



West Dean Church of England Primary School

West Dean, Chichester, West Sussex, PO18 0RJ

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Headteacher: Mrs G. Moss

Newsletter 35 30th June 2017



Dear Parents and Carers,

This is an extremely busy time of year with lots going on, both for the children in school and for you as families to be involved in as well. Please do keep the diary dates handy so that you don't miss anything!

Remember that there will be no clubs next week as we have our INSET day on Wednesday: AAA coaching is available on this day.

Most importantly and urgently, we are in mid-preparation for our Whole School Production:

The Fantastic Elastic European Travel Show – C'est Fantastique!

This will take place on **Wednesday 12th July: at 6pm**. Tickets will be on school via School Money, as with clubs and trips etc., from **Monday 3rd July at 11am**. There will be a limit to tickets, unfortunately, as we have to conform to fire regulations. However, as we are performing in the Gridshell building at the Weald and Downland Museum, we do have a fairly large audience capacity. There will initially be three tickets per family for sale, with additional tickets available on a 'first come first served' standby basis, once the formal booking has closed on Thursday July at 12 noon. You will be notified on Friday so that you will know how many tickets you will have.

Governors will have a complimentary ticket, but we would like them to please let us know by Friday morning if they are taking these tickets, as we will otherwise allocate the tickets to families.

Tickets will automatically entitle you to a 'drink and nibbles' upon arrival, whilst we prepare the children for the show. The tickets will be in the form of a programme, which will have a number on it. This will determine your seat, so it is important that you bring it with you! We won't be able to admit anyone without a ticket, again, for fire/health and safety reasons.

The **timetable for the day** will be that we will not be in school at all during the day: children should be dropped off at The Weald and Downland Museum, at 8:30, please. They will all need a **packed lunch**, please. We have contacted Chartwells to let them know, so any children who usually have a hot meal will have sandwiches provided. At 3pm, children will need to be collected from the museum, and returned for 5:30 (we will collect them at 5:30 from the designated area - more details to follow). Our musicians will need to be in place for 5:30 so will need to arrive at 5:20 please. We anticipate the show lasting a little over an hour - around 7:15 - and, at the end of the performance, you will be able to take your children home directly from the class teacher.

We would be grateful for some **parental support on the day**, as the logistics are complex! We are liaising with our friends up at the museum regarding this, but we would like at least one parent per class to act as a 'representative' for the class. This role would involve making sure that all parents form children in the class are parked together/waiting together, so that we can then bring children out a group at a time to be returned to you after the rehearsal, at 3pm. It would also require you to collect the children from that class together at 8:20/8:30, in the designated area, so that staff can then come and collect a group at a time.

If you would be happy to do this, and/or to act as a host, pouring drinks and organising nibbles, and ushering people up from the refreshment area to the Gridshell performance area, then that would also be extremely helpful. Any parents/Carers taking on these roles will have **priority access to seats** at the front of the audience, reserved so that they can deal with the logistics whilst other audience members take up their seats. If you are interested in any of these roles, please contact the office by email, entitling your email 'FEETS Support Offer'. We will then let you know - if we are inundated with offers, then this may have to be organised on a 'first come first served' basis too!

The show will be filmed, and DVDs will be on sale for £5 after the show, with some pictures of the preparation and possibly some out-takes too! Therefore, we respectfully ask that **no photography** or filming occurs during the performance, so that we respect the children as they are on stage and protect them too. This will help us to cover the cost of the DVDs and help pay for the costs of the production.

We are really excited about the show and very much looking forward to it: it does not completely exist yet, as scripts are still being written by the children, props designed and made, and technology worked out. We have a few 'cameo' roles for friends and parents who have links to our European countries, so look out for the children and teachers approaching you about this. If you feel you have something we may be able to use, in terms of ideas, resources or expertise, please please let us know as soon as possible!

