



WESTON NEWS



2024-25 ISSUE 5: 13 December 2024

Website: weston.cheshire.sch.uk
Facebook: [westonvillageprimary](https://www.facebook.com/westonvillageprimary)
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Dates for your diary (new dates in red):

Monday 16 December – Puffins and Kingfishers outdoor learning

Tuesday 17 December - Christmas crafts (EY and KS1)

Wednesday 18 December – **Whole school Christmas dinner day**; Choir to perform at Shavington Christmas concert (evening)

Friday 20 December - Weston's Got Talent; Break up for Christmas

Monday 6 January – School reopens

Tuesday 14 January – Sparrows class vision and hearing checks

Monday 20 January – Children's mental health week

Thursday 23 January – Blackbirds class assembly (arrive at 9.50 for a 10am start)

Wednesday 29 January – Academy Photography in to take some candids to update website and corridor photographs (smart and smiley!)

Thursday 30 January – Magpies class assembly (arrive at 9.50 for a 10am start)

Friday 31 January – Robins and Owls outdoor learning

Thursday 6 February – Academy Photography in for class photographs

Friday 7 February – Sparrows and Magpies outdoor learning

Friday 14 February – Eagles and Magpies outdoor learning; Break up for half term

Monday 24 February – School reopens; Year 6 on residential all week

Friday 28 February – Puffins and Owls outdoor learning

A message from Mr Cutts

As we approach the end of a long and action-packed term, I'd like to take a moment to reflect on the incredible work that has taken place at Weston over the past few months. From exciting school trips to memorable performances, and from outdoor learning adventures to significant progress in all areas of our curriculum, this term has been truly exceptional.

I must extend my heartfelt gratitude to our dedicated staff team for their unwavering commitment and hard work. Their energy and passion are what make these opportunities possible for our children and I am proud of everything we have achieved together.

This term's highlights included our fantastic Christmas Performances this week. Sparrows delighted us with a festive sing-along, many of them taking to the stage for the first time.

Robins and Puffins brought the house down with their production of *Lights, Camel, Action!* Their enthusiasm and hard work shone through in every moment.





I'd like to thank parents for your support, whether it was helping with costumes, attending events, or simply encouraging your child. Your involvement is what makes these moments so special.

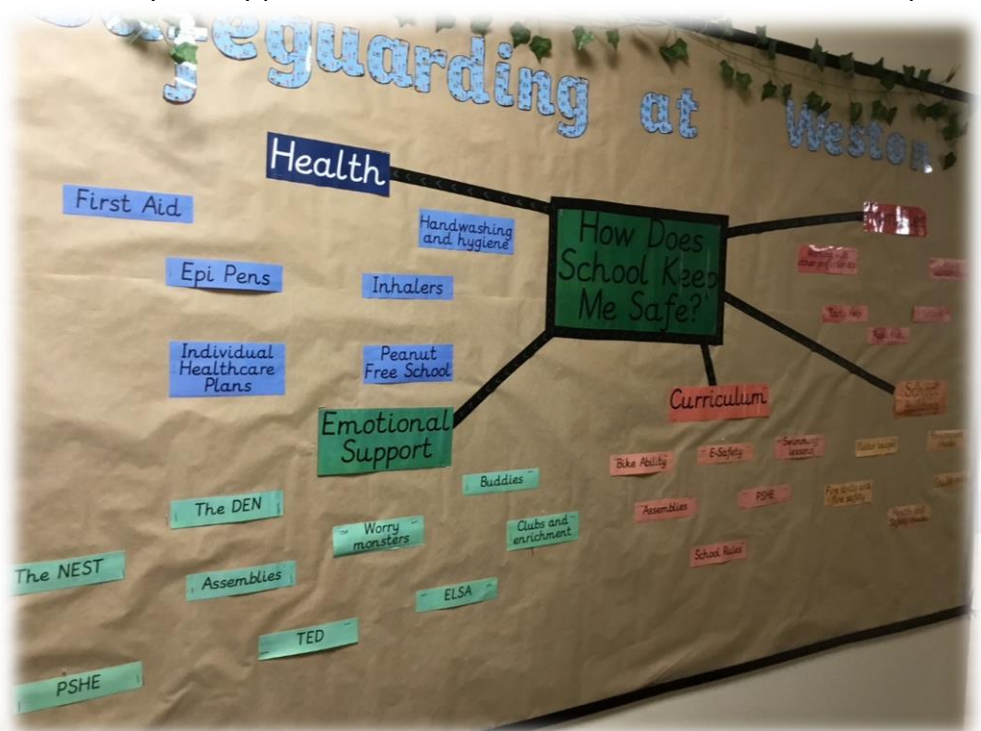
As we look forward to the festive season, I'd like to wish you all a joyful and peaceful holiday. We can't wait to welcome everyone back in the new year for another exciting term at Weston.

