



West Dean Church of England Primary School
West Dean, Chichester, West Sussex, PO18 0RJ
Telephone/Fax: 01243 811247
Headteacher: Mrs G. Moss
Newsletter 20 7th February 2020



Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had another lovely week at school with dry weather making our time outdoors a pleasure. There continues to be lots of outside learning as well as a clear focus on our core curriculum areas. We reviewed children's writing this week, as a staff, and were able to celebrate high standards both in fiction and non-fiction writing, and across a wide range of genres.

Increasingly, our children are writing for a real purpose and showing some high level skills and understanding. I have seen lots of excellent teaching and learning this term, and this is continually being built upon. I have added a couple of congratulatory letters which we received from the government, regarding the high standards at West dean. Please see below.

We are also learning about people who have changed the world for the better—your children should be able to tell you about this and about our assemblies—google: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KkW5s1zy4Io&safe=true>

Helping others Thank you to everyone who supported us with our new **Foodbank Friday**, we hope to have this regularly. All the items will be donated to Chichester Foodbank. We really appreciate your support with this, for further information:

<https://chichesterdistrict.foodbank.org.uk>



This week we have had a visit from the **RSPB**: the children looked at animals and habitats, seasonal changes. The visitors brought lots of resources which the children used to explore the work of the RSPB.

Class Assembly Dates:

Apple Class:

Tuesday 10th March

Maple Class:

Thursday 2nd April

Beech Class:

Wednesday 26th February

Chestnut Class:

Tuesday 3rd March

Please do come and join us for our class assemblies at 8.45.



Yoga at West Dean:

We are very pleased to announce that we will be starting our very own Yoga class at West Dean with Debbie Albon. Classes will run on Monday evening, beginning 24th February, 6.00-7.15 during term time here at school. Look out for further details coming soon.

Head Lice

We have had reported cases of head lice in school. Please be vigilant and treat your child's hair appropriately if necessary. Nit combs are available from the school office.

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/head-lice-and-nits/>

The week ahead..... February 2020

Monday 10th Feb : -

Chichester Cathedral time Team 9.30-2.302 (selected year 5/6)

E-Safety at Lavant, 1.45-2.45 Year 6

Dance Club, 3.00, Andrea Geall

Tuesday 11th Feb:: - K'Nex club, 3.00, Mrs Prudence

Westbourne House Swim Club, 6.30, Mrs Goacher and Mrs Johnson

Wednesday 12th Feb:

Cookery club, 3.00, Mrs Muggeridge and Mrs Boxall
 Chess Club Mr Peter Chambers

Thursday 13th Feb: Westgate Swim for Beech and Chestnut, 9.30—11.

Judo Club, 3.00, Mr Pring

Friday 14th Feb: Valentine Community Cafe

AAA Football Club, 3.00, Ben Johnson

Forest School Update:

A huge thank you to James Loy; James has been busy writing letters to local businesses asking for help to support our Forest School and has been successful in gaining some bird seed, some wood chip, plant pots and a saw horse at cost price from Goodrowes.

Corona Virus

Advice for parents/guardians

You should not be unduly worried about the possibility of your children catching the Coronavirus. There is no reason why your children should not continue to attend their early years, school or further education setting as normal.

We recognise that some families or children may be planning to travel to China during the forthcoming half term period. If so, please refer to the FCO's latest travel advice via the link above.

What action you can take

A UK wide campaign has been launched to provide clear advice on how to slow the spread of Coronavirus. Please help to support the campaign which promotes basic hygiene practices, such as regularly washing hands and always sneezing into a tissue, to stem the spread of viruses.

