

WESTON FAVELL ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

WWW.WESTONFAVELLACADEMY.ORG



Friday 6th June 2025



Turning Inspiration into Action

Dear families,

This week, Weston Favell Academy was privileged to welcome an extraordinary guest — James Thompson, a local pilot (please see page 4) whose inspirational journey truly inspired us all. His visit was a powerful reminder of the importance of dreaming big—and then doing the work to make those dreams a reality.

James spoke passionately to our pupils about resilience, determination, and the power of seizing every opportunity. He reminded us that success rarely happens overnight and that every great achievement begins with a first step—whether it's studying hard, asking questions, or simply believing in yourself.

What struck pupils most was the way he connected aspiration with action. He didn't just encourage our pupils to aim high—he showed them how to get there: by taking responsibility, staying curious, and making the most of the opportunities in front of them, even when they seem small.

I want to echo his message and encourage every pupil to think about what inspires them and what steps they can take today to move closer to that goal. Whether it's taking on a new challenge, joining a club, volunteering, or simply pushing themselves a little further in class, every action matters.

We believe deeply in nurturing ambition here, but more importantly, we believe in equipping our young people to act on it. This visit has reinforced our commitment to turning aspiration into achievement—for every child, every day.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Mr K. Beeby

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Northampton
NN3 3EZ
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Weston Favell Academy



@WestonFavellGAT

P

Perseverance

R

Respect

I

Inclusivity

D

Determination

E

Excellence

Newsletter Highlights

Page 3- Maths Challenge

Page 4 - Flying Visit

Page 10&11 - Wake up Wednesday

Page 13 - Stars of the Week

Page 14 - WFA Culture Week

Page 17&18 - Attendance Winners

Term Dates

**[Click here](#) to view term dates
for 2025-2026**

**Wonder why we
use ClassCharts?**

[Click here](#) to read the PDF

**"All our dreams can come true, if we
have the courage to pursue them" -
Walt Disney**

Parent Forums

**Our new forums will provide
opportunities for Academy
staff, parents/carers and the
community to come together
to share what we do, and
support your child.**

Future dates for the diary...

DATE CHANGE!!!

Monday 16th June 2025

Online Safety with Wayne Stevenson

3.45-4.45pm

RAISING STANDARDS – TRANSFORMING LIVES

Maths Challenge

At the end of last term, we were delighted to celebrate the achievements of our Year 7 and 8 pupils who took part in the national UK Maths Challenge. All pupils approached the challenge with maturity and enthusiasm, and we are incredibly proud of their efforts.

A special congratulations goes to the 16 pupils who were awarded bronze, silver or gold certificates – a fantastic accomplishment that reflects both their hard work and mathematical talent.

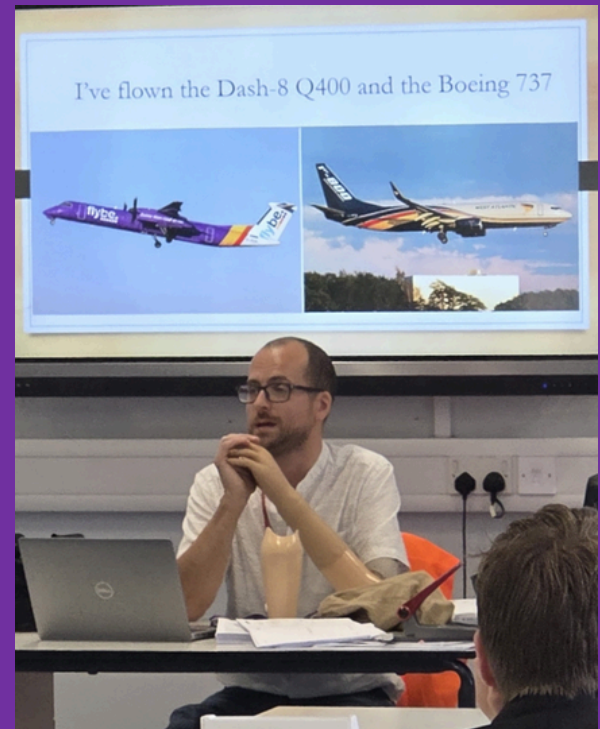
Our Best in School award goes to Dragos in Year 7, who achieved an outstanding result and represented the school brilliantly. All of our participants were a credit to the school, and we look forward to seeing what they go on to achieve next!





