



Dates for your Diary:

Only Term Dates from here are confirmed. All other dates/times are subject to change

Mon 15th-Fri 19th Feb
HALF TERM

Thurs 4th Mar
World Book Day

Mon 8th Mar
All children to return to school

Mon 15th Mar
Closing date for Nursery Applications

Fri 19th Mar
Red Nose Day

Fri 26th Mar
END OF SPRING TERM

Mon 12th Apr
INSET DAY

Tues 13th Apr
START OF SUMMER TERM

Thurs 22nd Apr
Nursery Offers sent out

Mon 31st May-Fri 4th Jun
HALF TERM

Mon 7th Jun
INSET DAY

Thurs 22nd Jul
END OF SUMMER TERM

News from Mr Holmes

Dear parents and carers

I am really pleased to be able to confirm that Weston Primary School will fully open again starting on Monday 8th March following the Prime Minister's announcement on Monday this week. Having complained previously about the lack of notice of changes to plans, I should acknowledge that the Government have given us nearly 2 weeks' notice this time, which certainly helps.

The easiest way to understand the arrangements which will be in place in school, is to think of it as being the same as what we did during the Autumn Term when we got used to operating the school with all children remaining in 'bubbles' all day. We will continue to use staggered start and finish times along with staggered break and lunch times.

Class	Year Groups	Start Time	Finish Time
Donaldson	Nursery & Reception	8.45am	2.55pm
Robinson	Year 1/2	8.55am	3.05pm
Gravett	Year 2/3	9.05am	3.15pm
Hardy	Year 4/5	9.00am	3.10pm
Rundell	Year 5/6	8.50am	3.00pm

* Note - finish time for Nursery children is 12.00 noon

To help keep everyone safe, please ensure that you stick to these times, that a maximum of one adult accompanies your child to and from school, and that you keep a 2 metre distance from anyone who is not from your household at all times. Please also ensure that your children keep a 2 metre distance from anyone who is not from their household or class. Please also follow the one-way system for pedestrians which will be operating on the school grounds (the attached document gives an explanation of how you should follow this system to drop off and collect your child from their classroom door). If you have more than one child re-starting with us, please use the earlier start time and finish time for both siblings. If you are late in the morning, please wait outside the school grounds, for example in your car, and call the school office to find out an appropriate alternative drop off time. Please also remember the following rules;

- Your child must not attend school if they are unwell in any way.
- If your child has a new continuous cough, a temperature, or has lost (or had a change to) their sense of taste or smell, they must not attend school and you should arrange for them to have a test immediately.
- Your child must not attend school if anyone in their household is showing possible symptoms of Covid-19 or is self-isolating for any reason.
- If your child shows any symptoms of Covid-19 while at school, we will ask you to collect your child and any siblings immediately, self-isolate and arrange a Covid-19 test. Only if this test is negative will your child be allowed to re-commence school.

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OUTSIDE ACHIEVEMENTS

Keep sending in achievements.

- If your child or anyone else in your household tests positive for coronavirus, or if you are asked to do so by NHS Test & Trace, you will need to be ready and willing to provide details of anyone whom members of the household have been in close contact with.
- No parents/carers will be allowed to enter the school buildings. At drop off and pick up times, there will not be time for discussions with classroom staff. Please email to admin@weston.herts.sch.uk or call 01462 790317 if you need to communicate with any staff at the school. If you have a letter, please post it through the letter box near the school office.

The plans for the 'bubbles' in school are the same as they were for the Autumn Term. Children in the Donaldson class will form one 'bubble'; the Year 1/2 and Year 2/3 classes will combine to form a second 'bubble'; and the Year 4/5 and Year 5/6 classes will combine to form a third 'bubble'. This arrangement will enable us to keep children in their 'bubbles' throughout the school day while also allowing for effective use of all parts of the school buildings for learning, and allowing children in the split year groups (Year 2 and Year 5) to see all of their year group friends at break and lunch times. There are also other benefits, which combine to make this the best way to support children's learning and their mental well-being, whilst also keeping them safe.

For Years 1 to 6 I am delighted to be able to tell you that this arrangement also allows us to return to the usual arrangements for school dinners, with children eating in the hall in their 'bubbles'. Meanwhile, the children in Reception will again stay in their classroom for lunch, with all menu options available to them.

Further measures to reduce the chances of transmission of the virus within school will include changes to seating arrangements in class for Years 1 to 6, encouragement to those children old enough to understand that they should avoid touching other children wherever possible, and the provision of school stationery to individual children to avoid the need to share writing pens/pencils in class, for example.