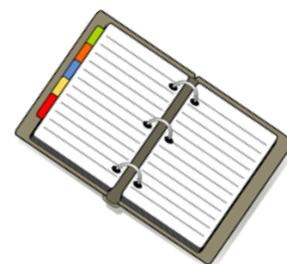
Diary Dates 2020

Spring Term 2020: Monday 6th January - Friday 3rd April

Half Term: Monday 17th—Friday 21st February

Summer Term 2020: Monday 20th April—Friday 17th July

Half Term: Monday 25th May—Friday 29th May



2020 INSET days

Monday 1st June, Wednesday 1st July, Monday 20th July

Monday 10th February, 9.30-2.30 - Time Team at Chichester Cathedral for selected year 5/6

Thursday 13th February, 9.30 - Westgate swim session for Beech and Chestnut

Friday 14th February, 2.30-3.30 - Valentine's Themed Community Café

Tuesday 25th February, - Chestnut Class visit to The Natural History Museum (further details to follow)

Wednesday 26th February, 8.45—Beech Class Assembly

Wednesday 26th February, 1.30—3.00 Dancehouse rehearsal at The Alexandra Theatre in Bognor (Dance club)

Wednesday 26th February, 6.30 - Dancehouse performance at The Alexandra Theatre in Bognor (Dance club)

Thursday 27th February, 9.30 - Westgate swim session for Beech and Chestnut

Thursday 27th February, 9.15-11.30—GAS Maths Enrichment Day at The March School (selected yr 3/4)

Monday 2nd March, 9.30-2.30 - Maths Enrichment Day at Chichester Cathedral (selected year 3)

Tuesday 3rd March, 8.45—Chestnut Class Assembly

Thursday 5th March—World Book Day (We aren't dressing up but our focus will be on animal stories)

Thursday 5th March, 9.30 - Westgate swim session for Beech and Chestnut

Saturday 7th March, 6.30 - Cormorants Swim Gala at Westgate

Tuesday 10th March, 8.45—Apple Class Assembly

Thursday 12th March, 9.30 - Westgate swim session for Beech and Chestnut

Friday 13th March, 1.00-3.00 - SSP Hi 5 Netball event at Bishop Luffa

Tuesday 17th March, 3.00-5.00—Parent Consultation Evening

Wednesday 18th March, 3.00-6.00—Parent Consultation Evening

Thursday 19th March, 1.00-3.00—SSP event, Ultimate Frisbee for Year 6 at Bishop Luffa with Mrs Goacher

Monday 23rd March - Friday 27th March—Alive and Kicking week in school, look out for details of our activities for happy, healthy lives.

Tuesday 31st March, 1.00-3.00—Beech Class visit to Dr Sharon-Michi Kusunoki's Tutankhamun exhibition

Thursday 2nd April, 8.45—Maple Class Assembly

Friday 3rd April, 8.45—End of Term Assembly, all welcome to join us

Thursday 23rd April, 10.00-2.00—Year 5 Mini-Olympics at Bishop Luffa

Thursday 7th May, 1.00-3.45—Tri Golf at Chichester Golf Club for Year 3

Friday 8th May - 75th VE Day Anniversary Bank Holiday—School Closed

Local School Closures

Please find below some recent information regarding the closure of small schools in our area. It is worth noting that WSCC have a strategy, which is explained in the 'consultation documents': in this strategy, it clearly states the long term aim to reduce the number of small schools. There is no immediate threat to our school, but it is worth us all being aware of this strategy and the need to remain full and thriving, serving our community and providing fabulous education. I am passionate about the value we provide—I see us as 'value for money' rather than cheap! Per head, it is likely that education may cost WSCC more at West Dean than in some other larger primary schools, but we are unlikely to be on the 'hit list' currently for many reasons, some of which are highlighted below.

- We have high attainment and progress
- Transition from early years and to secondary provision is strong
- We offer inclusive education
- Our 'disadvantaged' pupils and those with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and achieve well
- We are financially secure in the short and medium-term (although this will depend on fund-raising and future local and national budgetary decisions)
- We work effectively in partnership with all our stakeholders and other agencies
- Every year group in school is 'full' - we have an admission limit of 14 pupils for each year group and are up to 14 or 15 throughout