Flying Visit!

Weston Favell Academy had the privilege of hosting an extraordinary guest speaker, James Thompson—a local pilot who has achieved remarkable feats despite being born with one arm. James is among the few pilots worldwide to have earned his wings with an upper limb difference, making his journey both inspiring and groundbreaking.

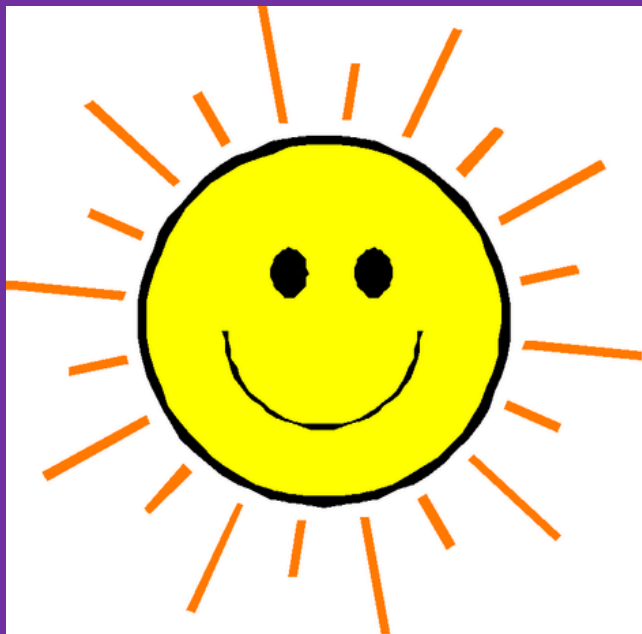


During two engaging sessions, James captivated pupils with his story of resilience and determination. He shared how he overcame physical challenges to pursue his dream of flying, demonstrating the use of his adapted prosthetics to control an aircraft. A highlight of his presentation was a video showcasing him piloting a Boeing 737, offering a glimpse into his skills and the possibilities that determination can unlock.

Beyond sharing his personal journey, James delved into the technical aspects of aviation, providing insights into the mechanics of flight and even guiding pupils through the basics of landing a plane. His interactive approach sparked curiosity, leading to a lively Q&A session where pupils posed thoughtful questions, reflecting their engagement and interest.

This event marked the first in a series of STEM-focused sessions aimed at inspiring our learners.

For those who missed this inspiring session, stay tuned for upcoming events that continue to celebrate innovation, resilience, and the pursuit of dreams.



Summer Uniform Reminder



Due to the unusual temperatures for this time of year, we have decided to bring forward the date that pupils are permitted to come to school in summer uniform.

Pupils do not have to wear, or bring to school, their blazer or jumper. However, outdoor coats, sports jackets or any other alternative item should not be worn to replace the blazer and jumper. If there is a change of weather, or if a pupil feels cold, their blazer and jumper must be worn initially with any alternative item on top of these.

Shirts must remain tucked in at all times and ties of a normal length (minimum of 6 stripes showing).

Can I also remind pupils and parents that pupils are only allowed to wear the Academy branded skirts.

All other uniform expectations remain the same. Please find a link below to our uniform expectations on the website.

<https://www.westonfavellacademy.org/page/?title=Uniform&pid=84>



ENRICHMENT!



Get Involved: Discover, Learn, and Have Fun!

Looking to try something new, meet new friends, or dive deeper into your interests? Our clubs and enrichment opportunities are the perfect place to start! Whether you're passionate about sports, music, art, science, drama, creative writing—or just want to explore something different—there's something for everyone.

Joining a club is a great way to:

- Build confidence and learn new skills
- Explore your passions beyond the classroom
- Work as a team and take on fun challenges
- Stand out on future college or job applications
- And most importantly—have fun!

There's no better time to get involved. Check out the list of current clubs on the Enrichment board or school website, and give one a try this week. You might discover a new hobby, or even a hidden talent!

