



West Dean Church of England Primary School
West Dean, Chichester, West Sussex, PO18 ORJ
Telephone: 01243 811247
Headteacher Mr C Williams
Newsletter 3 - 17th September 2021



Dear parents, carers and children,

How can it already be the end of our second week of term? As the old phrase says, 'time flies when you're having fun' and that is certainly what I have seen on the faces of all the children this week, and the staff too I might add!

We are all tremendously impressed and proud of the really confident start to school life that our new Reception children have made this week. By Monday afternoon, they were already exploring the outside area and chatting to me about dinosaurs, mud cakes and all manner of things, with a confidence that would suggest that they had been here for weeks.

I think this confidence is a testament to the welcoming and nurturing environment that the teaching staff work so hard to provide here at West Dean, and to your care and support as parents, in guiding the children through their first days at 'Big School'. Thank you to everyone, and a huge well done to all of the Apple Class Reception children for the brilliant start that you have made. In addition, I must also mention the Year One children, who have really risen to the challenge of being role models for their new class members, and have welcomed them with such care - a very big well done to you too, Year One!

For all teachers like myself, who are new to the role of headteacher, the West Sussex local authority run a comprehensive induction and training programme throughout the first year in post. I attended the first of these this week and was delighted to meet many members of the local authority's school effectiveness team, as well as a lovely group of headteachers from other West Sussex schools. It is encouraging to be reminded of what a strong support network we have as a school within the wider West Sussex community. Back in school it has been, as always, a privilege to spend some time in each of the classes. Beech and Chestnut classes have been particularly impressive in using their thinking skills to advise me as their new headteacher, when asked the question, 'What do you value in this school and what must we definitely keep doing?' There were many interesting answers, but clearest of all was the children's love of the outdoors and pride for the school ground and outside provision.

In the coming weeks, I will be asking you for feedback about the way we communicate with you through newsletters and our use of the website. I am interested to hear your thoughts on the frequency and format of our communication and am keen to learn if there is anything different that we could be doing to develop and improve this. Please look out for a parent questionnaire about this coming soon.

Whether you'll be joining the retro-costumed enthusiasts at the Goodwood Revival this weekend, or opting for something more peaceful, I wish you a relaxing and happy time with your family.

Chris Williams

Please continue to stay safe and
PLEASE MAINTAIN COVID SAFE BEHAVIOURS!

**PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR FACE COVERINGS THROUGHOUT OUR
SCHOOL CAR PARK AND PLAYGROUND.**

Face Coverings (masks and visors) are available to buy from our Reception
if you have forgotten yours.



West Dean CE Primary School
Acorn Awards
Friday 17th September 2021



Kash - for a brilliant first week! You are enthusiastic, kind and a good listener

Frank - for being a brilliant role model to our new Apple Class children. You have really helped them settle and find their way around the classroom

Owen - for your hard work and determination during your topic work this week. You created a fantastic windmill dance as well as producing some super writing!

Monty - for your highly enthusiastic interest and involvement in our Pugs of the North book. Your vocabulary and predictions were well thought and very imaginative

George - for not giving up and continuing to persevere in your seascape painting. Your positive attitude resulted in a truly lovely piece of artwork that you should be proud of!

Robert - for working really hard all week. You have been organised and ready to learn. A great role model

Daniel - You have been an excellent Year 6 role model who has encouraged others to show effective learning behaviours. Well done!



COVID safe procedures and routines

To clarify an element of COVID guidance which has prompted some questions this week, children who are identified as a close contact of a positive case of COVID-19 should attend school as normal and do not need to isolate at home whilst awaiting the result of a PCR test.



Further details of the measures in place in schools and how outbreaks will be managed, can be found at www.westsussex.gov.uk/backtoschool

Healthy Lunch Boxes

We encourage all of our children to lead healthy lifestyles and this includes their lunches and snacks in school. If your child has a packed lunch, please could we ask that you try to make healthy choices for your child's lunch box and not to include sweets.



Thank you for your support with this.

Clubs and Care Bears

Clubs begin next week, our timetable is attached for your convenience and can be found here each week.



Our after school care facility, Care Bears, is open every day from 3.00 – 4.00 for all children from Reception through to Year 6, £5 per child per session.

PTA Tea and Tissues

We were very pleased to welcome our new Reception children's parents for 'Tea and Tissues' with the PTA on Monday. This was such a good opportunity to meet other parents and members of our PTA while the children were settling in.



www.westdean.w-sussex.sch.uk

Please do take a moment to have a look at our website; we are always updating information and making improvements so that you have access to all of our information in one place. We are asking you to be vigilant too, if you spot anything that needs updating or changing or any errors, please do let us know.



You can also download the eschools app, just go to the App store for your device and search eSchools—look out for Owl logo.

PTA Coffee Morning

Everyone is very welcome to come along and join us for a coffee and a catch-up at our PTA coffee morning on Friday 24th September, in the Pavilion, 8.30—9.30am

We will provide disposable cups but if you have your own coffee mug please do bring this along.



Car Parking

From Monday 13th September, parents and carers of any children in Apple Class are permitted to park in the school car park. It is particularly important that we respect this please as we welcome the new Reception children from Monday.



I have not yet been able to review the arrangements for using the pub car park, but will be doing so soon. In the meantime, last term's permit may still be used. Please limit your stay to the period required to pick-up your child and ensure that your driving and parking remains considerate to other users.

Meet the Teacher

Thank you to those who have joined us this week, please do come along and join us for our parent information/meet the teacher sessions for Reception and Maple class next week. Please do check the diary dates below for the details of each session.



