



West Dean Church of England Primary School
West Dean, Chichester, West Sussex, PO18 ORJ
Telephone: 01243 811247
Headteacher: Mrs G. Moss
Newsletter 21 26th February 2021



Dear Children and Parents,

I am writing to give you some news I will be sharing with everyone in today's assembly with all our children, whether they are in school or at home. I would much prefer to share my news with you in person, but will explain everything via Zoom.

After thirteen wonderful years as Headteacher of West Dean CE Primary School, **I will be leaving at the end of the Summer Term.**

We will spend the next few weeks, before Easter, making sure that we attract and appoint the best possible person to lead the school from September 2021. It is really important that we can find out, from everyone, what you feel is vital for the new Headteacher. We would like you all to have a chat and a think about this at home, and to let us know the three most important things we should be looking for in your new Headteacher.

We would like you to record your views on the form which Mrs. Shears will send out with this newsletter, and we will include your ideas in our person specification, job description, and in the interview process. You will remember from previous new teacher and teaching assistant appointments over the years, we like to involve all our children. You will all have the opportunity to have an input, as will our staff team and governors.

The appointment will be supported and guided by WSCC and the Diocese.

I know that this news will take a little adjusting to, but I hope that you will be able to view it positively. With the end of lockdown, and a gradual return to a fuller and richer school life once again, it will be time to review how things are done at West Dean. It makes sense for me to lead our dedicated team of staff in returning us successfully, and then to hand the school onto a new person to write our next chapter.

My emotions are very mixed and I will miss you all, but I am excited about my future, which will be with Phil Willey and our new puppy, Rufus, in France.

With my very best wishes

Gill Moss

Headteacher

School Full Opening

We hope that you all had a lovely restful half term without the pressures of home learning, and that you are excited to come back to school properly on Monday 8th March. KS2 parents, if you would like to order hot meals for your children, the deadline is Sunday 28th. KS1 and EYFS will all be able to have free school meals as usual.

Please refer to the attached document, sent out yesterday, for more information about this. I hope that our assembly on Thursday 25th was useful too.

It was lovely to see you all—even if it was just on the screen!

Remember to send us your questions about school opening and your ideas about our new headteacher, as soon as you can. We are getting things ready at the moment and would love to include your ideas.

In the meantime, please do all you can to stay safe. There are staff and colleagues in our neighbouring schools who are very poorly with the virus—we want to protect everyone from this.

Keep up the safety precautions and stay positive. Look at this lovely rainbow! A sign of hope!



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**

School will remain closed to pupils apart from vul-
nerable or critical worker children until Monday
8th March when we will be open to welcome all
children back.

**Current Useful Information and Reminders:
March 2021**

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)

Governing Body News:

Our team of governors continue to work together to help steer the school and support staff and the community.

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.

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.