



West Dean Church of England Primary School
West Dean, Chichester, West Sussex, PO18 0RJ
Telephone: 01243 811247
Headteacher Mr C Williams
Newsletter 8- 22nd October 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,

The sun is shining again and we have made it safely and happily to the end of the first half term of the year. I cannot believe just how fast seven weeks have flown by and, at the risk of repeating myself, I thank you for your warm welcome and support since my arrival at West Dean Primary School. Having got to know you all a little better, I think it is appropriate to repeat something, which I think I said in my first letter to you; this school is already thriving, and there is much to look forward to and be excited about, as we journey together on our next stage of development.

This week's assemblies have focused on two themes; a celebration of Black History Month and an introduction to democracy and government. These are big themes, and ones which I can say with confidence that many adults struggle to fully understand, but the children have responded brilliantly, with a keenness to demonstrate their understanding through the launch of our new Pupil Parliament after the half-term break.

The key idea linking these two themes is of course that of showing respect, tolerance and value towards others, regardless of difference or background. As our school vision and the passage from John's Gospel reminds us, to truly 'Love one another, as I have loved you, so must you love one another'. The children have also learnt that equality and valuing the voice of everyone has not only been a long and hard fought struggle, but is also not yet where we would like it to be ultimately. Looking at the life of Dr Martin Luther King and the achievement of Paul Boateng, who became Britain's first black cabinet minister in May 2002, the children have developed their understanding of the role of democracy in giving everyone a voice.

The first week back after half term will be Pupil Parliament Election Week. As explained last week, Beech and Chestnut Class children have been encouraged to run for office in one of five parliamentary departments; Learning for Life, Health & Wellbeing, Sustainability, Digital Technology and Community and will need to prepare a **short (1 minute) speech**, which they will deliver to their class in support of their own nomination on Monday and Tuesday of the first week back. Our school hall will then be set up as the official 'Polling Station' for the pupil voting to take place later that week. Exciting times, and a really important part of ensuring that pupil voice is heard and can impact ongoing school development.

Along a similar theme, I will be launching Parent Forum meetings next half-term, in which you will be invited to share your views on school development themes via a panel of parent class representatives. I have experience of running Parent Forum in my last school and have always found this to be an effective way of involving the parent body in the development of new initiatives and strategic thinking. The idea is that you will be able to communicate points that you would like raised at Parent Forum to your class parent rep, who will then pass this on to me for discussion at a Parent Forum meeting. Initially, the forum will be attended by me, the parent reps and potentially several other members of teaching staff, but I will review whether this could be opened up to a wider group later this academic year. The other function of the group is to provide an opportunity for us, the teaching staff, to share plans and ideas for school development with a representative group of parents. For example, were we to consider changes to any school systems or routines, or perhaps uniform or reports to parents, Parent Forum is a good way to gauge parent opinion before making significant decisions. I look forward to working with the parent rep group and hope that this will prove to be an effective way to hear your views.

I have made it something of a mission this half term, to try to get out and about with the children on some of their school trips. This is such a great way to get to know them, and to see the way that they learn and interact in a completely different context to the classroom. For me as headteacher, it is so important to have a deep understanding of the children we serve, so whilst I'm unlikely to be able to go on every trip sadly, it's been wonderful to share in a few over the past weeks. This week's treat was accompanying Beech Class to my old stomping ground in Portsmouth, visiting the Naval Dockyard and HMS Victory. It really was a fantastic day; not only were the children incredibly excited to explore the historic flagship itself, and stand on the actual spot where Admiral Horatio Nelson fell exactly 216 years ago this week, on 21st October 1805, but they worked incredibly well as a team, solving a treasure hunt to reveal more facts about naval history in the Victory Museum.

They really were fine ambassadors for West Dean. What a fantastic way to round off a successful and happy half-term!

With my very best wishes for a happy and healthy half-term break,

Chris Williams



Please continue to stay safe and
PLEASE MAINTAIN COVID SAFE BEHAVIOURS!

**PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR FACE COVERINGS THROUGHOUT OUR
SCHOOL CAR PARK AND PLAYGROUND.**



West Dean CE Primary School
Acorn Awards
Friday 22nd October 2021



Keanu - for being so enthusiastic in your reading, both at home and in school. Great sounding out and blending. Well done!

Indigo - for your fantastic maths using conkers and a tens frame. You worked independently and accurately finding the number bonds to 10. Great work!

Maxwell - for always being 'ready to learn' and for always giving 100% in the classroom especially in maths where your progress has been fantastic.

Matilda - for your total commitment in learning your times tables this week. Your daily hard work resulted with a fantastic score in your times tables challenge.

Benny - for your enthusiasm and incredible knowledge of HMS Victory. You remembered so many interesting facts from your visits which helped everyone back in class.

