



West Dean Church of England Primary School
West Dean, Chichester, West Sussex, PO18 0RJ
Telephone: 01243 811247
Headteacher: Mr C Williams
Newsletter 11 - 19th November 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,

My letter to you this week can be summarised with two simple but important words - Thank you!

The past few weeks have seen so many examples of the enthusiasm, generosity and teamwork that makes West Dean Primary such a fantastic community. I'll share more detail in the next few lines, but before I do, please know that I and all of the school staff are enormously grateful for the many ways that you have supported us with your time and generous donations recently.

Grounds Morning

What a happy and busy time last Saturday morning proved to be. Such was the eagerness and efficiency of the families who joined us for Grounds Morning, the list of jobs that the school staff had compiled was quickly ticked-off and I was suddenly suggesting all manner of things that I had never dreamt as being achievable in one morning. The grounds are now much tidier and ready for winter and we look forward to spring when the dozens of bulbs that were planted will carpet our school environment with colour.

Sincere thanks to all who gave up their Saturday morning to come along and help, and also to Jenny Anstee and the PTA, for the delicious and very welcome supply of bacon rolls and hot drinks.

One particularly pleasing outcome was the progress that was made in clearing the overgrown trees and bushes from the pond area, so that we can begin to redevelop this wonderful space. You will have seen the notice from Ms Boxall this week, who is looking for a team of people who would be interested in helping to clear and landscape this area specifically over the coming months. We are also looking for sources of funding and/or materials, so that we can turn this space into an even more valuable natural resource for science and outdoor learning. If you are interested and able to help in any way, please contact the school office.

Remembrance

Thank you to the families who joined me for Remembrance Sunday at St Andrew's Church. It was a wonderful service and a very poignant moment to hear the names of the fallen from West Dean. I was very proud of the children as they laid the school's wreath at the memorial inside the church.

Smarties fundraiser

Thank you for your incredible generosity in filling the Smarties tubes that the children were given a few weeks ago with your donations of coins (and amazingly some notes). We do not yet know the total raised, but once the donations have been counted at the bank, we'll let you know. 50 Smarties tubes were returned, so Chestnut class have been busy using their maths skills to estimate what the amount raised could be. Watch this space. Congratulations to Matilda P, Holly, Amelie, Jake and Mabel for their winning Smartie tube decorations, which were fabulous, and well done to everyone who took part.

Children in Need

...and as if that all isn't enough, you have continued to be so generous in your support of Children in Need today. Thank you for your donations and for helping your children get into the spirit of the day. The children are all enjoying being in their own clothes and definitely enjoying having a giggle at a certain someone sporting a Pudsey onesie for the day! In assembly today, I showed the children some examples of charities which Children in Need support across the county and in our local area. Look out for a local interest moment during the BBC programme this evening, as The Repair Shop, filmed at our neighbour The Weald and Downland Museum, have a Children in Need special, featuring a very brave boy named Billy, whose story the children have heard about during today's assembly.

PTA events

We are all excited about having Movie night after school today, and so grateful that, gradually, events like this can begin to take place. Huge thanks to the PTA for their hard work and dedication to not just raise important funds for the school, but even more importantly, to run fantastic events for the children as well. Not just the children either; look out for details later in this newsletter of an event for adults in the run up to Christmas.

So we have many reasons to be thankful. I am so enjoying experiencing how our supportive community comes together to achieve amazing things. Thank you.

With my best wishes, Chris Williams





*West Dean CE Primary School
Acorn Awards
Friday 19th November 2021*



Year R, Percy - for your amazing letter formation. You are keen to have a go at your writing! Well done!

Year 1, Hettie - for always being enthusiastic, positive and helpful! Such a good role model to others.

Year 2, Bronte - for your amazing colour mixing during art this week.

Year 3, Beatrix - for your honest thoughts during circle time this week. You shared your own feelings and understood the emotions of others.

Year 4, Harry - for being super aware of how a positive attitude in the classroom can benefit yourself and others.

