



West Dean Church of England Primary School  
West Dean, Chichester, West Sussex, PO18 0RJ  
Telephone: 01243 811247  
Headteacher: Mr C Williams  
Newsletter 14 - 10th December 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 beginning to look a lot like Christmas! It is so lovely to see that the children are as excited as ever about this magical time of year. The tree is twinkling resplendently in the corner of the school hall and decorations are popping up in classrooms day by day; it is fair to say that Beech class seem to have a particular keenness for tinsel.

The children in Apple and Maple Class did a superb job of launching Christmas for us, with their superb performance of The Raggedy King on Tuesday. A film recording was made and is almost ready to share with families to enjoy at home. A link to access this securely will be coming to you soon. Once again, I am so sorry that it was not possible to invite parents into school to share in the performance, but be assured, your children did you proud with a truly joyous performance that I am sure will bring a tear to a few eyes when you see the film.

I am so impressed and proud of the determination and courage that the children showed in their performance, particularly the children who spoke or sang on their own. As I said to the children in assembly, that never gets any easier, even as an adult who is used to speaking to large audiences, I still get nervous. I tend to think of this as 'good nerves' which help to make the performance better, and the children certainly proved that they had nothing to fear, as they sang, spoke, acted and danced brilliantly. Very well done to all of the children, and heartfelt thanks to Mrs Chilton, Miss Ashton and the whole Apple and Maple Class adult team for your hard work in preparing the children for such a fantastic show.

My apologies that last week's cornet performance recording has not yet been made available to you. It is a busy time of year and we will ensure that it is ready for you to enjoy over the Christmas holiday.

Next week looks set to be a busy and happy time. We are continually reviewing our plans for Christmas events in light of the ever-changing response to the COVID pandemic and rising numbers locally. We are confident that, according to the latest guidance, all of the events planned for children next week can continue and will be run by our school staff within our school bubble. We will still visit West Dean College to meet Father Christmas, but this event will now take place outside in the fresh air.

Our Christingle and Carol Service will take place at St Andrew's Church in West Dean at 08.45 on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December, again for children and school staff only. I thank you for your support in dropping your child at the church by **08.35 on Friday morning, following the one-way system** as per our successful Harvest Service earlier this term. A map and further details are included later in this newsletter. The service will last for approximately an hour, after which the children will walk back to school with their teachers. Apple and Maple Class children's bags will be transported back to school for them.

Your child will be able to bring their own Christingle home with them at the end of the day. This year, each child will be supplied with a COVID safe Christingle 'kit' in a named paper bag. The children will then assemble their own Christingle in their classroom and put it back in the bag, which will then be taken to church. This will remove the need for anyone other than the named child to touch his or her own Christingle. Thank you to our wonderful PTA for their organisation and support of this solution.

Amidst the fun and excitement of Advent, it remains an anxious time, as we continue to navigate the uncertain path of the pandemic. The government remain steadfast in their aim to keep schools open for in-school learning, and that remote learning must be avoided unless absolutely necessary. Nevertheless, we cannot realistically rule that out, certainly during the remaining months of winter and with a number of local schools already having had to temporarily close some year groups or the whole school.

However, I want to reassure you that we are planning very carefully for a number of different scenarios moving forward. We have contingency plans in place and are ready to provide continuous learning provision in an appropriate way in response to changing conditions should they arise. I sincerely hope that we will be able to return in January 2022 and enjoy a happy term in school as we have this autumn. Should that change in any way over the Christmas break, I will be in touch with you as soon as I have practical and meaningful information available.

I do not intend to worry you, but rather to provide assurance that all potential scenarios are being actively considered, so that we are ready to respond at any time.

Do keep yourselves and your families safe this weekend, and enjoy a little Christmas magic whatever you are up to as well.

Best wishes, Chris Williams



*West Dean CE Primary School  
Acorn Awards  
Friday 10th December 2021*



*Year R, Paddy - for an amazing week! You have listened well and enjoyed all your learning in Apple Class. Fantastic!*

*Year 1, Finlay - for your super writing about Mog's Christmas Calamity! You thought carefully about what you wanted to say and wrote with confidence!*

*Year 2, Tilly - for your fantastic acting as Mary during our Nativity show. You persevered when learning and singing your song which meant you performed beautifully.*

*Year 3, Ollie - for a super term in Year 3! Your resilience is improving all the time and you are regularly noticed for your huge smile around the school.*

*Year 4, Emie - for your brilliant independent research for your animal fact file. You produced a very impressive report.*

*Year 5, Sid - for your very successful review of the Raggedy King. You created your own version using an example text and thought carefully about your word choice.*

*Year 6, Evie - for your fabulous geometric interpretation of an iceberg, showing your artistic and creative ability.*



## The Valley Parish — Christmas Services & Events

Sunday 19th December - [A Celebration of Christmas](#) 6pm, Singleton Church

24th December - [Carols and Crib service](#) 4pm, East Dean

24th December - [First Communion of Christmas](#) 7pm, West Dean

25th December - [Christmas Day Holy Communion](#) 10am, Singleton



## Chichester District Foodbank

### Donations for the coming week.

Apple Class—Monday

Maple Class—Tuesday

Beech Class - Wednesday

Chestnut - Thursday



## Governing Body News:

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

[pdelahunty@westdean.w-sussex.sch.uk](mailto:pdelahunty@westdean.w-sussex.sch.uk)

## COVID safe procedures and routines

Following the emergence of the Omicron variant of COVID-19, the operational guidance for schools has been updated.



