

# WESTON NEWS

2024-25 ISSUE 7: 7 March 2025

Website: weston.cheshire.sch.uk Facebook: westonvillageprimary X: @WestonVillagePS

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

Monday 10 March to Wednesday 12 March – Year 4 residential

Thursday 13 March – Y5/6 football competition

Monday 17 March – RSPCA assembly; STEM week (see letter for details)

Monday 24 and Thursday 27 March – Parent consultation meetings

Monday 31 March and Thursday 3 April – Parent consultation meetings

Tuesday 1 April – TCT Year 6 public speaking competition

Thursday 3 April – Kingfishers class assembly (arrive from 9.50am for a 10am start)

Friday 4 April – FoWs Easter event; Break up for Spring holiday

Tuesday 22 April – School reopens

Friday 25 April – Englesea Brook Community Peace Garden officially opens (Weston involvement tbc)

Thursday 1 May – Puffins class assembly (arrive from 9.50am for a 10am start)

Monday 5 May – Bank holiday (school closed)

Monday 12 May – KS2 SATS week

Tuesday 20 May – Puffins trip to Nantwich Museum

Thursday 22 May – Robins class assembly (arrive from 9.50am for a 10am start)

Friday 23 May - Break up for half term

Monday 2 June - School reopens

Thursday 19 June – World Music Day & New starters parents evening

Tuesday 24 June – New starters Gruffalo Games

#### A message from Mr Cutts

As we step into March, there's a real sense of new beginnings in the air. The longer days, brighter mornings and signs of spring growth remind us that we are well on our way to warmer days (though let's not get ahead of ourselves—it's still the UK, after all!).

Yesterday, we celebrated World Book Day and it was fantastic to see the children fully immersed in stories, creativity, and, of course, some brilliant costumes. I fully embraced my Viking spirit for *How to Train Your Dragon*, though disappointingly, no dragons turned up to school. Just a load of children in onesies explaining the historical inaccuracy of my horned helmet .

With STEM Week, residential trips and more exciting learning opportunities ahead, this term continues to be packed with new experiences and challenges. A huge thank you to our staff for their continued dedication and to you, our parents and carers, for your ongoing support.

Let's embrace this new season with the same enthusiasm, curiosity, and teamwork that makes Weston such a fantastic place to learn and grow!

#### Change of Dates – Parents' Evenings

Due to an unforeseen clash of events, our Parents' Evenings have been rescheduled and will now take place on:

Monday 31st March

Thursday 3rd April

Trom 3:30pm

Further details will be shared next week and appointments will go live via School Spider at that time. Thank you for your understanding—we look forward to seeing you then!

#### Boreatton Park: A Week of Adventure and Achievement

What a week it was for our Year 6 pupils at Boreatton Park! They returned home tired, happy, and full of unforgettable memories after an action-packed few days of adventure, teamwork and personal challenges.

From laser tag and archery to the high ropes, giant swing, and Jacob's ladder, the children pushed themselves out of their comfort zones and showed bravery, determination and resilience. They embraced problem-solving activities, took part in an energetic disco and even gathered around the campfire for a night of singing and storytelling.

Throughout the trip, the children represented Weston brilliantly, with impeccable manners, kindness, and encouragement for one another. Staff at PGL repeatedly commented on how polite, courteous and supportive they were. It was wonderful to see them cheering each other on, overcoming fears and celebrating successes together.

A huge thank you to the staff team who gave up time with their own families to make this trip possible – their energy, enthusiasm and dedication ensured the children had the most incredible experience.

We hope the dirty washing is finally done and that the children are now well-rested! We are so proud of every single one of them and know they will be sharing plenty of stories about their adventures for weeks to come.



#### A Fantastic World Book Day

Yesterday, we celebrated World Book Day in true Weston style, with a funfilled day of reading, creativity and storytelling!

The day began with a whole-school assembly, setting the tone for a day dedicated to the joy of books. Children then took part in paired reading sessions, where older pupils shared stories with younger ones, creating a wonderful atmosphere of collaboration and a shared love of reading.



The Great Book Swap was a fantastic

success, with children excited to choose a new book to take home. Thank you to everyone who donated a pre-loved book—this small act helped to pass on the love of reading to others!

