



West Dean Church of England Primary School
West Dean, Chichester, West Sussex, PO18 0RJ
Telephone: 01243 811247
Headteacher: Mr C Williams
Newsletter 12 - 26th 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,

The weeks are flying by and I cannot believe that Advent Sunday is upon us already this weekend. Advent is of course a period of hope, excitement, and reflection as we build up to the magic of Christmas. This year, that excitement and hope is ever present, and much thought is being applied to how to balance the celebration of Advent and Christmas in school with keeping families safe and well throughout the Christmas period.

Please see attached to this newsletter, a message from Paul Wagstaff, West Sussex Director of Education and Skills, regarding the county stance on the current COVID landscape and Christmas preparations.

I would dearly love to be in a position to celebrate Christmas in all its fullness and magic with the whole school community, but sadly, the numbers of positive cases of COVID both nationally and locally are going in the wrong direction currently. Consequently, I feel a deep sense of moral responsibility to protect our school community and safeguard families in being able to spend a wonderful, healthy Christmas season together at home.

Therefore, our revised programme of Christmas events is as follows:

Tuesday 7th December - The Apple and Maple Class 'Raggedy King' performance will be recorded in school and a link will be made available for parents to view the film at their convenience at home.

Tuesday 14th December - Father Christmas visit at West Dean College (the children will not come into close contact with anyone outside of the everyday school bubble).

Wednesday 15th December - Christmas Jumper Day with Christmas lunch in the school hall and parties in separate classrooms in the afternoon.

Thursday 16th December - Children will be supplied with their own Christingle 'kit', which they will then assemble in class and put in a named paper bag. There will be no Christingle Service on the Thursday evening.

Thursday 16th December — PTA Panto afternoon (virtual screening in classes).

Friday 17th December - Christingle Service for children only in West Dean Church at 8.45am (drop off will be as per the Harvest Service in October - more details to follow soon).

I am really sorry that we are unable to invite parents to share in these events; please be assured that this is so important to us under normal circumstances. However, so too is your safety and health and the reality is that we are very fortunate to have, thus far, been less affected by COVID this term than many of the schools in our immediate locality. I thank you for your support and understanding and pray that the Advent message of hope will bring us to a point where we can join together as a whole school community soon.

I had a wonderful walk around the school site yesterday afternoon, which really captured the essence of everything that is great about our school. Many of the children were engaged in learning outside of the classroom, either playing sport, enjoying Forest School and making the most wonderful open-fire baked doughnuts I have ever tasted, or in the case of Maple Class, witnessing a most spectacular reenactment of the Great Fire of London. Whilst it was sad to see the children's beautiful models go up in flames, the impact was incredible and really helped to deepen the children's understanding of how the fire spread so quickly from the bakery at 23 Pudding Lane back in 1666.

We congratulate our footballers who represented West Dean at the locality tournament in Bognor Regis this week with such dedication, respect and style. We are proud of your performance and the sporting way in which you conducted yourselves, very well done.

We will sadly be saying farewell to Mrs Totman, our Special Educational Needs Leader, at the end of this term, as she moves on to an exciting and more full-time role at her other school, our friend and neighbour, Lavant Primary. We thank Mrs Totman for her caring and loving service to the children at West Dean; she will be sadly missed, but we are pleased that she will still be just a few short miles along the valley. The process of recruiting a new Special Needs Leader is underway and I am confident in appointing a person with the appropriate expertise and experience to start with us in January.

With my best wishes,

Chris Williams



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



Barney, Year R - for your enthusiasm and energy in everything in school. Well done!

Year 1, Mia - for fantastic, fluent reading and answering questions about the book confidently. Great Mia!

Year 2, Khloe - for your interesting and alternative approach to our fire collage. You thought 'outside the box' and created a wonderful piece of art.

Year 3, Blaise - for your super vegetable garden arrays. You were able to apply your multiplication knowledge to produce bar models and number sentences.

Year 4, Mason - for your thoughtful contributions during circle time and RE. You really got the whole class thinking!

Year 5, Nova - for your flexible mathematical thinking during our 'Make 100' date challenge. Confident and speedy thinking, well done!

Year 6, Teale - for your fantastic times tables fluency. You have worked hard to improve your speed and accuracy. What success!





