



# WESTON NEWS

2020-21 ISSUE 16: 2 July 2021

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**):

Thursday 1 and Monday 5 July – New starter's one to one parent meetings

~~Wednesday 7 July – New starters' 'Gruffalo Games' afternoon~~ **cancelled due to bubble closure and staff isolation**

Friday 9 July – School reports out

Friday 9 July – Y6 Leavers' party followed by sleepover on the field

Friday 10 July – Y6 fun activity day (circus skills and scoutcraft)

Friday 16 July – Children break up for summer holiday

Wednesday 1 September – INSET Day and Teddy bears' picnic for new starters

Thursday 2 September – Start of Autumn term for all children

## A message from Mr Cutts

Last year I wrote to parents regarding our plans for promoting diversity and equality. Despite the challenges and shifting focus of this year, directly as a result of Covid, we have made great strides and are proud of our work to address this area.

This includes amending our curriculum to ensure that race, gender and different relationships are explicit, for example through different authors, the study of influential people and various representations that are on printed resources we use. We have invested in resources that promote diversity and have worked to address our whole school culture.

The bit that's missing from our approach is the involvement of parents and the establishing of a parent forum for the specific purpose of consultation and sharing of expertise and experience around diversity and equality. We are very aware that our parent community have a lot to offer in this regard and that there was some interest in participation when I first asked about it. The ongoing existence of covid measures and dominance of the covid response in the school's work has precluded the setting up of this forum so far but it remains part of our current school development

plan and an aspect of this important work that very much has an important part to play.

Regardless of the September situation with regards to Covid, we still intend to establish this group, agree its principles and collaborate in order to build on our hard endeavours of the last 12 months.

## Playground Development Update

Following on from the dedicated ParentMail last week regarding our exciting playground news, I can provide an interim update. The install is going very well. At the time of writing (Thursday 6.30pm) I am looking out of my office window at an almost finished pirate boat, which really does look fantastic! By this time next week, the ship will be ready to launch and the outdoor gym will be fully installed. The children have enjoyed watching the assembly take place and are very excited to try it out. Here is a sneak peak of an upper section – the big reveal will follow soon!



## Transition

We welcomed 38 excited children into school last Thursday for their first taste of life as a Weston Village Primary School student. They attended in two groups and got to know each other, their new teachers and their new classrooms. It was a wonderful opportunity for the staff to start to get to know the children and build the foundations for that vital relationship to flourish. We are excited to see them all again and hope they had a great day.

Elsewhere in school, lots of our Year 6 children were able to visit their high school, Alsager, while other high schools have carried out virtual transition. It's a big step but one they are all ready for. All of the other children got to spend time in their new classes with their next teacher and, in some cases, some new classmates. We have such clear consistency of approach at Weston that many things will have felt reassuringly familiar for the children but there was still lots to enjoy and get excited about! It's hard to believe that another year has nearly finished!

## Music Day

We enjoyed World Music Day on Monday. Mr Galley from Alsager School came over to run some drumming workshops with the Y5 and Y6 children. We had a 'gig' outside where every class performed a song for the rest of the school. It was wonderful to enjoy another whole school event following our successful sports day. Staff and children all dressed as rock stars for the occasion too!



## Road Safety

PCSO Jolley came into school this week to work with the children in Blue Class on road safety. The children have been asked to design road signs to be used in the local area and poems to be published on the Haslington Police Facebook page and in the local parish magazine to keep our roads safer.

In recent weeks we have had several reports of concerning behaviour on the roads around school. These include dangerous driving on the stretch of lanes between Weston and Shavington, via Hough. Most of you will have been that way and will know that part of it is a treacherous stretch with high banks, no pavement and poor visibility. A grandparent had her wing mirror broken off by a car that was going too fast to properly brake and steer; her and her grandson were understandably very shaken. Obviously it is not just Weston School related traffic that uses that stretch but please do drive carefully.