Your adventure starts now—see where it takes you!

**SCAN THE QR CODE TO VISIT THE
'Academy Clubs and Enrichment'
SECTION ON OUR WEBSITE**





ENRICHMENT!



Before-School

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	Triple science <i>(KS4) – E5</i>	Triple science <i>(KS4) – E5</i>	Triple science <i>(KS4) – E5</i>	

Lunchtime

Boardgames <i>LRC</i>	Boardgames <i>LRC</i>	Boardgames <i>LRC</i>	Boardgames <i>LRC</i>	Boardgames <i>LRC</i>
Brass Band <i>Invite only</i>	Drums <i>Music area</i>	Keyboards <i>PA1</i>	Guitar <i>Invite only</i>	
Keyboards <i>PA1</i>	Strings <i>Invite only</i>			

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After-School

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Choir <i>PA2</i>	Art Club <i>D1</i>	Dungeons & Dragons <i>LRC</i>	Spanish <i>A14</i>	Homework/games <i>LRC</i>
Prowess <i>PA5</i>	Science – required practical preparation <i>E3 & E6</i>	Homework/games <i>LRC</i>	Y9 reading <i>A4</i>	Creative writing <i>A5</i>
Dance <i>PA4</i>	STEM <i>E4</i>	KS4 sports science <i>SF3</i>	Y8 Boys football <i>Astro</i>	Homework catch-up <i>B10</i>
Homework/games <i>LRC</i>	Girls football <i>Astro</i>	KS4 Art and Design int.	Trampolining <i>Gym</i>	
Business <i>IT3</i>	Homework/games <i>LRC</i>	LGBTQ+ Club	Science – required practical preparation <i>E3 & E6</i>	
Health and social/Child development <i>B10</i>	Y7 reading club <i>A2</i>		Movie Club <i>A18</i>	
Y7-10 Athletics <i>Field</i>	Drama <i>PA5</i>		KS5 IT/E&M <i>IT4</i>	
KS4/5 Child development <i>IT2</i>	Triple Science <i>E5</i>		Homework/games/chess <i>Library</i>	
Y11 Sports Science intervention and exam prep <i>D4</i>	KS4 IT/E&M <i>IT4 & D4</i>		Eco club <i>A19</i>	
Swimming Pool	Y11 Boys football <i>Astro</i>		Y10 Boys football <i>Astro</i>	
	Y11 French Speaking <i>A17</i>		Y13 A level Chemistry <i>D5</i>	
	Health and social/Child development <i>IT2</i>		Y11 French speaking <i>A17</i>	
	Y9 Spanish <i>A16</i>		Y11 history intervention Triple Science int. <i>E5 & E8</i>	
	Duke of Edinburgh Award		Combined Science int. <i>E4 & E1</i>	
			Swimming <i>Pool</i>	
			Dance <i>PA4</i>	



Year 7 Readerboard:

#1: Eshal R – 3550 SRP

#2: Hadriel I – 2054 SRP

#3: Izzy J – 1404 SRP



Year 8 Readerboard:

#1: Mia F – 1306 SRP

#2: Alexandra N – 1128 SRP

#3: Kairan P – 1003 SRP



Year 9 Readerboard:

