



# West Dean Church of England Primary School

West Dean, Chichester, West Sussex, PO18 0RJ

Telephone/Fax: 01243 811247

Headteacher: Mrs G. Moss

Newsletter 6

26<sup>th</sup> January 2016



Dear Parents and Carers,

I am delighted that so many of you are finding our weekly reminders useful and that the communication working so well.

With this

Thank you to everyone for their patience

## MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

I am delighted that **Mrs Oldman**, is back in school for our Wednesday music lessons and that **Mrs Schofield** is in school on Fridays for peripatetic lessons. Please see the website for booking info:

**[west.sussex.music.co.uk](http://west.sussex.music.co.uk)**

**for any pupils eligible for Pupil Premium funding**

## Family Support Group

*We now have dates for this super support group to share top tips for bringing up children in harmony: not a parenting class - a support network - to be run in school. Please see back page:*

6/13/20/27 Jan, 10 Feb  
(then half term)  
24 Feb, 2, 16 March

**9:10 - 11am**

## Sporting Success!

Our Yr 5/6 children took part in some squash coaching sessions with Chichester Racquet Club and other local schools, culminating in the selection of a small team who took part in a festival last week.

I am delighted to report that the children represented us really well. Their behaviour was excellent, they learnt lots and **they won the tournament!**

Well done to all Chestnut Class and especially to James, Francesca, Molly, Oscar and Lucas.

## CLUBS

There is a super range on offer again next term, and I thank our staff for doing such a good job with this.

Our thanks must go to **Mrs Muggeridge** for her hard work in effectively organising this large range. Please support her in this by paying promptly, as she seems to be chasing a lot of people! The places are allocated on a 'first come, first served' basis: please respect this and do not ask for exceptions to be made.

**Care Bears** will continue as usual, but we will not run **Breakfast Bears** as there is not sufficient up-take, currently.

If you are keen to run or support a club, please let us know. In particular, if you are able to be an 'adult on hand' on **Wednesdays**, this would help us for the sports club.



### **Mrs Moss' Road Safety Grumble**

Generally, our car park has been much safer and less congested in recent months and I am grateful to everyone for being sensible and courteous in their parking.

May I remind you, however, that the school car park is too small to accommodate all parents and is therefore restricted to Apple Class parents only, and those with mobility difficulties. It has come to our attention that some parents of KS2 children are dropping children off in the car park and using the turning area for this. This is causing some issues for those attempting to enter, park and leave the car park safely.

Even more dangerously, some parents are dropping children off on the pavement on Motor Road, near the entrance to school. This can cause short tail backs - and this quickly causes a danger on the main A286.

**PLEASE DO NOT DROP CHILDREN HERE.**

We are pursuing the possibility of a traffic/crossing patrol and will keep you informed of our progress with this, as I am aware that the road is still dangerous for us all to cross.

### **Dates for 2016**

Spring Term Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January - Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> March

Easter Holidays Friday 25<sup>th</sup> March - Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April

Summer Term Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April - Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> July

Half Term Monday 30<sup>th</sup> May - Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June

*Inset Days: Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February, Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2016*

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January** - Back to school

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> January** - Reception Pupils Screening with School Nurse

**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> January** - Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> March - Beech & Chestnut Swimming at Westgate

**Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> January** - Governing Body Meeting

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> February** (8:45 - 10:15) - Chestnut Class Parent Workshop

**Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> February** (8:45 - 10:15) - Maple Class Parent Workshop

**Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February** (8:45 - 10:15) - Beech Class Parent Workshop

**Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> February** (8:45 - 10:15) - Apple Class Parent Workshop

**Friday 5<sup>th</sup> February** - GAS E-Safety Event selected Yr 6 pupils

**Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> February** - E-Safety Day

**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> February** 2.30-3.30 p.m - Chestnut Class Community Café

**Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February** - INSET Day - staff training - School Closed to Pupils

***Monday 15<sup>th</sup> February** - Friday 19<sup>th</sup> February - Half Term*

**Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> February** 8.45 a.m - Maple Class Assembly - all welcome

**Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> March** 8.45 a.m - Beech Class Assembly - all welcome

**Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March** - World Book Day

**Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March** - GAS French Day - selected Yr 5 & 6 pupils

**Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March** a.m - Governor Visits

**Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> March** - GAS French Day - selected Yr 3 & 4 pupils

**Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> March** - Governing Body Meeting

**Friday 11<sup>th</sup> March** 8.45 a.m - Apple Class Assembly - all welcome

**Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> March** - Cormorants Swim Gala

**Monday 14<sup>th</sup> March** - Parent Evening R, Yr 2, 4 & 6

**Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> March** - Arun Swim Gala

**Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> March** - EYFS & KS1 Superhero Workshop

**Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March** - Sports Relief

**Monday 21<sup>st</sup> March** - Bikeability Yr 6

**Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March** 8.45 a.m - Chestnut Class Assembly - all welcome

**Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> March** - end of term

Children show us their learning all the time, sometimes when we are least expecting it! As a result of feedback from our Open Morning, we have included a blank sheet for you to use, at the front of the Learning Journals.

