



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 24 - 11.03.2022

Dear parents and carers,

Well, we never know quite what is around the corner do we? Sincere thanks for your understanding and quick action in response to the sudden and significant rise of positive COVID cases within our school community at the beginning of this week.

It was regretful that having finally felt able to begin to relax COVID safety measures last Friday, this was immediately followed by the highest number of positive cases experienced by West Dean since the pandemic began. I do hope that those who have been unwell this week are beginning to feel better and will be able to return to school soon – you have all very much been in our thoughts and prayers.

The number of new cases was at its highest on Monday, with several additional cases in the days following. I am pleased to say that there have been no new cases reported today (Friday), so I hope that this is a sign that the outbreak has plateaued and that the temporary measures put in place have had the desired impact.

Whilst some people may be able to return to school on Monday, following 5-day isolation and 2 negative tests 24hrs apart, it is not yet clear how many adults and children will be ready and fit to return. There is clearly a need to keep some COVID safety measures in place and operate a gradual return to normal school operation from Monday, as follows:

- **All children** should be LFD tested for COVID-19 before coming to school next Monday.
- From **Monday 14th** – After School clubs and Care Bears will recommence and, where possible, will operate outside.
- Assembly and lunch will continue to happen in separate classrooms next week.
- The request to wear **facemasks will continue** until such time that we are confident that the outbreak has passed.
- Where curriculum enrichment (trips & visits etc.) can function without mixing class bubbles, these will go ahead as planned.

One box of lateral flow tests at a time can still be ordered every three days from the government website at:

<https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>

I was heartened to be approached by several of our children this week, who, amidst an unsettling period for their school friends and teachers, were also thinking really carefully about their global neighbours in a time of need. They asked me what we could do as a school to help the people of Ukraine.

Comic Relief have confirmed that some of the money raised during next Friday's Red Nose Day will be used to fund organisations that are supporting people right now in Ukraine, and those attempting to cross the border. So this is one way we can show our support for Ukraine next week, as well as for the vital work of many other organisations and charities.

The Week Junior children's newspaper made a digital version of last Friday's issue available free for everyone, as it featured information on the situation in Ukraine, how to talk to your children about this, and also various ways in which people in the UK are offering support. Here is the link:

<https://en.calameo.com/read/006700386836f8acecfa5?authid=3lh7ZbWhj2lV>

Bishop Luffa School have recently organised a collection of clothing, toiletries and disposable nappies, to send to families forced to flee Ukraine. I would like us to offer support as a school and would welcome ideas from you about potential ways to do this, or indeed if you have an existing links with related charities or support organisations.

As a small distraction from this saddening world news, it has been a joy to see signs of new spring life around school this week, with daffodils and crocus popping out in the grounds and huge excitement in Apple Class, as the children have watched tadpoles gradually emerge from the frogspawn collected from our school pond. The children have been observing and carefully documenting the tadpoles progress day by day and are so animated in their explanation of the details of each stage.

The tadpoles will of course be released back into the pond when they have grown a bit. Ms Boxall is currently working really hard to rejuvenate the pond and surrounding area, so that it is a nurturing home for the tadpoles and other wildlife, as well as becoming a great space for outdoor and scientific learning. There is much to do, including laying gravel paths, planting and erecting some new fence, so if you have any spare time to help at the weekends, or as the lighter evenings approach, please do get in touch with us.

With best wishes to all, especially those unwell at home and prayers for a return to relative normality next week,

Chris Williams



*West Dean CE Primary School
Acorn Awards
Friday 11th March 2022*



Reception Holly - for your fantastic bubble blowing art linked to our tadpoles :)

Year 1 Casper - for having such careful observations of nature on our trip to West Dean Gardens :)

Year 2 Khloe - for your fantastic work in maths this week. You produced super tally charts and a great block diagram.

Year 3 Blaise - for showing the ability to draw equally well for two very different purposes. Your scientific diagram of a flower is very detailed and your pastel drawing of apple blossom looks just like Georgia O'Keefe's own work.

Year 4 Heidi - for showing an excellent understanding of the characters in Midsummer Night's Dream. You shared your ideas brilliantly and made some very interesting points.