#1: Christabel A – 5475 SRP

#2: Oyindamola O – 2172 SRP

#3: David S – 2043 SRP



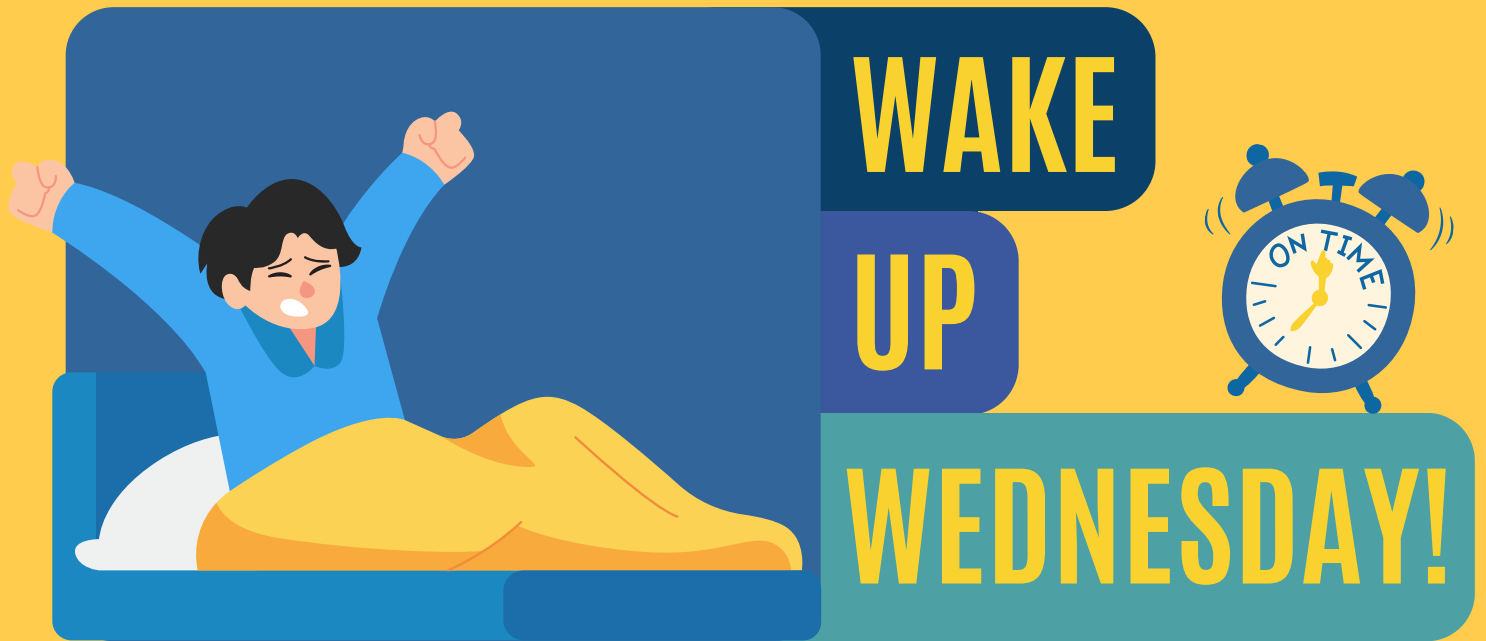
Sparx Reader

Leaderboard

WB Monday 2nd June

Don't forget to complete your 30-minute read!





This Week: ● MINECRAFT

With its limitless opportunities for building, exploring and collaborating, Minecraft remains a global gaming phenomenon - in fact, the best-selling game of all time!

Its broad appeal lies in how open-ended it is - but this also means it's not without risk. From chatting with strangers on public servers to the grief of having a beloved creation destroyed, young players can face challenges. Minecraft can also become a time sink for enthusiastic players, with late nights spent crafting and constructing, potentially impacting on school and social lives. With the Minecraft Movie recently hitting cinemas, interest in the game has somehow increased! The attached free guide helps parents and educators understand how to keep young gamers safe - from choosing age-appropriate game modes to setting boundaries around screen time and spending.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about MINECRAFT



WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Still the best-selling game of all time, Minecraft is a bastion of creativity and community, with hundreds of millions of players building and crafting in its almost endless world. The popularity of Minecraft among gamers of all ages means it's important to remain informed about the game, including how to play it safely and whether it's suitable for the children in your care. That's why we've created this guide explaining the risks associated with Minecraft and how to ensure a purely enjoyable gaming experience.

SCARY ELEMENTS

While Minecraft can be seen as a kind of 'digital LEGO', certain game modes include creatures accompanied by eerie sound effects. These can be a bit too frightening for some younger players, potentially leading to distressing in-game combat and other encounters – although the combat is quite basic and free from any real depiction of violence.

GRIEFING

Some players in Minecraft take pleasure in deliberately damaging or destroying another person's creations. This behaviour, known as 'griefing', is a form of bullying – it intentionally ruins someone else's experience by erasing hours of their work and forcing them to start over. Many public servers regard griefing as a serious offence and often ban those who engage in it.

