



West Dean Church of England Primary School  
West Dean, Chichester, West Sussex, PO18 0RJ  
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**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.'**

Dear parents, carers and children,

The last thing I expected was to be writing to you with our school closed today. May I begin by thanking you for your cooperation with, and understanding of the difficult decision that we had to make early this morning.

I completely understand the inconvenience and additional stress that is added to life, when suddenly your children are unable to attend school, but unfortunately there was a need to balance this with the safety of our school families and staff during a period of potentially very dangerous weather. It is not the end to the half term that any of us would have preferred but I am confident that it was the right decision in the circumstances.

Following our own in-school decision this morning, I was then instructed sometime later by West Sussex, that all schools in the county must close today. Thank you to all of our teachers for adapting plans so swiftly and switching to online learning and well done to all of the children who have engaged so enthusiastically with Google Classroom today.

I do hope that this did not cause too much disruption for you and that you, your families and your homes are safe whilst we wait for Storm Eunice to pass.

Thank you also for your continued support of current covid safe guidance for schools. We will be keeping current measures in place after the half term holiday, but following any update from government and subsequent changes to DfE guidance for schools, we will review these measures in school. I sincerely hope to be in a position to open things up a little more as soon as possible after the break.

It is hard to believe that seven weeks of school have flown by since Christmas, but much has been going on, both in school and out and about beyond our grounds. It has been so good to see extra-curricular events starting up again, with many of our children having the chance to participate or compete in sports events with other schools in our area, as well as attending those special trips and visits which really bring the curriculum alive. I have faith that we are heading in the right direction now, so I there will be plenty more of this to look forward next half term and beyond.

We said a sad goodbye to Mrs Wakefield at the end of last week, as she moved on to her new role at St Philip Howard School. Mrs W was a hugely valued member of staff, who despite working mainly in Beech Class, was known to all the children for her cheery smile, care and friendly chat in her other role as a midday meal supervisor. She kept us laughing until her last day with us, as she presented the children with a leaving gift—a beautifully decorated 'Pea themed' dustpan and brush with a very clever poem inscribed on the back, to help Chestnut Class make an even better job of their lunchtime clean up duty!

Despite the continued challenges that we all continue to encounter, not least today, there is so much to celebrate at the end of this first half term of 2022. I hope, whatever you are up to with your families, you have a fun, healthy, safe and relaxing half term break together.

With very best wishes,

Chris Williams



*West Dean CE Primary School  
Acorn Awards  
Friday 18th February 2022*



*Year 6 - Kieo for the super effort you made in writing your imaginative story as part of your topic homework. I really enjoyed hearing you read it aloud to me. You did such a good job of combining the new and the old in a very convincing and persuasive way. Well done.*

*Year 5 - Rupert - for consistently giving 100% to your learning in class and at home. You are always hard-working, conscientious and have had a super term. Well done.*

*Year 4 - Harry - for his own fantastic interpretation of Miro's artwork, you used the chalk pastels carefully to produce a beautiful piece of art.*

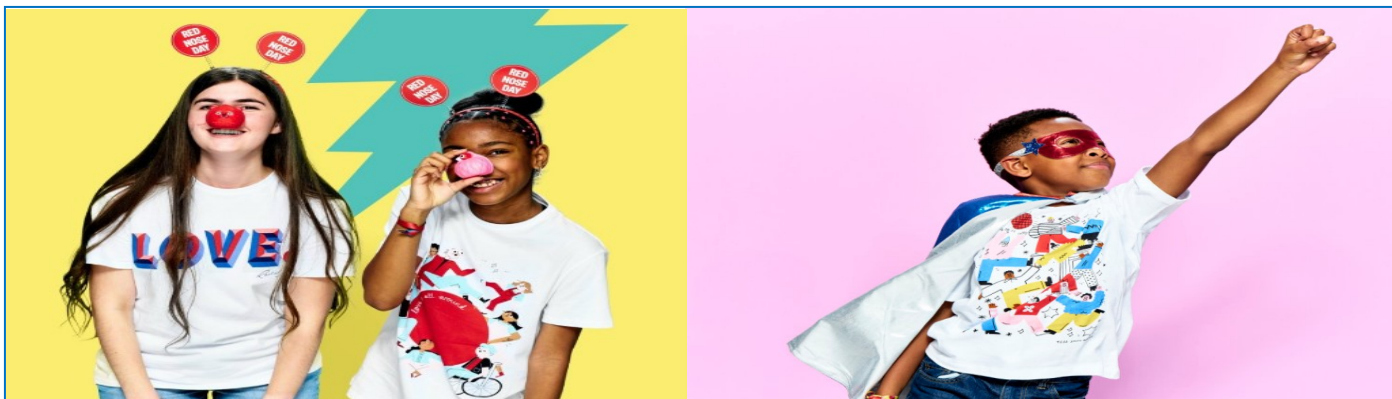
*Year 3 - Ollie - for his determination and improvement at swimming - keep it up Ollie, you're doing so well!*