Safeguarding Review

Yesterday we welcomed the SCiES (Safeguarding Children in Educational Settings) team into school for a thorough review of our safeguarding culture and processes. As an outward-facing school, we are proud of our approach to safeguarding and invited the team in to recognise our strengths and help us identify any next steps for continued improvement.

The review included conversations with parents, children, staff, and governors, as well as detailed scrutiny of our safeguarding policies, records, and day-to-day practices. The SCiES team also observed various aspects of school life to ensure safeguarding is embedded in our culture.

While we await their full written report, the verbal feedback was overwhelmingly positive, reflecting the hard work and commitment of everyone in our school community. This review follows other self-initiated evaluations, including a Pupil Premium Review and a SEND Review, as part of our ongoing dedication to learning and improving.



Welcoming Miss Steventon to the Team

You may have spotted a new face at morning drop-off or around the school recently! We are delighted to welcome Miss Steventon as our newest Teaching Assistant.

Miss Steventon is already making a wonderful contribution, supporting children across the school and working primarily with Sparrows and Kingfishers classes. Her enthusiasm and dedication have been evident from day one and we're thrilled to have her join our team.

Please do give her a warm Weston welcome when you see her!



Festive and Cultural School Trips

This term, our children have enjoyed some wonderful festive and cultural trips, which have been a highlight for everyone!

KS2 had the fantastic opportunity to visit the New Vic Theatre to watch *The Three Musketeers*. This unique performance in



the round captivated the children and they thoroughly enjoyed the exciting storytelling and live theatre experience.

Meanwhile, EYFS and KS1 had an equally magical time at the Grange Theatre, where they watched *Peter Pan*. The enchanting production brought smiles and laughter as the children immersed themselves in the adventures of Neverland.

A big thank you to everyone involved in organising these special outings!

Outdoor Learning Adventures

Over the past few weeks, we have been thrilled to welcome Anthony Hadfield, a professional member of the Wilderness and Bushcraft Society, into our school to lead a series of outdoor learning sessions.

Each session has been carefully tailored to complement the children's classroom learning, with activities designed to inspire curiosity and deepen understanding. Highlights included:

- Year 1 investigating seasonal changes and animal behaviours.
- Year 2 studying minibeasts and biodiversity.
- KS2 exploring topics such as light in science and settlements in geography.

These hands-on sessions have enriched our curriculum and encouraged the children to connect with the natural world. We're so pleased with the impact of Anthony's work and look forward to more sessions in the new year!



Year 6 Attend Crucial Crewe Safety Event

Our Year 6 Eagles class had a fantastic and educational morning at the Crucial Crewe safety event held at Crewe Alexandra Stadium.



The children visited stands hosted by Network Rail, SP Energy Networks, Cheshire School Nurses, Change, Grow, Live, and Cheshire Police. Each station offered valuable insights into recognising and avoiding dangers, as well as strategies for staying safe.

This hands-on learning experience equipped the children with important life skills, and they thoroughly enjoyed engaging with experts and exploring real-world safety topics.

Introducing Our Family Liaison Officer

We are pleased to welcome Mrs Helen Potts, our new Family Liaison Officer (FLO), who recently joined our school. Helen is based on-site every Tuesday afternoon during term time and is here to work with the rest of the team to support the wellbeing and education of our children and their families.

Helen's role includes:

- Supporting attendance and punctuality.
- Signposting families to local organisations and services.
- Helping with forms and applications, such as housing and benefits.
- Offering additional guidance on special educational needs, behaviour, and emotional wellbeing in the home.



Helen's support is confidential, with safeguarding concerns managed in line with the school's Safeguarding Policy.

You can contact Helen via the school office on 01270 814848 or email her at h.potts@alsagerschool.org.