ADDICTIVENESS

Minecraft's focus on creativity means that, as with any creative endeavour, it can be easy to get carried away. If your child is finding it difficult to manage their time because they're drawn in by Minecraft's gameplay loop of resource gathering and building elaborate projects, it could have a knock-on effect on their social interactions and schoolwork.

PUBLIC SERVERS AND COMMUNICATIONS

With public servers being so easily accessible in Minecraft, it's highly likely that children will end up chatting with strangers through the in-game text chat. Some servers even place an emphasis on social interaction, actively encouraging communication between players. While there's nothing inherently wrong with this, it does carry certain risks. In addition to the concerns around speaking with strangers online, players who host their own servers may have their IP addresses exposed, posing a further security concern.

ADDITIONAL PURCHASES

Minecraft is available as a free trial on a variety of devices; however, the full game requires a one-off purchase. After that, players have the option to buy additional cosmetic upgrades or subscribe to Minecraft Realms. Realms is an entirely optional subscription service that allows users to run their own private server to play with friends. Without proper supervision, younger players may end up making unintended or excessive purchases.

Advice for Parents & Educators

CHOOSE THE RIGHT MODE

Selecting Creative or Peaceful mode allows children to play Minecraft without having to contend with enemies. It's also a great way for you to get used to playing the game with them, since the difficulty level is far lower. This allows you to work together on a long-term project, creating something special without the threat of enemies and creatures attacking you or damaging your building.

HOST A PRIVATE SERVER

The easiest way to find a safe server for children to play on is to make one yourself. Hosting a server prevents strangers from finding it, and as they've been given the address and password, a private server also lets you control who's allowed to enter and – if necessary – ban anyone who should not be there. This is the closest equivalent to parental controls in Minecraft. Hosting a private server, however, will cost a monthly fee.

TALK ABOUT STRANGERS

At some point in their lives, almost everyone will make contact with a stranger online. Talking to children about online safety, therefore, is essential – as is having a plan for dealing with any hostile or difficult people. It's important that a child knows how to tell a stranger about themselves online and that they should come to you straight away if they do encounter a problem.

RESEARCH CONTENT CREATORS

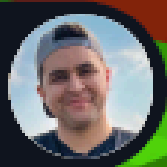
Much of Minecraft's early stages can be an exercise in frustration for players who don't know where to start. Thankfully, there's a wealth of material online and in video format to help you learn the basics. Just be mindful that some of this content may not be appropriate for children, so you should consider watching it yourself first.

PLAY MINECRAFT WITH YOUR CHILD

As a creative building tool, Minecraft makes it great fun for children to team up and construct vast buildings accompanied by imaginative landscapes, much like working with LEGO or model kits. Playing in a game mode that includes enemies can encourage critical thinking and teamwork; however, you should consider which game mode is appropriate for the child in your care.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coleman is Gaming Editor at the Daily Star, and has worked in games media for more than 8 years. A long-time gaming enthusiast, he is also a parent and therefore a keen advocate of online safety for children of all ages.



The National College

Get support!

Young Carers Support



Scan the QR Code

We are delighted to announce that we will be relaunching the support programme for young carers within Weston Favell Academy.

We will be working closely with Northampton Young Carers Service (NYCS) in assuring that our pupils are supported both at the Academy and at home.

If you believe that your child or a child within your family who is a pupil at the Academy is a young carer, please scan the QR code for more information.

Designer (Sound)

Job of the Week



Scan the QR Code

This section is designed to help you with finding careers.

Over the course of these newsletters we have been going from A-Z with different jobs to give you inspiration and help you find something to aspire to.

Stars Of The Week

Year 7- Ifechukwu C

Year 8 - Toby C

Year 9 - Hollie-Autumn T

Year 10 - Dominik P

Year 11 - Taran H

Sixth Form - Irina B

Congratulations!

All 'Stars of the Week' are entered into our termly prize draw - the winner will receive a £25 voucher.

