



# West Dean Church of England Primary School

West Dean, Chichester, West Sussex, PO18 0RJ

Telephone/Fax: 01243 811247      Headteacher: Mrs G. Moss

Newsletter 8    11<sup>th</sup> November 2016



Dear Parents and Carers,

**Please please drive and park safely.**

**DO NOT drop children on the road outside school at all: this is NOT SAFE.**

**This morning was particularly dangerous.**

Mrs. Turner has accepted a teaching role in Bosham Primary School, beginning in January. This is sad news for all of us in many ways, as Mrs Turner is a popular member of staff who has been with us for four years, and she knows our KS2 children really well. We are, however, delighted for her as she plans the next teaching role in her career. We wish her 'all the best' in this, and know that the experience she has gained at West Dean will have prepared her very well for her new class and school. Please see below for more information on this matter.

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.

Information about our Spring term swimming programme is now available for you to log-in to book, give consent and pay. Please do log in regularly and check for 'live' visits and events. Current trips available to book are Westgate swimming, Maple Weald & Downland visit, Chartwells Christmas Lunch and the French residential.

Please do put the class **Open Morning dates** in your diaries, as these are the best way to find out how we teach key concepts. You won't be put on the spot - you will just be able to join in with your child in class! This half term we have **Chestnut Class on Monday 14<sup>th</sup>** and **Apple Class on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> November**. These are not suitable for younger siblings: if you would find a **crèche** useful for any of our Open Morning dates, please do let us know *in advance* and we will do our best to arrange this for you.

## **Science Demonstration:**

On Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> November we are very lucky to have a visit from Tim Harrison, a working scientist, who will give a demonstration and talk to the children about materials in Earth's atmosphere. He will show case what different gases are and conduct different experiments with them. This demonstration is visually spectacular and interactive, really WOW science! If you would like to join us, please contact the school office as we have some availability for adults to be included in the audience.

Strutt & Parker Estate Agents are running their annual **Charity Christmas Card Competition** again this year. For every entry received they will donate £1 to UK Youth Charity ([ukyouth.org](http://ukyouth.org)). The winner of the competition will receive a £50 book voucher, a framed copy of their design and £500 for their school. The winning design will be their corporate Christmas card. To enter you can collect an entry form from the school office - entries must be back to school by Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November.

**Chartwells Christmas Lunch** - Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December. This must be ordered through school and not via mealselector, the day is blocked on their order form. R/Yr1/Yr2 parents, please let the office know if you would like a meal ordered. KS2 parents can book and pay on-line using [Schoolmoney.co.uk](http://Schoolmoney.co.uk). **The deadline for us to place our order is Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November - we will not be able to order any meals after this date.**

**Christmas Cards** - You will have received a sample of your child's Christmas card design - please remember to place your orders in the posting box in reception by Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> November. The sale of these cards will go to our school funds to be used for Christmas curriculum costs.

**Plants:** Maple Class will soon be selling plants after school so bring your cash with you at pick up time!

	Current Useful Information and Reminders
<b>PE KIT</b>	<b>We will no longer be sending PE kit home each week as we are still having instances of kit left at home each week. If it becomes dirty or smelly it will be sent home, otherwise we will keep it here all half term. Parents surveyed have said this will be helpful at home too! Exceptions to this may be AAA sports club, where a different kit will be required to be brought in for the club. Please support us in this.</b>
<b>Parent &amp; Carer Drop-in Sessions</b>	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. <b>Every Wednesday 3.00-3.15</b>
<b>Class Open Mornings 8.45-9.30</b>	<b>Chestnut Class - Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November &amp; Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November</b> <b>Apple Class - Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> November &amp; Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December</b>
<b>School Uniform</b>	<p>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.</p> <p>We are currently in the process of <b>transferring the sale of our uniform to Game, Set &amp; Match in Chichester</b>. This means that you will be able to order your uniform on-line or call into their shop in Quarry Lane to try on and buy uniform there. They are open 7 days a week and have easy access and parking. We feel this will help us to improve the uniform service that we are able to offer by letting the 'experts' do a good job for us. It will also eliminate congestion in the reception when you need to purchase uniform and save space for us by not having to keep lots of stock of sweatshirts etc.</p> <p>We are confident that, although you may see a very small price increase in some items, the quality and service you receive will be excellent. This will happen for January but in the meantime, uniform will still be available to purchase from the school office. A list of uniform available from Game, Set &amp; Match will be available shortly.</p> <p>We are also planning <b>changes to our uniform</b> in response to our Respect focus. We want our children to look as smart as pupils from other schools and we are planning some minor changes. These changes will be phased in from January onwards, when both styles will be worn. From September 2017, our new uniform will be fully in place: the major changes are that our logo will be embroidered, the sweatshirts will be V neck, and we will have ties for our older pupils.</p>
<b>Class Assemblies 8.45</b>	<b>Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November Chestnut</b> <b>Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> December Maple</b> <b>Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December Apple</b>
<b>Valley Voices</b>	Please do come and join our 'Valley Voices' <b>adult choir</b> which will be led by Emily Barden in the school hall, 6.00-7.00, every Wednesday evening. (term time only)
<b>Autumn Term Clubs and Care Bears</b>	<p>Care Bears After School Provision - this will run every day from 3.00-4.00. Please see attached club timetable for the Autumn term.</p> <p>Please do make a note of these dates. <b>The clubs DO NOT run throughout every week of the term!</b> 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! <b>If you have booked a place and your child is not attending please let us know.</b></p> <p>Please email: <a href="mailto:sandra.muggeridge@btinternet.com">sandra.muggeridge@btinternet.com</a> 07852 255628 (Please note new telephone number) Thank you for your support in this matter.</p> <p><b>AAA Coaching will be available on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> December, in the Christmas holiday. See attached flyer for information and how to book your place.</b></p> <p><b>Please look out for information coming soon about our Spring term programme of clubs. You will be able to book and pay for your child's clubs via our on-line booking system <a href="http://www.schoolmoney.co.uk">www.schoolmoney.co.uk</a>.</b></p>
<b>IS YOUR CHILD WORTH LESS?</b> Our campaign for better funding for West Sussex schools continues, as you may have seen on national news. 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: <a href="https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/167761">https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/167761</a>	