WSCC definition of a 'small school'? In West Sussex a small school is defined as a school with 100 or fewer pupils. Central government uses a variety of measures for minimum pupil numbers for schools. The County Council will use these to support our guiding principles for primary schools which, wherever possible, should have a minimum of one form of entry (1FE), 210 places, and ideally a maximum of three forms of entry (3FE), 630 places (although there may be some exceptions). Recent guidance from the Department for Education is that all new primary 'Free Schools' should be no smaller than two forms of entry (2FE), 420 places. However, we recognise the need for sufficient high quality pupil places in all areas to meet local demand and so there is no wish from the County Council to have a uniform size of school provision across the County. We recognise the value of small schools in providing education and also in meeting the needs of their local communities. This is particularly the case in isolated rural communities. However, where some areas are seeing a decline in school aged children or are unable to secure a sustainable role from within the communities they currently draw from, it is important for the local authority to consider how it can best provide a sustainable education across the wider community. Much is being said about the climate emergency and, as much as is feasibly possible, we would encourage children to attend their local schools to reduce transport and carbon emissions.

Please do take time to look at the information available by following the links in the latest WSCC communication:

WSCC communication to schools from this week:

For information, please be advised that the Statutory Consultation on the schools shown below has gone live.

The consultation will run for a total of six weeks until 16 March 2020.

It can be accessed via the following link.

www.westsussex.gov.uk/stedhamprimary

www.westsussex.gov.uk/claphamandpatching

www.westsussex.gov.uk/rumboldswyke

www.westsussex.gov.uk/warninglidprimary

If you require any further information please contact the school organisation team via email schoolconsultations@westsussex.gov.uk and a member of the team will come back to you

School Consultations | Education and Skills Directorate,

[West Sussex County Council](http://www.westsussex.gov.uk)

Location: Northleigh (Ground Floor), Tower Street, Chichester, West Sussex PO19 1RH

| E-mail: mailto:schoolconsultations@westsussex.gov.uk

Acorn Awards

Friday 7th February 2020

Phoebe - for working hard at home on her phonics and reading which has made such a difference in class

Poppy R - for settling so well into Apple Class and putting 100% effort into everything

Felix - for his enthusiasm on our trip to Marwell. He knew lots of information about the animals and was keen to share with the rest of Maples. Great work!

Florence - for settling so well into Beech class, working hard and being a good friend

Wilf - for his fantastic use of personification when describing the storm

Ryan - for settling into your new school and class so well. We love having you in Chestnut Class, keep working hard!

Flora - for her answers in class which show that she is listening carefully for information and using it effectively; what super learning behaviours for others to copy!



After School Clubs
Spring Term 2020

Spring 1
first half of spring term

x5 weeks

Day	Adult Lead	Max	Club	Cost	Year Group
Monday	Mrs Andrea Geall	20	Dance	£ 25.00	Yr 3,4,5,6,
Tuesday	Mrs Goacher/Mrs Johnson	20	Swim WBH	£ 25.00	Yr 3,4,5,6,
	Mrs Prudence	10	K'Nex	£ 25.00	Yr 4,5,6
Wednesday	Mrs Muggerridge/Miss Box-all	10	Cookery	£ 25.00	Yr3, 4, 5, 6
	Mr Chambers	10	Chess/Strategy	£ 25.00	Yr 4,5,6
Thursday	Mr Pring	18	Judo	£ 27.50	Yr 3,4,5,6
Friday	AAA Coaching	20	Football	£ 25.00	1,2,3,4,5,6

Club Dates:

W/C 13th, 20th and 27th January and 3rd, 10th February 2020

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

Our swimming club 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.

Current Useful Information and Reminders:

Thank you to everyone who supported us with donations to the **Chichester District Foodbank**; we are going to continue to have a box in the Reception area to collect any items that you would like to donate and Mrs Jen Rogers has very kindly agreed to make regular deliveries of our goods.

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.

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.

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.



PTA News:

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)

Governing Body News:

For information about our Governing Body, to find out who we are and what we do or how to contact us please email Mrs Pasha Delahunty, Clerk to Governors - pdelahunty@westdean.w-sussex.sch.uk.

Lost Property

Don't forget to check the lost property 'bin', on the pavilion decking, for any items that you might be missing.

Please make sure that school uniform is clearly named to enable us to return clothing that has been found.