



WESTON NEWS

2025-26 ISSUE 1: 28 AUGUST 2025

Website: weston.cheshire.sch.uk

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

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Dates for your diary (new dates in red):

September

- Tue 2 – Teddy Bear's Picnic (new starters)
- Wed 3 – First day of school for all children
- Thu 11 – Individual & sibling photographs
- W/b Mon 15 – Meet the Teacher (info to follow)
- Tue 16 & Tue 23 – Y3 Managing Emotions workshops

October

- Thu 2 – Harvest Assembly (tins, jars, packets requested)
- Tue 7 – Y6 Crucial Crewe event
- Thu 9 – Scholastic Book Fair (1 week)
- Mon 13 & Thu 16 – Parent & Carer Consultation Evenings
- Thu 23 – Eagles Class Assembly (10am; arrive 9:50am)
- Fri 24 – Break up for half term

November

- Mon 3 – INSET Day (school closed)
- Tue 4 – School reopens; Y4 Residential Parent Meeting
- Fri 14 – Children in Need
- Tue 18 – Y4 Bikeability
- Thu 20 – Whole School Flu Nasal Spray
- Thu 27 – Owls Class Assembly (10am; arrive 9:50am)

December

- Tue 2 – KS2 to New Vic Theatre (pm)
- Mon 8 – Sparrows Nativity (pm & evening)
- Tue 9 & Wed 10 – Y5 Bikeability
- Thu 11 – Robins & Puffins Performance (pm & evening); Christmas Jumper Day
- Mon 15 – EY & KS1 Theatre Trip
- Wed 17 – Choir at Shavington Christmas Concert (evening)
- Thu 18 – Magpies Class Assembly (10am; arrive 9:50am)
- Fri 19 – Weston's Got Talent; break up for Christmas

A message from Mr Cutts

I hope you've all had a chance to recharge over the summer - whether it was dodging the showers at home, enjoying some of the recent sunshine, or heading further afield. September always has that 'new pencil case' feeling: fresh starts, new routines and plenty of excitement for the year ahead. I'd like to give a very warm welcome back to our Weston families and an especially big welcome to those joining us for the first time. Our staff team are ready and looking forward to working with you and your children as we begin another year full of opportunity, learning and success. Here are some important updates and reminders ahead of the new term.

Timings and Arrangements

- The school day runs **8:45am–3:15pm** (doors open from 8:30am). Please ensure children are in class by 8:45am to avoid a late mark.
- The Hive is available from 7:30am for early drop-off.

• Pupils must be collected from their external classroom doors at 3:15pm. After-school club collections are from the main school door and parents may drive onto the car park for this.

• For safeguarding, children must be collected by a known adult, unless in Year 6 with written permission to walk directly home. Year 6 parents will receive a separate form about this.

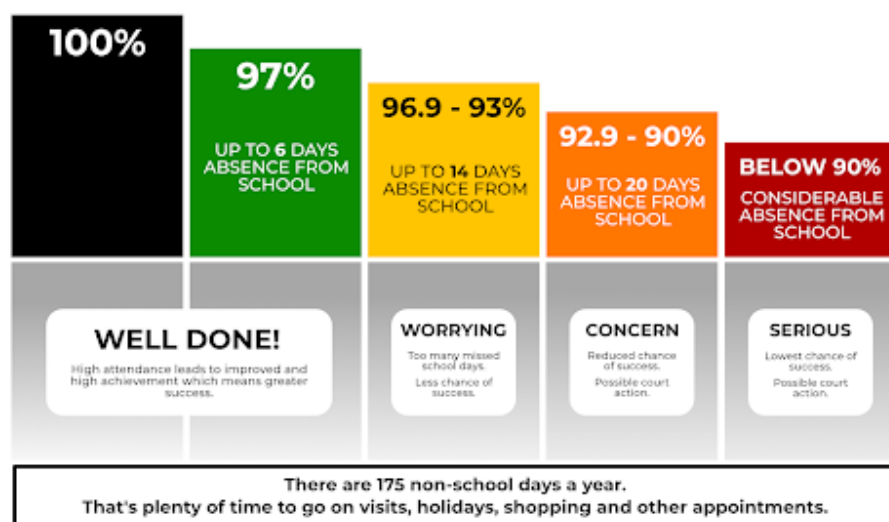
• We are grateful to The White Lion for allowing use of their car park. Parents may also use the



school turning circle (drop-off only) in the mornings; staff are on hand to support safe drop-off, including opening car doors where needed.