For your
diary

GCSE / GCE Formal Examinations
Monday 12th May onwards

Sixth Form Celebration Event
Friday 20th June

Year 11 Prom
Thursday 26th June

WFA Culture Week
Monday 30th June - Friday 4th July

WFA Activities Week
Monday 7th July - Friday 11th July

**GOT A SEC?
WE NEED YOUR FEEDBACK!**




**SCAN OR CLICK THE QR CODE
ABOVE TO TAKE THE GAT
PARENTS/CARERS SURVEY.**

**WE USE THE RESPONSES
FROM THESE TO IMPROVE
THE WFA EXPERIENCE!**

Coming soon...

WFA CULTURE WEEK 2025


What makes me, me?

 Monday, 30th June – Friday, 4th July 2025

Join us for a week-long celebration of cultural diversity and heritage, showcasing the unique identities that make up our school community


Cultural Music and Menu

Experience global flavors and rhythms with food and music from around the world.


 Every Day

Cultural Dress Day and parade

Wear clothing that represents your culture and join the grand finale parade, celebrating culture, tradition, and heritage.


 Friday, 4th July

"Welcome to Weston Favell" Video Creation
Greet our visitors by saying "hello" in your native language, expressing cultural pride.

 Monday, 30th June & Tuesday, 1st July


Cultural Stories and Language Performances

Enjoy stories from various cultures, told in their native languages.

 Wednesday, 2nd July

Cultural MasterChef 2025

Celebrate culture through cuisine in a friendly cooking competition.

 Thursday, 3rd July

Let's come together to honor and celebrate the rich tapestry of cultures that make our academy unique!

Key Contacts

Safeguarding Team

Use the QR Code to meet the Safeguarding Team.



Contacting the Academy

Academy reception is open from
8:00am - 4:00pm

Tel: 01604 402121

admin@westonfavellacademy.org



Working together

Key Contacts

Year 7 Team

Mrs A Carpenter
Miss C O'Kane

Year 8 Team

Mr C Harrison
Miss H Coyne

Year 9 Team

Mrs S Edwards
Ms A Moran

Year 10 Team

Miss S Kyle
Mrs N High

Year 11 Team

Mrs C Fleming

Sixth Form Team

Mrs L Mann
Mrs P Souster
Mrs B Whelan

We are here to help



Weekly Prize Draw.

Every week, pupils who achieve 100% attendance can win a £25 voucher.



One pupil from each year group will be selected at random from now until the end of July.

Attendance Matters!

Evidence tells us that high attendance correlates to strong academic performance.

Simply put – pupils that are in the Academy every day will achieve better than those who are not.

Those who miss less than 1% of their learning time in Y10/11 make 3.5 times more progress by the end of KS4.

High attendance also:

Increases engagement

Improves social and emotional wellbeing

Reduces gaps for disadvantaged groups

Increases chances of future career success.

This week's winners were...

Year 7 – Daisy F

Year 8 – Lola N

Year 9 – Happiness M

Year 10 – Ianis N

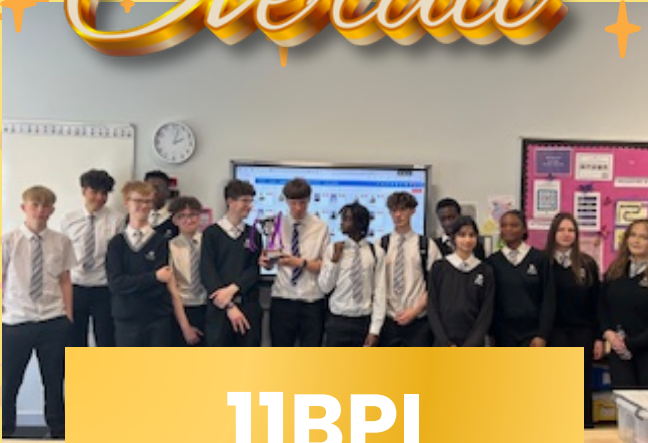
Year 11 – Nathan S

Sixth Form – Samuel W

Congratulations!

Attendance Winners

Overall



11BPI

Week 1

Progress



11CST



11WPE

Week 2



10TBA



7CMA

Week 3



7MIR

Attendance Winners

Overall



11WPE

Week 4

Progress



7KCU



8GPE

Week 5



10VCO