

Chief Executive Officer: Mrs Alison Nettleship
 Head of School: Mrs Kathryn Catherwood
 Assistant Head of School: Miss Natasha Irvine



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 PL2 2EL

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 Westonmill.desk@discoverymat.co.uk



Newsletter 10th March 2023

This week, some of our Year 4 and 5 children have been to Nethercott Farm to experience a week working on a farm. The children, although very tired, have had an incredible week and have made many fantastic memories too. It was lovely to hear positive feedback from the staff on the trip and to hear how members of the public commented on how respectful the children from Weston Mill were on a visit to a church in the local village.

Next week, we are celebrating British Science Week and Comic Relief Red Nose Day on Friday. Children are invited to come to school in mufti on Friday for a donation towards the work of the RND charity. CaterEd have kindly donated Red Nose Day biscuits too, which will be sold at playtime on Friday for 50p each.

Attendance continues to be a concern for us at Weston Mill. Every day missed at school is a day of missed learning. This week's school attendance is 89%, which is considerably below National and Local attendance figures. Please ensure your child attends school regularly if they are well enough to do so. I will be contacting parents whose child's attendance is less than 90% over the coming weeks as this continues to be one of our school priorities.

We hope everyone has a lovely weekend!

Mrs Kathryn Catherwood

Head of School



Weekly attendance for 6th March - 10th March

The UK Government expectation is 96%. We are striving for children to achieve this as there is a direct link between attendance and achievement .

This week, our whole school attendance is **89.0%**

This week's winners are : **Cape Town Class** and **Oslo Class**

LONDON	83.5
NAIROBI	82.5
MOMBASA	87.6
CAPE TOWN	95.0



SAN FRANCISCO	91.9
TOKYO	74.4
SANTIAGO	93.6
CANBERRA	95.8
DUBAI	79.6
OSLO	97.7



Early Years Stay & Play

Monday 27th March 2pm

Join your child in our Foundation learning environment where there will be a selection of Easter arts and crafts



BBC TINY Happy PEOPLE

TOOLS FOR TALKING

WAYS TO SUPPORT A CHILD'S LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT

0-3 months GET FACE TO FACE	3-6 months HAVE MINI CONVERSATIONS - RESPOND TO BABY'S SOUNDS	6-9 months RESPOND TO BABBLE
9-12 months TUNE INTO BABY'S INTERESTS - CONTINGENT TALK	12-18 months FOLLOW BABY'S LEAD	18-24 months EXPAND ON LANGUAGE
2-3 years REPEAT AND BUILD SENTENCES - RECASTING	3-4 years TALK ABOUT PAST AND FUTURE - DECONTEXTUALISING	4-5 years PRACTISE SOUNDS IN WORDS - PHONOLOGICAL AWARENESS

SEE THEM ALL IN ACTION AT [bbc.co.uk/tinyhappypeople](https://www.bbc.co.uk/tinyhappypeople)

@bbctinyhappypeople

Tools for Talking

Tiny Happy People is here to help you develop your child's language skills. Explore our simple activities and play ideas and find out about babies and toddlers' amazing early development.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/tiny-happy-people>

Red Nose Day - Friday 17th March 2023

**RED
NOSE
DAY**

Next Friday is Comic Relief, children are invited to wear mufti to school on this day - this can be red themed - for a suggested donation of £1.

We will also be selling Comic Relief Red Nose Biscuits for 50p supplied by CaterEd on Friday too. Your child can purchase their biscuit at break time on Friday.

Weston Mill Community Primary Academy

NURSERY

**Spaces are currently available
for 2, 3 and 4 year olds within
our Nursery.**

**We offer 15 funded hours per child,
opening during term time only.**

Me2 funding now accepted.

**Please see the contact details below to
express an interest in applying for a
nursery place.**



For more information, please contact the school on **01752 365250** or email **westomill.desk@discoverymat.co.uk**.

Communication and Reminders



We have been contacted by some parents to share that they did not receive email communication yesterday related to the strike day. We use ParentPay to communicate weekly newsletters and important messages with parents, via their email and messaging systems, as well as our booking system for breakfast and after school club and payment for school dinners and educational visits. As a school, 20% of our ParentPay accounts have not been activated. If you do not currently have access to your ParentPay account, please speak to Mrs Searle or Mrs Powney in the school office.

We kindly ask that all parents sign into their ParentPay account and ensure that their personal details are correct. We ask that you ensure a mobile number and email address has been added to your account so all future information is received.



Oak Villa Car Park

Following an incident earlier in the week, please ensure any parents using the Oak Villa Car Park take care when driving in, out and around the car park space. This is to ensure that all children remain safe whilst arriving and leaving school each day. We appreciate your support with this to support our school community.

START OF THE SCHOOL DAY

Children arriving at school before 9:10am should do so through the gate onto the playground and through their normal entrance door. For children arriving to school after 9:10am, the main office door should be used to ensure that your child is registered and their lunch choice has been taken. Please be aware that crossing patrol is available for children arriving to school between 8:30 and 9am each morning. There will be **no** crossing patrol after 9am each morning.