# Dates for 2016/17

Autumn Term Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> September - Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2016

Half Term Holiday Monday 24<sup>th</sup> October - Friday 28<sup>th</sup> October

Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> November - Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November - 1.00-2.30 Chestnut Class - Squash at West Dean

Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November, 1.00 - Town Crier visit to Maple class

Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> November, 10.00-11.0 - Tim Harrison Science Demonstration

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> November 9.30 - Chestnut Class Weald & Downland Visit (Takeover Day)

Monday 21<sup>st</sup> November, 8.30 - Yellow School Individual and Sibling Photographs - please let us know if you would like to include pre-school siblings (we do this at 8:20am)

Monday 21<sup>st</sup> November, 11.00 - Flu Vaccination for Year 1, 2, 3

Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November - Maple Class visit to the Weald & Downland Museum

Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November - Deadline for ordering Chartwells Christmas Lunch

Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November, 8.45 - Chestnut Class Assembly

Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November - Able Writers Workshop at Portfield Primary (selected yr5/6 pupils)

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November, 11.00 - Bishop of Cameroon visiting Chestnut Class

Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> November, 1.00-2.30 - Squash at Chichester Raquet Club (selected Yr 6)

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> December, 8.45 - Maple Class Assembly

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> December, 5.30 - Full Governing Body Meeting

Week Commencing 5<sup>th</sup> December - No Clubs this week, Care Bears as normal

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> December, 8.45-12.00 - Squash Semi Final, Chichester Raquet Club (selected Yr 6)

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> December, 9.45-10.30 - 'Penguin Party' Workshops with CFT at West Dean (R, Yr1, Yr2)

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December, 2.30 - Apple & Maple Theatre Visit, Mr Popper's Penguins, Minerva Theatre

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December, 8.45 - Apple Class Assembly

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December, time tbc - Violin performance

Week Commencing 12<sup>th</sup> December - No Clubs this week, Care Bears as normal

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December, 2.15 - Rocksteady Concert

Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December, 12.00 - Chartwell's Christmas Lunch

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December, 9.00 - Christingle making at West Dean

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December - Christingle Service at West Dean Church - 5:15pm

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December, 8.45 - End of Term Assembly - all welcome

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December - School finishes for the Christmas holidays

## Christmas Holidays

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January - Spring Term begins for children

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> January, 9.15-11.30 - Chestnut Festival of Singing rehearsal at Chichester High School

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> January - Westgate Swimming for Beech and Chestnut

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> January, - Festival of Singing - Y5/6 at Chichester Festival Theatre - rehearsal in the day and performance in the evening - info to follow

*Acorn Awards - Friday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2016*

*We had our remembrance Day Assembly today, so our Acorn Awards and House Points will be awarded on Monday.*

FOR INFORMATION

Please see below the contents of our letter to Beech Class Parents informing them of the change in provision for the class from January:

**Beech Class  
Spring and Summer 2017**

Dear Parents and Carers of Beech Class pupils,

Mrs. Turner has accepted a teaching role in Bosham Primary School, beginning in January. This is sad news for all of us in many ways, as Mrs Turner is a popular member of staff who has been with us for four years, and she knows our KS2 children really well. Since joining the school as a newly Qualified Teacher, Mrs Turner has supported the children, families, PTA, governors and staff of the school and taught in Maple Class as well as Beech Class. We will all miss her very much.

We are, however, delighted for her as she plans the next teaching role in her career. We wish her 'all the best' in this, and know that the experience she has gained at West Dean will have prepared her very well for her new class and school.

For the next few weeks, before Christmas, life in Beech Class will carry on as usual. We are in the process of appointing a new teacher for the remaining two terms and will keep you informed once we have made our decisions.

We are lucky that we have Mrs Goacher supporting in Beech Class on a full time basis, as she knows the children exceptionally well and will continue to be the consistency we know our children need. I will also be very involved in the classroom, as we get used to our new teacher. The routines and expectations will remain the same, although our timetable may be slightly different, (as is the case each new term).

We have an exciting Chichester Festival Theatre visit and topic on the famous author Michael Morpurgo planned for the Spring Term, when the children will be swimming on Thursday mornings, doing PE with AAA coaching on Friday afternoons and learning music on Wednesday afternoons with Mrs Oldman. They will also visit the theatre to see a music concert.

The children will be informed about this at the end of the afternoon today, and we will be reassuring them about next term, although we cannot give them any further details. I know that you will reassure them too, but please do come and see us if you have any queries about this. This information will also be included in tomorrow's newsletter.

Yours sincerely,

Gillian Moss  
Headteacher