Year 5, Frankie - for being an amazing West Dean team member at the Sportshall Primary Competition. You ran a very successful relay leg with lots of determination and energy. Well done.

Year 6, Raife - for 100% commitment and enthusiasm when competing in the Sportshall Primary Competition. You gave it your all as a West Dean team member and were happy to celebrate the success of other schools. Well done.





West Dean PTA Floral Festive Fun Wreath Making

We would like to invite you to join us for our Floral Festive Fun Wreath evening on Monday 6th December at 7.00pm. We are adapting our plans this year and holding the festive fun outdoors, using the pavilion and playground. You will be able to make your own Christmas Wreath to take home, all materials provided, together with a glass of mulled wine and a mince pie to make the evening even more festive. Tickets for this event are available to buy on schoolmoney.co.uk, £20. Please do wrap up warm and come and join in the festive fun with us.

West Dean PTA Christmas Jumper Swap

Please see attached information about our Christmas Jumper Swap. We are inviting you to bring in clean and outgrown jumpers on Wednesday 24th November. We will then have a 'sale' in the playground on Wednesday 1st December where you can select a 'new' jumper to wear for our Christmas Jumper Day on Wednesday 15th December for Chartwells Christmas Lunch and Christmas party afternoon. The idea is to recycle and reuse clothing that we have and discourage you to go shopping for brand new Christmas jumpers.



Grounds Morning — Thank you to everyone who came along to join in and help!

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. We had a great team of helpers, both adults and children and achieved so much during the morning.

Thank you to everyone who came along and helped, we all did an amazing job of cleaning and clearing, pruning, cutting and weeding. Many hands make light work and we certainly managed to get lots of jobs done between us, both grown ups and children.

The bacon rolls were delicious too, thank you to our PTA for providing refreshments.



COVID safe procedures and routines

Please remember your face mask when visiting school, including drop-off and pick-up times.

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

www.westsussex.gov.uk/backtoschool

West Dean School events

With a rising number of positive cases locally, nationally and internationally, we are taking great care to manage events in the run up to the Christmas holidays in a safe way that will hopefully enable families to enjoy the festive season together.

We will continue to monitor the local and national situation and communicate to parents as soon as possible, should we need to make changes to the arrangements for any school events.

We thank you for your support of this and understanding that, whilst we value enormously, opportunities to include parents and families in school events, our priority is to keep everyone safe.



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.

News from the PTA

The PTA relies totally on parent and carer volunteers (and grandparents and extended family wherever possible!) to deliver the events and activities that not only raise vital funds for the school, but also enrich the children's experience. And we need you! Whether you'd like to help steer the PTA calendar of fund-raising and special moments, do a little one-off job or simply pitch up to help out on the day, you'll be so welcome.

The upcoming Christmas period is especially jam-packed, and subject to covid, we'll need parents to help us keep up the special traditions. Later in the year there's the famous summer fete and hopefully some socials for parents, too.

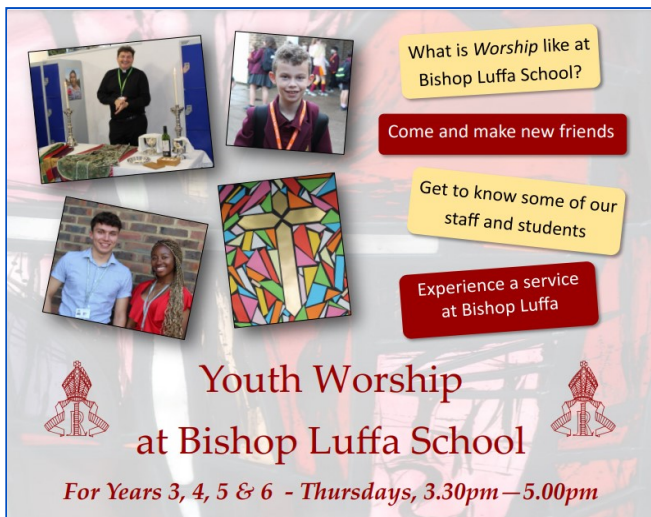
If you've got even a little time to spare, here's what you could do:

