



West Dean Church of England Primary School
West Dean, Chichester, West Sussex, PO18 0RJ
Telephone: 01243 811247



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 26 19.04.24 **95.4% whole school attendance** rate this week.

Don't forget Rev Sarah's 'Rectors Ramble' which can be found at: <http://thevalleyparish.org/from-the-vicar>



GROUNDS MORNING TOMORROW

Saturday 20th April 9.30—12.30



Please spare an hour or two to come along and help to clear up our school grounds and prepare for summer. We know your weekends are precious, but we would so appreciate you giving just a little time to help ensure that our schools looks and feels lovely for the children and adults this term! Please bring any tools you don't mind lending for the morning, such as rakes, brooms, shrub clippers etc. The current list of jobs is as follows (we can do more with more help!) - keep your fingers crossed for warm, dry weather:

- tidy greenhouse
- dig over/ weed nearly all the borders ready for planting leaving a little bit of achievable work for Maples to do!
- weed grape vine area and re-plant with lavender/ rosemary
- sweep, tidy and clear the area behind the pergola (where it has been removed) and make the area safe and useable
- cut back and tidy the plants on the entrance to school (near the notice board)
- weed and tidy existing borders
- Pavement drains cleaned and cleared
- Remove ivy from fence in Apple Class outdoor area
- Sweep leaves in Apple Class outdoor area and weed
- Swimming pool changing rooms – clear/tidy and clean
- Swimming pool area – weed and sweep leaves, clear drains.
- Weeding beneath office window
- Clear drain outside front door



What a hoot!

Thank you so much to Kevin Lochner from Hawking About for visiting us with his stunningly beautiful owls and inspiring all of our children with a truly magical owl encounter. It was the perfect start to our whole school Owl learning journey for this term. The children were absolutely buzzing afterwards and I am sure had stories to share at home. School is never a dull place, but watching owls gracefully glide around our school hall is something I don't think any of us ever expected to see!



Parent Consultation Meetings — Tuesday 30th April, 3.10-5.30 and Wednesday 1st May, 3.10—6.00.

Bookings will go live for our summer term parent consultation evenings on Monday 22nd April at 9.00am. We would like to see all of our parents and would encourage you to book and make an appointment to see your child's teacher. Most appointments are for a face to face meeting in school, but there are a small number of Zoom appointments available, if you are unable to attend in person. Mrs Bowman is available on Tuesday evening, to meet with parents of children who are currently on our SEND register.

Chestnut Tree House Little Hoot Fundraising & Art Trail Design

Well done to all of the children who have worked so hard on their beautiful owl designs during the Easter holiday. For those who have not yet returned them to school, please could we have your owl decorated owl template, by Wednesday 24th April, so we can consider your child's design for our owl.



Gentle reminder...



Come and Join our PTA, you are all parents and everyone is welcome.

We are holding an informal coffee and chat morning on Wednesday 24th April at 8.40 in the school hall. This will be an

opportunity to meet Mr Williams and Mr Youngusband (our friendly Chair of Governors) and find out how you can help build our already established team of PTA support for the children in our school.

There will be lots of opportunities for involvement, so whatever your level of expertise there will be a role for you.

Please do take the time to come along, have a coffee and a chat and find out how you can help.

Look forward to seeing as many of you there as possible, let's build on our PTA future together.



**Foodbank Friday
THANK YOU!**



Thank you to everyone who was able to support us and make a donation to our Foodbank Friday today.

<https://chichesterdistrict.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/>

Your help is always greatly appreciated.



Worship Music Festival at Chichester Cathedral in Partnership with Bishop Luffa and other local primary schools.

