



West Dean Church of England Primary School

West Dean, Chichester, West Sussex, PO18 0RJ

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Headteacher: Mrs G. Moss

Newsletter 15 13th January 2017



Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a busy second week of the year, with our clubs starting and a rehearsal for the Festival of Singing (please do purchase tickets from the school money system if you do not already have them). This is a festival for fourteen local schools, led by me and Mrs Barden, and accompanied by Mrs Oldman. It is in the Festival Theatre on Thursday 19th January from 7-8pm, and will be very much worth coming along to see. <https://www.cft.org.uk/whats-on/event/united-voices>

Our KS2 children had their first swimming session and we are already seeing some very strong and enthusiastic swimmers! (There will be no swimming next week due to the Festival of Singing rehearsal).

Beech Class will be visiting Chichester Festival Theatre too, next week, for a music concert with lots of audience participation. <https://www.cft.org.uk/whats-on/event/childrens-concert>

By now, you should have all received information from teachers regarding the learning for the term. We have some visits and visitors arranged - please see the diary dates. Class assemblies will be in the newsletter next week.

I-pads and mobile phones for Christmas?

As in our previous newsletter, I would like to alert you to a really important date: there is a parent information session on internet safety at Chichester High School on **Tuesday 7th February at 6.30**. Please do put this date in your diaries and attend if you possibly can - it is well worth the cost of a babysitter/ the disruption to your day to attend. Attached is a useful information sheet regarding e-safety. Please do discuss this with your children and come along to the session to find out more. I.T. changes so quickly and many new developments bring new risks as well as opportunities.



Music

We have also begun our peripatetic violin lessons in school this week and it was lovely to have Mrs. Urquart back in school. The clarinet players go from strength to strength and we are grateful to all our music teachers for their dedication to the school. If you would like further information, please contact the school office.

Our Rocksteady music sessions began again this week, parents of children involved will have been contacted. We apologise for the poor communication with some parents and mix ups with timings - this was not due to school communication - Rocksteady are looking into their admin practices and communications with schools and parents. We very much hope that things will run smoothly from now onwards. Further information is available from the school office if your child is interested in joining.



Is your child WORTHLESS?

Please do read the emails regarding school funding, as West Sussex remains extremely poorly funded in relation to other local authorities, despite our campaigns. This will impact on your children's education over the next few years and our budgets will be cut significantly, despite the growing number of needs in society and in school.

	Current Useful Information and Reminders
Parent & Carer Drop-in Sessions	Teachers will be available every Wednesday for informal chats - do pop in to see your child's work, to chat to teachers and to ask about Learning Journals, at these drop-in sessions. Every Wednesday 3.00-3.15
School Uniform 	If you have ordered and received uniform, please could you make payment to the school office as soon as possible. We still have a number of outstanding payments, we will be contacting you again to tidy this up prior to our uniform sales moving. Our School Council will be working on taking some photographs of our sample uniform and this will be available shortly along with the pricing structure. In the meantime, if you require school uniform, our current stock (limited in certain sizes) of uniform will be available to purchase at a discounted price, 50%, come in and have a look. At this present time, Game, Set and Match are not able to take orders, but hopefully our uniform will be available from them soon. We will of course let you know when you can purchase uniform from Game, Set & Match.
Valley Voices	Please do come and join our 'Valley Voices' adult choir which will be led by Emily Barden in the school hall, 6.00-7.00, every Wednesday evening. (term time only)
Spring Term Clubs and Care Bears 	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. Please email: sandra.muggeridge@btinternet.com 07852 255628 (Please note new telephone number), or contact the office (office@westdean.w-sussex.sch.uk - 01243 811247) Thank you for your support in this matter. You will have received information about our Spring term programme of clubs. The timetable for spring term 1 clubs is attached for your information.
	You will have received information about our new on-line payments system in school to enable 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. Current events available to book are Westgate swimming, the French residential, United Voices-Festival of Singing, Beech Class Children's Concert and our prestigious Valentine Ball.

IS YOUR CHILD WORTH LESS?