Friends of Weston Christmas Fair

Last Friday, the Friends of Weston hosted their Christmas Fair, bringing our school community together for a fantastic festive celebration.

The event began with KS2 children leading an afternoon of festive games, which they had designed and created themselves. These activities were enjoyed by children across the school, showcasing creativity and teamwork. The magical



grotto was another highlight, delighting visitors with its festive charm and a special visitor. The children loved the appearance of a cheeky grinch too!

Despite the challenging weather, the fair was incredibly well attended and the atmosphere was full of festive cheer. Families enjoyed hot drinks, delicious cakes, a bottle tombola, a Christmas trail and plenty of other fun activities.



This successful event follows on from the equally brilliant EYFS and KS1 Movie Night, which brought our younger children together for a cosy evening of entertainment.



A huge thank you to the Friends of Weston for their hard work and dedication, to all the volunteers and staff who helped make the event possible, and to everyone who attended. These events not only raise valuable funds for the school but also create lasting memories for our children and families.

Staff CPD Update

At Weston, we are committed to continuous professional development to ensure our staff are always learning and improving for the benefit of our children. This term, staff have undertaken a wide range of training opportunities, aligned with our School Improvement Plan.

Recent training has included topics such as computing, design and technology, effective use of AI, supporting disadvantaged pupils, and various aspects of SEND. Many staff have also completed specialised courses, including paediatric first aid and the Step Into Leadership programme run by our trust, TCT.

A particular highlight was a visit by some staff to Springfields School, a specialist setting, where colleagues spent a day gaining valuable insights to enhance provision for pupils with the highest needs at Weston.

On a personal note, I am delighted to share that I have successfully completed the National Professional Qualification for Executive Leadership (NPQEL). Meanwhile, Mrs Loveland and Mr Robinson continue to progress towards completing their own NPQs in SEND and Leading Teaching and Learning, respectively.

This commitment to professional development reflects our ethos of continuous improvement, ensuring that we provide the very best education and support for all our children.

*always
learning*

TCT Update

As part of our ongoing writing collaboration project, I recently spent a productive day at Alsager School alongside colleagues from across the trust. Over the past year, with input from our primary schools and building on Weston's English curriculum, the high school has implemented significant changes to its KS3 English provision. These adjustments are designed to better bridge the transition between primary and secondary education, ensuring positive outcomes for students.

During the visit, we observed Year 7 English lessons and reviewed pupils' books to see these changes in action. It was wonderful to see so many former Weston pupils thriving in their new environment.

The day also included a writing moderation session, where primary and secondary colleagues used the trust's internally developed writing standards framework, which has supported improved writing outcomes across all schools and was developed through a working group which included me, our English lead Mrs Whittaker and our Early Years lead Miss Watkins.

Looking ahead, we're excited to begin a KS2/KS3 maths project, aimed at strengthening progression and consistency in mathematics across the trust's primary and secondary schools, with Weston represented by our maths lead, Mrs Tyrrell.

This term also saw Pear Tree Primary School join the Cornovii Trust, and we are looking forward to welcoming Stapeley Broad Lane Primary School, who will formally join us in the new year. Collaboration with Stapeley is already underway, and we are excited about the opportunities this partnership will bring for staff and pupils alike.

These developments demonstrate the trust's commitment to working together to enhance education and outcomes for all our children.



Y4 and Y5 Complete Bikeability Training

This term, our Year 4 and Year 5 pupils have been honing their cycling skills through the **Bikeability** programme and they did a fantastic job! The children were highly commended by the instructors for their effort, focus, and progress.

Year 4 completed Level 1 Bikeability, which focuses on foundational cycling skills in a safe, off-road environment. They learned how to:

- Check and maintain their bikes.
- Start, stop, and pedal confidently.
- Navigate obstacles and develop awareness of their surroundings.

Year 5 took on the challenge of Level 2 Bikeability, which involved cycling on quiet roads. This level taught them:

- How to start and stop safely in real-world conditions.
- Road safety essentials, including understanding road markings and signals.
- How to share the road responsibly with other vehicles.

The children embraced the programme with enthusiasm and it's wonderful to see them building skills that will keep them safe and confident as they continue their cycling journeys. A big well done to everyone involved!

