



West Dean Church of England Primary School

West Dean, Chichester, West Sussex, PO18 0RJ

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Headteacher: Mrs G. Moss

Newsletter 26 7th April 2017



Dear Parents and Carers,

On behalf of all our staff, I wish you a very **Happy Easter** and a refreshing and healthy holiday! Let's all use this fortnight to banish the bugs and return germ free for the Summer Term. We have lots to look forward to: some super learning with a whole school production at the end of term, Sports Day, exciting new PTA initiatives, lunch outside in the sun, Summer uniforms with shorts and dresses, (SATs!), swimming in our pool, the Chartres Art competition and some new club opportunities. This is in addition to the usual class assemblies and open mornings etc!

Reports: This week some of you will have received your child's report. Year 3 children are our 'guinea pigs' for our new electronic style of reports created using 'Book Creator' on our lovely new ipads. We have worked hard to introduce this and would be very pleased to receive your feedback, do let us know what you think. Already, we have had some super comments from parents who feel that the reports give a window into the children's learning and what they need to focus on.

Bikeability: This week our year 6 children have been at Singleton school taking part in West Sussex Bikeability scheme, learning how to cycle safely on our roads and basic bicycle maintenance.

The children undertook a test at the end of the week and gained a certificate.

Thank you to Mrs Pinnington, who has been with the children at Singleton during the week, and all of our parents who have helped to transport children.

Dance House - Alexandra Theatre, Bognor Regis. Our Dance Club children took part in a performance of Dancehouse this week. Ellie has worked hard with the children practising their interpretation of Refugees through dance and performed, on stage with a number of other local primary and secondary schools. The performance shone out as being polished and imaginative: we have been highlighted by the organisers of the event as having 'originality, creativity and sheer watchability!' Well done to all our dancers and thank you to Ellie!

Rocksteady Concert - Our Rocksteady bands performed for our parents and children in school on Monday. The children take part in 'band' sessions each week and work together to create their musical pieces. This was a lot of fun and they 'rocked the hall!'

Apple Class invited parents to share their assembly on Tuesday - Children showcased their work and loved having parents into the classroom to share what they had been doing.

Maple Class held their open morning on Thursday, which was very well received by parents. The children love being able to demonstrate their learning to you all.

Peer Buddy Update - Ms Pleasance

Our Peer Buddy volunteers from Chestnut class have been so successful in their roles at playtime, thank you for all of their work at playtimes.

They are spending 30 minutes in Apple class on Friday afternoons to read with children, play games and join in their activities.

We have 2 Peer Buddies each week, and the sessions have been very successful so far.

Calm Club

After the Easter holidays, every Friday lunchtime at 12.30, the children are invited to Calm Club. The club will be run by Ms Pleasance and is open to all children. Activities will include reading, mindful colouring and quiet board games. No need to sign up, just come along and join us for some calm, quiet time.

Goodbyes

Today we have said goodbye to some special people in school and in our school community and we wish all of them well in the future:

Mrs Chloe Procter - Premises team member

Mrs Paula Millens - Pre-School leader

Samuel Bartle in Maple Class who is going to the Prebendal School in Chichester.

Amelia Russell in Maple Class who is going to Rogate Primary School

Milly and Rosie Lewis who are both going to Great Ballard School

Skye Osborne Taylor in Beech class is going to Singleton Primary School.

We wish them all well.

AAA Coaching will be available during the Easter Holidays - please see attached flyer for further information and details for booking.

Tuesday 18th, Wednesday 19th, Thursday 20th and Friday 21st, 9.00-4.00.

We are also able to offer 2 days during the half term holiday, Thursday 1st and Friday 2nd June in addition to the first full week of the summer holidays; Monday 31st July - Friday 4th August.

Please contact Ben for information and to book places.

ben@aaacoaching.co.uk

Governor news

We are very pleased to be able to announce our new governor membership:

We have three new parent governors joining us;

Mrs Louise Shaw, mummy to Elizabeth in year 1

Mrs Jen Rogers, mummy to Elliot in year 1 and

Mr Richard Edwards, daddy to Jamie in year 5 and Ewan in year 3

We are very pleased to be able to welcome them to our Governing Body team and look forward to a very positive working relationship in the future

Dates for 2017

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

Tuesday 25th April - Year 5 Weald & Downland RSPB Day

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

Thursday 4th May - **Election Day** School open as normal

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

W/C 19 June - Parent Evenings Year 1, 3, 5

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 12th July - Whole School Production (details to follow)



Friday 14th July, 2.00pm - Music Concert

Wednesday 19th July, 9.00 - Sports Morning

Thursday 20th July, 9.00 - Sports Morning Reserve

Our PTA are considering dates for a potential **family walk and picnic/ BBQ** on the weekend of the 7th May, and a possible **family and friends sponsored run** in September, as we are facing a PTA year without the Apple Affair, which will no longer be in the West Dean calendar.

Keep your eyes peeled for more PTA news as we welcome new parents and friends onto the committee and into our team.

	Current Useful Information and Reminders
Parent & Carer Drop-in Sessions	Every Wednesday 3.00-3.15 - Pop in and see your child's classroom and have a look at their work. Teachers will be available every Wednesday for informal chats - do pop in. We would love to have the opportunity to share your child with you.
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! 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 the office (office@westdean.w-sussex.sch.uk - 01243 811247) Thank you for your support in this matter.</p> <p>Information is now available regarding clubs for the summer term. The timetable for summer term 1 clubs is attached for your information. Booking is now open on Schoolmoney.</p>
	<p>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 Forty Years On and summer term clubs and care bears</p>
Class Open Mornings	<p>Class Open Mornings - Summer Term Open Mornings will be announced soon</p> <p>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.</p>
	<p>Premises Team Member -</p> <p>We are seeking to appoint a team member to help us with the task of keeping our school clean and tidy and helping to create a happy, healthy learning environment for our children.</p> <p>If you think you might be the right person to join our team, please do come into the school office and have a chat to us, we would love to hear from you. Please see attached information for further details.</p>