One of the highlights of the day was seeing the amazing costumes worn by pupils and staff. From classic literary characters to modern favourites, the effort and creativity that went into the outfits were fantastic! Children also had the option to wear pyjamas and loungewear, celebrating the magic of a bedtime story. The fashion parade at breaktime gave everyone a chance to show off their brilliant outfits.

The celebrations didn't stop there! Thanks to Friends of Weston, our children had the chance to take part in the exciting Weston's Wonka event! Pre-ordered Wonka bars were delivered to school, and inside 14 lucky bars were hidden golden tickets, unlocking some amazing prizes! It was a wonderful way to add a bit of magic to an already special day.



Here's to another year of exciting reading adventures!

The day continued with poetry activities, inspiring children to explore language and creativity in new ways. Throughout the day, the outdoor reading area, set up by our Eagles Ambassadors, was a lovely spot for pupils to relax and enjoy a book in the fresh air.

A huge thank you to Mrs Whittaker for organising the day, to staff for making it such a success and to Friends of Weston for their support with both the pre-loved costume sale and the fantastic Weston's Wonka event. Most importantly, well done to all of our wonderful readers for embracing the day with such enthusiasm.



#### Parent Survey 2024: Your Feedback & Next Steps

A huge thank you to all the parents who took the time to complete our recent parent survey. Your feedback is incredibly valuable in helping us celebrate our successes and continue improving the experience for all our children and families.

We are delighted with the overwhelmingly positive response, with

96% of parents agreeing that Weston is a good school and 100% agreeing that it is well-led and managed. Many key areas, including behaviour, expectations and wider personal development, have seen big improvements compared to last year's survey results.

Parents also praised our broad and engaging curriculum, the range of clubs and activities available and our commitment to supporting children's emotional and physical well-being. We are particularly pleased to see that 98% of parents feel their child is safe at school and that 100% believe we maintain high expectations for our pupils.

While the feedback was overwhelmingly positive, we also acknowledge the areas where we can refine our approach. Some parents shared thoughts on communication, homework and the variety of extracurricular opportunities. We are carefully considering all the responses and will share a follow-up outlining any next steps we plan to take.

Your partnership and support are key to making Weston the best it can be and we truly appreciate the time you took to share your views. Thank you!

## A Fantastic Outdoor Learning Experience with Mr Hadfield

Over the past few weeks, our children have had the amazing opportunity to take part in high-quality outdoor learning sessions with Mr Hadfield, exploring nature, teamwork and problem-solving in our beautiful school grounds.

From building habitats for small animals to creating natural artwork, the children have been fully immersed in hands-on learning experiences that have deepened their understanding of the environment. One highlight has been their work with fire-building, where they safely learned how to create and manage a small fire before toasting marshmallows—a favourite moment for many!

The sessions have also included tool use, creative projects and outdoor survival skills, helping to build confidence, teamwork and a real appreciation for learning outside the classroom. Some parents have also had the chance to join in for our final Forest School

morning, experiencing firsthand the benefits of outdoor education.

A huge thank you to Mr Hadfield for sharing his expertise and enthusiasm with us. Both children and staff have learned so much, and we hope to welcome him back soon to continue this fantastic work.

In the meantime, we look forward to using the skills and ideas from these sessions to maximise our outdoor learning opportunities throughout the rest of the year!



#### Staff Update: Farewell & A New Arrival

Last week, we said goodbye to Miss Steventon, who, although only with us for a short time, made a fantastic impact and was a valued member of our team. We will really miss her, but we are delighted that she has been head-hunted for an exciting new opportunity outside of education—we wish her every success in her new role!

Following a round of interviews, we are pleased to share that we have successfully recruited a new teaching assistant, who is currently working at another school. We look forward to welcoming him to Weston after Easter and we're confident he will be a great addition to our wonderful team.

Thank you, as always, for your support as we ensure the very best staff for our children.

#### Weston Stars Shine in 'Made in Dagenham' at Crewe Lyceum

We are incredibly proud of Miss Griffiths, who is currently taking centre stage as Rita O'Grady in *Made in Dagenham* at the Crewe Lyceum Theatre. The production, running from March 5th to 8th, has received rave reviews and standing ovations, with Miss Griffiths' performance being widely praised.