Henry - for your enthusiasm and commitment to your role as Captain Stanley Lord in our Chestnut Titanic enquiry. You compiled evidence at home and in school to create convincing arguments.

Isaac - for your considered use of vocabulary in your descriptive writing. 'Transfixed', 'atop' and 'beckoning' are examples of your careful word choice used to influence the reader's emotions.





The Museum of the Moon at Chichester Cathedral

- will be on display from 25th October - 14th November 2021. Measuring seven metres in diameter, the Museum of the Moon features 120dpi detailed NASA imagery of the lunar surface. At an approximate scale of 1:500,000, each centimetre of the internally-lit spherical sculpture represents 5km of the moon's surface. The artwork will be accompanied by a programme of events, concerts and late-night openings, delivered by a variety of organisations, including the South Downs Planetarium, Chichester's Novium Museum and the West Sussex Library Service, encouraging people far and wide to celebrate the

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Rotary Chichester Priory—Shoebox Appeal

We are participating in the Wessex Shoebox Scheme this year. You are asked to fill a shoebox with new or very good second hand items for either a boy or girl in different age categories.

Items such as soft toys, picture books, games, jigsaws, crayons etc. These will then be delivered as Christmas presents to under privileged children in Countries such as Albania, Montenegro, Moldova and Romania.

This is an optional activity for over the half term holiday and, if you do decide to join in, we would ask that shoeboxes are returned to us, first thing on **Monday 1st November** ready for collection by the Chichester Rotary. (Further details attached)

Thank you for your support, let's make a difference.

Grounds Morning — Save the date

We are truly blessed to have such wonderful and expansive school grounds, but this does result in the need for quite a lot of maintenance.


As our school prayer says, *many hands make a house, so many hearts make a school*. Many hands also make light work of tidying up the garden and grounds for winter!

So, if you are able, please join us for a healthy and active morning of trimming, sweeping, digging and general tidying of our school grounds on **Saturday 13th November 9.30 to 12.30**.



You will be welcome to stay for as much or as little time as you can — any time you can offer will be very helpful and much appreciated, and will be rewarded with plenty of hot drinks and a bacon butty!

More details to follow soon, with a more specific job list for the morning and any tools we might need. Thank you.



What is Worship like at Bishop Luffa School?

Come and make new friends

Get to know some of our staff and students

Experience a service at Bishop Luffa

Youth Worship at Bishop Luffa School

For Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 - Thursdays, 3.30pm—5.00pm

Youth Worship

I am delighted to share with you that Bishop Luffa School are offering Youth Worship on Thursday afternoons for Primary School children in Years 3 to 6.

Youth Worship starts on Thursday 4th November at Bishop Luffa School.

To book please [click on this link](#)

COVID safe procedures and routines

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

www.westsussex.gov.uk/backtoschool



Schoolmoney.co.uk

This on-line platform 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.

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.

PTA-HALF TERM CHALLENGE! SMARTIES CHALLENGE!

Eat your yummy smarties and then fill the tube with change (20 pence pieces fit really well!) Once finished decorate your tube and bring back to school on

**MONDAY 1ST NOVEMBER
WHERE THERE WILL BE A PRIZE
PER CLASS FOR THE BEST
DECORATED TUBE!**

WE HOPE YOU ALL HAVE A LOVELY HALF TERM - PTA OF WEST DEAN :)

Mindfulness & Wellbeing Day

Please do head over to our website to have a look at the video of our trip to the West Dean College Arboretum during our Mindfulness and Wellbeing Day.

It's on the front page at the bottom of the 'Links and Downloads' and is called 'Mindfulness Day-Oct21.mp4'.

Newsletters

- Newsletter 7 15.10.21.pdf
- Newsletter 6 08.10.21.pdf
- Newsletter 5 01.10.21.pdf
- Newsletter 4 24.09.21.pdf
- Newsletter 3 17.09.21.pdf
- Newsletter 2 10.09.21.pdf
- Newsletter_1_03.09.21.pdf

Links and Downloads

- Our School Creed.pdf
- School Vision 2020.pdf
- So Many Hearts - West Dean...
- So Many Hearts Performance...
- Mindfulness Day - Oct21.mp4**

October 2021						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
27	28	29	30	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

OCT 25

Half Term
8:00am

OCT 31

Closing Date for Year 6 Sec...
8:00am

Children in Need - Friday 19th November

We would like to join in with BBC Children in Need on Friday 19th November. Children are invited to

Wear their own clothes, anything with spots and/or stripes or just something colourful, in return for a donation to Children in Need. We would suggest a minimum donation of £2 per child, available as a shop item on schoolmoney.co.uk. Of course, if you would like to pledge more, you may add as many £2 items to your basket as you wish.

Thank you for your support and let's do all we can to help Children in Need.