- Please park safely and legally, avoiding zig-zag lines, dropped kerbs and driveways.
- The school bus continues to serve Wychwood Park and Wychwood Village for all children with bus passes. Any changes to hometime arrangements must be communicated to school in good time.

WHAT IS YOUR ATTENDANCE?



Attendance and Punctuality

At Weston our school target is **97% attendance**. Being in school every day really does make a difference to children's learning, friendships, and wellbeing. We encourage pupils to attend whenever they can, even if they are feeling a little "under the weather," as keeping to routine helps build resilience. At the same time, we know that some children have medical needs which may affect attendance, and we always take this into account when monitoring and offering support.

Please try to arrange medical or dental appointments outside the school day where possible. If this can't be avoided, we ask that children come into school before and/or after their appointment so that they don't miss a whole day.

Punctuality matters too: doors open at 8:30am and lessons begin at 8:45am. Arriving on time means children are settled, calm and ready for the important start of the day. We'll continue to monitor attendance and punctuality carefully and, where needed, work alongside families to offer support. **Every day and every minute counts.**

Term-Time Absence and Holiday Requests

By law, parents must make sure their children attend school regularly. Holidays in term time can only be authorised in **exceptional circumstances** and requests must be made in writing using a form (available on the website or from the school office).

National regulations mean that **10 unauthorised sessions (five school days) within a 10-week period** can result in a Penalty Notice from Cheshire East. The fine is **£80 per parent, per child** if paid within 21 days, rising to **£160** if paid within 28 days. A second fine for the same child within three years is automatically at the higher rate. Further offences may lead directly to prosecution, with fines of up to £2,500.

We also ask for openness in absence reporting. Sometimes children have been asked to say they were unwell when they were actually on holiday, which places them, families and staff in an uncomfortable position. Please help us by being honest about absences.

We strongly encourage all families to plan holidays during official school breaks to avoid disruption to learning and the risk of fines.



Uniform

We expect all pupils to follow our school uniform policy (details are on the website). A few reminders: children may wear watches and small stud earrings, but these must be removed for PE. Nail polish and extreme hairstyles (including unnatural colours or shaved patterns) aren't allowed. Please make sure all items are named — it really helps us reunite lost property quickly.



After-School Sports Clubs

To make sure every child has access, the school will once again cover the full cost of after-school sports clubs. We want all children to have the chance to take part, so please only book clubs that your child is committed to attending. Further details about the programme of clubs, including staff-led activities, will follow soon.

Cashless School

Weston is a cashless school. All payments are made online: **ParentPay** handles lunches, trips, and activities, while **School Spider** is used for The Hive. This makes payments easier, more secure, and transparent for families and school alike.



Class Dojo

Class Dojo remains our main platform for communication between teachers and parents. It's a great way to stay up to date with your child's progress and class activities. Staff will share an update before term starts, including PE days.

Staff do check messages regularly, but please allow up to two working days for a reply. We kindly ask that you don't expect responses outside school hours. For anything urgent, please telephone the office. Absences should always be reported to the school office, either by phone or via School Spider.

No Dogs on School Grounds

For the safety and comfort of all children, dogs are not allowed on school grounds, whether on a lead or carried. Thank you for helping us keep the site safe for everyone.



Nut-Free School

Weston is a nut-free school to protect children with severe allergies. Please take extra care when packing lunches — common items such as Kinder Bueno and other hazelnut-based chocolates are not permitted. Staff regularly check and remove items that may pose a risk.

Medication

Any medication must be handed into the office with the appropriate form completed. Parents are responsible for ensuring inhalers and epipens are in date.

Volunteering Opportunities

We're always grateful for parent support. If you'd like to volunteer in school or get involved with the **Friends of Weston**, please let the office know. It's a wonderful way to contribute to school life.

Reception 2026 / Year 7 2026 Applications



The application window opens on **1 September** for Reception 2026 and Year 7 2026 places. If you already have a child in a school, you still need to apply - places are not automatic. We also recommend listing more than one preference, in case your first choice cannot be offered.