*Year 2 - Amelie - for your kind and thoughtful contributions to our equality lessons. Your positive attitude towards all your learning is fantastic.*

*Year 1 - Hettie - for your brilliant attitude to learning. You always do your best, listen well and help others.*

*Reception - Percy - for being kind and helpful to your friends in Forest School. You listened and helped others build a den and make wands.*





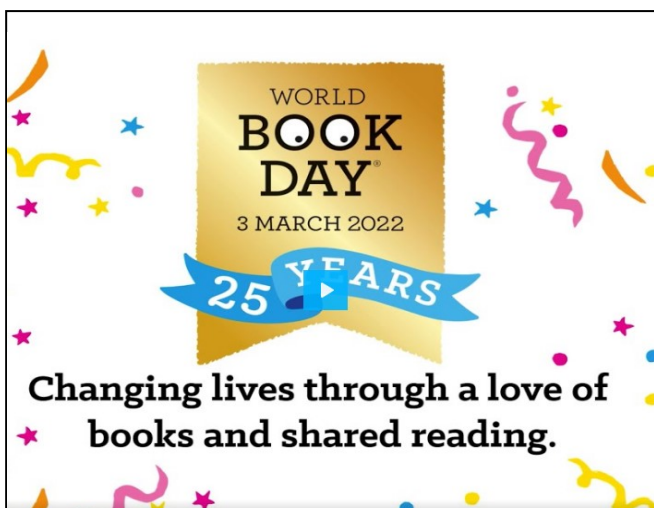
## Comic relief—Red Nose Day 2022

Red Nose Day is coming on **Friday 18th March 2022**. We plan to join in the fun and fundraising in school on the day and want to give you plenty of warning of the things we have planned.

Primary schools are being encouraged to embrace the theme of ‘Superheroes’ as a focus for fundraising, so we are inviting the children to come to school dressed as their own choice of superhero for the day, in return for a minimum donation to Comic Relief of £1. We will be collecting donations via SchoolMoney—more details of this to follow in due course.

The superhero theme will be open to the children’s own interpretation—anything goes from classic ‘Marvel’ type characters such as spiderman, hero figures in society such as the emergency services, to perhaps an inspiring person such as Emmeline Pankhurst, as seen recently on our theatre trip to ‘Fantastically Great Women who changed the World’.

Further details will follow, but for now, save the date, children, and get planning your costume!



## World Book Day — Thursday 3rd March 2022

WBD is on the first Thursday after the half-term break this year and is a special 25th anniversary celebration.

- Don’t panic! In light of our planning for Red Nose Day (see above), we are not asking the children to dress up as a book character this year—I am sure that will be both a disappointment to some and a great relief to others !

- Instead, we have all sorts of activities planned to celebrate and encourage a love of reading, including a cross-school book share, where younger and older will pair up and share some reading. Please talk to your child and help them to identify their favourite book, then encourage them to bring it in to share on **Thursday 3rd March**.

## Dance House

Ellie Holder took her ten West Dean dancers to perform in the Dance House event at The Alexander Theatre in Bognor yesterday. The dancers have been perfecting their performance over the last weeks during dance club. ‘Take me on a Journey’ was a dance to a medley of holiday songs, Crazy Frog and Baby Shark, using beach props and fun colourful holiday costumes.

This is first time this event has been able to go ahead since 2019 so it was lovely for the children to be able to showcase their moves in an exciting theatre environment. Our thanks to Ellie and the dancers for all their hard work and a brilliant



## Indian Cookery comes to West Dean.

Deepali Stamp, mummy to Khloe and Keanu, hosted an Indian Cookery session with some of our staff this week. This was a trial session with a view to opening up this opportunity to parents in the future – watch this space for further details!

Deepali was really knowledgeable about the food that we cooked, the different spices used and their health benefits. We made, with guidance and supervision, the following dishes:

- Mango Lassi
- Vegetable pakoras with coriander, mint and chilli chutney.
- Tadka dal.
- Aloo gobi
- Rice with cumin

We ended the evening by sharing and discussing the food that we had made and enjoyed.