This main office door must not be used as a drop off point for children in the morning prior to 9:10am, unless there has been an arrangement made with Mrs Catherwood or

EAT THEM TO DEFEAT THEM

After half term, EAT THEM TO DEFEAT THEM is back in our school dinner menu. The menu from week commencing 20th February on a Tuesday will be as follows:

Week 1: Tuesday Menu - 7th March 2023



Hasta La Vista Veggies!

The vegetables have been spotted in the deep dark jungles of Central and South America. These fiendish vegetables have disguised themselves inside your favourite chilli dishes such as tacos, fajita, and nachos. Your mission is to find them, eat them to defeat them and then let out our victory cheer "Hasta La Vista Veggies!"

Chilli, any style

Week 2: Tuesday Menu - 14th March 2023




Feel my power!

Hey, you like pasta? We've heard the vegetables have taken over the pasta. Next time you see pasta, search out the vegetables, pick them out, and then defeat them in the only way possible – eat them, eat them, eat them and then let out your victory cry "Feel my power!"

Lasagna or pasta bake

Week 3: Tuesday menu choice: 21st March 2023



Dig for Victory!

The carrots have tunnelled their way to the centre of earth. You'll need to break through the earth's crust, dig through the steaming hot lava and find the veggies – then eat them to defeat them. Say "dig for victory" and start your journey.

Cottage pie

Parent Questionnaire Feedback

My child likes school
Our Response: 78% of parents reported that their child likes school. We want 100% of our children to like coming to school at Weston Mill. Over the next few weeks, we will be conducting pupil conferencing to gain a better understanding of our children and how we can make improvements.
My child is making good progress
Our Response: 81% of parents reported that their child was making good progress at Weston Mill with 6% reporting they didn't know and 13% of responses disagreeing. Please speak to your child's class teacher if you are concerned that your child is not doing well at Weston Mill. We want to ensure that all children at Weston Mill thrive and do well across the whole curriculum.
Teaching at the school is good
Our Response: 82% of parents reported that teaching at Weston Mill is good. At Weston Mill, we strive to ensure that all children can excel in their learning and achieve success. As a school, we look to the most up-to-date research and training to ensure that teaching remains good at our school.
I am kept informed about how my child is getting on
Our Response: 66% of parents felt that they were kept informed about their child's learning and progress, with 25% disagreeing and 6% strongly disagreeing. Here is a reminder of what we do: At the beginning of each academic year, there is an opportunity to meet with your child's new class teacher and to share the expectations to support your child at home. Parent meetings are held twice a year, once in the Spring Term and again in the Summer Term. This is an opportunity for you to meet with your child's class teacher to discuss progress, attainment, targets for improvement and any other matters which may impact on your child's experience at school. A full written report is sent home at the end of the Spring Term each year. At the end of the academic year, an End of Year results letter is sent home to inform parents on your child's attainment. We are continually looking to improve the communication between parents and school. During the Summer Term, Mrs Catherwood will be holding a monthly parent's forum to meet with parents and listen to your suggestions on areas of development for Weston Mill, such as sharing your child's progress across the year.
The school gives me information about events and activities
Our Response: 91% of parents reported that the school provides information about events and activities. As part of our School Improvement Priorities, we have developed our communication with parents through our Facebook and ParentPay. Since September, we have seen a 115% increase in engagement with content on our Facebook Page and 172% increase in parents accessing our Facebook Page.
The school seeks the views of parents and takes account of their suggestions and concerns
Our Response: 56% of parents reported that we as a school seek the views of parents and listen to your suggestions and concerns with 35% of parents disagreeing. We are keen to develop this as a priority with our parents to re-establish our values as a community primary school. Our monthly parent forum meetings will provide an opportunity for parents to share their suggestions and concerns with Mrs Catherwood so changes can continue to be made for the benefit of the wider school community. In addition, we always welcome parents to contact the school via email or telephone to offer their suggestions or share their concerns. You can do this by emailing westonmill.desk@discoverymat.co.uk or calling 01752 365250.
I feel comfortable about approaching the school with questions or a problem or complaint
Our Response: 75% of parents reported that they felt comfortable to approach the school with a problem, question or complaint. 22% of parents disagreed. As a school, we want to deal with any concerns, questions or complaints in a prompt manner and in a way that satisfies all concerned. We recognise that not everyone will be happy in the decisions that are made regarding concerns involving children. At Weston Mill, we follow protocols and procedures when dealing with a problem or complaint and do our very best to resolve concerns promptly through conversations with all parties involved.

I find it easy to contact my child's teacher

Our Response:

66% of parents reported that they felt it was easy to contact their child's class teacher. 25% of parents disagreed or strongly disagreed.

This is how you can contact your child's class teacher:

At the end of each school day, your child's teacher will be available on the playground to speak with parents.

Information can be shared with the adults on the entrance doors at the start of the school day, which will be given to your child's class teacher during morning registration.

You can arrange to meet with your child's teacher by emailing or calling the school office where Mrs Powney will be more than happy to book in an appointment or forward this request to your child's class teacher.

