



West Dean Church of England Primary School

West Dean, Chichester, West Sussex, PO18 0RJ

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Newsletter 20 17th February 2017



Dear Parents and Carers,

Important notice to Chestnut class parents re French Residential visit:

Please note the time of our return to West Dean on Friday 10th March will be 10.15pm as stated on the itinerary.

Beech Class are embarking on their art project: 'Weaving the Elements', which will result in our annual entry into the Chichester/Chartres Art competition. **On Monday 27th February, our first day back after the holiday, we will begin our weaving.** We would like to appeal to everyone, parents of Beech children and everyone else, for some resources.

*We need: **umbrellas** - these can be old tatty ones, broken ones, cheap ones from a charity shop..... just any old umbrella of any size which we can transform into something special.*

*We also need **fabric** - any fabric which we could cut into strips for weaving. We would prefer anything which would otherwise be recycled or discarded. This fabric for weaving could even include strips of old carrier bags, particularly if they are colourful.*

So, please please collect some resources for us over the holiday and send them into Beech Class - we hope to amaze you with our creativity!

Chestnut Class were very sad to have to cancel their Community café, but we had so many poorly children and grown ups that this was not possible or sensible! Thank you to everyone who baked and bought, and for your support and understanding. They have had a super few weeks, though, with their work on **WW2** culminating in a workshop day with Major Knight, a soldier and historian who let us all try army rations, try on uniforms (modern and from WW2) and find out all about life for civilians and soldiers during the war.

Valentine's Dinner

What a lovely evening we had at West Dean College when lots of our parents and friends shared a fabulous dinner, dressed up to the nines and raising lots of money for the school. We are really grateful for this opportunity and we are hoping to use the funds to purchase some more iPads for the children to use. Our thanks go to Mrs Johnson and Ms Pleasance for organising this sparkly and fun event.

World Book Day, Thursday 2nd March

Children are invited to dress up as any book character on the day and to bring in two or three books, in excellent condition, which they are happy to swap. They will all then bring one or two 'new' books home. We will also be doing 'book buddies' during the day.

We have an exciting visit planned by a local author, Ginny Vere Nicoll. She will be joining us on World Book Day to talk to the children about her 'Feel Good' stories based around her dog called Marmite and her puppy Nutmeg. Ginny will be available after school with books sales and signing.

Parent Governor Vacancy

Regarding our 2 current Governing Body vacancies; we are seeking to elect two new parent governors. As yet, we have had no notification of nominations. Please do let us know if you would like to be considered for this post. We will extend the closing date for nominations to Wednesday 15th March. Please do come in and ask at the office if you require any further information.



AAA Coaching will be available on Friday 17th February for our Inset day and also for two days during the half term holidays; Monday 20th and Tuesday 21st February. Please see attached flyer for booking details.

Triple P Parenting Support sessions continue next week with lots of advice and guidance from Liz Vickery, who is running the sessions for us - please see attached flyer for further information.

Please Note: There will be no Dance Clubs w/c 27th February or 6th March.

Parent Governor Vacancies

You will have received information

	Current Useful Information and Reminders
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
School Uniform 	Our uniform has now moved over to Game, Set and Match in Chichester, please do contact them or use their website for your uniform requirements. We still have stock of some sweatshirts (limited in certain sizes) available to purchase at a discounted price, 50%, come in and have a look. We will continue to stock in school backpacks and book bags and our popular winter coats are available to order. please come in and ask at the office.
Valley Voices	Please do come and join our 'Valley Voices' adult choir which will be led by Emily Barden in the school hall, 6.00-7.00, every Wednesday evening. (term time only)
Spring Term Clubs and Care Bears 	Care Bears After School Provision - this will run every day from 3.00-4.00. This is not a default club for anyone who forgets to collect their children! Please make sure that you have booked for your required places through www.schoolmoney.co.uk . We have had a number of children this term, expecting to be in Care Bears but not booked in or paid for. We only have 1 member of staff and 12 places each day and this has caused us issues. If you have booked a place and your child is not attending please let us know. You can cancel your place through school money and your account will be credited or Please email: sandra.muggeridge@btinternet.com 07852 255628 (Please note new telephone number), or contact the office (office@westdean.w-sussex.sch.uk - 01243 811247) Thank you for your support in this matter. The timetable for spring term 2 clubs is attached for your information.
	Schoolmoney.co.uk on-line payments 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. Current events available to book are The French residential.
Lost Property	We have now located a 'Lost Property Bin' on the decking outside of the pavilion. Anything 'lost and found' will be placed in here, please feel free to have a look if you think your child has mislaid any uniform or other items.

