



West Dean Church of England Primary School
West Dean, Chichester, West Sussex, PO18 ORJ
Telephone: 01243 811247
Headteacher: Mrs G. Moss
Newsletter 25 26th March 2021



Dear Children and Parents,

The whole school has been filled with scientists, designers and engineers this week! The creative 'buzz' has been really evident as the whirr of windmill sails, the fluttering of kites and the 'oohs' and 'aahs' of discovery have been heard in every room. The grounds and Forest School area have been full of learning and laughter, as children have explored pulleys, mud and seed bombs, whilst engaging in negotiation, mediation and discussion.

All these aspects of learning are crucial as we return to the high expectations and pace of 'normal' school life. Many children are grappling with friendships and a fear of missing out, as we are as adults! We will endeavour to make sure that children 'miss out' on as little as possible as we rebuild the curriculum. These four weeks have been a super start back to school, with a real purpose to the learning and lots of shared experiences.



Next week is all about Easter. For many of our children, we are supporting them in learning about Christianity and the true meaning of Easter, whilst enjoying the fun egg hunts and the all important chocolate. We have an exciting assembly planned for Maundy Thursday and will let you know more about that soon.



In the meantime, please keep up the regular reading and talking with your children, as well as mental maths and phonics etc, so that we continue to build skills and confidence together. Then, as the Easter holidays begin, let's all revert to being 'just parents' again, and enjoy some quality time together.

Forest School and governor news about the appointment process overleaf !!!!!



Please continue to stay safe.

DO NOT RELAX YOUR COVID SAFE BEHAVIOURS NOW!

Some of our staff have now had the vaccine and others are awaiting notification, but not all will be protected for quite some time. Many family members are also still vulnerable.

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

Look at this lovely rainbow! A sign of hope!

FOREST SCHOOL NEEDS YOUR HELP!



We have been allowed the use of a small area of land near school to use as a forest school area, which will enable us to lighten the use of our grounds and vary the activities even more. Ms Boxall has devoted hours of her time to securing grants, resourcing and preparing for sessions, clearing brambles

etc. We now need some **fencing**.....

If you have expertise or resources to help us to make the boundaries of our new area safe with some fencing, please contact us as soon as possible. Ms Boxall and I propose to spend a day in the new area over the Easter holidays—an extra pair of hands would be great (only grown ups & no dogs please).

Diary Dates 2021

Spring Term 2021: Monday 4th January—Thursday 1st April

Summer Term 2021: Monday 19th April—Friday 23rd July

Half Term : Monday 31st May—Friday 4th June

2020/21 INSET days

Thursday 3rd September and Friday 4th September 2020

Monday 22nd February, Monday 7th June, Wednesday 7th July 2021

Tuesday 30th March, - Zoom Parent Consultation Evening (details to follow)

Wednesday 31st March, - Zoom Parent Consultation Evening (details to follow)

Thursday 1st April, 10.00 - Rev Sarah Manouch Maundy Thursday and Easter Assembly
Easter Holidays

Thursday 6th May - Poling Day (School will remain open)

Monday 14th June - Yellow School Photos. Leavers and Classes



Thank you for your support with our Comic Relief Red Nose Day fundraising, we were able to make a donation of £150



Free Trial Session and £40 discount at Perform

Popular children's drama and dance school Perform is offering a Free Trial Session and a special introductory discount of £40 for members of West Dean CofE Primary School if they sign up by Monday 3rd May. Parents should quote WSWG030221 when they book their free session by going to perform.org.uk/try or calling 020 7255 9120.

You can find out more about the classes at perform.org.uk/try

[Perform Chichester \(Drama for 4-7s\)](#)

(3.6 miles)

Mondays at 4pm

St Michael's Church Hall
Summersdale Road,
PO19 6PN





*West Dean CE Primary School
Acorn Awards - Friday 26th March 2021*

***Lucas** - for being so enthusiastic in your number work, you did amazing addition calculations. Well done!*

***Maxwell** - for being a good role model in the team games in forest schools*

***Felix** - for your perseverance in your construction of pulley systems, brilliant work!*

***Isaac** - for your DNA origami work. When faced with a tricky situation you were able to channel your inner Emperor Penguin and show great resilience in seeing the task through to the end*

***Rupert** - This week you have shown so many skills in the classroom with your flexible approach to your learning, fantastic time telling, an enthusiastic scientist and a mature artist!*

***Daniel** - for a great week's learning. You have made links and thought carefully about your writing, percentages, mathematics and windmill design with very successful results. Well done!*

***Richard** - for making links and applying your understanding of aerodynamics when designing the blades for your windmill. You made impressive improvements in the time taken to wind up the washer. Well done!*



Current Useful Information and Reminders:

March 2021

Governing Body News:

We are meeting at the end of the Easter holidays to shortlist candidates for the role of headteacher. We are delighted to have had nine people visiting the school and we are really excited to be involved in choosing Mrs. Moss's successor.

Louise Shaw retains her parent governor role following the election process and Mrs Johnson remains our staff governor. Our team of governors continue to work together to help steer the school and support staff and the community.

We have had a donation of £2000 from the Bowles Cottage Charity—more information on this next week!

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.

Every Wednesday 3.00-3.15 - Pop in and see your child's classroom and have a look at their work. Teachers will be available every Wednesday for informal chats - do pop in. We would love to have the opportunity to share your child with you.

This is currently unavailable but we will be available in the playground each afternoon—Wednesdays remain a good day to 'catch us'.

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.

Schoolmoney.co.uk on-line payments 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.

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.