I have also had contact from parents and local residents regarding parents swearing and using obscene gestures in the village in relation to driving. We spend time explicitly teaching the children how to self-regulate their emotions and react appropriately and constructively to stress and upset and while it is unfortunate when anyone finds themselves in a situation that is frustrating or upsetting, it is never appropriate to react aggressively, particularly in the presence of children.

## COVID-19 Update

Despite speculation in the media, it is not yet clear what the COVID-19 guidance for schools will look like in September. The Education Secretary conceded on Wednesday that it is not likely that schools will be told ahead of the summer holiday. Throughout the pandemic, we have become very used to receiving guidance in school holidays and acting with short notice to implement measures and changes and we are fully prepared to do so whenever the updated guidance is issued. Please be assured that you will be informed of changes, even during the holiday. Whilst we are very much looking forward to the measures that will enable us to mix the children more widely, not require children to isolate for chunks of their education and otherwise resume 'normal' school activity, we are currently planning on maintaining our existing measures in September.

## ParentMail – Have You Missed Anything?

Here are the ParentMail communications since the last newsletter:

18 June – The Hive Summer Holiday Club

22 June – Blue Class Internet Safety (for parents and carers of children in Blue Class)

24 June – The Hive Out of School Club September 2021

25 June – Exciting Playground News!

25 June – End of Year 6 Party, Sleepover and Activity Day (for parents and carers of children in Year 6)

28 June – The Hive Summer Holiday Club (places are booking up fast)

30 June – *Various positive COVID-19 cases related letters*

30 June – The Hive Summer Holiday Club (some days fully booked)

1 July – Year 6 Performance – Buggy Malone Costumes (for parents and carers of children in Year 6)

Attention All Parents!

 **ParentMail**

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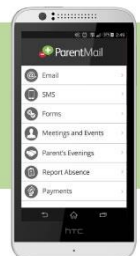
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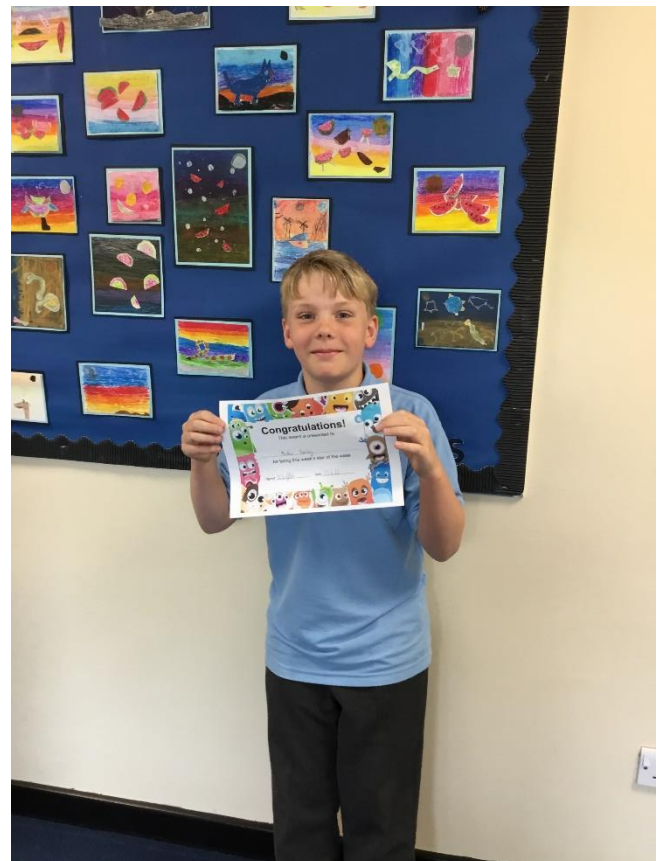


## Stars of the Week

Here are the stars of week from last week. They have done a great job at showing off the Secrets of Success in lots of different ways. Well done children!







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

*Thomas Cutts*