PTA Film Night

Friday 19th November

Following on from our Children in Need fun day, we have our 'Film Night' on Friday 19th November, 3.00 - 4.45. The children will be wearing their spotty/stripy clothes to enjoy watching Peter Rabbit 2 together. Please see attached poster for further information.

There is also a colouring sheet attached as an optional half term activity, should you wish.



Art Projects for Schools - Christmas Cards

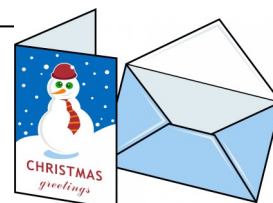
Children will be bringing home their artwork designs for their Christmas Cards this week. There will be clear details on how to place your orders, the deadline for ordering is Wednesday 3rd November. All orders must be placed, on-line, by the deadline.

WWW.apfsorders.co.uk

Please could we ask that your child's original artwork be returned to us by the end of the week, Friday 5th November, in order for us to submit designs for printing by 9th November.

The estimated dispatch date for cards is 23rd November, so should be with you in plenty of time for Christmas.

Your participation in this project is helping us plant more native trees across the UK with the Woodland Project and we get commission on sales too. Last year, we raised over £200 for school funds.



HELP!

Apple Class are always on the look out for drawing paper for the children. It doesn't need to be top quality, just clean and suitable for 5 year old drawings! Please just pop it into Apple Class or into Reception if you can help.



Day	Adult Lead	Max		Club	Cost	Year Group
Monday	Mrs Pearmaine	12		Lego	£25.00	Yr 4,5,6
Tuesday	Mrs Goacher/Mrs Johnson 6.30-7.00pm	20		Swim WBH	£25.00	Yr 3,4,5,6,
	Mr Williams	20		Cross Country Running	£25.00	Yr 3,4,5,6,
Wednesday	Mrs Muggeridge/Miss Boxall	8		Cookery	£30.00	Yr3, 4,
Thursday	Mrs E Holder	12		Dance	£20.00	Yr 2,3,4,5, 6
Friday	AAA Coaching	14		Multi-sports	£25.00	1,2,3,4,5, 6

Dates: W/C 1st, 8th, 22nd & 29th November, 6th December - x 5 weeks

Please Note: No clubs during W/C 15th November - Parent Evenings

Dance Club is 4 weeks only - no Dance on Thursday 9th December

Our dancers will be working towards Dance House 2022 in the Autumn term 2 and Spring term 1 dance club. Rehearsal and performance will be at The Alexandra Theatre in Bognor Regis on Thursday 17th February, further details to follow nearer the time.

It has become necessary to slightly increase the cost of cookery club in line with the rising costs of ingredients. The children do, however, have their tea to bring home with them so we hope that you will agree, that this is still good value.

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.

Our 'Bears' are cared for by one a member of staff and will have a drink and a snack and access to a range of activities and play.

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.

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.

Clubs will go 'live' on Friday 22nd October at 4.00pm.

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.

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)



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

Monday 25th April - Thursday 21st July
Half Term: Monday 30th May—Friday 3rd June

Monday 1st November	Return Shoeboxes (am)
Tuesday 2nd November	10.00 Hugo Van Driel Assembly
Thursday 4th November	Year 6 Height & Weight Programme
Monday 8th November	Drama for All Workshop—Apple and Maple Class
Thursday 11th November	11.15 Remembrance Assembly
Saturday 13th November	9.30-12.30 School Grounds Morning (details tbc)
Sunday 14th November	Remembrance Sunday at West Dean Church
Tuesday 16th November	Parent Consultation Evening
Wednesday 17th November	Parent Consultation Evening
Thursday 18th November	SSP Sportshall Athletics Event—Chestnut
Friday 19th November	Children in Need
Friday 19th November	3.00-4.45 PTA Film Night—Peter Rabbit 2
Tuesday 23rd November	10.00-12.00 SSP Football Event (selected)
Thursday 2nd December	1.00-3.00 SSP Yr 3/4 Football Event (selected)
Thursday 2nd December	Full Governing Body Meeting
Monday 6th December	2.00pm KS1 Production—The Raggedy King
Tuesday 7th December	9.15 KS1 Production—The Raggedy King
Tuesday 7th December	Flu Vaccination
Thursday 9th December	Christmas Disco (details tbc)

Christmas Week

Monday 13th December	10.00 Hugo Van Driel Assembly
Tuesday 14th December	10.00 Visit to West Dean College (tbc)
Wednesday 15th December	Chartwells Christmas Lunch
Wednesday 15th December	2.00pm—Christmas Party
Thursday 16th December	8.45, Christingle Making in school
Thursday 16th December	4.45, Christingle Service at WD Church (tbc)
Friday 17th December	8.45, End of Term Assembly