IS YOUR CHILD WORTH LESS?

This important county-wide campaign for better funding for West Sussex schools continues, as you may have seen on national news and in our letters. 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; <https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/167761>

Pre-School

A huge thank you from Pre-school! Thank you to everyone who bought our cakes and biscuits during our Valentine's bake sale this Tuesday.

You helped us raise a massive £72.25. The money is going towards the interior redecoration of the building.

Many thanks for your support

Pre-School Committee

Dates for 2017

Spring Term Tuesday 3rd January - Friday 7th April 2017

Friday 17th February - School Closed - Inset Day

HOLIDAY - Monday 20th-Friday 24th February

Tuesday 28th February - Minerva theatre Playwright Sharing Event for year 6 (see letter for details)

Thursday 2nd March - Westgate Swimming for Beech and Chestnut

Thursday 2nd March - World Book Day - dress up as favourite book character

Thursday 2nd March, 1.00-4.00 - Maths Challenge event at Christ's Hospital (selected yr 4)

Friday 3rd March - Maple Class Art Day with Mrs Gill Pitt

Monday 6th - Friday 10th March - *Chestnut Class French Residential Visit*

Wednesday 8th March - Apple Class visit to Goodwood Farm

Wednesday 8th March, 12.00-3.30 - SSP Arun Swim Gala, Yr $\frac{3}{4}$

Wednesday 9th March - Westgate Swimming for Beech and Maple

Monday 13th March, 9.30-2.30 - Maths Challenge at Chichester Cathedral (selected yr 3)

Tuesday 14th March - Governor Visits to school

Tuesday 14th March, 8.45 - Maple Class Assembly

Wednesday 15th March - Collective Worship Enrichment day at Singleton (selected yr 4)

Wednesday 15th March 12.30-3.00 - ESSA Swim Gala - Horsham (selected pupils)

Thursday 16th March - Westgate Swimming, Beech & Chestnut

Thursday 16th March, 8.45 - Governor Visits to school

Friday 17th March - Beech Class visit to Butser Farm Park

Saturday 18th March - Cormorants Swimming Gala at Westgate

Tuesday 21st March - Maple Class visit to Marwell Zoo

Tuesday 21st March - Forest School Enrichment Day at North Mundham (selected pupils)

Tuesday 21st & Wednesday 22nd March - Parents Evening for Year R, 2, 4 & 6

Wednesday 22nd March, 8.45 - Chestnut Class Assembly

Thursday 23rd March - Westgate Swimming, Beech & Chestnut

Tuesday 28th March 8.45 - Beech Class Assembly

Tuesday 28th March - Forest School Enrichment Day at North Mundham (selected pupils)

Thursday 30th March - Final Westgate Swim for Beech and Chestnut

W/C Monday 3rd April - Bikeability for Year 6 at Singleton School

Tuesday 4th April, 8.45 - Apple Class Assembly

Wednesday 5th April - Dance House Event, Alexandra theatre, Bognor

*Acorn Awards -
Wednesday 15th February*

***Emma** - for always being ready to learn and doing her best*

***Harry** - for good recall of the 7 continents and our work in geography*

***Jago** - for fantastic fraction work*

***Pip** - for creating fantastic descriptive answers as part of her work in our morning activities*

***Tabby** - for giving her all in every subject, always showing a willingness to improve with a positive attitude*

***Charlie** - for asking Major Knight lots of thoughtful questions and for being ready to learn about WW2*

***Francesca** - for her sensible approach to the activities with Major Knight and the interesting questions she asked*