



West Dean Church of England Primary School
West Dean, Chichester, West Sussex, PO18 0RJ
Telephone: 01243 811247
Headteacher Mr C Williams
Newsletter 10 - 12th November 2021



We do our best in all we do, with God's love.
'Love one another. As I have loved you, so must you love one another.'
John 13

Dear parents, carers and children,

It's a busy time of year isn't it? Bonfire Night, Remembrance Day, Grounds Morning, and in the midst of all that, plans being made and practice beginning for our celebration of Christmas.

It was wonderful to join many of you for Bonfire Night in the grounds of West Dean College last Friday. The fireworks were amazing and it felt a real privilege to be included in such a special community event. I'm sorry if I didn't manage to find you; the combination of almost complete darkness and disguising winter hats made it quite challenging to identify people. What was clear though was how much fun everyone was having, adults and children alike, so sincere thanks to the West Dean Estate for extending their invitation to our school family.

Speaking of community, I extend a very warm invitation to you all to join us for Ground Morning tomorrow, from 9.30 to 12.30. If you are able to spare an hour or two, or even the whole morning, to help clear and tidy our wonderful school grounds in preparation for winter, it would be hugely appreciated. I know how precious the weekends are, but I am sure the morning will be a fun and sociable occasion, and it will most certainly include some healthy exercise. Life is all about balance though right? So, in return, our brilliant PTA will keep you warm and fuelled with hot drinks and bacon sandwiches — the promise of bacon is definitely enough to get me out of bed on a Saturday morning!

There will be a list of jobs on display on the playground from 9.30 in the morning. Please bring any garden tools that you feel would be useful, but please do try to keep track of where they are during the morning. Children are of course welcome to attend, but please be aware that we will not be providing adult supervision, so they will be your responsibility. I hope you get the opportunity to socialise with other families during the morning; however, please do so with due regard to Covid safety. If you are spaced out and working at distance from each other, there is no need to wear a facemask, but when mixing with other adults more closely, and most certainly if you have a need to go inside, please continue to use a face covering.

Armistice Day was marked with a whole school act of remembrance on Thursday and I was particularly proud of the respect and deep thought that the children showed throughout, and the careful planning and delivery of the assembly by the children in Beech Class. We were incredibly fortunate to have the beginning and end of the two-minute period of silence marked by live playing of *The Last Post* and *The Reveille*, by Will Wilkin, our visiting cornet teacher from the West Sussex Music Team. This added an extra element of poignancy for everyone present, so huge thanks to Will for performing for us.

I shall be joining two West Dean children at the Remembrance service at St Andrew's Church this Sunday, as we lay a beautiful wreath, made by the Year One children and Ms Boxall during Forest School this week, at the village memorial.

Next week we will be supporting Children in Need with a spotty or stripy clothes day on Friday, followed by 'Film Night' the first of our PTA events for children this term; more details can be found later in this newsletter. Thank you to the PTA for all they are doing to support our children — they are so keen and excited to get events running again, after the challenge of the last two years. Please do get in touch with them if you are able to be involved with the PTA in any way.

Finally, on a practical note, as late autumn / early winter is definitely upon us and the field is consequently increasingly soggy, a reminder that the children need to bring trousers AND a top to wear at playtime, particularly if they are intending to play football etc. I have noticed an increasing number of shirts and jumpers caked in mud this week, which quite apart from looking horrible and potentially being quite uncomfortable for the children, clearly creates unnecessary work for families in cleaning uniform ready for the next day. We want the children to enjoy our wonderful grounds all year round, so let's make sure that we equip them to do so in a practical way — Thank you.

With my very best wishes,

Chris Williams





*West Dean CE Primary School
Acorn Awards
Friday 12th November 2021*



Holly - for your enthusiasm at coming into school. You are always ready to learn with a positive attitude.

Ned - for your fantastic concentration with your writing. You used your phonics so carefully. Well done!

Henrietta - for being a supportive team member and trying hard in PE this week.

Finley - for your amazing and beautifully detailed 'Flo of the Somme' story board. You have made a terrific start to your own version of the story.

Bertie - for your problem solving in maths this week. You worked methodically through some tricky questions. Well done!

Fraser - for a super effort with homework every single week. Your conscientious attitude is an example for all of us. Well done.

Darcy - for 'getting to grips' with long multiplication. You have a very clear idea of the mathematical process - not just 'rules'



Chartwells Christmas Lunch

Wednesday 15th December

We have confirmed the date of our Chartwells Christmas Lunch. If you would like to order a Christmas meal, visit www.mealselector.co.uk, you can order now until 5th December. School meals are free for all children in Years R, 1 and 2, look out for the form to complete your order coming shortly. Please see attached poster with details of the meal choices.