The Year 3, 4 and 5 children enjoyed a really special afternoon of worship music and singing at Chichester Cathedral on Thursday. Having practised a range of songs over the past few weeks with Mr Michael Servant, a music specialist from Bishop Luffa School, who leads music learning in a number of local primary schools, the day finally arrived to sing together in a joint performance at the cathedral. Our West Deanies were joined by children from Lavant Primary, Fishbourne, Rumboldswyk and we also had the pleasure of Mrs Bowman's company, who was there with one of her other schools, West Wittering. The joint choir was brilliantly accompanied by the Bishop Luffa Student Worship Band and in a surprising turn of events, the children were even visited by none other than 18th century German composer, Johann Sebastian Bach, who talked about his music and gave a superb rendition of Toccata in D minor on the cathedral organ!

What a great afternoon and a brilliant musical project in which to be involved. Well done Y3,4 and 5.



- Yr R** *George* - for your amazing enthusiasm about our owl topic! You have listened well and are becoming an owl expert!
- Yr 1** *Alfie* - for your brilliant approach to learning this week! Keep it up!
- Yr 2** *Luna* - for returning to school with a positive attitude, ready to learn. You've had a fantastic week, well done!
- Yr 3** *Frank* - for settling back into school life so well. You've had a great week!
- Yr 4** *Tilly* - for a brilliant start to the summer term. You have tried your best in everything you've done this week. Well done.
- Yr 5** *Imogen* - for being a super mathematician and for such a great attitude to your learning and approaching the week with humour and making us smile!
- Yr 6** *Leo* - for a great start to your final term at West Dean! You have been noticed for doing the right thing, stepping up to support others and showing us the best of you in class. Well done!



Diary Dates 2024



2023/24 INSET Days

Monday 22nd & Tuesday 23rd July 2024



Summer Term 2024 - Monday 15th April - Friday 19th July 2024

Saturday 20th April	9.30-12.30, Grounds Day—All welcome, please come and help!
Monday 22nd April	12.30-2.30, Whole School Arboretum Walk
Tuesday 23rd April	Hugo Van Driel Assembly
Tuesday 23rd April	Dance House, Worthing (Dance Club Children)
Wednesday 24th April	8.40, PTA Coffee and Chat in the pavilion
Thursday 25th April	Cricket Taster Day
Thursday 25th May	5.30, FGB Policy Meeting
Saturday 27th April	Chichester Cormorants Swim Gala at Westgate
Monday 29th April	5.30-7.30, GB Training Evening
Tuesday 30th April	Drama for All Workshops in School, Apple, Maple and Beech
Tuesday 30th April	3.15—5.00, Parent Consultation Evening
Wednesday 1st May	1.00-2.00, Chichester Falcons Softball (Chestnut)
Wednesday 1st May	3.15—6.00, Parent Consultation Evening
Thursday 2nd May	Poling Day (School open as usual)
Wednesday 8th May	1.30-3.30 Year 3/4 SSP Tennis (details to follow)
Wednesday 15th May	Beech Class visit to Del-Quay
Thursday 16th May	5.30, FGB Meeting
W/C 20.05.24	Chestnut Class Residential Visit to France (Tues/Wed/Th/Fri)
Wednesday 21st May	12.45—3.45, SSP Tri-Golf Year 3/4 (details to follow)
Tuesday 4th June	Hugo Van Driel Assembly
Wednesday 5th June	1.30-3.30 SSP Quad Kids Yr 5/6 (details to follow)
Thursday 6th June	D-Day 80th Commemoration
Friday 7th June	Foodbank Friday
Monday 10th June	Yellow School Photographs, Classes and Year 6 Leavers
Wednesday 12th June	Sports Morning
Wednesday 19th June	2.00-2.45, New Entrants Day 1 Stay & Play
Monday 24th June	1.15, Year 6 Leavers' Service, Chichester Cathedral
Wednesday 26th June	1.30-2.30, New Entrants Day 2, Parents meet The Team
Thursday 27th June	GAS Sports at Boxgrove (Details to follow)
Thursday 27th June	5.30, Full Governing Body Meeting
Monday 1st July	Apple Class visit to Lordington Lavender
Tuesday 2nd July	Maple Class visit to Lordington Lavender