

West Green Primary School



Dear Parents and Carers,

We are coming to the end of a busy spring term, and would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a restful Easter break. Thank you to all the parents who sent in feedback about the mid-year reports. The response has been overwhelmingly positive. We really do feel that this is a better system, as Parents and Teachers can work together to achieve the best for children while they are still in the same class. You will all receive a short end of year progress report as well. This is the third of our new-look newsletters, which we are aiming to get out to you once a month. You will see that it is jam-packed with dates for the summer as we are gearing up for what looks to be an exciting term.

Towards the end of the summer we are expecting to have our full Ofsted inspection. My prediction is the week of the 9th July, but we can never be sure until the day before. Let's see if I am right! We really appreciate the positivity that parents show towards the school at times like this. If you'd like to put your views on record, visit <https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>. Your views stay on the site, and Ofsted look at them when they visit. You can update them whenever you like.

Congratulations Year 6 West Sussex Sumdog Maths Contest Winners

Sumdog, an online maths application, held a maths contest this month for West Sussex schools. 280 schools in the area took part in the competition. During the completion West Green Primary pupils answered an astonishing 34,371 questions! Our very own Year 6 took first place with an impressive score of 769, a clear victory with a 40 point lead. Well done Year 6, we are very proud of your hard work and dedication.

Attendance Matters – Every Minute Counts

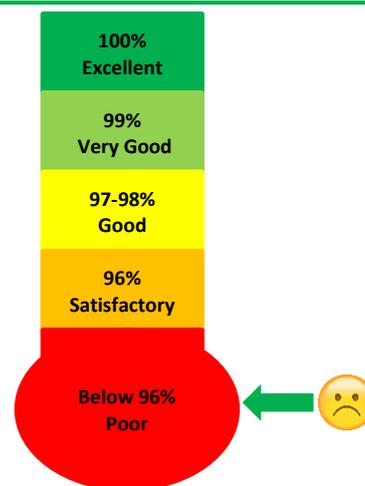
As a school we should be achieving an average student attendance of 97%. However, last month we only achieved 95% whole school attendance.

Attendance below 96% has a negative impact on your child's ability to learn.

Children should not be absent from school during term time for:

- Day trips
- Family holidays
- Parent/carer or sibling illness
- Shopping
- Birthdays

There are 190 days in a school year, which leaves 175 days to spend on family time, shopping, appointments and other things.



World Book Day

Despite the snow and freezing temperatures World Book Day went ahead and was an amazing success. Costumes ranged from ice queens to superheroes, grannys to mad-hatters, lions to bears, and even the occasional mouse.



Educate Against Hate

Children often take risks, explore new things and push boundaries as they become more independent. In order to protect children from extremism and radicalisation, The Department for Education has launched an 'educate against hate' website; <https://educateagainsthate.com>. This website gives parents, teachers and school leaders a go to hub providing practical advice and information on protecting children from extremism and radicalisation, with information from the government and groups such as the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC). The website includes information on:

- warning signs of danger
- how parents should talk to children about extremism
- steps concerned parents can take
- safeguarding advice and support
- information on online safety

Crossing Patrol

It is with great disappointment that I inform you that West Sussex County Council (WSCC) have still not been able to employ a crossing patrol person for outside the school.

Should any parents/carers be interested in applying for the crossing patrol vacancy, the school will do everything we can to assist in making it easy for you, including looking after your child/children before the start of the day and for extra time at the end of the day. Please contact the office for more information.



SCHOOL CROSSING PATROL PERSON WANTED

WE ARE CURRENTLY LOOKING FOR A SCHOOL CROSSING PATROL TO ASSIST PUPILS IN CROSSING OUR BUSY ROADS DURING SCHOOL START AND FINISH TIMES. WE ARE HAPPY FOR YOU TO SHARE MORNING AND/OR AFTERNOON DUTIES.

FULL ON-SITE TRAINING WILL BE GIVEN ALONG WITH SUMMER AND WINTER UNIFORMS.

TERM TIME ONLY, £7.90 PER HOUR

(HOURS TO BE CONFIRMED BUT APPROX 2 PER DAY SPLIT BETWEEN AM AND PM)

If you are interested please contact: louise.bishop@westsussex.gov.uk

Road Safety

As you will be aware one of our students was involved in a road traffic incident on West Green Drive recently. This road is extremely busy and can be dangerous to cross, particularly at peak times of the day.

As a school we take the safety of our students seriously. We have been giving the children extra lessons on the importance of road safety, in addition to a whole school assembly dedicated to road safety.

We believe the best way to protect our children is to have a pelican crossing installed. To this end, we have been working with the local Travel Plan Advisor of WSCC and our local councillors to submit a bid for a pelican crossing. After Easter break we will need your support, more information to follow.

Online Safety

An early introduction to digital technology has been shown to improve children's language and has a positive effect on their imagination. However, in an increasingly digital world it is important that children are taught how to keep safe in the online environment.

<https://www.internetmatters.org> provides age specific resources and easy to access information on understanding what your child might be doing online and easy advice on steps you can take as a parent/carer to keep children as safe as possible.

Fundraising and Charities

A very big thank you to everyone who has contributed to fundraising this year. Our fundraising efforts go into improving the school for all our students, such as the quiz night funding much needed IT equipment, as well as supporting the schools chosen charities

As a community it is important that we support both local and international charities. Fundraising events don't just raise money for good causes; they also provide learning opportunities for children, by encouraging them to think about more than just themselves, and develop a positive, community-centred attitude.