## UEFA Women's EURO 2022

UEFA Women's EURO 2022 is set to be the biggest European women's sport event ever. 16 nations competing across 10 venues, in nine cities with the next generation at the heart of its celebrations.

Through the West Sussex Sports Partnership we have the opportunity to purchase tickets for two England matches:

Monday 4th July, 8.00pm The Amex Stadium, Brighton and Hove—England v Norway

Friday 15th July, 8.00pm St Mary's Stadium, Southampton—England v N Ireland

We would like to offer you the opportunity to purchase tickets to take the children along to be part of this amazing experience. Discounted ticket price TBC— If you are interested, please do let us know by email.

Mr Williams is happy to take a group with some parent support on the night and help with transport.



## COVID safe procedures and routines

The government continues to manage the risk of serious illness from the spread of the virus. The Prime Minister announced on 19 January that the temporary introduction of Plan B is to end. As a result, the Plan B measures in the guidance for schools are being removed, including the use of face masks in communal areas for adults.



**Whilst it is no-longer a legal requirement, we would appreciate your continued use of a face mask when visiting school, including drop-off and pick-up times, until such time that we are confident that the risk has reduced further. There remains a high level of COVID infection in some schools in the Chichester locality, so we want to do all we can to continue to keep West Dean healthy.**

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

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak>



**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.





# 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



### 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

Wednesday 2nd March	Westgate Swimming for Beech and Chestnut
Wednesday 2nd March	Corporate Challenge 6.30—Chichester
Thursday 3rd March	World Book Day—Bring your favourite book to share
Thursday 3rd March	SSP Year 5/6 High Five Netball Event (selected)
Tuesday 8th March	KS2 Drama4All—Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet
Wednesday 9th March	Westgate Swimming for Beech and Chestnut
Wednesday 9th March	1.00—3.00 SSP Yr 3/4 Girls Football—Arena Sports Centre
Tuesday 15th March	Dance and Beyond—Superhero Dance Workshops
Wednesday 16th March	Westgate Swimming for Beech and Chestnut
Wednesday 16th March	Corporate Challenge 6.30 Chichester
Thursday 17th March	1.30-3.30 SSP Year 3/4 Sportshall Athletics event at Bishop Luffa
Friday 18th March	Comic Relief—Red Nose Day—Superhero Dress-up
Wednesday 23rd March	Westgate Swimming for Beech and Chestnut
Wednesday 23rd March	Maths Challenge at Christ's Hospital (details to follow for selected)
Thursday 24th March	5.30pm Full Governing Body Meeting
Monday 28th March	10.00—Hugo Van Driel Assembly
Wednesday 30th March	Westgate Swimming for Beech and Chestnut
Wednesday 30th March	SSP Arun Swim Gala
Wednesday 30th March	Corporate Challenge (details to follow)
Wednesday 6th April	Last Westgate Swimming for Beech and Chestnut
Thursday 7th April	1.00—3.00 SSP Future Flyers

**After School Clubs**  
**Spring Term 2022**

**Spring 2**  
**Second half of spring term**

**x 5 weeks**

Day	Adult Lead	Max	Club	Cost	Year Group
<b>Monday</b>	Mrs J Reynolds )				
	& Miss C Bond )	20	Football	£25.00	Yr 4,5,6
<b>Tuesday</b>	Mrs Goacher/Mrs Johnson 6.30-7.00pm	20	Swim WBH	£25.00	Yr 3,4,5,6,
	Mr C Williams	20	Art/Drawing	£25.00	Yr 3,4,5,6
	Mrs K Prudence	10	STEM	£25.00	Yr 4,5,6
<b>Wednesday</b>	Mrs Muggeridge/Miss Boxall	8	Cookery	£30.00	Yr3, 4, 5, 6
<b>Thursday</b>	Mrs E Holder	12	Dance	£20.00	Yr 2,3,4,5,6
<b>Friday</b>	AAA Coaching	20	Multi-sports	£25.00	Yr 1,2,3,4,5,6

Dates: W/C 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> March and 4<sup>th</sup> April - x 5 weeks

**Dance Club will run for four weeks only - no Dance Club on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> March**

In addition to our after school club programme our Care Bear provision is available every-day, Mon-Fri, 3.00-4.00pm. Please make sure that you book in, at least 24 hours in advance, if possible.

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. Our swimming club, this time, will be training for the possibility of taking part in the Swim Gala competitions. Children must be able to confidently swim a length (20M). If you are not sure, please check with Mrs Johnson or Mrs Gaocher.

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 18<sup>th</sup> February at 3.00pm.**