



West Dean Church of England Primary School

West Dean, Chichester, West Sussex, PO18 0RJ

Telephone/Fax: 01243 811247

Headteacher: Mrs G. Moss

Newsletter 5 6TH October 2017



Dear Parents and Carers,

It was a lovely start to the week to have our second PTA coffee morning - a relaxed opportunity to chat and stop for a moment with a cup of **tea or coffee and a biscuit**. Our PTA committee did a super job of arranging this and are keen to continue to make this a regular event, our next date is *Tuesday 10th October*. We have a **welly walk and lunch**, planned for next Sunday 15th October. Information about dates and times are included here and flyers were with last week's newsletter. We also have a **Casino Night** lined up (Friday 10th Nov), where we hope lots of you will help us to raise school funds and enjoy a night out in the process! Information will be sent home



with the children today, in the form of a colouring sheet for adults. Leisa Chambers has produced these lovely sheets, in addition to the flyers etc, and I am sure you will agree that this is the sort of thing which makes West Dean events really special - what attention to detail. Please do come along if you can - everyone will be made welcome.



Please do consult the calendar for opportunities to come into school and be involved in the learning, and note that **parents' consultation evenings are next week** - book now to secure a day and time convenient for you to attend.

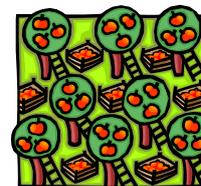
Just a reminder that there are no after school clubs on next week because we have our Parent Consultation Evenings taking place. Care Bears will run as normal. Please do make sure that you book a place for your child should you need to.

Harvest Festival Assembly

Please join us for our Harvest Festival assembly on Thursday 12th October at 8.45.

We would like to ask for donations which we will send to Stonepillow.

Please see attached their 'wish list' of items.



Items can be brought in to school on the morning of the assembly: these will then be taken to the Church to form part of their Service on Sunday 15th October and then donated to Stonepillow, St Joseph's Hostel for the homeless in Chichester.

Clubs and Carebears - Autumn 2

The timetable for clubs and carebears for the second half of the autumn term is now available. Bookings can be made on schoolmoney.co.uk from Monday 9th October.

Late Arrivals

We have a number of children who are arriving late, either occasionally or regularly and frequently. I cannot impress upon you enough the impact that this has on the children's start to the school day and on their learning. If you can imagine arriving to an event when everyone else has already had a few moments' social chat upon arrival to help you to settle, and then they have organised their coats and bags, received instructions and are immersed in a task..... and then you arrive..... probably a little unsure of what you should be doing..... And you have to quietly come in and find out where your group are up to. Sometimes the input and discussion for the class, or for your group has already happened and you have to have a quick resumé of this, before you begin your work. We constantly teach the children how important it is to be 'ready to learn': to have a positive mental approach, to be well hydrated, to be happy and relaxed, and wide awake. A late arrival results in children being far from 'ready to learn', despite our best efforts as grown ups to help them to settle quickly. It also disrupts the learning of other children, which is something we encourage children to avoid.

Just to clarify **our timings**: from **8:20**, we have two members of staff on the playground to supervise children, which means adults can leave from then onwards. Children come into the classrooms, ready to learn, at **8:35**, when the bell is rung. At **8:40**, the register is taken. Any children arriving after this time enter through the main school entrance, so that we can ensure we keep children safe.

From Monday 9th October, we will have a '**late arrivals**' book in the entrance area so that we can log those children who are persistently late, as this will help to explain inconsistencies in the progress for some children, and is an important record of our attendance. Please do complete the 'late arrivals' book, giving the reason for your lateness. Please note that this is a **parental responsibility**. Children should be arriving at school with an adult - they will not put their own names in the book -we will expect the accompanying adult to complete this, please. I have asked our office staff to ensure this is adhered to.

This enables lessons to be 'in full swing' by **8:45** at the latest, and means that we make good use of the time we have in school.

Late Collections

On a similar note, please ensure that you collect children on time after school and clubs. Our staff have many other responsibilities and are wasting valuable time waiting for children to be collected.

MATHS MATTERS

Are you and your children making the most of the Maths Matters Challenges, Sumdog on your computers/tablets and the sample questions at the end of the newsletters? If you take advantage of these things, you will really be supporting your child's development well.



