

January Newsletter 2018



Dear Parents and carers,

The new school year has started off very positively and fairly quietly for us at The Weaver. It has been good to reconnect with pupils, friends, parents and other members of the school community. I'm pleased to say that the children have come back rested and ready to work after a long and what I hope has been, a very restful holiday for all of you.

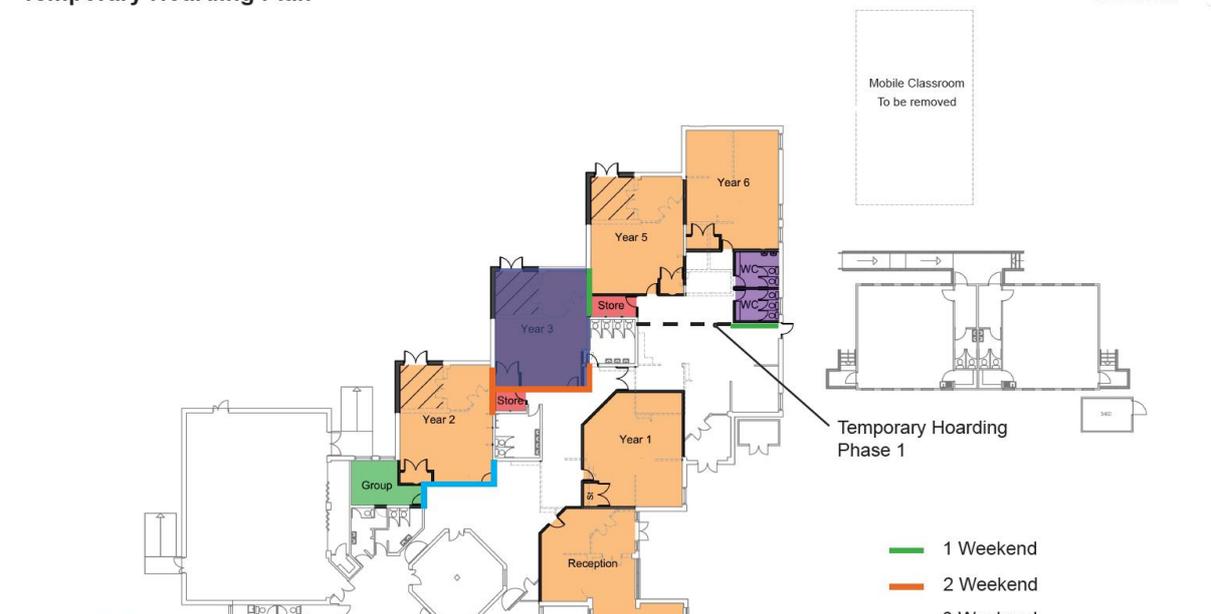
2018 is going to prove to be a landmark year for us as we begin work on the mobile classroom replacement programme which will mean an entirely new school interior refurbishment.

I still do not have a definite start date for the planned work but it is likely to be March/April. The local authority will replace the old 'orange' mobile which currently houses Y3 and Y4 pupils and will remodel the interior of the school to make room for six and possibly seven new classrooms within the existing space. We are currently awaiting finalised plans but an outline plan is shown below (showing 6 classrooms) to help you to envisage what the changes will mean.

Hall

Weaver Primary School
Alterations, Extension and Removal of Modular Classrooms
Temporary Hoarding Plan

HARRY
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CONSTRUCTION



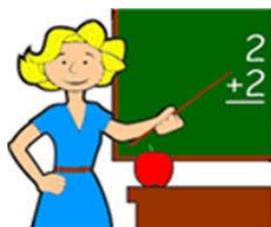
The classes named on the plan are only for planning purposes and do not necessarily indicate the classes to be housed in them. Our library will be incorporated into a new classroom for the EYFS children and toilets will be refitted and repositioned.

Work will take place throughout the Spring and Summer term with a completion date of September 2018.

The scheme should help support our pupils better as the open-plan nature of the school will be 'boxed-in' allowing for dedicated class spaces, using the open space that we already have but which cannot be used to best effect.

Obviously changes like this will mean that some aspects of daily life will be interrupted and children will have to be moved around the school as different areas are to be remodelled.

I will of course, keep you informed of any changes as they occur and I look forward to inviting you into school once we have a finalised plan to share.



The Curriculum is a high priority for us this year. Ensuring that our pupils get a broad and balanced 'diet' of subjects is very important. This year we are prioritising geography and history and ensuring that we continue to make our lessons exciting and engaging.

We have been able to support a teacher of french for Y2-6 for the next two terms due to a generous donation from our WSA. A specialist music teacher and a sports coach have been purchased for our EYFS and KS1 pupils for one morning a week and Sportscape are supporting our sport curriculum on a Wednesday lunchtime for all KS2 pupils. Forest schools sessions, residential trips to Llandudno and York and class visits to Chester, Manchester airport and various museums are all planned to make the learning experiences more meaningful and real .

Alongside this, our fabulous team of teachers and TA's will go the extra mile to ensure that the core curriculum is taught to a high standard and that every child makes progress and enjoys their learning. Please look on class pages on the website to keep up to date with your childs class activities.

We currently enjoy welcoming a number of parents and grandparents into school to help with reading , spelling and class sessions throughout the week. This support is invaluable to us , so if you do have some spare time and would like to help out, please speak to your child's class teacher in the first instance. If they have capacity then we will run a DBS safeguarding check on you .

The recent national league tables put The Weaver as 26th out of 125 similar high attaining schools (at KS1) in the country for our attainment in reading , writing and maths combined at the Expected level (EXS) at the end of KS2. We are delighted with this position.



In the last newsletter I wrote about attendance. Whilst we still have a high attendance rate of 96.8%, this has fallen over the last term from 97.3%. Please can I remind you that holidays or days off to visit relatives etc are not allowed in term time. Our school target is to achieve and maintain an overall attendance target of 97%+ . If a child's attendance falls below 95% I will be contacting parents as a matter of course to find out how better attendance can be encouraged. If the attendance falls below the national target of 90% the Educational Welfare Officer (EWO) from the local authority will be contacting you to discuss the reasons.

However I do realise that this is the worst time of year for pupil sickness and like many schools we have lots of bugs floating around. If your child is sick please inform us immediately and your child will be marked as ill in the register. If your child suffers from a sickness bug or diarrhoea then they need to be absent from school for no less than 48 hours after the last bout . This is to safeguard other pupils and staff. As we have a very vulnerable pupil, for whom an infection or bug could be potentially life-threatening, I ask that you observe this rule without exception.



Parents evenings have been set for the evenings of the 13th and 14th March. As usual they will begin at 3.30pm. You will be given the opportunity to book an appointment nearer the time. If you need to speak to a teacher or myself before that time, then please pop in and catch us at the end or the start of the day. Problems are best sorted out early.



I would like to ask that during this cold weather all pupils bring jogging bottoms or similar for outdoor PE sessions. It is often cold and damp and unless it is really slippery or wet outside we will make every opportunity to take our games sessions outdoors. Hoodies and fleeces can also be worn to protect from the cold. Outdoor clothing needs to be brought home for washing at the end of each week.

Finally, thank you for the lovely range of presents , cards and good wishes at Christmas. As a staff, we received many very supportive and thoughtful messages in cards and letters which indicate how much you value the school and staff.

Kind regards

Mrs Gill Price

Headteacher