



West Dean Church of England Primary School
West Dean, Chichester, West Sussex, PO18 0RJ
Telephone/Fax: 01243 811247
Headteacher: Mrs G. Moss
Newsletter—4th September 2020



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to school everyone! We are delighted to be able to open fully and hope that you will all be with us after this strange summer. School is ready and we will attach a few photographs here so that you can see what to expect. We have some wonderful learning planned to bring our whole school community together again, and to get everyone settled in and back into the swing of learning.

Our main priorities are: 1. getting everyone back to effective learning 2. keeping everyone safe.

You can help us with both of these priorities and we really appreciate your support, as always!

1. Chat to the children about how we have all had different experiences over the last few months: some people have been mostly at home, some people have been in school a lot, some people have been on holidays, some people are confident with their school work, some people are feeling worried about school work, some people are nervous about being around lots of others, some have been mixing with family and friends a lot.....

It is important that the children are happy to share their experiences with us all, and also ready to chat about what their hopes and dreams for their futures are.

We will be focusing on refreshing their basic number, reading and writing skills, as well as their learning skills: resilience and independence being super important. Try not to worry about anyone being 'behind' or needing 'catch up' etc., despite this being in the press. We will spend time getting to know where we are all up to, what everyone needs and what will be most effective in supporting our next steps. We will target areas of learning and groups of children appropriately, once we have settled in.

1. We are keeping our children in three separate groups or 'bubbles'. Beech, Chestnut and KS1. Maple and Apple Classes will mostly be separate but will eat in the hall, play out and have some sessions together. Throughout the coming weeks and for every part of the school day, we are risk assessing everything to ensure that we provide quality learning safely. Please:

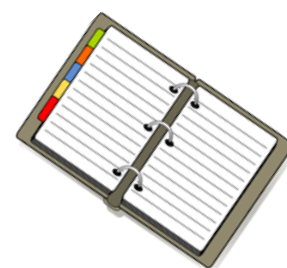
Follow the information below so that all children have everything they need in school, are here at the right time and are well prepared for each day.

Communicate as much as possible by email or telephone: you are very welcome to come into the reception/office area, but we are insisting on MASKS and HAND SANITISING for all, even if you are just popping in. This is for all visitors. Only essential visitors will be allowed into the main building and we will take additional precautions. Masks will be on sale for £1 for anyone who has forgotten to bring theirs. Please use your own hand sanitiser wherever possible.

Help your children to understand that we are putting things in place to protect everyone in our community, and that they have an important part to play in helping to minimise the spread of germs. Taking temperatures each day is part of this. No-one will be to 'blame' if anyone in our community becomes poorly. Try to maintain a sensible, safe but calm approach outside school too.

USEFUL INFORMATION:

- *Arrival: KS2 children, 8.35-8.40 and KS1 children, 8.45-8.50. Children should stay with their parents until the bell goes and then walk in quietly, there will be no lining up. Parents are asked to ensure social distancing whilst on the playground.*
- *End of School - Apple and Maple 2.50pm, Beech and Chestnut 3.00pm.*
- *Children will be required to wear **full school uniform** and will need to have their **PE kits** in school with them everyday. There will be no sharing or borrowing of PE kits. PE lessons will take place outside for the first half of the autumn term*
- *Apple class will be taking part in **Forest School activities** on Thursday afternoon and will require appropriate clothes to change into. For the first half of the Autumn Term Year Three children will be taking part in Forest School activities on a Tuesday afternoon when they will require appropriate clothing. Other year groups will take part in this throughout the year.*
- *Please ensure that children bring their own **water bottles** into school each day. (Y2-6)*
- *There will be no **after school** clubs currently. We value these clubs as enrichment and socially great for the children, as well as child care for busy families. We aim to reinstate this provision as soon as this is safe and manageable. Please let the office know if you would be interested in 5 days a week Care Bear club, as this may be able to be started sooner than some other clubs.....*
- ***Trips and visits/visitors**—we will put this provision back in place as soon as we are able.*
- ***Reading books**—Maple, Beech and Chestnut classes—please bring one of your own reading books with you into school. We will use our books too, but we would like you to bring one for the first few days.*
- ***Pencil cases**—for Beech and Chestnut. Small and with named items please.*
- ***Chestnut Class** - if you have made a summer scrap book, please bring this in on Monday*



Diary Dates 2020

Autumn Term 2020 : Monday 7th September—Friday 18th December

Half term holiday: October 26th—30th

2020/21 INSET days

Thursday 3rd September and Friday 4th September 2020