However, we do not want our parents/carers to feel like requests for money from school for good causes is never-ending. To make our fundraising as effective as possible, at the beginning of each academic year we, as a school, choose charities that we would like to support. This year we are supporting the following charities:

BBC Children In Need: raises money for disadvantaged children and young people in the UK.

The Olive Tree Cancer Support Centre: this is a local charity that is based at Crawley hospital. The Olive Tree Cancer Support Centre provides a range of services to support cancer patients, their carers and families, from diagnose, through treatment and beyond.

From time-to-time, individual classes will run their own fundraising activities for a charity they have selected. An example of this was the successful cake sale, held by Year 4. Year 4 raised just over £100 for Stand Up To Cancer. Thank you to all those that supported the cause, from the cake makers to those that bought and enjoyed them.

www.westsussex.gov.uk/libraries

 West Sussex Reads

STORY MAGIC

Join a multi-sensory story time session specially for children and young people with additional needs.

We know all children love multi-sensory stories, so siblings and others are welcome too.

Parents and carers are asked to remain with their child for this activity.

There is no charge for this activity but there is a Donation Box if you would like to make a cash contribution.

First Saturday of the month 2.30 - 3.15pm



Crawley Library

Southgate Avenue, Crawley RH10 6HG

01293 651751

New School Website

Please look out for our exciting new website that will be launched in the coming week.

Please provide any feedback on the new website as this will help to improve the site.

Labelling

Please can parents/carers ensure that all your child/children's belongs are clearly labelled, including all uniform, sports kit, shoes, lunch boxes, etc.

Correctly labelled belongings help the children to keep track of their property and makes it less likely that they will lose things. It also makes it easier to reunite children with lost property.

School Drop Off

Please do not park, stop, drop or collect your child/children on the yellow zig-zag lines outside of the school.

Parking on the zig-zag lines is extremely dangerous as it prevents children and other pedestrians from being able to see out into the road clearly. The zig-zag lines are to be kept clear and those caught stopping/waiting/dropping off are at risk of receiving a fine and penalty points on their driving licence.



NATIONAL YOUNG
WRITERS'
AWARDS
2018

HEROES

National Young Writers' Awards

For the past nine years, Explore Learning has been inspiring children to write, from the young authors in the making to those a little more reluctant. This year we're celebrating real life heroes, from firefighters and paramedics, to teachers and parents. We're inviting children to tell us a story, in 500 words or fewer, about a hero!

Completion closes Friday 20th April 2018




Measles

Please be aware that there have been a number of confirmed or probable cases of measles in Surrey. Children that are suspected as having measles must be kept at home for 4 days after the onset of the rash.

Early symptoms for measles are as follows:

- a runny or blocked nose
- sneezing
- watery eyes
- swollen eyelids
- sore, red eyes that may be sensitive to light
- a high temperature (fever), which may reach around 40°C (104°F)
- small greyish-white spots in the mouth (see below)
- aches and pains
- a cough
- loss of appetite
- tiredness, irritability and a general lack of energy

Late symptoms for measles is a rash, which appears 2–4 days after initial symptoms. Children must be kept home for 4 days following the onset of the rash.

The measles rash:

- is made up of small red-brown, flat or slightly raised spots that may join together into larger blotchy patches
- usually first appears on the head or neck, before spreading outwards to the rest of the body, eventually reaching the hands and feet
- is slightly itchy for some people
- can look similar to other childhood conditions, such as slapped cheek syndrome, roseola or rubella
- is unlikely to be caused by measles if the person has been fully vaccinated (had 2 doses of the MMR vaccine) or had measles before

For more information please ask at the office for a leaflet or visit: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/measles/>

Summer Term Dates

Easter Break: 30th March – 13th April (school closed)	
16 th April	Children return to school
23 rd April	Orders for school uniform deadline for April order
20 th April	National Young Writers' Awards writing competition submission deadline
24 th April	Year 4 class assembly (parent/carer invite), 9:00am
May	Year 2 assessments
7 th May	Bank Holiday (school closed)
14-18 th May	Year 6 SATS
25 th May	STEM rocket workshop
Half-Term: 28th May – 1st June (school closed)	
4 th June	Children return to school
7 th June	Come and Share Our Learning, 9:00am
7 th June	Year 6 swimming lessons start
11–15 th June	Year 1 Phonics testing
19 th June	Sports Day: Morning, 9:30am Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 Afternoon, 1:30pm Year 3 – Year 6
22 nd June	School Fair, 3:15 – 5:15pm
25 th June	Orders for school uniform deadline for June order
27 th June	Year 6 trip to The Big Bang Fair (Ardingly)
28 th June	Year 1 class assembly (parent/carer invite), 9:00am
29 th June	Year 5/6 football team Football Tournament
2 nd – 6 th July	Year 6 Bikeability
3 rd July	Reception class assembly (parent/carer invite), 9:00am
13 th July	Summer Disco: 3:45 – 4:45pm Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 5:00 – 6:00pm Year 3 – Year 6
17 th July	Year 6 Production, 3:15pm
18 th July	Year 6 Production, 6:00pm cupboard
20 th July	Year 6 leavers assembly, 9:00am
23 rd – 24 th July	INSET day (children not in school)
Summer Break: 25th July – 3rd September (school closed)	

Yours sincerely
Mr A Hodgson - Headteacher