



WESTON NEWS

2021-22 ISSUE 11: 18 February 2022

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Dates for your diary (new dates in red):

Monday 7 February – Year 6 Boreatton Park residential trip all week

Monday 28 February – School reopens for staff and pupils

Thursday 3 March – World Book Day (dress up)

Monday 7 & Tuesday 8 March – Safer Internet assemblies

Thursday 10 March – Y3/4 netball tournament

Monday 14 March – Science week all week (activities planned)

Monday 14 and Thursday 17 – Parent consultation meetings

Friday 18 March – Comic Relief (details to follow)

Friday 18 March – Planetarium in school for every class

Monday 21 March – World Down Syndrome Day

Thursday 24 March – Blue and Aqua class performances (afternoon and evening)

Friday 25 March – Junior Safeguarding Conference

Monday 28 March – Try New Things week

Wednesday 30 March – Y5 trip to Xplore, Wrexham

Thursday 31 March – FoW Easter egg hunt

Friday 1 April – Break up for Spring break

Wednesday 20 April – Back to school

Monday 2 May – Bank holiday

Thursday 5 May – Purple class assembly

Monday 9 May – Year 6 SATS week

Thursday 26 May – Queen's platinum jubilee party (details tbc)

Thursday 26 May – Gold class Assembly (subject to change)

Friday 27 May – Break up for half term

Monday 6 June – Back to school

Wednesday 25 June – New Reception starters parents' meeting

Thursday 26 June – Year 5 to Alsager School activity day

Thursday 26 June – Turquoise class assembly

Monday 20 June – Diversity week

Tuesday 21 June – Green and Orange class performances (afternoon and evening)

A message from Mr Cutts

The dates for your diary column dominates this page and gives you a picture of the wide range of activities taking place at Weston over the coming weeks. There is a great deal for the children to look forward to.

As I write, we have had 0 Covid cases for a number of consecutive days and while we aren't complacent, it is very welcome to be able to fully focus on school improvement and the learning and enrichment of the children, without the constant disruption and challenges of pupil and staff absence.

Ahead of the return to school on 28 February, please can all children take a lateral flow test in order to give us the best possible chance of hitting the ground running without significant disruption.

We await guidance for schools regarding any changes to self-isolation and as soon as we have it, I will communicate it to parents and carers.

Thank you for all of your support and positive feedback over the last few weeks. As is the case for families, the challenges for all staff caused by Covid have been particularly extreme this term and I am proud of the way the Weston team have worked through it, supported each other and maintained the best possible experience for the children.

I wish you all a wonderful week with your family, whatever you are doing and look forward to seeing you and

welcoming the children back to school on Monday 28 February.



Year 6 Boreatton Park Trip

The Year 6s enjoyed a very successful residential trip to Boreatton Park in Shropshire last week. I am grateful to the staff who gave up their week to make it such an enjoyable experience for the children.

Mental Health Week

We have enjoyed a very successful Mental Health Week this week. Following dedicated assemblies at the start of the week, the children have all engaged in activities designed to promote emotional wellbeing and positive mental health. This included outdoor learning in our Forest School and completing mindfulness activities, making sensory bottles and wind chimes and highlighting the positive impact of the outdoors on mental health. The week culminated in today's Dress To Express day in which children have dressed in clothes to express their personalities, passions, feelings, individuality.

We sold bracelets, made by Mrs Gjerstad, that are colourful and tie in with the express yourself theme. With the money we raise from selling the bracelets, we intend to invest in Wellbeing Warriors training for some children.

The Wellbeing and Safeguarding Ambassadors wanted to make Worry Worms which led to Luka's grandma and her friend crocheting dozens of them. The Ambassadors wrote labels for each worm, naming them and providing information and then hid them around the school for every child to find and keep. Thank you ever so much to Luka's grandma and her friend – the children

really cherish their Worry Worms!

Sports Hall

A group of Key Stage Two children took part in a Sports Hall athletics event earlier this week. The children tried their best and enjoyed themselves as Weston finished fourth.



FoW Movie Night

The first after school Friends of Weston event since pre-Covid took place last night at school. The children loved coming back in their pjs and onesies, with cushions and soft toys, to enjoy Encanto with their friends and eat one or two(!) sweets. The event was a great success. Thank you to all of the Friends of Weston volunteers for putting on such a well-organised event and to school staff for volunteering their evening to support it.



STEM Week

As you will see from the diary dates, after half term we have planned a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) week and lots of visitors from various STEM fields are coming into school to talk to and work with the children. Our STEM department, including Mrs Loveland and Miss Watkins, have planned a range of activities for the children, who will also enjoy a visiting planetarium. Since the children will be experiencing so many new things, we have rolled the week into Try New Things week. The week includes a 'dress like a scientist' day. The purpose of the week is to break down stereotypes, including gender stereotypes, about STEM careers. 'Dress like a scientist' could incorporate anything that represents STEM-related work, from construction to hairdressing to forensic detective – it is a wide and varied field.



Year 6 Ambassadors Update

As well as their work on Worry Worms, all ambassadors have supported children in younger classes this week as they engaged in a wide range of experiences, including sport and fitness, forest school and other learning activities.

Parent/Carer Consultation Meetings

Look out for information regarding booking an appointment for parent consultation meetings after half term. The meetings will take place remotely across 6 hours on two evenings – 14 and 17 March. Booking will again be via an online system which will look different from the previously used ParentMail system. It is still very straightforward but look out for a letter detailing how to do it, after half term.

Wind In The Willows

The Year 5 children have been working hard at their Wind In The Willows choral performance ahead of putting on a show for parents after half term. We're sure you've already heard them singing some of the songs - they are very catchy. Please encourage them to practise over the holiday. We can't wait to invite parents in to watch the performances at the end of March!

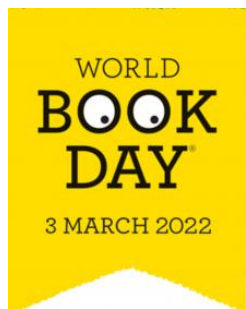


Diversity Update

Children across the school have been closely studying a range of texts that represent different cultures and challenge the 'single-story' stereotypes that can pervade. Several class also observed Chinese New Year, with children in Turquoise class enjoying a Chinese banquet, courtesy of Sophie's family.

Drop-Off and Pick-Up

A quick comment on your response to my letter yesterday regarding drop-off and pick-up – thank you very much for acting in the way that you have. I appreciate your support. Remember those arrival times are no earlier than 8.30am in the morning (and no later than 8.55am) and no earlier than 2.55pm (EY and KS1) and 3.10pm (KS2). Thanks again.



World Book Day

I'm sure you will all have seen Mrs Bate's letter regarding World Book Day. The children will all bring home their book tokens today, which are valid until the end of March. We look forward to seeing them with a book and in book costumes, pjs, onesies or lounge wear as part of our Bedtime Stories theme.

Stars of the Week

Once more, there has been an abundance of Secrets of Success on display around school this week. We are very proud of the children's efforts. Here are most of the Stars of the Week from the last 2 weeks.





ParentPay - Have You Missed Anything?

Here are the ParentPay communications since the last newsletter:

7 February – 15 February – Various COVID Updates

7 February – Gold and Turquoise Visit to Church

8 February – Valentines' Menu

10 February – Friends of Weston Movie Night



10 February – British Science Week and Mobile Planetarium

14 February – The Hive Half Term Holiday Club

16 February – School Photograph Day

17 February – Pancake Day Menu; Important Information Regarding Drop-off and Pick-Up; Storm Eustice; World Book Day; Spring 2 Sport After School Clubs

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

Thomas Cutts