Staff expect my child to work hard and do his or her best

Our Response:

82% of parents reported that staff have high expectations of their child with 9% disagreeing and 9% didn't know. At Weston Mill, we continue to have high expectations of all our children and want each and every child to do their best at all times. Where there are concerns that your child's learning, staff will contact parents to share this with parents and employ a range of strategies to support your child to reach their full potential.

The school provides appropriate homework

Our Response:

66% of parent response felt that homework set was appropriate. We encourage all children to read regularly at home as part of their weekly homework. For children in KS1, this will be a RWI book set at their current phonics level and for children in KS2 reading books are based on their Accelerated Reading Level. All children have weekly spellings set, which are tested each Friday. We encourage children to practise their spellings at home, which are based on weekly spelling teaching at school. In addition, children in KS1 have access to Numbots and Times Table Rock Stars in KS2. We understand the importance of fluency with these known facts and would encourage our children to access these resources to become secure with these facts.

My child is not bullied at school

Our Response:

75% of parents reported that their child was not bullied at Weston Mill with 19% disagreeing or strongly disagreeing. If you do have any concerns regarding bullying, please come and speak to Mrs Catherwood or Mrs O'Brien as discussed in our Anti-Bullying Policy. As a school, we take any form of bullying seriously and take immediate action to address it. As part of our whole-school assemblies we revisit our school rules – Ready, Respectful and Safe and talk about what that looks like in all areas of our school.

There are a good range of activities and opportunities provided, that my child finds interesting and enjoyable

Our Response:

66% of parents felt that there was a good range of activities and opportunities provided for their child at school. Over the course of the academic year, teachers lead a club for a half term. Where possible, we try to ensure that there are clubs available for children from all key stages across the year, although this isn't always possible. We welcome feedback from parents and children on the clubs that would be of interest at Weston Mill and following this survey, I will be meeting with our School Champions to gather opinion from our school community too. We are always on the look-out for new clubs at Weston Mill. If you would like to provide an afterschool club, please speak to Mrs Catherwood or Mrs Powney, as we are always happy to welcome our wider community to volunteer with us at school.

As part of our curriculum journey, staff plan to provide enrichment opportunities, trips and visitors to enhance the learning at Weston Mill. This year, we have planned a range of educational trips and visits within the local area and further afield to support your child's learning at school. We also continue to provide residential trips for children in Year 4, 5 and 6 to Nethercott Farm, Reach Outdoors and London.

I feel welcome in the school and I am encouraged to take part in school activities and events

Our Response:

69% of parents responded that they felt welcome in the school and encouraged to participate in activities and events. 22% of parents disagreed or strongly disagreed. Since September 2023 we have planned a number of parent events to develop our school within our community. We have continued with our successful parent reading sessions this year as an opportunity for parents to come into school and read with their children. We have also continued with our Class Assemblies and introduced our Celebration of Learning events as an opportunity for our children to share their learning with their parents and carers too. In the Autumn Term, we held a number of Stay and Code/Stay and Decode sessions to provide an insight into our reading teaching and wider curriculum teaching to keep parents informed our teaching at Weston Mill. At Christmas, we held our first Christmas Carol Concert for a number of years, which was a great opportunity to bring the school together. We always welcome suggestions from parents on activities and events that they would like to be involved in. Please speak to your child's class teacher or contact the main school office if you have any suggestions for future events.

TOYS IN SCHOOL

There has been an increase in children bringing toys to school over the last few weeks, including Pokemon cards. Please ensure your child is not bringing toys into school unless a prior arrangement has been made with the school INCO Mrs O'Brien, to support SEND needs or for a class event.



March

- 14th March - Dubai Class Celebration of Learning @ 2:15pm
- 16th March - Year 2 SATs Parent Information Session @ 2:30pm
- 23rd March - Nairobi Class Assembly @ 2:30pm
- 28th March - Canberra Celebration of Learning @ 2:15pm
- 30th March - Year 1 Phonics Screening Check Information Session @ 2:30pm
- 31st March - Reports sent home
- 31st March - Spring Term ends

April

- 17th April - Start of Summer Term
- 18th April - School Photographs
- 20th April—Santiago Class Assembly
- 24th April—Bedtime Story Reading Session @5pm
- 27th April—London Class Reading Session @ 2:15pm

WEBSITE AND FACEBOOK

Please follow us on our
Facebook page - Weston Mill
Community Primary

**You can also check our website for
latest news, dates and letters.**



BUBBLES
GROUPED BY AGE

5-7 yrs old
8-9 yrs old
10-13 yrs old



£22
9AM-4PM DAY
+ WRAPAROUND CARE OPTION
8.15AM - 5.15PM

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PERMANENT VACANCY

CLEANER

Grade A Point 2

Weston Mill Primary Academy

Monday to Thursday - 3pm to 6pm
Friday - 3pm to 5.30pm

We have a two permanent cleaner vacancies available at Weston Mill Community Primary Academy.

The ideal candidate:

- must be able to work as part of a small team;
- enthusiastic, with good attention to detail and

If you are interested in this role, please contact

Weston Mill office via westonmill.office@discoverymat.co.uk

By 12pm Wednesday 15th March 2023.

