



West Dean Church of England Primary School
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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.'
John 13

Newsletter 29 - 29.04.2022

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome back to school for the summer term. I hope you all enjoyed a fun and relaxing time over the Easter holiday; the glorious spring weather certainly played its part. At the time of writing the final newsletter of last term, we had not yet had the last part of our Easter celebrations—the much anticipated Easter egg hunt. Huge thanks to the PTA, for organising such a lovely Easter activity, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all of the children on the final afternoon of term. The Apple and Maple Class children had to search all over our school grounds to find clues and spell Easter words in order to win their chocolate reward, whilst the Beech and Chestnut children had the extra challenge of searching Centurion Way for their clues. It was great to see them all having so much fun and working brilliantly together in their teams.

And so to the start of a new term; one which I hope will bring plenty of opportunity for you, our school families, to share in the life of the school. Now that restrictions have eased, we have a great deal planned for this term, so watch this space for news and further details of opportunities to come into school for special events and the sharing of learning activities.

We are delighted to be able to invite you into school for Parents' Evening next week, on Tuesday and Thursday. You should have received details on Thursday of how to book your appointment. Please contact the school office, if for any reason, you missed this communication. Of course, some aspects of the pandemic have taught us new ways of working, and we are pleased to also be able to offer Zoom appointments to those for whom this is more practical. If you are coming into school, do please take some time, either before or after your appointment, to view some of your child's books in the school hall.

Beyond Parents' evening week, we are re-introducing 'Drop-in Wednesday', which, for those of you who haven't heard of this before, is an opportunity for you to come back into class with your child at the end of the day on Wednesdays, just for ten minutes, so your child can show you some of the things they have been doing in class. We are very aware of how much many of you have missed coming into the school building, so we're really pleased to be able to offer this again. This is entirely optional and not necessarily something you need to do every week and will start from Wednesday 11th May.

Please keep our Year Six children in your thoughts and prayers, as they prepare for the Key Stage 2 National Curriculum Assessment (SATs) week, beginning on 9th May. The children have all been working very hard to build their confidence for this important week, but it has been, and still is, important to support them in understanding that despite its significance as an opportunity to show what they can do, there are many other ways that children can shine too, beyond SATs week, in sport for example or in the creative arts. SATs week is undoubtedly at time to focus and try hard, but it's important to put this into perspective for the children as well.

We are all very excited that, in the penultimate week of this half term, Chestnut Class will finally be off on a residential adventure, to Foxlease, near Lyndhurst in the New Forest. The children will be spending three nights away, challenging themselves and having lots of fun with all manner of outdoor and adventurous activities, as well as that all important, character building opportunity to share a dormitory with classmates! This is such an important element of the children's journey through primary school, so again, we're delighted that this year, the residential trip, albeit this side of the English Channel, can happen.

A group of budding writer's from Chestnut Class, enjoyed the opportunity to work on creative story writing with an author this week, at the 'Author's Abroad' event at Portfield School. I hope to be able to share some of their writing with you in a future newsletter, but for now, I think this quote from James sums up their experience, 'It was really cool because we learnt how to effectively construct our writing in an imaginative way. The author was great fun because she got me thinking. Although I was writing all day, the time flew by'.

It's a funny time of year—just one week into term and we've a three day Bank Holiday weekend again. Let's hope the sun continues to shine. Enjoy the weekend, whatever you are up to with your families.

Best wishes,

Chris Williams



*West Dean CE Primary School
Acorn Awards
Friday 29th April 2022*



Etta Year R - for creating beautiful bluebell artwork. Your care and attention to detail is brilliant. Well done!

Conran Year 1 - for super understanding in maths. You read the questions and logically worked out the answers! Brilliant!

Martha Year 2 - for all your hard work in your first week at West Dean! You have joined in, asked questions, and shown fantastic confidence. Well done.

Beatrix Year 3 - for coming back to school ready to learn and give everything a go, even if you've not been sure. You have asked a question, taken time to think and then got on with it—well done!

Humphrey Year 4 - for a fantastic first week at West Dean. You have settled so well into Beech Class; brilliant listening and working hard as well as being kind and supportive. Well done!

James Year 5 - for your consistently positive attitude to your learning. You make the most of opportunities. Your writing impressed everyone!

Darcy Year 6 - for your willingness and determination to learn how important editing is. Small changes can make significant improvements—you demonstrated that you know how to do this.



Year 6 Bikeability at Singleton School.

Our Year 6 children took part in the WSCC Bikeability Scheme at Singleton School this week. The aim of the scheme is to teach the children safe cycling techniques and road safety, basic bicycle maintenance and the importance of wearing a cycle helmet. The children all successfully passed both parts of the course and were awarded with their certificates and pin badges during our assembly.



Be part of local folklore and join a fun charity race up the Goodwood Trundle for runners, walkers and families — Please see attached information for details about the Trundle Assault taking place on **Saturday 14th May 2022**

www.trundleassault.com

Year Six are loving their new Leavers' Hoodies

Although they still have the whole summer term to enjoy with us at West Dean, we were delighted to present the Year Six children with their Leavers' Hoodies during our Acorn Assembly this morning, so that they can wear them proudly in the coming weeks. Huge thanks to Nikki Healy and to **Showstoppers** for organising and supplying these fantastic hoodies for the children.