This important county-wide campaign for better funding for West Sussex schools continues, as you may have seen on national news and in our letters. Pupils and staff visited 10 Downing Street with our letters. You can support our schools in our campaign for fair funding on Facebook and there is a petition which can be found at the following link: <https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/167761>

United Voices - Festival of Singing 	Don't forget our exciting Locality project where children in Chestnut class will be working with other local schools and performing at Chichester Festival Theatre. Tickets are available to buy on-line at Schoolmoney.co.uk . We still have some tickets left!
West Dean Valentine Dinner 	You will have received information this week about our exciting 'Valentine Dinner' event which will be taking place on Saturday 11 th February. Tickets are available to book on-line at Schoolmoney.co.uk . Tickets are limited and available on a 'first come, first served' basis so don't miss out, they are selling quickly. Please see invitation attached to our newsletter and look out for flyers around school with information.

Dates for 2017

Spring Term Tuesday 3rd January - Friday 7th April 2017

Half Term - Monday 20th - Friday 24th February 2017

Inset Day - Friday 17th February 2017

Tuesday 17th January - Beech Class visit to CFT Children's Concert

Thursday 19th January, - Festival of Singing - Y5/6 at Chichester Festival Theatre - rehearsal in the day and performance in the evening for Chestnut Class

Thursday 19th January - Triple P Parenting Sessions 2.00-4.00 (see attached flyer)

Thursday 26th January - Westgate Swimming for Beech and Chestnut

Thursday 2nd February - Westgate Swimming for Beech and Chestnut

Friday 3rd February, 9.30-11.30 - GAS On-line Safety Meeting, Yr 6 children

Monday 6th February - History Treasure Hunters at Chichester Cathedral (x6 Yr 5/6)

Tuesday 7th February - National On-line Safety Day

Tuesday 7th February, 6.30 - E-Safety for parents at Chichester High School

Thursday 9th February - Westgate Swimming for Beech and Chestnut

Thursday 9th February - Governor Visits to school

Friday 10th February - Governor Visits to school

Friday 10th February - GAS Esafety Morning at The March - Yr 6

Friday 10th February - Maple Class visit to Goodwood Farm

Saturday 11th February, 7.00-11.00 - Valentine Ball at West Dean College

W/C 13th February - No after school clubs this week, Westbourne House & Care Bears as normal.

Wednesday 15th February - Beech Class visit to CFT - Running Wild, Michael Morpurgo

Thursday 16th February - Westgate Swimming for Beech and Chestnut

Thursday 16th February, 2.30 - Community Cafe

Friday 17th February - School Closed - Inset Day

HOLIDAY

Tuesday 28th February - Collective Worship and Pancake Races at the W&D Museum

Thursday 2nd March - Westgate Swimming for Beech and Chestnut

Thursday 2nd March, 1.00-4.00 - Maths Challenge event at Christ's Hospital (selected yr 4)

Monday 6th - Friday 10th March - *Chestnut Class French Residential Visit*

Wednesday 8th March, 12.00-3.30 - SSP Arun Swim Gala, Yr $\frac{3}{4}$

Wednesday 9th March - Westgate Swimming for Beech and Maple

Monday 13th March, 9.30-2.30 - Maths Challenge at Chichester Cathedral (selected yr 3)

Tuesday 14th March - Governor Visits to school

Wednesday 15th March - Collective Worship Enrichment day at Singleton (selected yr 4)

Thursday 16th March - Westgate Swimming, Beech & Chestnut

Friday 17th March - Beech Class visit to Butser Farm Park

Saturday 18th March - Cormorants Swimming Gala at Westgate

Tuesday 21st March - Maple Class visit to Marwell Zoo

Tuesday 21st March - Forest School Enrichment Day at North Mundham (selected pupils)

Tuesday 21st & Wednesday 22nd March - Parents Evening for Year R, 2, 4 & 6

Acorn Awards - Friday 13th January 2017

Amelia - for using a loud, confident voice in show and tell about her Trolls book

Willow - for being a kind friend to everyone

Samuel - for his fantastic involvement and role play in our 'Crayons' story. Full of expression and enthusiasm

Amelie - for always following instruction and always being ready to learn

Holly W - for always being passionate and enthusiastic about what she is learning

Amy - for progress in understanding and her explanation of tricky spelling patterns

Noah - for his conscientious and committed participation in our 'United Voices' choir