Reports

We are really excited to be almost ready to share our electronic reports with you. We have a number of ways of 'sending' them to you. The easiest for both you and for us would be if you have a device with Apple technology, so that we could 'air drop' the reports to you. For this, you would need to bring your device into school. If this is not possible, then an electronic report will be available either by accessing the website or possibly by emailing, depending on the size of the files. More information will follow shortly, but it would be extremely helpful to know how many parents/carers would be able to come and 'collect' their reports, by airdropping. Please email the office with the email title: 'report collection'. Thank you.

SWIMMING

The **swimming pool** has been in use a great deal this week, for lessons, and after school some days too. Information is available on the swimming pool gate regarding the PTA rota for summer holiday swim sessions. Please do sign up to help if you are able to, the children love the opportunity of a fun swim. Without enough adult helpers, we cannot keep the swimming pool open after school and through the holidays, so please do support us in keeping this super resource financially viable.

Children will need to have their swimming kit in school every day for the rest of term please. Swimming kit should be named and in a named bag.

Please remember to turn off the lights in the changing rooms after PTA use after school – thank you.

'Race for Life'

Mrs Moss, Ms Pleasance and Mrs Shears will be taking part in the Portsmouth 10k 'Race for Life' on Sunday 9th July on Southsea Common to raise money for Cancer Research.

If you would like to support us you can make a donation on-line at <https://fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org/page/merrills-race-for-life>. Thank you for your support.

Beech Class News:

In the Spring term, Beech were learning about the works of Michael Morpurgo. During the last week of February, the children wrote letters about all the exciting things they had learnt and what they have done in lesson time. Mrs Goacher compiled these into books and Mr Wilcox sent these off to his office in London.

On Wednesday, Mr Wilcox received a parcel back from Michael Morpurgo which included the letters from the children and their versions of the Coming Home story. He also included a really nice letter to the children and also a book label each with his autograph. (see attached).

Chichester Library Summer Reading Challenge

This week we had an assembly to introduce the new summer reading challenge with Chichester Library, 'Animal Agents', read the books, catch the crooks!. The challenge begins on Saturday 15th July, find out more on-line at westsussex.gov.uk/src.

Premises Team Member

We are looking to appoint a new member to our premises team - the advert is attached. If you would like further information or to collect an application form please contact us in the office.

GAS Sports Event

Apologies for any confusion caused, this event will take place at Boxgrove school on **Tuesday 4th July** for selected children.

E-Safety – please be aware:

Snapchat has recently updated with a new feature that allows you to see "where your friends are" when they post their photos, using location settings on your phone. This means that anyone who is friends with you can see where you post photos from, or where you currently are if you upload a photo or start a live stream. This might put children at risk potentially, if they have Snapchat. Most of the time, when adding people on snapchat, they need to be 'accepted' but some occasions this is not the case and therefore anyone can see these photos.

Luckily with this feature, we can hide ourselves and not allow our location to be shared. To do this, you pinch the screen on an iphone (like if you were going to zoom in/out) and it allows you to change your settings so you become a "ghost". I've attached photos of me doing this so you can see what it's like, and also what I now look like compared to someone who shares their location.

This might be more relevant for any year 5/6's who have these on their phones and this had been addressed by Mrs Prudence in Chestnut class, but I feel it's something we should all be aware of. Mr Wilcox

Ahoy Shipmates!

Join us this summer holiday's as we go searching for treasure at the Look and Sea Centre in Littlehampton.

Search the tower, for the answers and return the message to the Shop, to gain your treasure!

We are open from 10am until 4pm each day with a small charge of £2 per child and £2.50 per adult

Enter the prize draw and win a tour of the tower* for you and your class!



Call in - Fisherman's Quay, Surrey Street, Littlehampton BN17 5AW

Call us - 01903 716964

Email us - visitorscentre@lookandsea.co.uk

***Includes tour for 30 students only, excludes any transport cost.**

Transport to be paid by school



Sports Afternoon

Our sports afternoon will have a similar format to previous sports mornings, and refreshments will be available for visitors from 12:45, when children will be getting changed for their events. We aim to start at 1pm, and to finish for 3pm. This is an event where we love to have an audience, so we really hope you can join us! The children will need full PE kits in school EVERY DAY please.

Following the sports afternoon, we will have ice creams on sale and our PTA BBQ, from 3:15 - 5 pm approximately.

