

**WESTERN ROAD C.P.SCHOOL**

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<http://www.westernroad.e-sussex.sch.uk>

Newsletter No 4, 18th November 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

Staffing

As you will have seen from a letter sent out last week, we have some staff changes this term and from Term 3:

I would like to congratulate Mrs Rea Hamilton, our current Year Six teacher covering Kerry Bedford's maternity leave, who has been appointed as the Deputy Headteacher from 1st January 2020. Mrs Hamilton will be out of class on Mondays for her management time, during which time Mrs Suzy Bennett will teach Year Six (until Mrs Bedford returns from maternity leave). Mrs Hamilton will teach the class from Tuesdays to Fridays.

Miss Laura Patience will begin her maternity leave on Friday, 15th November. I am sure you will want to join me in wishing Miss Patience well! Mrs Louisa Adams, our current Year Six teacher, will cover Miss Patience's maternity leave from 1st January 2020.

Starting on Monday, 18th November, Mrs Karina Lindfield (a cover teacher, well-known to the school and Year One class) will teach Year One on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Mrs Bishop, the EYFS class teacher, will teach Year One on Thursdays and Fridays. Mrs Bishop will continue to teach EYFS on Mondays and Tuesdays with Mrs Michica teaching EYFS on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. You are very welcome to meet Mrs Lindfield on Monday, 18th November either before school (8.30am to 8.50am) or after school (3.30pm to 4pm). Mrs Adams will also be available in Year One during those times.

As you know, Mr Chris Linton will be leaving our school at the end of this term for a new phase in his life in Germany. We have secured an experienced newly-qualified teacher to teach Year Five from 1st January 2020 and are finalising references before we are able to release their name. As a newly-qualified teacher, they will be entitled to their planning time and, in addition, a half-day for continuing professional development. During that half-day, I will teach the Year Five class. I will let you know in due course of a date when you are invited to meet the new Year Five class teacher before the end of this term.

I can now confirm that Miss Jade Lester will teach Year Five from 1st January 2020. Unfortunately, Mrs Alice Bracher (Year Four) is unwell and will not return to school before Christmas. We have a long-term cover teacher for the class, Miss Chloe Sheppard, who will teach Year Four until Christmas.

Thank you all for your support while the school makes the staff changes.

Online Safety Awareness

Some children in Key Stage Two have reported feeling unsafe whilst playing interactive games, for example Boonie Planet, due to online comments asking to meet up. The children were unsure if the comments meant meeting up in real life or as the characters in the games. I am very proud of the children who spoke to me about their concerns and I have asked them to speak directly to their parents and also to not respond to comments whilst online. We teach the children about how to stay safe online and encourage children to use the internet for positive reasons and if they feel unsafe at any time, to tell an adult.

Safe-Guarding Children at Western Road Community Primary School: At Western Road Community Primary, all staff take safeguarding children very seriously. All staff have been trained in Safeguarding and Child Protection. If you have any concerns about a child's well-being, bullying or e-safety, please contact the Designated Teachers for Child Protection: **Mrs Wooler**.

Armistice Assembly

The school came together on Monday, 11th November for a special assembly to mark the Armistice. The children held a two minute silence with Lewes as the canons fired in the town. Thank you to everyone who supported the Royal British Legion by donating money for poppies or wrist bands. We will let you know in due course how much we raised for the charity.

Anti-Bullying Week

The children celebrated Anti-Bullying Week on Monday, 11th November with workshops from Bigfoot Theatre company. The children took part in and discussed a range of role play scenarios as different characters based around bullying behaviours. Feedback from the children included: *'to tell a trusted adult when something is wrong'*, *'to try and tell someone if they are worried about something and not keep it inside'* and *'if someone is mean to you, you can ignore them'*.



Children In Need

On Friday, 15th November we celebrated Children In Need and the theme of this year of 'Get Together' with the children wearing something spotty, donating money and a very successful cake sale. Thank you to everyone who supported the event – we raised an impressive £260.95 for the charity!



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Football Festival

Congratulations to the football teams who reached the semi-finals of the football festival on Monday, 18th November. As always, the children's behaviour and teamwork was exemplary. Thanks to Miss Doone and Mrs Adams for supervising the event.



School Uniform

Please make sure that your child is wearing the correct school uniform, including a coat with a hood/hat now the weather is turning cold, and have their PE kit in school every day (as below and on the school website). Please make sure that all items are clearly labelled with your child's name. Thank you.

