



Weston Turville C E School

"To Pursue Wisdom Within a Christian Ethos"

Weekly Notes 3rd September

Welcome Back!

Welcome back, at long last, to this most unusual of Autumn Terms! It has been great to see all our children smiling and excited to be back, and we are thrilled to report almost full attendance!

A huge welcome too to our new Reception Class children and our new Pre-School children on their first days.

The term ahead will be a little different from usual and some of our annual events will be cancelled or adjusted, depending on the position we are in with Covid-19 and the latest government guidance. The events where we traditionally invite families and visitors, such as the Harvest Festival and the Infant Nativity, will not be able to go ahead in their usual format, but staff are working on ways to produce events which are recorded for viewing on the website. **It is therefore more important than ever that you let us know if you do not wish for your child's image to appear on the school website.**

Sadly, many of our traditional Year 6 roles cannot be fulfilled this term due to social distancing and bubbles. However, there will still be House Captains and Vice Captains, and we are expecting new roles to arise due to the different ways the school will be operating. The children will still be allocated 'Houses' and there will still be House Points for effort and achievement.

These weekly newsletters come out every Wednesday so don't forget to look out for them as they have lots of important information in them. Class newsletters come out half-termly, with the first due next Wednesday, and will provide details about what is happening in each class.

Start of the School Day

We have had to stagger the start and end times of the day to avoid social bubbles mixing. This is new for everyone and will take a few days to get used to! Thank you for your patience today and for putting up with the queues. Hopefully by Monday we will all be more used to the routines.

To clarify – all the infants start at 8.30am and can arrive any time between 8.30 and 8.45am, while all the juniors arrive at 9am and can arrive any time between 9 and 9.15am. Those with infant and junior aged siblings would be best arriving closer to 8.45am so they don't have to wait too long to drop their older children at 9am. Year 5 and Year 6 can queue at the rear entrance from 8.45am onwards.

Apologies for any confusion as we all get used to how it works!

Staff Changes

We have some staff changes. **Mrs Hegarty**, a Year 1 Teaching Assistant, left us over the break and we wish her well in her new role at The Cottesloe School. **Mrs Shanmugalingam**, one of our Midday Supervisors, left over the summer too. **Mrs Randall** has moved from Class R to the new Weston Turville Pre-School.

Three new Teaching Assistants are starting with us – **Mrs Galliers**, **Mrs Ardley** and **Miss Wigglesworth** – and we look forward to working with them as they settle into their new roles.

Finally, Mrs Warnes will shortly be leaving us temporarily for her maternity leave. Two Year 2 teachers have now started – **Mrs Aldis** (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday morning) and **Mrs Warburton** (Wednesday afternoon, Thursday & Friday) – and again we look forward to welcoming them to the team.

Weston Turville Pre-School

We are thrilled to be welcoming fourteen Rising 4 children to the new Weston Turville Pre-School! **Mrs Randall** will be working closely with them on a day to day basis, and **Miss Pedrick** will be overseeing the whole of the Early Years Foundation Stage while continuing to teach Class R. Whilst they are two discrete year groups accommodated in two separate rooms, there are curricular links and the aim is to integrate the two age groups when it is appropriate to do so. This will benefit both groups and will enable the pre-school children to become used to the routines and expectations before they start in Reception.

There are still spaces available for more children so do get in touch if you would be interested in applying for a place, but please be aware that your child's attendance at pre-school does not guarantee a space in the Reception Class. **You will still need to apply for a Reception Class space by the January before your child is due to start in Reception.**

Parent Induction Evenings

Usually at this time of year we invite all our parents in for an induction evening. Due to social distancing we can't do that this year. However, the teachers are preparing copies of their presentations and these will be up on the school website next week.

Year 3 swimming

We regret that we have been unable to solve the logistical problems of sharing the coach, pool and changing rooms with another school, so **we will not be running swimming for Year 3 this year**. However, we have just booked the Green Park swimming pool for two terms next year for both Year 3 and Year 4 to swim so that they can fulfil the swimming requirements of the National Curriculum.

PTA

The PTA (Parent/Teacher Association) is a group of volunteers who have traditionally run events for families and children in order to raise funds for the school while having fun at the same time. All parents of children in the school and all staff employed by the school are automatically members, but we are often short of volunteers to run the events. If you would like to join in please do let the PTA know by emailing westonturvillepta@hotmail.com

This year, though, the PTA are sadly unable to run their most popular events, including the annual Christmas Fair, in their current format due to social distancing requirements. They will, however, be running activities which can take place remotely and details will follow. As and when the government guidance changes the committee will review what they are able to offer.

To welcome the children back after their long break the PTA have very kindly provided all of them with a small gift!

Barnowls

Unfortunately, at the current time Barnowls are unable to provide a wrap-around care service because they do not have the space or staff to keep the children in their social bubble groups or phase groups. This will be reviewed at Half Term.

Clubs

Lunch time and after-school clubs will take place in social bubble groups and a list is being compiled. We can confirm that Mrs Ellis will be running her multi-sports club for Years 1 and 2 on Tuesdays after school, and her Dodgeball club for Years 5 and 6 on Thursdays after school. More details to follow.

11+ Papers

Due to the disruption caused to children by the pandemic, the Buckinghamshire Grammar School Association has delayed the 11+ papers. These will now take place on Tuesday 3rd (practice papers) and Thursday 5th November, with the results likely to be released at the end of November.

The Library

Due to Covid-19 restrictions we can't yet open the school library. However, we are providing each class with a selection of books that they can borrow on a weekly basis to take home. Children will also be able to take reading books home.