Reminder: Reception 2025 Admissions Deadline

A reminder to all parents that the deadline to apply for a **Reception 2025 place** is **15 January 2025**.

It's essential to submit your application by this date, as missing the deadline means there is no guarantee you will secure a place at your preferred school.

Please remember that an application is required even if you already have children attending Weston—siblings are not automatically allocated a place without an application.

For more information and to apply, please visit the Cheshire East admissions website. Don't delay—secure your child's place today!



Reverend Rachael Visits Kingfishers to Teach About Advent

This week, Reverend Rachael spent a wonderful afternoon with our Kingfishers class, sharing her knowledge about the significance of Advent.

The children learned about this special time of year and what it symbolises and they each had the chance to create their own Christingle. This hands-on activity brought the message of Advent to life, making it a meaningful and enjoyable experience for everyone involved.

A big thank you to Reverend Rachael for her time and for helping the children deepen their understanding of this Christian tradition.

Year 6 Safeguarding Ambassadors Attend Conference

Our Year 6 Safeguarding Ambassadors had an informative and inspiring morning at the Safeguarding Conference hosted by Audlem St James CofE Primary School.

The event provided the children with valuable insights and tools to strengthen their roles as safety ambassadors within our school community. Highlights included:

- **AI Awareness:** Learning about the impact of realistic AI images and videos and why critical thinking is essential.
- **Online Safety:** A session from Cheshire Police offered practical strategies for staying safe in the digital world.
- **Support from the NSPCC:** Advice on seeking help through Childline.
- **Interactive Activities:** Exploring the effects of cyberbullying and ways to address it.

The morning concluded with a creative summary poster activity, allowing the children to reflect on their learning and plan how to apply it in their roles.



We are incredibly proud of our ambassadors for their enthusiasm and engagement in this important event, which equips them to help keep our school community safe.



Children in Need Day: A Huge Success!

A massive thank you to everyone who made our Children in Need Day such a meaningful and exciting event! The school was buzzing with activity as children and staff came together to raise over £400 for this fantastic cause.

- **Cake Sale:** Thank you for all the delicious donations! Our student ambassadors did an excellent job running the stall.
- **Pudsey Run:** The children showed incredible energy and enthusiasm as they ran laps for charity.
- **Spotty Day:** From spotty clothes to pyjamas, everyone looked amazing and brought so much joy to the day.

Your generosity and support truly make a difference—thank you for helping us support such an important cause!

Phonics Stay and Learn

Our Robins and Puffins classes hosted Phonics Stay and Learn sessions and they were a great success!

It was fantastic to see so many parents join us to learn alongside their children. Parents observed phonics lessons in action and received valuable resources to continue supporting learning at home.

Thank you to everyone who attended and made these sessions so enjoyable and engaging. We hope you found them helpful in understanding how phonics is taught and how you can support your child's progress.



Attendance

Here is the most recent attendance. Please continue to support your child's good attendance by getting them into school on time every day and speaking to us if you have any concerns or require support. We will do the same.

Class	Since start of term
Sparrows	96.5%
Robins	96.4%
Puffins	94.2%
Kingfishers	96.5%
Blackbirds	96.2%
Magpies	96.4%
Owls	95%
Eagles	96.7%
Whole School	96%

Stars of the Week

Here are most of the most recent stars of the week. They embraced the Secrets of Success in a number of different ways and their teachers told the whole school how they had been successful, in Celebration Assembly.



Exciting Events in the Final Week of Term

As we approach the final week of term, we have some exciting events to look forward to:

- Choir Performance at Shavington Academy on Wednesday - the KS2 choir will spread festive cheer with their beautiful singing.
- Christmas Dinner Day on Thursday - a chance for children and staff to enjoy a festive meal together.
- Weston's Got Talent on Friday - KS2 children will take to the stage to showcase their talents in this much-loved end-of-term tradition.

We're looking forward to celebrating these special moments as we wrap up another fantastic term!

Have You Missed Anything?

Here are the most recent school communications:

- KS2 Homework Parent Letter
- Illness Exclusion Times in School
- Home-to-School Transport – Important Information for Wychwood Families
- Opening Hours During the School Christmas Closure
- Parent Survey
- Bikeability

Thank you for your continued support and cooperation. If you have any questions or need further information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Thomas Cutts