Acorn Awards - Friday 6th October 2017

Lucia - for reading and spelling "igh" words like sight and right

Ewan - for telling the class about his funny glasses in Show and Tell, so confidently

Sidney - for the quiet, focus and concentration that he put into making his Egyptian Chariot. Good problem solving and independence.

Otto - for his Chariot making - collaborating and independent, and great problem solving

Bradley - for his amazing writing using the past tense

Tabby - We know we can rely on you on Monday. Thank you for your confident and enthusiastic singing performance

Amy - for continuing her effort to improve her learning out of school. I know you have been working hard at home as well as in school. Great stuff!

Dates for 2017/18

Autumn Term Tuesday 5th September - Wednesday 20th December 2017

Half Term - Monday 23 - Friday 27 October

Monday 9th October, 12.30 - 2.45 - Chestnut class School Friends Service, Chichester Cathedral

Tuesday 10th October, 8.45 - 9.15 - PTA Coffee Morning in the Pavilion

Tuesday 10th October, 3.10 - 5.00 - Whole School Parent Evening

Wednesday 11th October, 3.10 - 6.00 - Whole School Parent Evening

Thursday 12th October, 8.45 - Harvest Assembly, all welcome

Sunday 15th October, 10.00 - Harvest Service in West Dean Church

Sunday 15th October, 11.00 - PTA Welly Walk

Friday 20th October, 2.30-3.30 - Community Café

Tuesday 31st October - Apple Class visit to Portchester Castle

Tuesday 7 November, 9.45 - 11.45 - GAS Football Tournament (selected pupils)

Friday 10th November - Remembrance Assembly - all welcome

Friday 10th November, 8.00 - 11.00 - PTA Casino Night

Friday 17th November - Children in Need

Monday 20th November - Yellow School Photographs

Monday 20th November - 'Mysterious Manuscripts' at Chichester Cathedral (selected pupils)

Wednesday 29th November, 9.30-12.00 - Locality Enrichment Day at The March School (selected pupils)

Thursday 30th November, 5.30 - Governing Body Meeting

Tuesday 12th December, 2.00 - KS1 Production (details to follow)

Wednesday 13th December, 9.15 - KS1 Production

Monday 18th December 12.00 - Chartwells Christmas Lunch

Monday 18th December, 1.30 - Christingle Making in School (volunteers needed please)

Monday 18th December, 5.00 - Christingle Service in West Dean Church

Wednesday 20th December, 8.45 - End of Term Assembly - all welcome

	Current Useful Information and Reminders
Parent & Carer Drop-in Sessions	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.
Care Bears 	Care Bears After School Provision - this will run every day from 3.00-4.00. Please make sure that you have booked for your required places through www.schoolmoney.co.uk . We have had a number of children this term, expecting to be in Care Bears but not booked in or paid for. We only have 1 member of staff and 12 places each day and this has caused us issues. If you have booked a place and your child is not attending please let us know. You can cancel your place through school money and your account will be credited or Please email the office (office@westdean.w-sussex.sch.uk - 01243 811247) Thank you for your support in this matter.
After School Clubs	Please do check the timetable for dates when the clubs will be running and for weeks when there are no clubs. Please also make sure that you have booked and paid for club places on schoolmoney.co.uk .
	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.
Class Open Mornings	These are dates when you will be able to spend 20 - 30 minutes in the classroom, finding out about how we learn and teach some specific concepts and skills. We hope that you will join us to aid you in supporting your children. Apple Class: Tuesday 3 rd October Maple Class: Wednesday 18 th October Beech Class: Wednesday 27 th September Chestnut Class: Monday 18 th September
Class Assemblies: 8.45am	Apple Class: Tuesday 14 th November Maple Class: Tuesday 28 th November Beech Class: Friday 1 st December Chestnut Class: Thursday 23 rd November
Parent Information Sessions	Monday 2 nd October, 2.15 - 2.55 Friday 6 th October
AAA Sports Coaching	AAA Coaching will be available in the half term holiday: Monday 23 rd and Tuesday 24 th October. Please contact Ben for information and to book places. ben@aaacoaching.co.uk
	PTA News: If you would like to get involved in the PTA in any way please to contact Leisa (leisa.chambers55@gmail.com) or contact the school office (office@westdean.w-sussex.sch.uk)