Deadlines:

- Year 7 applications: **31 October 2025**
- Reception applications: **15 January 2026**

There's no advantage in applying early, but applications must be made within the window. Families living outside Cheshire East must apply through their own local authority, even if applying for a Cheshire East school. Please ask if you need any support with the process.

Mobile Phones



Children should not bring mobile phones to school. In very rare circumstances (e.g. moving between parents' houses) this can be agreed with the class teacher. Phones must be handed in switched off at the start of the day and will be kept securely during the day. They must not be taken out of bags on the school bus. Mobile phones must not be used by adults, including parents and visitors, in pupil areas such as classrooms and corridors.

Bringing Items into School

For safety and behaviour reasons, children should not bring items into school unless they are needed for learning, have been requested by the teacher, or agreed in advance via Class Dojo. Watches and small stud

earrings are the only jewellery permitted. The only exception is medals or trophies brought in to share in Friday's Celebration Assembly.

As outlined in our behaviour policy, school staff may search a child's bag if we suspect prohibited items are being brought in.

Safeguarding at Weston

Keeping children safe is our top priority. If you ever have a concern about a child's safety or wellbeing, please speak to one of our **Designated Safeguarding Team**:

- **Mr Cutts** (Headteacher)
- **Mrs Loveland** (Assistant Headteacher)
- **Miss Grindley** (The Hive Supervisor)

You can also contact the school office if you're unsure who to approach.

Meet the Teacher

During the week beginning 15 September, parents and carers are invited to our **Meet the Teacher** sessions. These are a great chance to hear about class routines, expectations, and the exciting learning ahead — and to ask any questions you may have. Look out for more details coming soon.

Friends of Weston

Our wonderful **Friends of Weston (FOWs)** play a huge role in bringing the school community together and fundraising for those extra touches that make school life special. If you'd like to get involved, whether that's helping at events, joining meetings, or just lending a hand occasionally, please contact the school office or FOWs directly on fowillageprimaryschool@gmail.com

Celebrating Last Year

Before we look forward, a quick glance back: last year saw **fantastic outcomes across the school**, with SATs results, phonics scores and EYFS achievements all well above national averages. Beyond the data, we were so proud of the way children shone in sports, music, trips, and performances. These successes give us a brilliant platform for the year ahead.

Spotlight on Our Priorities

We're proud that Weston achieves consistently strong results, but we always look for ways to improve. Each year we set clear priorities, based on research and careful self-evaluation, to make a real difference for your children. Here are just a few examples of what that means for your children this year:



Spelling that Sticks – We're making spelling more engaging and effective, so children's writing flows more easily and they can show off their ideas with confidence.

OPAL Play – Lunchtimes are about to get a whole lot more exciting! With creative zones, loose parts and new activities, every child will find play they can enjoy and come back to class happier and more focused.

Inclusive Learning – Lessons will be further shaped so every child can access and succeed in the full curriculum, with the right support at the right time, informed by our involvement in the national PINS project. This means children who sometimes find learning harder will be able to access the curriculum even more successfully and those ready to stretch further will have the space to fly.

Smarter Assessment – Behind the scenes, we're refining the way we track progress. Teachers will spend less time on admin and more time teaching, while children get the right support earlier.

These are just some of the ways we're putting our strategic priorities into action this year. We'll keep you updated as the year unfolds so you can see the difference they're making for your children.



Secrets of Success

Our school ethos continues to be underpinned by the **Secrets of Success** — eight qualities that we believe help children thrive both in school and beyond:

Try new things, Work hard, Concentrate, Push yourself, Imagine, Improve, Understand others, Don't give up.

We celebrate and reward these qualities every day to help children grow into confident, resilient learners.

Outdoor Learning

Outdoor learning will continue for all classes this year, with even more sessions led by Mr Hadfield after the success we saw last year. Children gained so much — from teamwork and problem-solving to resilience and confidence — and we can't wait to build on that again.

Class Dojo will be used to share session dates and clothing reminders as the year goes on. Expect muddy boots, big smiles, and plenty of stories about what they've been up to!

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. Together we make Weston a place where children feel safe, happy, and challenged to be their very best. We are looking forward to another year of learning, growth, and success for every child, supported by our strong home/school partnership. If you have any questions, or if we can support your family in any way, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Thomas Cutts