Children will be expected to wear the usual school uniform and they must bring their own named, filled water bottle. Children must not bring any unnecessary items to school (no toys or stationery) but they should bring their PE kit and can bring a school bag. If your child has outgrown their school shoes, it will be ok for them to wear other shoes/trainers temporarily (ideally black or a dark colour). In addition, children in Nursery and Reception should bring a change of clothing in a bag, in case needed. Children can bring a healthy snack if you wish (please note that the usual milk for younger children will not be provided by the school until we hear otherwise). I am pleased to say that we will, once again, be able to send school reading books home with children who will also still have access to the online books on Bug Club.

The wraparound childcare club run by Rising Stars will be operating before and after school again, from Monday 8th March. Government guidelines state that parents can use this provision if it is reasonably necessary for them to work, seek work, undertake education or training, attend a medical appointment or attend a support group.

NEWS FROM FOWS

Please remember to use easyfundraising. Over 4,300 shops and sites will donate to Friends of Weston School - Hitchin at no extra cost to you. We want to raise as much as possible so please sign up and support us:

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/westonschoolhitchin/?utm_campaign=raise-more&utm_medium=whatsapp&utm_content=rm-c20-w1

If you register, every time you do your internet shopping we get a donation.

Thank you.

Please remind your children about the importance of regular, thorough hand-washing, sneezing or coughing into tissues or the crook of their elbow and not touching their faces if their hands are not clean. Also please ensure that all members of your household follow the relevant social distancing guidelines outside of school hours.

We are really looking forward to seeing all of our pupils back at school. As well as following all the guidelines designed to keep everyone safe, we will be working hard with the children to help them settle back into schooling again, and this will include work to support their well-being and their mental and physical health. In order to manage the transition back into school smoothly and support your child's emotional wellbeing effectively, please let us know in advance of their return of any particular worries or concerns they may have (for example, any bereavements of family or friends).

Attendance at school by school-aged children will be mandatory again starting on 8th March. There will be no home learning available unless your child is having to self-isolate. We will have all the appropriate measures in place to follow Government guidance on keeping all children safe. If you have any concerns about your child returning to school on 8th March, then please do get in touch by email to admin@weston.herts.sch.uk or by calling 01462 790317.

Geoff Holmes



Home Learning Stars of the Week

**Donaldson
Robinson
Gravett
Hardy
Rundell
In-School Stars**

Parker Larsen & Reuben Miller
Willow-Blue Prutton & Alyssa Ramasamy
Noah Hawkins & Isla Chamberlain
Albie Mason & Beau Tiernan
Lois Dowie & Emily Perkins
James Coates & Abigail Greer

DOT PLATES

Please return your completed 'Dot' plates (whole school art activity on the Google Classroom). There is still time to complete your design -the plates will still in the collection boxes this weekend! I have started the hall display and await all of your submissions!

Whole school tree of life made from our completed Designed plates. →



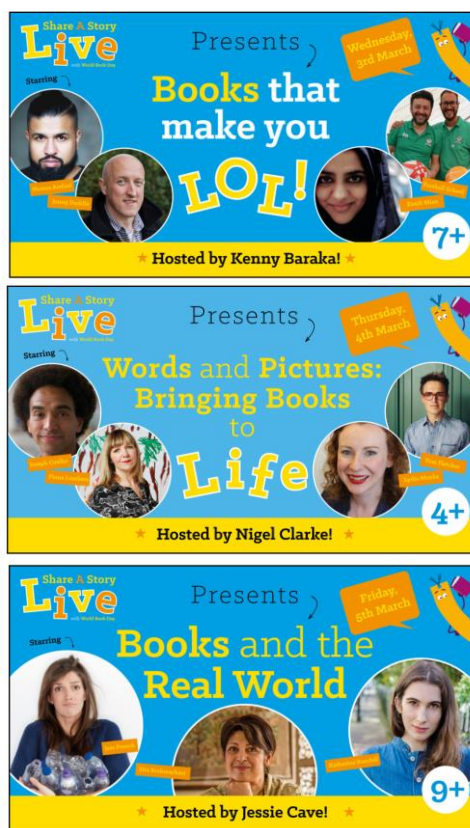
WORLD BOOK DAY



<https://www.worldbookday.com/>

Thursday is World Book Day, one of our most exciting whole school events! This year, we hope you will all share your favourite books. Dress up and read your favourite book, video yourself reading it and upload into the Google Classroom Stream. Let's flood our Virtual classroom with our wonderful reading on Thursday 4th March! #readondaysyoueat! (TIP: Short stories would be preferable as it will take too long to upload!)

Live events (links will be uploaded into the Stream) during this week include:



Don't forget our new online venture – Bug Club! You can access lots of online books linked to your reading band and phonic skills. There are also lots of exciting activities linked to these books.

The school code is: q3cp if you have not already received this.

A message from a parent.

"We've been using bug club for a while now and it's really good. There are so many books to choose from and activities within them to check comprehension. By reading the books, the children earn coins which enables them to play games. It's a great interactive way to encourage children to read."