Year 5 Lucia - for your amazing "I can" attitude in the classroom. You have shown super thinking and problem solving skills. Well done. :)

Year 6 Darcy - for your continued perseverance and success in mathematics. You are working hard to calculate with fractions. :)





Comic relief—Red Nose Day 2022

Red Nose Day is coming on **Friday 18th March 2022.**

Primary schools are being encouraged to embrace the theme of **'Superheroes'** as a focus for fundraising, so we are inviting the children to come to school dressed as their own choice of superhero for the day, in return for a minimum donation to Comic Relief of £1. **We will be collecting donations via SchoolMoney.** This is available as a shop item for £1, you can pop as many items in your basket as you wish.

The superhero theme will be open to the children's own interpretation—anything goes from classic 'Marvel' type characters such as Spiderman, hero figures in society such as the emergency services, to perhaps an inspiring person such as Emmeline Pankhurst, as seen recently on our theatre trip to 'Fantastically Great Women who changed the World'.

Please note: in light of the COVID situation and in order to discourage fiddling with our faces and noses, Red Noses should not be brought into school. Please focus on being an amazing superhero!

School Uniform Update:

We are now offering West Dean 'hoodies' as part of our school uniform range. These can be an addition to the children's PE kit, can be used for outdoor learning, at play times, taking part in sports events etc., but are not compulsory. They are available from Game, Set and Match priced at £20. The children's sizes are available up to age 12/13, then adult sizes begin at XS upwards.

We are also now offering a round neck sweatshirt as an alternative to our V-neck, if this is your preference.



Chestnut Class Virtual Museum Tour

Year 5 and 6 have been preparing a class museum inspired by their homework and learning about the Viking period in British history. They were so looking forward to opening their class museum to visitors and sharing the fantastic work that the pupils completed in class and at home.

However, in the current circumstances, this would not be appropriate; therefore, they have decided to invite Chestnut Class parents to a virtual museum tour of their exhibits next week. More details of how to join the virtual tours will be emailed directly to Chestnut Class Parents. Well done children, we're sure it will be great.



Environmental/Pond Area

We are well under way with our plans for rejuvenating our environmental and pond area.

We would really love you to be involved and need your help. If you do have any time available and could come in, even for an hour, anytime during school, after school, at the weekend, Mrs Boxall has a list of jobs.

We also have an environmental 'WhatsApp' group, if you would like to be part of this please do let us know.

Thank you for your help and support with this project, helping to give our children the knowledge of our habitats and ecosystems to skill them to be the future carers of our environment.



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.**

Spring 2 Clubs

Our clubs will be back next week, following our Covid 'fire-break'. Refunds have been processed for those who have requested this, otherwise a credit has been placed on your school money account.

A visit from Perform

We were very pleased to receive a visit from [Perform](#) on Tuesday 8th March. The children from Beech and Chestnut Class took part, in their bubbles, and had a wonderful time exploring the theme Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet and using drama, dance and singing to help develop their confidence, concentration and social skills. To complement the workshop, there is a free educational app for iPhones and iPads based around the theme. It contains fun games, creative tasks and videos of the themed songs and dances. Click [here](#) to download it free.

Perform run regular weekly classes in the local area and they are offering a **special introductory discount** to all parents of West Dean CofE Primary School if they come along for a free trial session before Tuesday 29th March.



To claim your discount, just call Perform on 020 7255 9120 quoting **WSWG290322** or book online at perform.org.uk.

Further information is attached to this Newsletter.

WESTGATE LEISURE CENTRE offer great membership packages which include the gym, swimming, classes, sauna, steam and jacuzzi for those who are 16+.

It is proven that 30mins of exercise a day 5 times a week can help improve your mind and body (a little goes a long way)

Join our great membership for 16+ which includes use of the Gym, Swimming and Group Exercise Classes for Just £29.99 per Month (you can upgrade for £4.99 per month to include Everyone Active on Demand which to complement our group classes we also have our Everyone On Demand App which enables you take part in classes not only in the centre but also at home. We've got several different workouts for you to use in the gym or at home on our Everyone Active App. If someone is looking to train for a specific event, there is a great partner on our Everyone On Demand App called With U – it will help you train in the gym and at home'. We don't only support you on your fitness journey, we also support you with your Mental Wellbeing – this is through our Everyone On Demand which is home to our partner, Mindshine.