**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](http://www.westsussex.gov.uk/backtoschool)

We are, once again, limiting grown-ups in school. Please, only come into school if necessary. If you need to contact us you can give us a call or drop us an email and we will respond.

As per Government guidance, school staff are wearing face coverings in shared and communal areas and continue to LFT twice weekly. We continue to remain vigilant with hand washing, sanitising, ensuring good ventilation and cleaning in school.

Let's all work together and do all we can to stay safe.

Thank you for your continued support.



## Google Classroom — online learning resource:

The government stance on the likelihood of a further lockdown remains that every effort will be made to keep children in school and maintain face to face education.

However, with an ever changing COVID landscape, we remain alert to the potential need for future remote learning, and want to be ready with a contingency plan.

Google Classroom is central to our remote learning provision, so we want to ensure that you have access to this now, so that transition to learning online can be quick and seamless, should the need arise. I ask all parents and carers (if you have not already done so) to log-in to your child's Google Classroom account, so that the system recognises your child as a member of the class. This is particularly, although not exclusively needed for families of children in our younger classes, as the older children are already using Google Classroom regularly. This is a valuable route for communication and contains important information relevant to your child's class and learning.

If you need help with log-in details, please contact the school office.

## WSCC Community Hub.

Those children and families that are not eligible for FSM will be able to access support for food and essentials via the WSCC Community Hub.

The Community Hub can be contacted on 0330 222 7980 and is open 08:00 - 20:00 Monday to Friday and 09:00 - 17:00 weekends and bank holidays.

More information can be found at:  
<https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/fire-emergencies-and-crime/coronavirus-covid-19-advice-and-information/support-during-the-pandemic/community-hub-covid-19/>

## Amazon Smile - PTA

Looking for ways to support our school? Then set your chosen charity on amazon smile to the 'West Dean Parent Teacher Association'!

When you shop via the amazon smile home page, for every purchase you make, amazon will donate 0.5% to the West Dean PTA. There is no cost to you.

<https://smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/1098048-0>



# 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



### Christmas Week

Foodbank donations into school this week—see attached information.

Monday 13th December	10.00 Hugo Van Driel Assembly
Tuesday 14th December	10.30 Visit to West Dean College
Tuesday 14th December	1.00-3.00 SSP Year 3/4 Football Area Final
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

### The Valley Parish December Dates for your diary

- Sunday 19th December - [A Celebration of Christmas](#) 6pm Singleton Church
- 24th December - [Carols and Crib service](#) 4pm East Dean
- 24th December - [First Communion of Christmas](#) 7pm West Dean
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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
Thursday 20th January	1.00-3.00 SSP Netball at Bishop Luffa Year 3/4
Wednesday 26th January	Westgate Swimming for Beech and Chestnut



Day	Adult Lead	Max	Club	Cost	Year Group
Monday	Miss J Ashton	10	Netball	£25.00	Yr 3,4,5,6
Tuesday	Mrs Goacher/Mrs Johnson 6.30-7.00pm	20	Swim WBH	£25.00	Yr 3,4,5,6,
	Mr C Williams	20	Cross Coun- try	£25.00	Yr 3,4,5,6
Wednesday	Mrs Muggeridge/Miss Boxall	8	Cookery	£30.00	Yr3, 4, 5, 6
Thursday	Mrs E Holder	12	Dance	£25.00	Yr 2,3,4,5,6
Friday	AAA Coaching	14	Multi-sports	£25.00	1,2,3,4,5,6

Dates: W/C 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, 31<sup>st</sup> January and 7<sup>th</sup> February - x 5 weeks

Children in Miss Ashton's Netball club will be working towards the Sports Partnership High Five Netball event in the spring term.

Children in Mr William's Cross Country Club will be working towards the Sports Partnership Cross Country event in February.

Children in Mrs Holder's Dance club will be working on their performance for the Dance House event at the Alexandra Theatre, Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2022.

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](http://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.**

**Please collect your child from the Reception area. Children will only be released to parents or carers unless we have been notified of alternative arrangements.**

**Clubs will go 'live' on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December at 3.00pm.**

#### West Sussex Sports Partnership—Girls Football

To support girls football in the community SSP have worked hard collaborating with Sussex County FA, Bognor football club and Pathway coaching to introduce the national girls football programme: "**Weetabix wildcats**". This is to aid girls moving into club football. This casual/fun focused drop in style sessions are all over the country and now in **Bognor Regis at The Arena Sports Centre. Only £2, starting in January!**

For further information regarding wild cats: <https://www.thefa.com/womens-girls-football/get-involved/girls/fun/wildcats>  
Booking Information regarding Arena wildcats session: <https://find.Englandfootball.com/venue/193123545024>