

WESTON NEWS

2020-21 ISSUE 5: 27th November 2020

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

Dates for your diary (new dates in red):

3rd December – Christmas Dinner day

3rd December – Red class Forest School afternoon

10th and 11th December – Year 5 Bikeability

10th December – Turquoise and Gold Christmas crafts

17th December – Red and Purple Christmas crafts

18th December – Break up for Christmas holiday

4th January – School reopens for Spring term

5th January – Reception vision and hearing checks (school nurse team)

28th January – Orange class assembly (almost certainly recorded and shared remotely)

A message from Mr Cutts

Following a wonderful and almost normal start to the school year, we have now had our first experience of Covid-19 coming into our school. I have written to parents at length about the situation and provided a lot of detail about the nature of the spread and the actions that we took to identify individuals who should isolate and to ensure that the school remained open. Thank you for all of your feedback and messages of support. I understand that for many children and families, it will have been a stressful experience so it has been wonderful to start welcoming back some of our isolating staff and children this week. The remaining classes and individuals will return next week and we are all very much looking forward to having a full house once more.

I must make a point of sincerely thanking the whole staff team. Some staff have been working tirelessly from home, while those of us still in the building have been sharing the load to ensure that the children's education and welfare hasn't suffered. I for one have very much enjoyed being a midday assistant and spending some time with the children (and playing a bit of football!), which has been somewhat limited this year due to the necessary restrictions. The whole staff team here can't do enough to help each other and do their very best for the children – it really is a special place to work.

As you know, some staff have contracted the virus. As you will be aware, the virus can really take its toll. The road to recovery is not necessarily a quick one and some staff won't be returning with the children, but please be comforted by the knowledge that all affected staff are on the mend. Please do reassure your children if they express any concerns. I will continue to update you regarding the situation, if there is anything new to report. We are aware that some people who are isolating and some household members of those required to isolate have tested positive in the last 2 days. This is of course why individuals are required to isolate: to limit the spread to others. Please do continue to remain vigilant around symptoms and please do let me know if you need anything beyond just the remote support for your child. Isolation for some can present real logistical and wellbeing challenges. We are here for you if you need anything.

New Staff

We have recently appointed two new midday assistants to join our wonderful midday team. I know that they will make great additions to the Weston family and that the children will benefit from their warm and caring approach. I'll introduce them properly when they formally start in the coming weeks.

Parent Governor Vacancies

We have had some interest in the recently advertised parent governor roles and I know that the roles will be filled by parents who are enthusiastic and committed to the school and to our children. The last day for submitting a nomination paper and supporting statement is next Friday, 4th December. I will let parents know in due course about the result of the process. In the meantime, if you are interested and would like to know more or want to talk through some of the information that has already been shared, please do contact me here at school and I would be happy to talk to you on the phone.





Christmas

We are very happy for the children to bring Christmas cards into school from next Tuesday, 1st December to Thursday 10th December. They will be collected by class teachers and go through quarantine before being distributed. The school will be suitably decorated and children will enjoy lots of festive activities. Look out for a specially recorded performance by the Reception and Key Stage One children and some some recorded festive songs from our older children. Times may be strange and Christmas may be different for you this year, but Christmas performances should hopefully give you and the children some normality and get you in the festive mood!

Children In Need

Although it seems like a lifetime ago, we had a lot of fun on Children In Need appeal day. It's always a memorable day when you get to wear 'own clothes' to school. Thank you very much for sending in your donations. We raised well over £200 for this worthy cause!



Weston's Got Talent

It is a longstanding tradition at Weston that the Key Stage Two children are invited to perform on stage in front of the rest of the school on the last day of term before Christmas. For years we have enjoyed singing, dancing, playing of instruments, gymnastics, Taekwondo demonstrations, comedy routines and much much more. Together, we have laughed, cried and above all been thoroughly impressed by the desire of our children to push themselves, imagine and not give up. Just because we can't get together, doesn't mean we

can't celebrate these talents and the embodiment of the Secrets of Success. As such, we invite any interested key stage two (Years 3-6) children to practise over the coming weeks ahead of recording their performance.



We will put together a video to share with everyone (so permission to be shared in this way is necessary for all performers). While we can record some group performances in school, by using video, children have the option of being recorded at home, which may suit some talents (playing the drums for example!) and may help their confidence. More information will follow.



Stars of the Week

It has been a strange time for the children but, even though many have been learning at home over the last few days, we have still been able to identify the strong presence of our Secrets of Success. Routine and motivation is often harder when you're not with your friends or teachers

but we are grateful to parents who have helped their child to stick to a routine and to engage with their home learning. Sometimes this can be a challenge for parents - juggling education with working from home and many other factors. That's before we get to the curriculum – Year 6 fractions anyone?! Teachers who are providing remote learning are available to support your child throughout the school day.

We are very proud of the children and we have had some super stars of the week over the last 2 weeks. We will share their pictures soon once everyone is back in the building.

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

Thomas Cutts