Chartwells are also running a Super Hero Card Campaign, further details of this scheme are attached to the Newsletter.

Drama for All—Workshops

Apple and Maple class enjoyed their visitors this week from Drama4All. They had a performance and a workshop which focussed on 'outer space'. The children were enthralled by the performance.



Further information about Drama4All workshops is attached for your information.

Grounds Morning — Save the date

We are truly blessed to have such wonderful and expansive school grounds, but this does result in the need for quite a lot of maintenance.



As our school prayer says, *many hands make a house, so many hearts make a school*. Many hands also make light work of tidying up the garden and grounds for winter!



So, if you are able, please join us for a healthy and active morning of trimming, sweeping, digging and general tidying of our school grounds on **Saturday 13th November 9.30 to 12.30**.



You will be welcome to stay for as much or as little time as you can — any time you can offer will be very helpful and much appreciated, and will be rewarded with plenty of hot drinks and a bacon butty!





What is Worship like at Bishop Luffa School?

Come and make new friends



Get to know some of our staff and students

Experience a service at Bishop Luffa

Youth Worship at Bishop Luffa School

For Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 - Thursdays, 3.30pm—5.00pm

Youth Worship

I am delighted to share with you that Bishop Luffa School are offering Youth Worship on Thursday afternoons, 3.30 to 5.00pm, for Primary School children in Years 3 to 6.

To book please [click on this link](#)

COVID safe procedures and routines



Please remember your face mask when visiting school, including drop-off and pick-up times.

Further details of the measures in place in schools and how outbreaks will be managed, can be found at:

www.westsussex.gov.uk/backtoschool

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.

News from the PTA

The PTA relies totally on parent and carer volunteers (and grandparents and extended family wherever possible!) to deliver the events and activities that not only raise vital funds for the school, but also enrich the children's experience. And we need you! Whether you'd like to help steer the PTA calendar of fund-raising and special moments, do a little one-off job or simply pitch up to help out on the day, you'll be so welcome.

The upcoming Christmas period is especially jam-packed, and subject to covid, we'll need parents to help us keep up the special traditions. Later in the year there's the famous summer fete and hopefully some socials for parents, too.

If you've got even a little time to spare, here's what you could do:

1. Join the PTA to help with ideas, decide how we spend funds and how we run our events. See Jenny/class rep.
2. Join the WhatsApp group of PTA helpers to hear about each upcoming events and the roles going. You're free to leave anytime but it's a great way to volunteer or contribute your ideas without joining the PTA. Promise to keep messages to a minimum! See Grace/class rep.
3. Reach out to your class rep or Ellie/Jenny/Grace to volunteer for any of the jobs below
4. Start your own sub-committee with friends to organise your own fund-raiser. We'd need to run it past the PTA and Mr Williams, but we're keen for all fresh ideas! See Ellie/class rep.

JOBS FOR VOLUNTEERS:

1. FILM NIGHT 19.11.21
Parent supervision (subject to Covid restrictions)
2. Christmas wreath making 06.12.21
Foliage hunters!
Volunteers to set up
Volunteer to buy refreshments
3. School Disco 09.12.21
Volunteers to supervise
Someone to source refreshments
4. Father Christmas Visit 14.12.21
Present wrappers pre-event
4. Christmas Lunch 15.12.21
Parent supervision (subject to Covid restrictions)
Volunteer to source crackers
Someone to source games and tablecloths
5. Christmas Party 15.12.21
Volunteer from each year group to organise the 'pass the parcel' prize and wrapping
6. Christingle 16.12.21
Volunteers to help the children make the Christingles
Stewards to and from the service

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



Children in Need Friday 19th November

We would like to join in with BBC Children in Need on Friday 19th November. Children are invited to

wear their own clothes, anything with spots and/or stripes or just something colourful, in return for a donation to Children in Need. We would suggest a minimum donation of £2 per child, available as a shop item on schoolmoney.co.uk. Of course, if you would like to pledge more, you may add as many £2 items to your basket as you wish.

Thank you for your support and let's do all we can to help Children in Need.

**Please remember that Reception children
Will need to be appropriately dressed
for their Forest School activities.**

PTA Film Night Friday 19th November

Following on from our Children in Need fun day, we have our 'Film Night' on Friday 19th November, 3.00 - 4.45. The children will be wearing their spotty/stripy clothes to enjoy watching Peter Rabbit 2 together.



Children may bring a blanket or a cushion if they wish.