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National Walking Month 2022

May is National Walking Month, an annual celebration of walking. A brisk walk every day is a great way to improve both your physical and mental health. 2022 walking challenge is to walk 20 minutes every day through the month of May #Try20#WalkThisMay.

For those experiencing loneliness getting out to explore the community with others can be a great way to boost your mental health. Here at Chichester Wellbeing we have 10 HeartSmart walks on offer during Mental Health Awareness week, ranging from a beginner 1 mile walk at Chichester Canal to a 6.5 mile walk around West Marden.

We are also celebrating 20 years of the HeartSmart Walks with a Walls Walk followed by celebratory tea and cake at the District Council. Bookings for the event are now open. The latest Programme May - July 2022 is now



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.**



PE KIT We have an increasingly high number of children who do not have PE kit with them in school in preparation for their PE lessons. Whilst there is clearly a need to take kit home and wash it periodically, the children should have their PE kit in school all week, Monday to Friday. Please support your child in organising themselves and remembering this.

Grounds Morning and Swimming Pool Clear-up

Saturday 7th May, 9.30—12.00

Time is quite short this half-term, so we have decided to run a grounds morning next Saturday. With apologies for the short notice, we would be grateful for the support of any families who could lend a hand for however long you are able, on the morning of Saturday 7th May.

There will be a list of jobs, the priority being to weed, clean and tidy the swimming pool area in preparation for opening it after the half term break. The pool itself will be cleaned and prepared by professionals at a later date.





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



Summer Term 2022

Monday 25th April - Thursday 21st July

Half Term: Monday 30th May—Friday 3rd June

Tuesday 3rd May	Hugo Van Driel Assembly
Tuesday 3rd May	Parent Evening Appointment
Thursday 5th May	Parent Evening Appointment
Thursday 5th May	Chichester Falcons Softball (in school for Beech and Chestnut)
Saturday 7th May	Swimming Pool Spring clean and Grounds Day
Thursday 12th May	Governing Body Meeting
Saturday 14th May	Trundle Assault
Tuesday 17th May	Chestnut Class residential visit to Foxlease—Friday 20th May.
Wednesday 18th May	SSP Tri-Golf (selected yr 3 & 4 details to follow)
Tuesday 24th May	Hugo Van-Driel Assembly
Wednesday 25th May	Drama4All Workshop in school for Apple and Maple
Thursday 26th May	SSP Year 5&6 Quadkids (details tbc) Bishop Luffa
Wednesday 8th June	SSP Disney Festival (selected Yr 1,2,3) The Arena, Bognor
Thursday 9th June	Authors Abroad—selected Yr 3/4
Friday 10th June	8.45 Beech Class Assembly
Monday 13th June	Yellow School Photographs
Thursday 16th June	Chichester Library Summer Reading Challenge Assembly
Thursday 16th June	SSP Future Flyers
Friday 17th June	Chestnut Class Assembly
Wednesday 22nd June	8.45 Maple Class Assembly
Friday 24th June	Whole School Beach Day—West Wittering (details to follow)
Monday 27th June	1.15 Year 6 Leaver Service Chichester Cathedral
Wednesday 29th June	8.45 Apple Class Assembly
Monday 4th July	2.00-2.45 New Entrants Visits
Wednesday 6th July	INSET
Wednesday 13th July	1.30-2.45 New Entrants Visits
Friday 15th July	Community Café (tbc)
Tuesday 19th July	1.30-2.30 New Entrants Visits

After School Clubs
Summer Term 2022

Summer 1
First half of Summer term

Day	Adult Lead	Max	Club	Cost	Year Group
Monday	Miss C Bond	20	Football	£20.00	Yr 3,4,5,6
Tuesday	Mr C Williams	20	Kwik Cricket	£25.00	Yr 3,4,5,6
Wednesday	Mrs Muggeridge/Miss Boxall	8	Cookery	£30.00	Yr3, 4, 5, 6
Thursday	Mrs E Holder	12	Dance	£20.00	Yr 2,3,4,5,6
Friday	AAA Coaching	20	Multi-sports	£25.00	Yr 1,2,3,4,5,6

We are pleased to be able to offer a programme of after school activities again for the summer term. These activities take place outside of school hours and are considered 'optional extras'. The charges that we make for these activities cover the cost of the provision, resources, admin and use of the school premises and facilities.

Dates: W/C 25th April, 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd May - x 5 weeks

Dance Club will run for 4 weeks this half term, there will be no Dance on Thursday 26th May.

Football Club will run for 4 weeks this half term, Monday 2nd May is Bank Holiday.

Clubs for Chestnut Class will only run for four weeks this half term, £20, as they will be away for their residential visit, 17th - 20th May. Mrs Reynolds will cover Mr Williams club during this week. Clubs have been set up with a part payment option to allow for this.

If you have a credit on your schoolmoney account that you would like to offset against payment for clubs, please do contact the school office. A part payment option is available to secure your booking in the first instance.

In addition to our after school club programme our Care Bear provision is available, **Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday**, 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.

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. 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 8th April at 3.00pm.