Please do stay on at school and join in this lovely, relaxed social occasion, which is always an enjoyable and memorable one for the whole family.

Our lovely PTA have arranged for food to be available at a very reduced cost (just to cover overheads) and will be able to provide an easy 'tea' of burgers and sausages in buns, meat and veggie, or you will be able to bring your own food to eat and BBQ too. Please bring your own drinks, especially if it is a warm day, as tea and coffee will be available earlier in the afternoon only. If you would like to help in the organisation of this, then please let us know. Please look out for PTA information about the BBQ!

On Monday 24th July, the next to last day, we have a 'transition afternoon', when our new entrants will visit school and all pupils will have a taster session in their classes for 2017/18. Our new entrants' and other new parents will be welcome to come for refreshments in the pavilion. If you would like to support this and be available to welcome our new parents, then please let us know and we will see you from 1:30 - 2:45 in the pavilion.

Tuesday 25th July is our last day in school and we will have end of year assembly at 8:45am - you are all welcome to join us for this. It is a particularly special day for our Y6 pupils and our PTA and staff would like to mark it with a photo booth, which our PTA have kindly offered to organise. There will be a small cost for a photo of them with their buddies in front of a special backdrop, which we are currently creating! More information will follow about this.

Also, please make sure you are aware of the dates and logistics for: GAS sports, Apple and Beech Class assemblies, INSET day (Weds 5th July - AAA sports coaching available), Ms Hall, our new Maple Class teacher visiting, the Y6 Leavers' Service on Friday 21st July , our Governing Body Meeting, reports for YR, Y2, Y4 and Y6 pupils. Look out for details in this newsletter and in future letters etc.

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.

Dates for 2017

SummerTerm Monday 24th April - Tuesday 25th July 2017

Tuesday 4th July, 8.45 - Beech Class Assembly

Tuesday 4th July - GAS Sports at Boxgrove (selected pupils)

Wednesday 5th July - INSET

Thursday 6th July, 10.30-11.30 - Pre-school Sports Morning

Thursday 6th July - New Entrants Visit

Friday 7th July, 8.45 - Apple Class Assembly

Monday 10th July - Cricket at Boxgrove (selected pupils)

Wednesday 12th July - Whole School Production - evening show for all children (details to follow)

Fantastic Elastic Travel Show! C'est Fantastique!

Thursday 13th July, 10.00-1.30 - Primary Space Festival, Bognor year 4/5

Thursday 13th July, 1.00 - Maple Class visit to West Dean Church

Friday 14th July, 2.00pm - Music Concert

Monday 17th July, 2.30 - Rocksteady Concert

Tuesday 18th July - Maple Class visit to the beach (details to follow)

Wednesday 19th July, 12.30 - Sports afternoon

Wednesday 19th July, 3.00 - PTA Picnic & BBQ/Rounders event - all welcome

Thursday 20th July, 12.30 - Sports Afternoon Reserve

Friday 21st July, 1.30pm - Leavers' Service at West Dean Church

Monday 24th July - Transition afternoon and New Entrants' Visit


Tuesday 25th July - Last day of term

Autumn Term 2017

Monday 4th September - Inset Day

Tuesday 5th September - Term begins for children



	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.
Summer Term Clubs and Care Bears 	<p>Care Bears After School Provision - this will run every day from 3.00-4.00. This is not a default club for anyone who forgets to collect their children! 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.</p> <p>Information is now available regarding clubs for the second half of the summer term.</p> <p>The timetable for summer term clubs is attached for your information.</p>
	<p>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.</p> <p>Please you log into to your account to make sure any outstanding balances are settled.</p>
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.
AAA Sports Coaching	<p>AAA Coaching will be available for our Inset day on Wednesday 5th July and in the first full week of the summer holidays; Monday 31st July - Friday 4th August. Please contact Ben for information and to book places.</p> <p>ben@aaacoaching.co.uk</p>
	<p>PTA News:</p> <p>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)</p>
Lost Property	Don't forget to look for lost property - this is located in the drawers on the decking outside of the pavilion.