1. Join the PTA to help with ideas, decide how we spend funds and how we run our events. See Jenny/class rep.
2. Join the WhatsApp group of PTA helpers to hear about each upcoming events and the roles going. You're free to leave anytime but it's a great way to volunteer or contribute your ideas without joining the PTA. Promise to keep messages to a minimum! See Grace/class rep.
3. Reach out to your class rep or Ellie/Jenny/Grace to volunteer for any of the jobs below
4. Start your own sub-committee with friends to organise your own fund-raiser. We'd need to run it past the PTA and Mr Williams, but we're keen for all fresh ideas! See Ellie/class rep.

JOBS FOR VOLUNTEERS:

1. FILM NIGHT 19.11.21
Parent supervision (subject to Covid restrictions)
2. Christmas wreath making 06.12.21
Foliage hunters!
Volunteers to set up
Volunteer to buy refreshments
3. School Disco 09.12.21
Volunteers to supervise
Someone to source refreshments
4. Father Christmas Visit 14.12.21
Present wrappers pre-event
4. Christmas Lunch 15.12.21
Parent supervision (subject to Covid restrictions)
Volunteer to source crackers
Someone to source games and tablecloths
5. Christmas Party 15.12.21
Volunteer from each year group to organise the 'pass the parcel' prize and wrapping
6. Christingle 16.12.21
Volunteers to help the children make the Christingles
Stewards to and from the service

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



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, 3.30 to 5.00pm, for Primary School children in Years 3 to 6.

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

Parent Consultation Evenings:

We have had two really successful parent consultation evenings this week. We made the decision to hold all the meetings via Zoom, thank you for your support with this in a continued effort to ensure Covid safety.

If we use Zoom meetings in the future, for whatever reason, it would be really helpful if you could ensure that your name appears on the screen and we know that you are in the 'waiting room', it's tricky to know who i-phone is!

Another valid point for parent consultation evenings in the future, if they are on Zoom, when booking try not to book back-to-back appointments for siblings; if one meeting runs over by a couple of minutes this has a knock on effect with other members of the school community both staff and parents.

We are really looking forward to the time when we are able to welcome you all back into school but in the meantime, thank you for your support and we hope that you found the meetings helpful.

Governing Body News:

For information regarding our Governing Body,, please contact Pasha Delahunty, Clerk to Governors.

pdelahunty@westdean.w-sussex.sch.uk

A polite 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.



West Dean PTA Smarties Challenge

Thank you to everyone who took part in the Smarties Challenge over the half term holiday.

Chestnut Class have been using the coins in their maths work, using them for estimating activities. Ellie Holder has the task of banking all the money and will let us know the grand total soon.

We had some amazing decorations on the Smarties tubes, the children had clearly worked hard with their creative ideas. Judging has taken place and prizes awarded for the best decorated tube.

If your child would like their decorated tube returned please pop into the office to collect.

Well done to our 5 winners.



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.

Please note:

Children will be dismissed to their parents or carers from our Reception area at the end of each club or Care Bear session. Please notify us if another adult is collecting or they are going home with a friend.

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

Tuesday 23rd November	10.00-12.00 SSP Football Event (selected)
Thursday 25th November	Year 2 Phonics Screening
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	Christmas Recycled Jumper Day
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



Tuesday 4th January	Return to School
Wednesday 12th January	First Westgate Swim for Beech and Chestnut
Thursday 13th January	10.30 Beech and Chestnut visit to Chichester Festival Theatre
Thursday 13th January	SSP Bronze Ambassadors (details to follow)
Wednesday 19th January	Westgate Swimming for Beech and Chestnut
Wednesday 19th January	1.00-5.00 SSP Cross Country Event at Bishop Luffa, Year 5/6
Thursday 20th January	1.00-3.00 SSP Netball at Bishop Luffa Year 3/4
Wednesday 26th January	Westgate Swimming for Beech and Chestnut