



West Dean Church of England Primary School

West Dean, Chichester, West Sussex, PO18 0RJ

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Newsletter 23 17th March 2017



Dear Parents and Carers,

Chestnut Children have had a busy week in **France**. Here is an excerpt from their diary. The full account and lots of pictures are all available to view on our website in the gallery section:

We have arrived safely! What an exciting journey! All of our children arrived on time and we left at 6:15am this morning - Monday 6th March 2017. The coach driver, Tony, transported us to the ferry port in Portsmouth, where we boarded the Normandie and settled into our 'salon',

After an hour of slight rolling, the crossing was smooth and we enjoyed playing games, taking part in language and team-building activities and 'chilling'. We had our second breakfasts, snacks and lunches! Some of our highlights are captured on this gallery.



Upon arrival at Le Clos de l'ancien Pressoir, we had time to explore the centre and put our belongings in our rooms. We have already had afternoon tea, a lesson in French and we are practising some games ready for our school visit tomorrow.

Dinner is being prepared whilst we type up this entry. The children send their love

to their families and we are happy to announce that everyone is smiling and being absolute stars!

The staff and children have made memories which will last a life time and have learnt so much. Congratulations to all the children who represented our school so well and were grown up enough to spend a happy and busy week away from home! Our thanks go to Mr. Alner, Mrs. Pinnington and Mrs. Prudence for accompanying us on this super residential visit.

Singleton Collective Worship Enrichment Day

"Noah, Sophie and Tilly from Chestnut Class spent a morning at Singleton Village Hall, with children from local primary schools, to focus on collective worship. It was a super morning where the children took part in a collective worship, had the opportunity to find out how other schools carry out their assemblies and planned their own assembly based on Palm Sunday. They came away with lots of great ideas that they want to incorporate into their assemblies at West Dean and we can't wait to see these ideas come to life!"

Beech Class Visit to Butser Farm

As usual, this popular school visit was chilly but full of hands on learning experiences, with mosaic making, jewellery making and much more, helping the children understand through first hand experience, what life might have been like in Ancient Roman and Celtic Britain.

Corporate Challenge

Another well done to all our runners who took part in the 2nd corporate challenge round in Chichester. Fortunately the weather was a lot kinder this week and all the runners were in high spirits achieving good times! A special mention to Oscar who finished in the top ten for the second time! One more to go - well done team West Dean!

Class Open Mornings -

Apple Class - Friday 24th March

Maple Class - Thursday 6th April

Beech Class - TBC

Chestnut Class - TBC

These are dates when you will be able to spend 20 - 30 minutes in the classroom, finding out about how we learn and teach some specific concepts and skills. We hope that you will join us to aid you in supporting your children.

SWIMMING NEWS

Wednesday 15th March saw Mrs Cruttenden, Mathilde, Dylan, Oscar, Kitty H and me heading to Pavilions in the Park, Horsham for the county round of the ESSA Primary Schools Gala. This is a relay gala where each team swim in both a medley and freestyle relay against many other schools across our county who value their swimming (almost) as much as we do!

Mrs Cruttenden and I felt very excited to be taking this experienced team and they all performed brilliantly. Medley Relay: the team came a close 2nd in our heat with a PB taking 2 seconds off of our previous time! Freestyle Relay: the children came 3rd in our heat (heat 1 this time) and the great news is our time for this event was 7seconds faster than the winning team's time in heat 2!! The results will be available after the weekend.

I am so very proud of the team, not just because of an awesome performance, but because they also supported Fishbourne school through this event as they had never been before - including loudly cheering them on from the end of the lane - brilliant work guys, I couldn't feel more proud of you all.

Bring on 18th March!!!!

Goach the Coach



Parent Governor Elections

We are pleased to announce that we now have **three** parents who have been nominated for our Parent Governor vacancies. This is highly fortunate, as we now have **three** Parent Governor vacancies, rather than two! We propose, therefore, to accept all three parents onto our governing body, as the closing date for nominations is now past. Unless we hear to the contrary from any governors or parents, by Wednesday 22nd March, we will announce the names of our new governors next week, once we have spoken to them all.

Thank you so much to everyone for all your support for the school. This role is such an important one.

Governor Work in School

We have had visits to the classrooms this week from our governors, and all the feedback is that this is a rewarding and informative experience. It is important that our governors know the school well, and we are overwhelmed by the positive comments from Sharon Michi-Kusunoki, Tim Clemens, Kinty Park and Wendy Goacher this week. The classrooms have been busy as usual and we continue to work hard to cater to the needs of all the children. Detailed feedback will be shared with our staff and governors.

Club News:

Cookery Club were busy this week making a delicious Pasta and Pesto recipe using Halloumi.

The recipe is attached for any budding chefs out there who would like to have a go!



Dates for 2017

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

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

Friday 24th March, 8.45 - Apple Class Open Morning

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

Thursday 30th March - Governing Body Meeting

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

Monday 3rd April, 2pm - Rocksteady Concert

Tuesday 4th April, 8.45 - Apple Class Assembly

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

Thursday 6th April, 8.45 - Maple Class Open Morning

Wednesday 3rd May, 2.30 - chestnut Class CFT visit, 40 Years On

Thursday 18th May - Governing Body Meeting

Thursday 25th May - Racing to school at Goodwood - Year 6

Friday 26th May - INSET

Thursday 8th June am - Governor Visits

Monday 12th June - Yellow School Photos

Saturday 17th June - School Fete

Friday 23rd June 1.15pm - Year 6 Leavers Service at Chichester Cathedral



Tuesday 4th July - GAS Sports at Boxgrove (selected pupils)

Wednesday 5th July - INSET

Monday 10th July - Cricket at Boxgrove (selected pupils)

Wednesday 19th July, 9.00 - Sports Morning

Thursday 20th July, 9.00 - Sports Morning Reserve

	Current Useful Information and Reminders
Parent & Carer Drop-in Sessions	<p>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</p>
School Uniform 	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>
Valley Voices	<p>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)</p>
Spring Term Clubs and Care Bears 	<p>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!</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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</p> <p>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)</p> <p>Thank you for your support in this matter.</p> <p>The timetable for spring term 2 clubs is attached for your information.</p>
	<p>Schoolmoney.co.uk on-line payments enables you to book for trips and clubs etc. and make payments on-line.</p> <p>Please do log in regularly and check for 'live' visits and events. Current events available to book are Forty Years On.</p>
Lost Property	<p>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.</p>

*Acorn Awards -
Friday 17th March*

Ada - for amazing listening and concentration on the carpet everyday

*Claude - for working safely and imaginatively in P.E on the apparatus,
which he had set up with his group*

*Josh - for working so hard on our non-fiction work on the Big 5 Animals
of Africa*

*Jamie - for effort and enthusiasm in singing when learning the songs for
the Cathedral Evensong*

*Lucy - for showing excellent logic and making connections in our area
and perimeter problem solving this week. Super mathematical
understanding*

Beech Class

*are not included in this week's Acorn Awards
as they were all at Butser Ancient Farm on their visit.*

They were, however, all stars!