

West Dean Church of England Primary School



Dear Parents and Carers,

The children have had a super final week. We have said goodbye to our Y6 pupils who treated us to a very entertaining talent show Friday afternoon, and made us very proud indeed during our Leavers' Service in the church on Thursday. We have already planned and prepared lots of lovely learning for the Autumn term and we look forward to welcoming our new YR pupils into our West Dean fold.

We have included dates for next year here, as well as club information and swimming timetables for the holidays in this newsletter.

I am delighted with the musical successes we have had in school this year: how wonderful to have rock bands in an outdoor concert in the last week, a recorder recital and several pieces played by our flautists and clarinettists in our end of year assembly. To have three children awarded distinctions in their music exams was the icing on our musical cake for the year! Congratulations everyone and thank you!

For Autumn 2016 I am pleased to announce that all KS2 children (Beech and Chestnut Classes) will learn the violin, with ten weekly lessons beginning on Friday 16th September and taking place in the afternoons. Following the success of the woodwind pupils, Mrs Schofield will continue to offer peripatetic lessons to current and new pupils. Those parents wishing to sign children up for this should contact West Sussex Music via their website: www.westsussexmusic.co.uk. Mrs. Oldman will continue to teach all the children music and singing on Wednesday afternoons and will support all our musical events throughout the year. Our thanks go to both these WSM teachers.

Our long term plan is to enable any children who particularly enjoy playing the violin with our new music teacher, Mrs Alexandra Urquart, to take up peripatetic lessons after the Autumn term. This could give us enough children playing a variety of instruments to have an after school music ensemble club. The children learn so much from playing together as part of a group.

The RockSteady provision also continues into the Autumn term, with sessions on Monday afternoons. These lessons are in addition to school music lessons: they are 'peripatetic' and paid for by parents/carers. Again, to sign up for their lessons, please contact Rachel and Cameron directly at cameron.graham@rocksteadymusicschool.com.

We have many other exciting plans for the coming academic year, including a whole school Summer production and Chestnut Class links with the Festival Theatre, where they will sing alongside our locality schools. Year 6 children will take part in a series of lessons on theatre craft and play writing, with at least one other visit to the theatre.

On behalf of the staff, thank you for your kind words and support throughout the year.

Happy Holidays - we hope that you all enjoy time with your families and friends and we will see you all again on Tuesday 6th September, refreshed and ready for another year of learning!

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				
Learning Journals	Please remember to return your Learning Journals in on Monday morning every week.				
Swimming Pool	The swimming pool will be open during the first two weeks of the holidays, now that we have enough volunteers. It takes a lot of hard work, commitment and funding to keep the pool open and we would really like to make as much use of it as we can - thank you for your help.				
Sports Activities	AAA Coaching will run a sports club during the summer. Details and the dates for the 'Summer School' have been sent home - look out for the flyer. Spaces are still available, contact Ben for details. We are also able to offer a sports club on our Inset day on Monday 5 th September, please contact Ben Johnson to book your place - ben@aaacoaching.co.uk				
Parent Information Sessions	Beech Class - Monday 12 th September, 2.30 Maple Class - Tuesday 13 th September, 2.30 Apple Class - Wednesday 14 th September, 2.15 Chestnut Class - Thursday 15 th September, 2.30				
Valley Voices	Please do come and join our 'Valley Voices' choir which will be led by Emily Barden in the school hall, 6.00-7.00, every Wednesday evening beginning 14 th September (term time only)				
Class Open Mornings 9.00	Beech Class - Monday 19 th September & Wednesday 19 th October Chestnut Class - Wednesday 21 st September & Tuesday 18 th October				
(first half of term)	Maple Class - Wednesday 28 th September & Monday 10 th October Apple Class - Tuesday 11 th October				
Class Open Mornings 9.00	Maple Class - Tuesday 8 th November & Monday 28 th November Beech Class - Wednesday 9 th November & Tuesday 22 nd November				
(second half of term)	Chestnut Class - Monday 14 th November & Wednesday 23 rd November Apple Class - Tuesday 15 th November & Friday 2 nd December				
Parent Consultation Evenings	Tuesday 11 th October, 3.15 - 5.00 Wednesday 12 th October, 3.15 - 6.00 Thursday 13 th October, 3.15 - 5.00				
Class Assemblies 8.45	Thursday 10 th November Beech Thursday 24 th November Chestnut Thursday 1 st December Maple Friday 9 th December Apple				
Autumn Term Clubs and Care Bears	Care Bears After School Provision - this will run everyday from 3.00-4.00. Please see attached club timetable for the autumn term. Please do make a note of these dates. The clubs DO NOT run throughout every week of the term! We would also like to remind parents that pick up time is 4pm (unless otherwise stated). Our staff have been taken advantage of by some regular late collections and we would very much like this to stop. We have decided that charges should be made if this occurs on more than one occasion, unless there is a particular unavoidable reason. The clubs are well run by our dedicated team who really care for the children: please do respect their time and good will by ensuring you arrive in good time for collection. Care Bear Cub will be available every day, but places are not guaranteed and should be booked in advance. This is not a default club for anyone who forgets to collect their children!				
	Please email: sandra.muggeridge@btinternet.com OR ring/text: 07507 327466				
	Thank you for your support in this matter.				

Dates for 2016/17

Autumn Term Tuesday 6th September - Friday 16th December 2016

Half Term Holiday Monday 24th October - Friday 28th October

Inset Days: Monday 5th September & Friday 30th September

Tuesday 6th September - Autumn Term 2016 starts for children

Monday 12th September - Club timetable begins

Wednesday 14th September - Valley Voices at West Dean, 6.00-7.00

Friday 23rd September, 2.00 - Year 5/6 French Residential Meeting

Saturday 1st/Sunday 2nd October - Apple Affair at West Dean College

Monday 10th October, 10.30 - School Friends Service at Chichester Cathedral, Chestnut Class

Thursday 13th October, 8.45 - Harvest Assembly - all welcome

Friday 21st October, 2.30 - Community Café

Friday 11th November, 8.45 - Remembrance Assembly - all welcome

Monday 21st November, 8.30 - Yellow School Photographs

Monday 21st November, 11.00 - Flu Vaccination for Year 1, 2, 3

Tuesday 13th December, 12.00 - Chartwell's Christmas Lunch

Wednesday 14th December, 1.00 - Christingle making at West Dean

Wednesday 14th December - Christingle Service at West Dean Church (time tbc)

Thursday 15th December, 8.45 - End of Term Assembly - all welcome