Even more special is that she's not the only familiar face on stage—Miles (Year 3), Amaya (Year 6), and their mum, Rebecca (a Weston school governor!) are also part of the cast! It's wonderful to see members of our Weston community sharing this incredible experience together and showcasing their talents in such a fantastic production.

The musical tells the inspiring true story of the 1968 Ford sewing machinists' strike, where female factory workers fought for equal pay, challenging workplace inequality and making history. The cast, including our very own stars, have brought passion, energy and authenticity to this powerful and uplifting show.

We are so proud of Miss Griffiths, Miles, Amaya, and Rebecca for their incredible achievement. We know



many from the
Weston
community have
already been to
support them. If
you'd like to see
them in action,
tickets are still
available for the
remaining shows
via the Crewe
Lyceum
website—don't
miss out!



#### Mystery Reader Initiative Brings Stories to Life!

Our Sparrows, Robins, and Puffins classes have launched their exciting new Mystery Reader initiative and it's already proving to be a huge hit!

Each week, a mystery guest—a parent, grandparent, or family member—surprises the class by coming in to read a story. The children eagerly try to guess who the reader might be before settling down to enjoy a wonderful book together.

So far, we've had Mia's mum, Alice's mum, William's mum and even "Gangsta Granny" (Amelia's mum in costume!) entertaining the children with their storytelling. It has been fantastic to see the children so engaged and we are thrilled that so many parents are keen to take part.

If you'd like to become a Mystery Reader, please message your child's class teacher via ClassDojo to book a slot. You can bring

your own favourite book or choose one from the classroom collection.

A huge thank you to everyone who has already taken part—we can't wait to welcome more surprise storytellers in the coming weeks!

#### Update on Mrs Buckley's Absence

Mrs Buckley is currently absent from school due to a back injury. She is keen to return but is following doctor's orders to ensure a full and speedy recovery. We all wish her well and hope to see her back soon.

In the meantime, Mr Smith, an experienced guest teacher, is covering the class on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, while Mrs Armitt continues to teach on Thursday and Friday.

For any ClassDojo messages:

Monday-Wednesday – Please direct queries to Mrs Evans or Miss Cornes, who are both based in the class.

Administrative queries (e.g., bus travel or medication) – Please contact Mrs Blackburn.

Thank you for your support and understanding. We look forward to welcoming Mrs Buckley back as soon as she is ready!

### Year 4 Set for Their Exciting Tattenhall Residential!

Next week, our Year 4 pupils will be heading off on their Tattenhall residential from Monday 10th to Wednesday 12th March, for three days of adventure, teamwork, and outdoor learning.

During their stay at The Conway Centre, Tattenhall, the children will take part in a range of exciting activities, including:

- High ropes, low ropes, and zip wire
- Bushcraft and survival skills



- Pond dipping and nature exploration
- Team-building and problem-solving challenges

Evenings will be spent winding down with games, campfires, and plenty of fun with friends!

The trip is a fantastic opportunity for the children to develop independence, build confidence and create amazing memories. Parents can stay updated with photos and messages via Class Dojo throughout the trip.

A huge thank you to the staff giving up their time to make this experience possible. We know the children will represent Weston brilliantly and we can't wait to hear all about their adventures when they return!

#### Reminder: STEM Week Begins a week on Monday!

A quick reminder that STEM Week kicks off on Monday 17th March, with an exciting line-up of activities based on the theme 'Change and Adapt'.

Some of the highlights include:

Mad Science Assembly (Wednesday) – A fun, interactive session exploring materials and how they change.

Solution 3D Science Models (Thursday) – Children are encouraged to create a 3D model at home and bring it in for our Science Fair!

Dress-Up Day (Friday) – Children can wear the colour of their class planet as part of our space-themed celebration.

It's going to be a brilliant week of hands-on learning and we can't wait to see what the children create! Keep an eye on ClassDojo for updates.

#### 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.



### **Have You Missed Anything?**

Here are the most recent, still-relevant, school communications:

- School photographs
- Leavers hoodies order deadline
- Year 4 Come Dine With Us
- Year 4 Tattenhall residential
- Pancake Day menu

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