- No Contract,
- Free WIFI,
- Free Parking

Most affordable centre for Gym, Swimming, Classes, Sauna, Steam and Jacuzzi in Chichester

To Find out more information or to join please contact us on 01243 785651 and select option 1 and we look forward to seeing you all very soon.

SAVE £40 if you join on a fitness membership before the 21st March with our NO JOINING FEE OFFER

Swimming Lessons at Westgate

A LIFE SKILL EVERY CHILD SHOULD INVEST IN, with summer coming up very soon it is important to ensure all children have the opportunity to learn swim and feel safe around water. We have a wide range of lessons from 4 months to adults and they say Winter is the best time to learn in preparation for the Summer. To find out all the benefits of joining our lesson programme please follow the link below:

<https://www.everyoneactive.com/content-hub/swimminglessons/childrens-swimming-lessons/>



Sunday 8th May 2022
Start between 1pm and 3pm

**TEAS
 REFRESHMENTS
 STALLS**

Pushchairs & children
 with scooters can go up to
 2 miles on a tarmac path

Dogs on leads welcome
 Car parking on site

Charity Walk

ARUNDEL CASTLE PARK, BN18 9AU

1 OR 5 MILE WALK

£5 Adults/£2 Children (under 5's free)

All sponsored walkers FREE!

**THE SUSSEX
 Snowdrop**
 Nursing care at home for local children
 with life threatening or terminal illnesses **TRUST**





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



Spring Term 2022

Tuesday 4th January - Friday 8th April

Half Term: Monday 21st—Friday 25th February



Summer Term 2022

Monday 25th April - Thursday 21st July

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

Tuesday 15th March	Dance and Beyond—Superhero Dance Workshops
Wednesday 16th March	Westgate Swimming for Beech and Chestnut
Wednesday 16th March	Corporate Challenge 6.30 Chichester
Thursday 17th March	10.30 PCSO Jason Lemm visit to Maple Class
Thursday 17th March	1.30-3.30 SSP Year 3/4 Sportshall Athletics event at Bishop Luffa
Thursday 17th March	6.00-9.00 - Punjabi Cookery Experience
Friday 18th March	Comic Relief—Red Nose Day—Superhero Dress-up
Tuesday 22nd March	Woodwind Lessons in school
Wednesday 23rd March	Westgate Swimming for Beech and Chestnut
Wednesday 23rd March	Maths Challenge at Christ's Hospital (details to follow for selected)
Thursday 24th March	Apple Class visit to Arundel Wetlands Centre (details to follow)
Thursday 24th March	5.30pm Full Governing Body Meeting
Monday 28th March	10.00—Hugo Van Driel Assembly
Wednesday 30th March	Westgate Swimming for Beech and Chestnut
Wednesday 30th March	SSP Arun Swim Gala (tbc)
Wednesday 30th March	Corporate Challenge (details to follow)
Wednesday 6th April	Last Westgate Swimming for Beech and Chestnut
Thursday 7th April	1.00—3.00 SSP Future Flyers

After School Clubs
Spring Term 2022

Spring 2
Second half of spring term

x 5 weeks

Day	Adult Lead	Max	Club	Cost	Year Group
Monday	Mrs J Reynolds)				
	& Miss C Bond)	20	Football	£25.00	Yr 4,5,6
Tuesday	Mrs Goacher/Mrs Johnson 6.30-7.00pm	20	Swim WBH	£25.00	Yr 3,4,5,6,
	Mr C Williams	20	Art/Drawing	£25.00	Yr 3,4,5,6
	Mrs K Prudence	10	STEM	£25.00	Yr 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

Dates: W/C 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th March and 4th April - x 5 weeks

Dance Club will run for four weeks only – no Dance Club on Thursday 17th March

In addition to our after school club programme our Care Bear provision is available every-day, Mon-Fri, 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 and our swimming club which will be held at Westbourne House school, 6.30-7.15pm. Our swimming club, this time, will be training for the possibility of taking part in the Swim Gala competitions. Children must be able to confidently swim a length (20M). If you are not sure, please check with Mrs Johnson or Mrs Gaocher.

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 18th February at 3.00pm.