Emergency Lockdowns

Clearly, whilst we are hoping for a return to as normal as possible, there may be some disruption in the weeks and months ahead. If there are local outbreaks of the virus there may be localised lockdowns and this may involve closing parts of the school, or all of it. Should this happen we aim to have a smooth change-over from face to face lessons to online learning. The Seesaw platform, which saw us admirably through the lockdown, is being replaced by Google Classrooms. This is a similar package and you will be provided with logon details soon. If you do not have access to a laptop/PC then please let your class teacher know so that you can be provided with hard copies of work for your child to complete.

Homework

Homework will continue as it was before the lockdown. However, the junior teaching staff are exploring options for this to be set and completed online using the Google Classrooms platform. This will enable our older children to practice using it so that, in the event of a lockdown, they will know how to use it.

Family and Individual Photos

On Tuesday 29th September Danny Higgins will be coming to take individual photos of all the children during the school day.

Danny is also able to take pictures of sibling groups. If you would like to take advantage of this and you have younger children who do not attend the school you will need to bring your children to the school between 8.15 and 9am and wait in a socially distanced queue.

Pictures will be taken on a first-come, first-served basis. If you have siblings in the school and would like them to be photographed together please let us know and we will arrange for this during the day.

Office Hours

The official office opening hours are 8.30am – 4pm. After that time the telephone is not answered although parents can still send emails through. Please wear a mask if you need to visit the office.

School Uniform

We have attached a copy of the school uniform policy to the Weekly Notes this week as a reminder.

All children should wear school uniform to school. Children in Years 3-6 should wear their PE kits instead on their PE days. On colder days they should wear sweatshirts and tracksuit bottoms.

Stationery Kit

Infants do not need to bring any kit to school.

Juniors need to bring –

HB pencil
Pencil sharpener
(one that collects shavings is best)
30 cm ruler
(preferably not one of the folding or bendy ones)
Coloured pencils
Eraser
Pritt Stick
Highlighter pen
Fibre tip pen, eg Berol Handwriter, with blue ink
(cartridge pens are not suitable for Year 3)
Small non permanent whiteboard pen (optional)
Scissors (optional)

Those in Years 4-6 should also bring –

Cartridge pen – blue ink – if this is preferred to the fibre tip pen
Pair of compasses
Protractor
Simple calculator (not scientific ones)

This kit should fit into one pencil case and be stored on your child's desk or in their pouch. Kit must not be lent to other children.

Medication

If your child has prescribed medication, such as an epipen or an inhaler, you will need to check it is in date, send it to school and fill in the appropriate form.

We do not allow or administer non-prescribed medicines.

Stars of the Week and Bee Charts

Government guidance states that we may not have full Collective Worship at this time but we will have social bubble Worship (one social bubble at a time) in the hall once a week led by Mrs Brooks. There will also be classroom celebration assemblies on Friday afternoons when there will be three stars of the week for each class.

We will also continue to use the 'Bee Charts'. These are ladders that each child can 'fly' up or down depending on their efforts and behaviour in class and on the playground. When they reach the top of the ladder by the end of the week they will receive a sticker and if they are particularly outstanding they will receive a small 'Wise Owl' prize.

Year 6 Business Enterprise

Through the inventiveness of the Year 6 staff we were able to hold the Business Enterprise competition last term and the Leavers' Assembly outside in a socially distanced manner.

We are pleased to announce that *Bradley A, Harrison B and Harry B* won the *Business Enterprise competition!* Half of all profits went to Weston Turville Wells for Tanzania as selected by the Year 6 class.

A big well done to them all!

And finally...

A big thank you to everyone for all your support over the last few months. It hasn't been easy but we finally now have our lovely school back together and can start rebuilding our community. We have arranged the school to protect everyone from the virus as much as we possibly can; there will be ups and downs with this as schools aren't designed this way, but if we all work together we can get through the next few weeks and months and give the best education we can to our children.

Time for a long overdue new start!

House Points

INGRAM 0

KIRTLAND 0

LANGSTONE 0

RICKARD 0

Dates for the Calendar

29th September – School Photos

23rd October – School closes for Half Term

3rd/5th November – 11+ papers

8th November – Remembrance Service in the village

18th December – School closes

WESTON TURVILLE CE SCHOOL

Uniform Policy



The children at Weston Turville CE School wear a school uniform –

- Grey trousers, skirt, pinafore or shorts
- Plain white polo shirt
- Navy sweatshirt or cardigan with the school logo.
- Black low heeled shoes
- Grey tights or socks with skirts, shorts and trousers, and white socks with summer dresses.
- White polo shirts with the school logo are worn for trips and special occasions, or any time the children choose to wear them.
- In warm weather children may wear blue and white summer dresses.
- Sandals, which offer protection to children's feet (i.e. heel strap, covered toes, low heeled) in black may be worn.
- These should be appropriate for school wear - not beach/sports or fashion.

In PE children wear –

- Black plimsolls indoors
- Trainers outdoors (these do not need to be a specific colour)
- Black shorts/PE skirts
- Plain white t-shirts or for older children coloured t-shirts appropriate to their house
- Navy/black track suit bottoms or leggings for outdoor wear if necessary
- These should be stored in a traditional style pump-bag which can hang on a cloakroom peg.

All children in Y3, and older children who cannot swim 25m confidently, need a one-piece costume or trunks (not shorts), a towel and a swimming hat. All jewellery must be removable for swimming.