground science and Red class's evil pea's (from Supertato) mischievous shenanigans. We share classroom and learning activities on our school Facebook page – please check out the page if you are social media-inclined and give it a like and a follow.

Stars of the Week

Here are most of our stars of week for the last two weeks. They have done a great job at showing off the Secrets of Success in lots of different ways. Well done children! Also included in the pictures is a gold card winner and a kindness superhero award. Gold cards are given for exceptional above-and-beyond effort.









World Down's Syndrome Day – Wear Odd Socks

This Sunday 21 March is World Down's Syndrome Day. It's always important to raise awareness and create a single global voice advocating for the rights, inclusion and wellbeing of people across society, including those with Down's Syndrome, such as Frankie in Reception here at Weston. To help mark the day, we are asking that the children and staff wear odd socks and/or brightly coloured socks.



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

Thomas Cutts