Following Chestnut Class session this week, here are some suggestions for websites for keyboard skills:

BBC Dance Mat typing

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zf2f9j6/articles/z3c6tfr>

Typing.com

Typing.club



Uniform Reminder

Girls: White blouse or polo shirt

Royal blue sweatshirt or cardigan with school logo

Grey skirt/ pinafore or tailored trousers

Blue/white check summer dress

White socks/ black or grey tights in winter

Blue/black/brown/ low heeled shoes/ **closed** sandals. No trainers.

Boys: White shirt or polo shirt

Royal blue sweatshirt with logo

Grey trousers (long/short)

Black/grey socks

Black/brown shoes/closed sandals. No trainers.

Pupils in the following year groups:

Year 3 & 4—Elasticated Tie

Year' 5 & 6—Tie

P.E. (Girls and boys)

Plain coloured T-shirt in "house colours"

Navy shorts

Trainers, not plimsolls (Football boots are optional - no studs)

All of our school uniform can be purchased from Game Set & Match, Chichester.

After School Clubs – Autumn Term 2021

Autumn 1 (first half of term – x5 weeks)

Monday	Mrs Pearmaine	12	Lego	£25.00	Yr 1,2,3,
Tuesday	Mrs Goacher/Mrs Johnson 6.30-7.00pm	20	Swim WBH	£25.00	Yr 3,4,5,6,
	Mrs Prudence	10	STEM	£25.00	Yr 4,5,6
Wednesday	Mrs Muggeridge/Miss Boxall	8	Cookery	£30.00	Yr3, 4, 5, 6
Thursday	Mrs E Holder	12	Dance	£20.00	Yr 3,4,5,6
Friday	AAA Coaching	14	Multi-sports	£25.00	1,2,3,4,5,6

Dates: W/C 20th & 27th September, 4th, 11th, 18th October - x 5 weeks

It has become necessary to slightly increase the cost of cookery club in line with the rising costs of ingredients. The children do, however, have their tea to bring home with them so we hope that you will agree, that this is still good value.

Please Note: There will only be four dance club sessions this term, there will be no dance club on Thursday 30th September

In addition to our after school club programme our Care Bear provision is available everyday, Mon-Fri, 3.00-4.00pm. Please make sure that you book in.

All clubs run from 3.00-4.00, with the exception of Cookery Club which finishes at 4.15 and our swimming club which will be held at Westbourne House school, 6.30-7.15pm.

For all clubs and care bears, you can make your bookings on-line at Schoolmoney.co.uk.

Please contact the school office if you require a reminder of your log-in details.

Places for clubs are limited and will be allocated on 'first come, first served' basis.

Governing Body News:

For information about our Governing Body, to find out who we are and what we do or how to contact us please email Mrs Pasha Delahunty, Clerk to Governors - pdelahunty@westdean.w-sussex.sch.uk

Schoolmoney.co.uk

This on-line platform enables you to book for trips and clubs etc. and make payments on-line.

Please do log in regularly and check for 'live' visits and events.

Please log-in to your account to make sure any outstanding balances are settled.

School Money on-line donations.

We have been asked to set up the facility for people to make donations to the school if they would like to. This is available on Schoolmoney.co.uk and will show on your account as 'School Donation' with the amount of £1. There is absolutely no obligation to make this donation and if you wish, you can alter the figure to select the amount that you would like to pay.

Any donations to the school are very much appreciated and we thank you for your support.

PTA News:

If you would like to get involved in the PTA in any way please to contact westdeanpta@outlook.com or contact the school office (office@westdean.w-sussex.sch.uk)

Lost Property:

Don't forget to check the lost property 'bin' , on the pavilion decking, for any items that you might be missing. Please make sure that school uniform is clearly named to enable us to return clothing that has been found.

Diary Dates 2021/22



2021/22 INSET Days

Thursday 2nd September & Friday 3rd September 2021
Monday 28th February 2022, Monday 6th June & Wednesday 6th July



Autumn Term 2021

Monday 6th September - Friday 17th December
Half Term: Monday 25th—Friday 29th October



Spring Term 2022

Tuesday 4th January - Friday 8th April
Half Term: Monday 21st—Friday 25th February



Summer Term 2022

Monday 25th April - Thursday 21st July
Half Term: Monday 30th May—Friday 3rd June

Monday 20th September	2.30pm—Maple Class meet the teacher
Tuesday 21st September	10.00 - Hugo Van Driel Assembly
Wednesday 22nd September	2.30pm—Reception meet the teacher
Wednesday 22nd September	1.00-4.00 - Year 5 Maths Challenge, Christ's Hospital
Thursday 23rd September	Music begins for Beech and Chestnut Class (1 Term 2 Learn)
Thursday 23rd September	12.00—2.30 Beech Class visit to Novium
Thursday 23rd September	5.30 - Governing Body Meeting
Friday 24th September	8.30-9.30 - PTA Coffee Morning, everyone welcome
Monday 27th September	Bike to School Week
Thursday 30th September	Year 1 and Year 2 visit to Winchester Science Centre
Sunday 3rd October	Harvest Festival at East Dean Church
Tuesday 5th October	Bookfest Workshop—Chestnut Class
Wednesday 6th October	Chestnut Class visit to Southampton City Museum (details to follow)
Thursday 7th October	Bookfest Workshop - Maple and Beech Class
Tuesday 19th October	Beech Class visit to Portsmouth Dockyard
Tuesday 2nd November	10.00 Hugo Van Driel Assembly
Monday 8th November	Drama for All Workshop—Apple and Maple Class
Thursday 11th November	8.45 Remembrance Assembly
Friday 19th November	Children in Need
Tuesday 7th December	Flu Vaccination