West Dean PTA Floral Festive Fun Wreath Making

We would like to invite you to join us for our Floral Festive Fun Wreath evening on Monday 6th December at 7.00pm. We are adapting our plans

this year and holding the festive fun outdoors, using the pavilion and playground. You will be able to make your own Christmas Wreath to take home, all materials provided, together with a glass of mulled wine and a mince pie to make the evening even more festive. Tickets for this event are available to buy on schoolmoney.co.uk, £20. Please do wrap up warm and come and join in the festive fun with us.

West Dean PTA Christmas Jumper Swap

Please see attached information about our Christmas Jumper Swap. Thank you for bringing in your clean and outgrown jumpers this week. We will have a 'sale' in the playground on Wednesday 1st December where you can select a 'new' jumper to wear for our Christmas Jumper Day on Wednesday 15th December for Chartwells Christmas Lunch and Christmas party afternoon. The idea is to recycle and reuse clothing that we have and discourage you to go shopping for brand new Christmas jumpers.



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



West Dean School events

With a rising number of positive cases locally, nationally and internationally, we are taking great care to manage events in the run up to the Christmas holidays in a safe way that will hopefully enable families to enjoy the festive season together.

We will continue to monitor the local and national situation and communicate to parents as soon as possible, should we need to make changes to the arrangements for any school events.

We thank you for your support of this and understanding that, whilst we value enormously, opportunities to include parents and families in school events, our priority is to keep everyone safe.

Please see attached Christmas Letter to Parents from Paul Wagstaff, WSCC.

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.

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](#)

Sports Partnership Small Schools Football Event



Well done to our football players for the skill, determination and teamwork that they showed at the locality football tournament in Bognor Regis this week. Special mention to the goal-keeper, Daniel, who received high praise from teachers from other schools for his skill and all-round positive attitude.

Footwear reminder

Children are invited to wear their slippers in school, when they are in class. Research suggests that a more relaxed approach to footwear aids improved engagement in class.



We are keen to encourage this but would ask that novelty slippers be avoided please and only in class. For safety reasons, shoes or trainers are to be worn when moving around school and outside on our school grounds.

Administering Medicines in School.

Please could we ask that you do not send your child into school with throat lozenges or cough sweets. We have to adhere to our Managing Medicines Policy which allows us to only administer prescription medication with your consent.



However, we are more than happy for you to come along at break time or lunch time if you feel your child needs something other than a prescribed medicine.

Thank you for your support.

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

Please do keep an eye on our website; we have made some changes to the 'Newsfeed' gallery that appears on the front page. Classes are posting photographs of what they have been learning during the week. If you gave consent for your child's photograph to appear on our website they may be front page news!



Also, we will be launching an **exciting new look to the website** very soon. The content will remain the same for now, but will be developed over the coming months.

A 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.



Governing Body News:

For information regarding our Governing Body,, please contact Pasha Delahunty, Clerk to Governors.
pdelahunty@westdean.w-sussex.sch.uk

West Dean PTA Smarties Challenge



Thank you to everyone who took part in the Smarties Challenge over the half term holiday.

The total amount raised was: **£265.18** — thank you to the PTA for organising the challenge and to you all for your generosity.

Thank you to everyone who supported us with Children in Need. The grand total raised was **£170.50**.

What a fantastic fundraising achievement.



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

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 (Dress rehearsal in school)

Tuesday 7th December

9.15 KS1 Production—The Raggedy King (performed to whole school)

Tuesday 7th December

Flu Vaccination

Christmas Week

Monday 13th December

10.00 Hugo Van Driel Assembly

Tuesday 14th December

10.00 Visit to West Dean College

Wednesday 15th December

Christmas Recycled Jumper Day

Wednesday 15th December

Chartwells Christmas Lunch

Wednesday 15th December

2.00pm—Christmas Party in classes

Thursday 16th December

8.45, Christingle Making in classes

Thursday 16th December

PTA Panto afternoon—virtual screening in classes

Friday 17th December

8.45, Christingle Service in West Dean Church



Tuesday 4th January

Return to School

Wednesday 12th January

First Westgate Swim for Beech and Chestnut

Thursday 13th January

10.30 Beech and Chestnut visit to Chichester Festival Theatre

Thursday 13th January

SSP Bronze Ambassadors (details to follow)

Wednesday 19th January

Westgate Swimming for Beech and Chestnut

Wednesday 19th January

1.00-5.00 SSP Cross Country Event at Bishop Luffa, Year 5/6