

PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER

26.1.26



Dear Parents and Carers,

The start of this week will see the continuation of the TT Rockstars battles and we are looking forward to seeing the children involved in their times tables competitions. Some of them are so speedy on their iPads and this approach really does support them to develop their rapid recall of multiplication facts. This ensures that as they progress through the Maths curriculum that they have the knowledge to solve more advanced problems.

The cricket coach will continue to work with the pupils at Weston Junior Academy, supporting them to develop their cricket skills.

Stay and Play will be taking place at Weston Infant Academy between 9.30am and 10.30am for parents who can come along with their pre-school children.

Mrs Birchall - Principal

The week ahead...

- Monday 26th January - Tuesday 27th January 2026:
TT Rockstars battle continues:
Year 2 versus Year 3
Year 4 versus Year 5
Year 6 versus Year 6
- Tuesday 27th January 2026 - Cricket coach working with all KS2 pupils
- Wednesday 28th January 2026 - Celebration assembly Infants 9am - invitation only for parents of children receiving an award
- Thursday 29th January 2026 - Stay and Play session for parents and their pre-school child.
- Friday 30th January 2026 - Celebration assembly Juniors 9am - invitation only for parents of children receiving an award



What are we learning?

At Weston Infant Academy...

Nursery are:

- Learning nursery rhymes and looking at related texts e.g. 'I had a little turtle'
- Listening to instrumental sounds with Angry A's footsteps, looking at alliteration, oral blending with yellow I
- Looking at the differences between sea and pond life and sorting animals
- Singing head, shoulders, knees and toes and making facial features using the playdough and tools
- Guessing the nursery rhymes by listening to the tunes at the nursery rhyme table and clapping syllables of the nursery rhyme characters' names
- Practising writing our names
- Looking at one more/one less in the pots when '5 little ducks' and '5 little speckled frogs'
- Using the hairdressers role play area and exploring occupations
- Bubble wrap printing turtles and creating our own pond life paintings

Reception are:

- Learning nursery rhymes and looking at related texts e.g. '5 Little Ducks' and 'The Ugly Duckling'
- Thinking about what makes a good friend - how could the other ducks have been good friends?
- Learning the black cat phoneme 'ur'
- Focusing on log rolls and pencil rolls in P.E. and learning how to do 2 and 3 point balances
- Developing our fine motor skills by creating faces in dough, adding features to show emotions
- Writing CVC words and simple factual sentences about ducks
- Looking at the numbers 6, 7 and 8 and playing a bingo game to subitise, count and recognise numbers
- Exploring the differences between sea and pond life
- Making ducks and ducklings using handprints and fingerprints and adding extra details using pencil crayons

Year 1 are:

- Learning the phonemes 'or', 'ore' or 'aw'
- Reading and following instructions by acting them out/acting our bossy verbs
- Learning place value to 20
- Estimating on a number line
- Comparing and ordering numbers to 20
- Thinking about technology can solve a problem
- Sorting and labelling objects and materials
- Understanding allergies

Year 2 are:

- Phonics revision of soft 'g' (magic, gem, giant)
- Reading and following instructions
- Identifying features e.g. imperative verbs, numbers, what will you need list, time openers
- Making one pound using money and finding the correct change
- Thinking about how technology can solve a problem in Computing
- Identifying the materials that objects are made of in Science and explaining why it is a good material for a given purpose.

What are we learning?

At Weston Junior Academy...

J1 and J2 are:

- Writing a character description of Grandma
- Answering inference questions based on chapter 3 of 'The Twits'
- Dividing a 2 digit number by a 1 digit number
- Learning about correspondence
- Making a sketch map of our local area
- Learning how to play the notes B and G on the recorder
- Working with a cricket coach

J3 and J4 are:

- Completing a reading comprehension based on text 'Wizard of Once'
- Writing the next part of the story using pronouns, powerful verbs and subordinate clauses
- Converting from mixed numbers to improper fractions and vice versa
- Looking at fractions of amounts
- Learning the names of the days of the week in Spanish
- Thinking about how we can embrace failure in PSHE
- Looking at agricultural changes during the Industrial Revolution
- Working with a cricket coach

J5 and J6 are:

- Completing comprehension questions for chapters 15 and 16 of 'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe'
- Recognising and using adjectives, adverbs and nouns
- Using adjectives, nouns and prepositional phrases to build expanded noun phrases
- Using a range of graphs and charts to interpret data
- Recognising that the value of the product in a multiplication equation becomes the value of the dividend in the corresponding division equation
- Thinking about Holocaust memorial day (27th January 2026)
- Researching counties that border Staffordshire
- Looking at the heart and the circulatory system in Science
- Using keyboards to play a melody
- Reading about the stories of people from the Holocaust
- Creating Art to commemorate the Holocaust
- Working with a cricket coach



ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Term time holidays

It is not a parental right to take their child on holiday during term time. Holidays in term time will not be authorised, unless there are exceptional circumstances and you have completed a holiday request form in advance. If you choose to take your child out of school for an unauthorised holiday you could receive a penalty notice of £80, per parent, per child.



The Law states (Education Act 1996, Section 7) that all children of compulsory school age must receive an appropriate full-time education. As a parent/carer, you are legally responsible for making sure your child receives an effective education. Failure to ensure your child attends school regularly could lead to intervention from the Missing Education & Child Employment Service which has the power to implement:

Fixed Penalty Notices Prosecution An Education Supervision Order

Can I get help?

Absolutely! We appreciate the unavoidable events that affect our pupils, and their families. We believe that the most effective way to ensure your child remains on track is to work together to maximise support in their/your time of need. Our caring and dedicated staff are committed to making sure your child is happy and getting the best out of their time at Weston Infant and Junior Academies.

Talk to us.

Admissions Information for September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

You can now apply for Reception places at Weston Infant Academy for September 2026. Applications should be made by Thursday 15th January 2026.

You can also apply for Year 3 places at Weston Junior Academy for September 2026 and again applications should be made by Thursday 15th January.

Even if your child is in our current Nursery and our current year 2 class you still need to complete an application form for a Reception place. and/or a year 3 place. We have enough spaces for everyone but we have to follow the Local Authority's admissions process.

Applications for new Nursery places for September 2026 open on Monday 1st December and the closing date for new Nursery applications is Friday 27th February 2026.

You can access all application forms by using this link:

https://www.stoke.gov.uk/info/20033/school_admissions

Thank you
Mrs Birchall
Principal

If you have missed the deadline call the school office and we will advise you about what to do.