Snacks will be in a sealed pack.

The deadline to purchase tickets is the afternoon of Wednesday 17th November.

See overleaf for other PTA News

Maple Class visit from West Sussex Fire and Rescue Service.

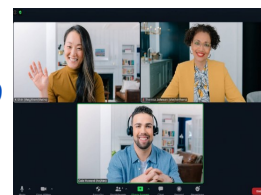
The children in Maple Class had a 'virtual' visit from West Sussex Fire and Rescue this week where they learnt about fire safety and the Great Fire of London. It was a fun, interactive session where the children pretended to be fire fighters and made noises pretending to be smoke alarms. In the absence of school visits at this time, the virtual session was a really good alternative, which the children really loved and engaged with.



Parent Consultation Evenings

Tuesday 16th and Wednesday 17th November. Both evenings will be 10 minute appointments on 'Zoom'. Booking is now 'live' on

<https://west-dean.eschools.co.uk>



Governing Body News:

For information regarding our Governing Body,, please contact Pasha Delahunty, Clerk to Governors.

pdelahunty@westdean.w-sussex.sch.uk



A polite reminder to all families that in order to safeguard children and adults with an allergy or intolerance to nuts, we ask that nuts and food products containing nuts are not brought into school. We understand that nuts can form part of a healthy diet, but ask for your cooperation in the interest of safety. Thank you.



Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

Poppies have been on sale in the playground every morning and afternoon during this week. Thank you for your support of the incredible work of this charity.



It was lovely to receive a photo from Mrs Moss of Wiley wearing his poppy with pride on Remembrance Day.

Day	Adult Lead	Max		Club	Cost	Year Group
Monday	Mrs Pearmaine	12		Lego	£25.00	Yr 4,5,6
Tuesday	Mrs Goacher/Mrs Johnson 6.30-7.00pm	20		Swim WBH	£25.00	Yr 3,4,5,6,
	Mr Williams	20		Cross Country Running	£25.00	Yr 3,4,5,6,
Wednesday	Mrs Muggeridge/Miss Boxall	8		Cookery	£30.00	Yr3, 4,
Thursday	Mrs E Holder	12		Dance	£20.00	Yr 2,3,4,5, 6
Friday	AAA Coaching	14		Multi-sports	£25.00	1,2,3,4,5, 6

Dates: W/C 1st, 8th, 22nd & 29th November, 6th December - x 5 weeks

Please Note: No clubs during W/C 15th November - Parent Evenings

Dance Club is 4 weeks only - no Dance on Thursday 9th December

Our dancers will be working towards Dance House 2022 in the Autumn term 2 and Spring term 1 dance club. Rehearsal and performance will be at The Alexandra Theatre in Bognor Regis on Thursday 17th February, further details to follow nearer the time.

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.

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.

Our 'Bears' are cared for by one a member of staff and will have a drink and a snack and access to a range of activities and play.

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.

Clubs will go 'live' on Friday 22nd October at 4.00pm.

Please note:

Children will be dismissed to their parents or carers from our Reception area at the end of each club or Care Bear session. Please notify us if another adult is collecting or they are going home with a friend.

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

Saturday 13th November	9.30-12.30 School Grounds Morning (details tbc)
Sunday 14th November	Remembrance Sunday at West Dean Church
Tuesday 16th November	Parent Consultation Evening
Wednesday 17th November	Parent Consultation Evening
Thursday 18th November	SSP Sportshall Athletics Event—Chestnut
Friday 19th November	Children in Need
Friday 19th November	3.00-4.45 PTA Film Night—Peter Rabbit 2
Tuesday 23rd November	10.00-12.00 SSP Football Event (selected)
Thursday 25th November	Year 2 Phonics Screening
Thursday 2nd December	1.00-3.00 SSP Yr 3/4 Football Event (selected)
Thursday 2nd December	Full Governing Body Meeting
Monday 6th December	2.00pm KS1 Production—The Raggedy King
Tuesday 7th December	9.15 KS1 Production—The Raggedy King
Tuesday 7th December	Flu Vaccination
Thursday 9th December	Christmas Disco (details tbc)

Christmas Week

Monday 13th December	10.00 Hugo Van Driel Assembly
Tuesday 14th December	10.00 Visit to West Dean College (tbc)
Wednesday 15th December	Chartwells Christmas Lunch
Wednesday 15th December	2.00pm—Christmas Party
Thursday 16th December	8.45, Christingle Making in school
Thursday 16th December	4.45, Christingle Service at WD Church (tbc)
Friday 17th December	8.45, End of Term Assembly

