

22nd July 2026

Summer Term, Issue 4



Weston News

A Community, Learning and Growing



Dates for your Diary:

Thurs 23rd July 9.30
Leavers Assembly – Year 6 parents invited

Thurs 23rd July 1.30
END OF TERM

Tues 1st Sept
INSET DAY

Weds 2nd Sept
START OF AUTUMN TERM

Mon 7th Sept 11.30
Reception lunch with a parent

Mon 26th – Fri 30th Oct
HALF TERM

Mon 2nd Nov
INSET DAY

Fri 4th Dec
OCCASIONAL DAY

Cont'd

News from Mr Holmes

After ten and a half years as Head Teacher of Weston Primary & Nursery School, I will be retiring this summer.

These ten and a half years have been a fantastic experience, as well as being extremely hard work. Both points relate to the fact that there is *nothing* more important than educating our children.

And, since it forms the basis for the rest of a person's education and their adult life, there is actually nothing more important than *primary* schooling. Nothing has a greater influence on a person's life chances than the building blocks they put in place at primary school – in terms of their ability to understand and interact with the world around them, but even more so in terms of learning how to be, with their fellow human beings.

So huge thanks to the Governors who appointed me to the role in the first place, and even bigger thanks to the school staff have worked with me during my time as Head Teacher. The staff are the people who work with our pupils every day in the school - patiently, thoughtfully and with a real determination to do the best for the children.

The small size of our school helps us to get to know each pupil as an individual, in our close-knit school community. However, all of the same tasks have to be completed as would be the case in a much larger school, and so the work-load for each staff member is greater in a small school like ours. To add to the challenges, schools in our country are under-funded and school staff are under-paid, given the essential work they complete.

I am proud of the fact that our school team achieved Good in both Ofsted inspections during my headship, Good in both Church School Inspections and consistently produced SATs results better than most schools. More importantly, I am proud of the successive years of 11 year-olds who have left Weston School, ready for the rest of their lives and equipped to achieve to their full potential.

We have, of course, not been perfect as a school. We have made some mistakes – after all, educating children is not easy. However, where we have got things wrong, we have worked hard to remedy the situation.

Most parents have been appropriately supportive, most of the time. *Some* parents have *sometimes* been unreasonable in their demands of the school and its staff. As the new Head Teacher begins working with the school team in September, I hope that all parents will support him, and the rest of the staff team, in this work.

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We call ourselves **A Community, Learning and Growing**. With pupils from all kinds of different backgrounds (with their different individual personalities, behaviours and needs) learning side-by-side with each other in school every day, I cannot think of a better example (or even definition) of what Community means.

As I retire this summer, the school will also be saying 'Goodbye' to our School Business Manager, Mrs McCullagh, who is moving onto a full-time role in another school, and to Miss Holman, who is leaving to train to become a teacher. We wish them well.

In September, Mrs Nakarasa will start as the new School Business Manager and Mrs Kelly will be joining us as Higher Level Teaching Assistant, and as a member of the lunch-time team.

Mr Boxall, the new Head Teacher, starts in September. I would like to wish him, all of the staff and Governors, all of the pupils and parents, and the rest of the Weston community the very best for the school's next chapter. As I said earlier, there really is *nothing* more important than children's education.

I would like to end by thanking parents, pupils, staff and Governors for their kind words and retirement gifts, and by listing some of the 'events' which our hard-working staff have organised over the last month (as well as teaching the daily lessons in class!);

- Carle Class Farm Visit; Music Concert (inc. Morris ukuleles); Sports Day; New EYFS Parents Meeting; Inter-Village Sports; Transition Day; Morris Class Verulamium Trip; Annual Reports; End-of-Year Service; Meet the Teacher Open Day; Summer Reading Challenge Assembly (please encourage your child to take part).

Mr Holmes, Head Teacher, Jan 2016-July 2026.



Cont'd



Stars of the Week

DONALDSON	William Hill, Bella Lewis, Esme Crowe, Elijah Windsor-Richards, Joshua Jordan & Evie Yates
CARLE	Abigail Rosen, Joshua Cottenden, Leo Cox, Teddy Logan, Roman Harkness & Erik Naughton
MORRIS	Bradley Norris, George Hepting, Tino Chaweresa & Eleanor Czech
TAN	Jude Jackson, Henry Clifford, Mia Buckle, Herbie Brame, Jude Jackson & Nathan Hannon

Outside Achievements

Congratulations to Eliza Hardiman in Carle Class for achieving Level 2 Silver Gymnastics Award at Marriotts Gymnastics Club, Abigail Rosen in Carle Class for achieving Level 1 Gold Gymnastics Award at Marriotts Gymnastics Club, to Ivy Brewster in Morris Class for achieving Swim England Level 8 & learning the Water Safety Code, to Arya Handa in Carle Class for achieving Rainbow Distance Award 5 & 10 Meters, to Teddy Logan in Carle Class for achieving Rainbow Distance Award 10 Meters & receiving a medal for good improvement with bowling & batting at All Stars Cricket, Langford, to Isabelle Logan in Tan Class for receiving Most Improved Netball Player at Hitchin Netball Club, Jaspers Team & winning the Stanborough League with her team, to Chloe Wijesekera in Morris Class for learning the Water Safety Code, to Mia Buckle in Tan Class for winning both the Area 12 & the Area 11 Pony Club Triathlon Summer Championships. She also won the best Shoot Medal at the Area 11, best Run Medal at the Area 12, and Best Swim medals at both competitions, to both Erik Naughton in Carle Class for receiving a Silver medal for 25M freestyle U8s and to Jemima Naughton in Tan Class for receiving a shield & medal for winning Gold 50M breaststroke, Silver medal 50M butterfly & Bronze medal 50M freestyle in the U12s at the Letchworth Amateur Swimming Club Championships.

Well done.