- Navy school fleece with school logo (optional but these are very warm and ideal for Winter and Spring)
- Navy school jumper with or without school logo or navy or mid-grey cardigan (not hoodies)
- White shirt/blouse with long or short sleeves with or without logo or
- White or navy blue polo shirt with or without school logo
- Mid-grey or navy trousers or smart shorts, or
- Mid-grey or navy skirts (or skorts), pinafore dresses or school summer dresses (blue/white check)
- White/navy/grey socks or tights (not leggings)
- Plain black or navy school shoes (or plain black or navy trainers with no logos); plain sandals in the Summer terms only
- Plain hair accessories (optional and in school colours preferably). We recommend that long hair be tied back

PE kit:

- White T-shirt or polo shirt with school logo (or plain)
- Grey or navy shorts or jogging bottoms (plain with no logos)
- Trainers or plimsolls

Playground use after school

Please could I remind children, parents and carers that the Key Stage One playground is closed to everyone as of 3.40pm. Children who are supervised by an adult are welcome to play on the Key Stage Two playground each day until 4pm, except for Wednesdays when the playground is used for Netball Club. However, as previously stated, children are not permitted to ride on scooters or bikes on the playground and should not be playing any ball games. The playground closes promptly at 4pm, in-line with our safeguarding procedures.

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SENCo

Mrs Bradshaw, our SENCo, works in school on Mondays. If you have any queries or would like make an appointment to see her, please do email senco@westernroad.e-sussex.sch.uk Thank you.

Reminder - Healthy Eating

Last year, healthy eating was raised at Parent Forum regarding the availability of fruit for desserts and associated reduction in sugary puddings at lunchtimes. In addition, research has shown that young children find it difficult to maintain concentration if they do not have a snack mid-morning. Whilst our Reception and Key Stage 1 children are offered free fruit mid-morning, they may also benefit from also eating something more substantial. We have also seen some children bringing crisps and chocolate as their mid-morning snack. We would ask children bring healthy snacks for breacktimes, for example cheese, crackers, plain rice crackers or simple savoury sandwiches. Please do not send in chocolate, crisps or fizzy drinks. Some new parents have asked about bringing in food treats, for examples sweets or cakes for a child's birthday. We have many children with dietary requirements but this is very difficult to organise. Class teachers will always celebrate a child's birthday but please don't bring anything in food treats to school for the teachers to distribute.

News from Friends of Western Road

Halloween Disco 2019

Our disco was the best one yet and everyone had a great time. A big thank you to the organisers and to everyone who decorated the school and helped on the night. We made an incredible £1267 profit.

Christmas Fair – Thursday, 12th December 3.30pm - 5.30pm

Monday 9th December - wear something Christmas themed to school (if you want to) and donate a gift for our hamper or £1 at the gate that morning.

DONATIONS - we need toys and books in good condition to sell at our fair. Please do drop donations into school anytime over the next 4 weeks.

Christmas Cards

Hopefully your child came home with their Christmas card design and order form last week (contact us if it's missing). You can order direct through their website and there are cards, gift tags and thank you cards for sale. FWR receive a large percentage from each purchase, so you not only do you get some wonderful cards you are also helping the school. The shop closes on 18th November, so make sure you place your orders by then.

Artists and Makers

The amazing Artist and Makers fair is on Saturday, 7th December at Lewes Town Hall with a new preview night on the Friday (6th December) for the first time this year. Antonia and her team do an incredible job and it raises a huge amount of money for the school. Please tell all your friends, like and follow them on social media, come along on the Friday and Saturday and look out for ways to help on the day.

Funding update

We have been busy arranging the following, thank you for your support.

- FWR provided 3 new picnic benches in the KS2 playground.
- New magnetic wall games were fitted in the KS2 playground.
- FWR purchased new balls and sports equipment for the KS2 playground to be used at break time.
- FWR have provided each class with £50 worth of new books for their classroom from Bags of Books.
- FWR contributed to the Year 6 Imperial War Museum trip.
- FWR bought the school 3 new cameras, 100 glue sticks and some lovely new resources for reception.

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Dates for your diary:

Committee meeting (all welcome) – Tuesday, 26th November - 2.30pm - 3.20pm in the school library.

Christmas Jumper Day - wear something festive to school and bring a donation for the Christmas Fair hampers –

Monday, 9th December

Christmas Fair in the school hall – Thursday, 12th December

2020 Dates

Parents/Carers Quiz Night and auction in the school hall – Thursday, 13th February

Easter Disco in the school hall – Thursday, 2nd April

Summer Fair – Saturday, 13th June

Contact Us

A reminder you can follow us on Instagram @friendswesternrd and Facebook @FriendsofWesternRoad for news about our events. Or email us on westernroad.friends@outlook.com or leave a message at the school office for us.

Join Friends of Western Road

Do you want to join our committee? We are looking for people to fill several roles. Get in touch to find out more!

Thank you for your support.

FWR Team

Dates for Celebration Assembly

Friday, 22nd November, 9.15am

Friday, 13th December, 9.15am

Additional dates for your diaries

EYFS Maths meeting (in Hall)	Thursday, 21 st November, 9.15am
Year 6 to Imperial War Museum	Tuesday, 26 th November
Prosecutive EYFS parent meetings	Week commencing 2 nd December
FWR Christmas Fair	Thursday, 12 th December, 3.30pm
School Christmas lunch	Friday, 13 th December
EYFS/Key Stage One Nativity	Wednesday, 18 th December, 1.45pm
Carols Around The Tree	Friday, 20 th December, 9.15am