To help us all capture children's learning, please jot down things they have shown you they can do, they know, they understand..... pop the date next to it, and we will transfer this information into the journal.

You could also stick post-its here, and you can still write on the pages if you know where the learning is listed.

Thank you so much for supporting us with this.

Look what I can do!

### Learning Journals

Don't forget to bring your Learning Journals into school every Monday morning. They will be sent home for the Christmas Holidays.

### Governing Body Report

The Governing Body met for the second time this term on the 26<sup>th</sup> November. The meeting started with a presentation by Mrs Prudence about the newly introduced Learning Journals. The governors learnt how the journals are starting to be used in school, as well as by parents at home. Also on the agenda was the Head Teacher's Report and the West Dean Development Plan for 2015/16 to outline the school's priorities for this academic year. The report included updates on the new curriculum, standards and progress, as well as the activities of the PTA and the School Council. Plans for the new building project were also discussed. Since the last meeting there had been a Health and Safety tour of the school. The governor representative, Sharon-Michi Kusunoki, had found pupil feedback incredibly helpful. The governors also heard from Julia Hugason-Briem about the success of the community café planned and run by Chestnut Class. The next meeting will be on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> January.

V Sutton

### PTA Film Night - (Nativity II Danger in the Manger)

Thank you to everyone who came to our festive film night. It was great to see so many Christmas jumpers and sparkly outfits. It was a super social even event and much fun was had by all. We raised £100 for PTA funds, which is fantastic.

Many thanks to Mrs Turner who lent her classroom and all the staff who stayed to lock up at the end. Thank you also to all of our parent helpers.

Louise Atkinson - PTA

### Governing Body Update

We were delighted to receive three nominations for the position of **School Parent Governor** as this shows the strength of our School Community.

Congratulations to **Tim Clemens**, daddy to Jack and Harry, who was successful in the election and will join us immediately, and for our first meeting in January. He will, no doubt, bring lots of expertise, including his knowledge of the building process.

Our **thanks** go to everyone who voted, and to our other two candidates, both of who have considerable support and whom we hope will consider joining us when a position becomes vacant: terms of office are for four years, and vacancies arise every year or two.

### ACORN AWARDS 2015

#### Acorn Awards

##### Acorn Awards 27<sup>th</sup> November 2015

**Isaac** – for knowing nearly all his sounds in his big red book.

**Emmy** – for starting her work again, to make it even better, giving it her very best effort in our science.

**Lucy** – for her great work on doubling in Maths.

**Jack** – for his brilliant application of fraction skills.

**Rafi** – for his really hard work writing paragraphs.

**Gwen** – for showing increased effort in spelling and writing her newspaper article. Your effort this week paid off – well done! Keep it up!

**Lily** – for consistently applying her writing skills and success criteria effectively in her newspaper article. done!



##### Acorn Awards 11<sup>th</sup> December 2015

**Claude** – for working so hard with his pencil grip.

**Nell** – for joining in with our Learning Together activities and completing her passport.

**Tristram** – for his brilliant, creative and exciting recount.

**Jamie** – for applying paragraphs, sentences, different openers and conjunctions to his recount, as well as working super hard in all subjects.

**Lauren** – for using fantastic powerful descriptions in her Great Fire of London diary writing

**Natalia** – for confident rounding up and down in division word problems and knowing when an exact answer is needed.

**Lucy** – for confident rounding up and down in division word problems.

# What is a Parenting Group?

It is definitely NOT any of the following:

- A course of lessons to teach you how to be a good parent
- Run by experts in parenting skills
- A group of critical people telling others where they have gone wrong

We hope it will be a place where:

- Anyone involved in the care of children can meet
- Ideas and experiences can be shared in confidence and trust
- Mutual support and friendships will grow



The Course starts for anybody with children at West Dean School.

It will be held on **6<sup>th</sup> January 2016** in the Pavilion, from  
**9:10 - 11am**

**Dates:** 6th/ 13th / 20th / 27th Jan, 10th Feb  
(then half term)

24th Feb, 2nd, 16th March

Please let us know by Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January if you are interested in attending

*NB: we HOPE to provide a crèche if demand exists and staff are available.*



**Parenting Group**

**beginning on 6<sup>th</sup> January 2016**

*please return this tear off slip*

We will be delighted to welcome **any family member or grown up** who spends time with the children and would like to share their experiences and find out more.

*Please let us know by Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January at the latest.*

**I would like to attend the course** .....  
(name of adult/s, child and class please)

**I would be interested in a crèche for:** .....

*Name and age of pre-school child please*