



West Dean Church of England Primary School
West Dean, Chichester, West Sussex, PO18 0RJ
Telephone: 01243 811247
Headteacher Mr C Williams
Newsletter 4 - 24th September 2021



Dear parents, carers and children,

I am beginning to think that my luck will surely run out at some point, and the beautiful, sunny weather that has welcomed us back to a new school year will end; but no, this week has, once again, been absolutely glorious, which has made all of the fun learning activities going on throughout the school even better.

Not just in school either, but out in the community too, as this week has seen the first trip out for a very long time, much to the relief and delight of us all. Beech Class enjoyed a very exciting time at the Novium museum and Guildhall in Priory Park, where they learnt of Chichester's treacherous past and the smuggling exploits of the infamous Hawkhurst Gang. Talking to the children on their return to school yesterday afternoon, it struck me just how much the children gain from experiences like this. They could recall so much detail and were so animated in their response to my questions. Let's hope that this is the start of many more curriculum enrichment opportunities to come.



Last week, I wrote of our tremendous pride at how well our new Reception children had settled into school life and the confidence that they were already demonstrating. Later that day, I was taken by the hand and quite literally dragged through a hedge, as the Reception children were so keen to show me all that they had discovered during their first Forest School session. Again, their energy and enthusiasm for discovery was really striking and it reminded me of how lucky we are to have such amazing grounds and special areas for offering this approach to learning. I was well and truly brought down to earth by several children though, who advised me to 'leave my smart trousers at home next time' and 'bring some dirty ones instead'!

During our collective worship we have been talking about the subject of peace this week, and the different ways that we might experience this. We discussed three core ideas; strategies to remain calm when things get tough or challenging, finding inner peace in ourselves by being open and honest in our behavior, and also raising the children's awareness of how people in other, less settled parts of the world, are sadly forced to leave and search for a place of peace in other countries. The children were interested to hear of the coat and jumper collection for refugees from Afghanistan that has taken place recently at one of our local secondary schools. Perhaps this may inspire them to consider how we can help others to achieve peace in their lives too.

By contrast, we also enjoyed a very loud, lively and active collective worship on Tuesday, led by Hugo Van Driel from Yapton Free Church. Hugo is fantastically talented in teaching the Christian message through music, stories and dancing, all delivered with tremendous energy. I'm not sure my legs have quite recovered yet from the morning work-out he gave us all, but it was most certainly memorable for the children!

Finally, thank you to everyone who was able to join us for the Coffee Morning today. It was lovely to have the opportunity to talk to some of you for a little longer than is possible at drop off or pick up time. If you weren't able to be there, please don't worry - life is busy. We will do our best to vary the timings of future events, which, over time will hopefully enable everyone to feel involved.

With my very best wishes for a lovely weekend - will this be the last sunny one?

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 24th September 2021



Viva - you are always so helpful in class and kind to everyone. A fantastic role model.

Attii - for being an all round superstar! You are happy to learn and always ready to help others!

Phoebe - for being enthusiastic and independent in your learning. A great role model to others!

Kaitlyn - for a great week and showing how much fun it can be to get involved with the opportunities you are given :)

Isaac - for showing resilience and proving that you can adapt brilliantly when situations change. You have done yourself proud!

Daisy - for your super independent attitude to learning. You listen carefully in class so that you can be as self-reliant as possible. You are a great role model for others around you.

Evie - for being 'ready to learn' at all times. You are always one of the first to follow instructions and be a role model for others to follow. Your positive attitude is fabulous.



COVID safe procedures and routines

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



Car Parking

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.



Clubs and Care Bears

A successful week for clubs which started again this 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. Please could you wait at the front entrance, children will be brought out when clubs have finished.

Meet the Teacher

Thank you to those who have joined us this week, we hope you have found the sessions informative and useful.



Dear parent / carer,

Can we remind you that you have the responsibility to check that any clubs or groups you send your children to, outside of school, has an up-to-date safeguarding policy and all staff have relevant DBS checks in place.

Local clubs affiliated to regional and national organisations should have all this in place, which will be easily accessible to view. Smaller, more local clubs, who are not affiliated to any such regional or national organisations may well have this in place, but it may not be so easily accessible to view.

If there are any doubts about whether safeguarding policies / relevant checks are in place, parents / carers are encouraged to check with the club organisers.

If parents / carers have any concerns about the safeguarding arrangements at any club for children and young people in West Sussex, they are encouraged to contact WSCC Integrated Front Door on 01403 229900 or email WSChildrenservices@westsussex.gov.uk



Our Harvest Festival Service will be held at West Dean Church on Friday 8th October. This will be for the children only on this occasion; further details will follow. We would like to support Chichester Foodbank with our donations and would like to ask for donations to be brought into school during the week between Monday 4th and Thursday 7th October ready for us to display in the Church at our Service on Friday. Below is a list of items that the Foodbank have suggested but any items, I'm sure, would be gratefully received.

Foodbank List:

URGENTLY NEEDED FOOD ITEMS

- LONG LIFE JUICE
- HOT CHOCOLATE
- MULTIPURPOSE CLEANER
- TINNED SOUP
- SPONGE PUDDINGS
- TINNED FRUIT
- DEODORANT
- WASHING POWDER/LIQUID
- KITCHEN ROLL

Thank you for your support and look out for further details about our Harvest Service.

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.

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

Thursday 30th September

Sunday 3rd October

Tuesday 5th October

Wednesday 6th October

Thursday 7th October

Friday 8th October

Tuesday 19th October

Tuesday 2nd November

Monday 8th November

Thursday 11th November

Tuesday 16th November

Wednesday 17th November

Friday 19th November

Thursday 2nd December

Tuesday 7th December

Year 1 and Year 2 visit to Winchester Science Centre

Harvest Festival at East Dean Church

Bookfest Workshop—Chestnut Class

Chestnut Class visit to Southampton City Museum (details to follow)

Bookfest Workshop - Maple and Beech Class

Harvest Festival Service at West Dean Church

Beech Class visit to Portsmouth Dockyard

10.00 Hugo Van Driel Assembly

Drama for All Workshop—Apple and Maple Class

8.45 Remembrance Assembly

Parent Consultation Evening

Parent Consultation Evening

Children in Need

Full Governing Body Meeting

Flu Vaccination