



WESTON NEWS

2025-26 ISSUE 7: 6 February 2026

Website: weston.cheshire.sch.uk

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

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Dates for your diary (new dates in red):

February

- Mon 9 – Children's mental health week
- Tue 10 – Safer Internet Day and Robins trip to Sudbury Toy Museum
- Thur 12 – FOWs Silent disco after school
- Fri 13 – **Kingfishers & Owls outdoor learning** & School closes for half term
- Mon 23 – School reopens & Year 6 Boreatton residential (all week)
- **Tue 24 – Parent Carer Forum coffee morning – referral pathways**

March

- Thur 5 – World Book Day (dress up)
- **Mon 16 – Weston Science Week (all week)**
- Tue 17 - Parent Carer Forum coffee morning
- Mon 23 & Thur 26 – Parent/Carer consultation evenings
- Tue 24 – TCT Year 6 public speaking competition
- Thur 26 – Kingfishers class assembly
- Fri 27 – School closes for Spring holiday

April

- **Mon 13 – School reopens**
- **Wed 15 – World Art Day**
- **Fri 17 – Year 5 weekly swimming begins**
- **Thur 30 – Puffins class assembly**

May

- **Tue 5 – Crewe Fire & Rescue working with Year 5**
- **Wed 6 – Kingfishers trip to Stockport Air Raid Shelters**

A message from Mr Cutts

Over the past few weeks I've been talking with parents, staff and governors about something that sits right at the heart of every child's success – **being in school, on time, as often as possible.**

We know that children don't just come to school to learn maths and English. They come to see their friends, to feel part of a community, to build confidence, resilience and independence. Regular attendance supports children's mental health, social development and sense of belonging, as well as their academic progress. When attendance dips, children often tell us they feel less settled, find friendships harder and lose confidence in lessons that build day by day.

Of course, families are navigating coughs, colds, anxiety, busy mornings and all the pressures of modern life. No family sets out for their child to miss school and we understand that deciding whether your child is "well enough" can be tricky. That's why we follow the NHS guidance [Is my child too ill for school?](#), which explains that most children **can attend with minor coughs, colds or feeling a little under the weather** and that being in school is often part of helping them feel better.

If you're unsure, please talk to us. A quick message or phone call can help us think together about adjustments for the day – coming in a little later, having a quieter start, or checking in with a trusted adult. We would always rather have a conversation than have a child struggle at home alone.

We also know that attendance is about more than illness.

Worries about friendships, sleep, routines or confidence can all play a part. Our job is to

HOW ILL DO KIDS NEED TO BE TO NOT GO TO SCHOOL?



work *with* you to remove those barriers, not to judge them. Sometimes small steps – a morning welcome, a buddy, help with transport or uniform, or a short-term plan – can make a big difference.

Every day in school matters because learning builds like bricks in a wall. Missing just a few days each term can mean children lose the thread of lessons and feel they are “catching up” rather than moving forward with everyone else. More importantly, they miss the everyday moments that make primary school special – the laughter, the teamwork, the sense of “I belong here.”

Thank you for all you do to get children to school each day. Your support makes the biggest difference of all. If attendance ever feels difficult, please come and speak to us early – we’re here to help.



Rhino Sensory Van

We’ve been lucky enough to host the Rhino Sensory Van on site and every class has had the chance to explore it. The van is essentially a sensory room on wheels, designed to support wellbeing and regulation, particularly for children with SEND, autism and sensory needs. It’s packed with calming and engaging features such as bubble tubes, fibre optics, interactive wall panels and an interactive floor, all in a soft, cosy space.

Children have really enjoyed the chance to step into a different environment – some using it as a calm, quiet space, others exploring the lights, sounds and movement through play. We’re very grateful to Rhino Sensory for bringing this experience to Weston and helping us think about how we can continue to develop our own sensory and wellbeing provision in school.

Year 4 Brass with Love Music Trust

All of Year 4 have started their brass instrument lessons with the Love Music Trust. The project is free for all children and gives every pupil the chance to learn a brass instrument as part of their normal school day.

Over the coming weeks, the children will learn how to play their instrument, how to read simple music and how to play together as an ensemble. A bit of regular practice at home will make a huge difference as they build their confidence and sound.

We plan to hold a short showcase at the end of the project so that parents and carers can come in and hear what the children have been working on – we’ll share more details about this nearer the time.





Learning about Young Carers

Our Family Liaison Officer Mrs Potts and Sam Fitzgerald from Cheshire Young Carers visited classes recently to talk to children about what a Young Carer is and how they can be supported.

A Young Carer is a child or young person who helps to look after someone in their family who is unwell, disabled, has a special educational need, struggles with their mental health or misuses drugs or alcohol. This might involve helping with practical tasks at home, supporting brothers or sisters, or providing emotional support to an adult.

The sessions helped children to:

- understand that some pupils have extra responsibilities at home
- recognise that being a Young Carer can feel tiring or stressful at times
- know that support is available in school and through Cheshire Young Carers

If you think your child might be a Young Carer, or if you'd like to talk this through, please get in touch with Mrs Potts via the school office. We want to make sure that all our Young Carers are recognised, listened to and offered appropriate support.

Blackbirds Class Assembly

Blackbirds treated us to a fantastic class assembly, sharing lots of their recent learning with parents and carers.

The children showcased their artwork and impressed everyone with singing in the round, which required real concentration and teamwork. They spoke clearly, performed confidently and supported one another beautifully throughout.

We are very proud of Blackbirds for the effort they put into preparing their assembly and for the way they shared their learning. Thank you to all the families who came along to watch – your support means a great deal to the children.



OPAL Play

Our work on developing OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning) at Weston continues to gather pace behind the scenes. We've now firmed up plans for how we want our playtimes to look – more creative, active, inclusive and child-led, with a wider range of things to do than just the traditional playground games.

Over the coming weeks, we'll begin to involve the wider school community. There will be opportunities to:

- donate good-quality used items for play (for example: suitcases, crates, pots and pans, fabric, small world toys)
- offer time and practical help with sorting, organising and setting up new play zones

We'll share more details soon about exactly what we're looking for and how you can get involved. Thank you in advance – OPAL will only reach its full potential with the support of our whole Weston community.

Year 4 Tattenhall Residential

Our Year 4 children have recently returned from their residential visit to Tattenhall, and what a brilliant few days they had.

During the trip, the children:

- worked in teams to set up hammocks and dens, then tested whether they were truly waterproof
- took part in a range of team-building activities, including go-karts and catapults
- enjoyed relaxed evenings playing card games, crafting and chatting with



friends

- rounded off the second day with songs around the campfire and toasted marshmallows

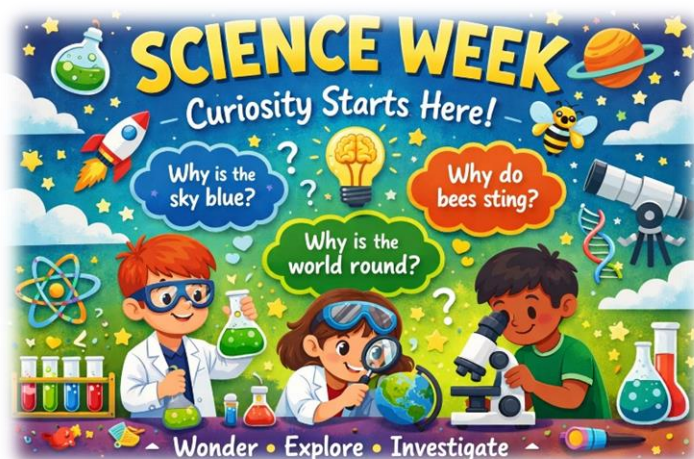
Staff reported that the children's behaviour was wonderful and that they threw themselves into the activities with enthusiasm and good humour. We hope they will have come home full of stories and special memories.

I would also like to thank the staff team who volunteered their time to make this residential possible. Residential visits involve far more than a normal school day and require staff to give up time with their own families to supervise, support and care for pupils from early morning until late at night. Their commitment is voluntary and absolutely vital in allowing us to offer these experiences. We are extremely grateful for their dedication and professionalism.

Science week is coming

The week beginning Monday 16 March will be Science Week at Weston and Mrs Armitt (our Science Lead) has planned a fantastic programme built around children's own questions about the world.

We'll start with a whole-school assembly to introduce the theme. Children will be encouraged to think of things they are genuinely curious about – for example:



“Why is the sky blue?”

“Why is the world round?”

“Why do bees sting?”

In class, children will then choose a selection of questions to explore across four afternoons. During these sessions, they will:

- wonder and ask questions
- research and investigate
- use scientific enquiry to try to find answers

On Friday afternoon, we will once again hold a Science Fair, where children can share projects they have worked on at home with their families. We are planning to make this a non-uniform day, with an invitation to “dress as a scientist” or something science-themed if children would like to.

More information about the Science Fair and home projects will follow shortly, but for now this is just a heads-up so you know Science Week is on the horizon.



Coordinated by the UK Safer Internet Centre

saferinternetday.org.uk

AI tools

- understand how to use technology responsibly and kindly
- know what to do if they see or experience something that worries them online

Safer Internet Day

Next Tuesday (10 February) we will be marking Safer Internet Day in school. This year's UK theme is “Smart tech, safe choices – exploring the safe and responsible use of AI”.

Children will take part in age-appropriate activities to help them:

- think about how they use the internet, games, apps and

We know that online life is a big part of children's world now and parents don't need to be tech experts to help keep them safe. Organisations such as the UK Safer Internet Centre and NSPCC suggest a few key steps for families:

- Talk regularly about what children do online – favourite games, apps and websites – and keep the conversation open and relaxed.
- Use parental controls and privacy settings on devices, apps, broadband and games consoles to limit inappropriate content and manage screen time.
- Remind children not to share personal information (full name, address, school, passwords) with people they only know online.
- Make sure they know how to block, mute and report if someone is unkind or if something makes them feel uncomfortable.
- Let them know they can always come to you or another trusted adult if they are worried about anything they've seen or been asked to do online – and that they won't be in trouble for speaking up.

We'll share some useful links on Class Dojo for anyone who would like further guidance. Thank you for all you do at home to help children enjoy the online world safely.



Friends of Weston Silent Disco

Friends of Weston are hosting Silent Discos after school on Thursday 12 February and they are shaping up to be a lot of fun!

- EY/KS1: 5.00pm – 6.15pm
- KS2: 6.30pm – 7.45pm

Children will each have a set of wireless headphones and can choose between different music channels – dancing along to their favourite songs with friends while others might be listening to something completely different!

It's a great way for the children to have fun together in a safe, familiar environment while also raising funds for school. Please look out for the poster and Class Dojo message from FOWS with details on how to book and pay.

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 school communications:

- Spring Enrichment Clubs
- Year 1 Sudbury Trip
- My Happy Mind
- New Holiday Club Provider – Sports Coaching Group
- Academy Photographs
- SEND Coffee Afternoon
- Playtime Survey

Thank you for your ongoing support. If you have any questions or concerns, please get in touch with us.

Thomas Cutts