



West Dean Church of England Primary School



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 33 05.06.26

There has been quite a bit of absence recently in addition to illness, so our overall attendance level for the year has remained at **96%**.

Don't forget to check out Rev Sarah's Rector's Rambling this week, which can be viewed by [CLICKING HERE](#).

Chichester Cathedral Festival of Flowers

You may remember that three of our children took part in a creative enrichment day at Chichester Cathedral a few weeks ago, in preparation for the Festival of Flowers. The children worked on a piece of woven art which formed part of a stunning display hung from the central Arundel Screen in the Cathedral. The display is entitled 'Deep Roots and Open Branches' and this morning the children had the privilege of accompanying their friends from Lavant and Rumboldswyke Schools to look around the festival and see the final display. With the festival as a whole comprising over 50,000 flowers, it was a stunningly beautiful experience. It was wonderful to see the children receiving recognition for their work from other visitors to the festival too. Thank you to Rosie Bradberry and the Cathedral Team for giving the children such an amazing opportunity to be a part of the festival this year.



A BIG THANK YOU to everyone who supported our Foodbank Friday today. Your help and donations are always very much appreciated.

Help with our Grounds and good news about the local area

We have had some ground works carried out over the half term holidays.

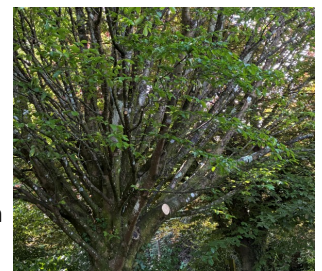
Our Forest School now have some new posts that we can secure our tarpaulin to so that the children have some outdoor shelter during wet Forest School sessions. Thank you to Maddy from West Dean Estate and to Ian Graham for organising.

We have also had some tree works done to preserve the pavilion and in preparation for some roof works. Thank you to Phil Collins for carrying this out and for providing our Forest School with some wood chips and branches for sawing.

It is always really helpful to have some expertise and help with our grounds and is very much appreciated. Thank you.

Maddy, who is the West Dean Estate Ranger, also came into school earlier this week to talk to Chestnut Class about the recent publication of the Estate Biodiversity Study, linking with the current class science learning.

Amazingly, West Dean Estate there the report identified 4 reptile species, 15 bat species, 16 mammal species, 20 butterfly species, 75 insect species and 78 bird species. How lucky are we to live, work and learn amongst such amazingly diverse wildlife?



IMPORTANT NOTICE—After School Clubs.

Please see attached our club timetable for the second half of the summer term. Just a reminder that there will not be any clubs after school next week as Chestnut Class, Mrs Johnson, Mrs Goacher and Mr Williams will be away on the Chestnut Class residential visit. Activ8 will be running as normal and our swimming pool will be open, weather permitting.



Headphones

- We are in desperate need of some headphones that we can use for the children in

class. If you have any that you are able to donate please do drop them in. We are looking for just ordinary headphones, **of the kind that are worn outside the ear**, with a standard audio jack plug. Thank you.

SAVE THE DATE

**Wednesday 15th July
(late afternoon / early evening, timings TBC)**



Whole School Exhibition & Showcase of our summer learning journey 'There's a Power in the Music'

Following the success of our Olympic themed combined learning journey two summers ago, this year all of the children in the school will be working on a music inspired cross-curricular learning journey. The culmination of this half term of work will be celebrated at an exhibition event on 15th July, in school. We would love to see every family joining us to celebrate their child's achievements, so please save the date and further details of precise timings will be coming soon.

Swimming Pool

Our swimming pool is now open both during school time and for after school sessions.

In order to run the after school swim sessions we need a First Aider and a Supervisor so please sign up if you can to help us share the duties. A rota is available, please see Abbie Williamson or Maeva Colchester to sign up. Booking for sessions is available on Arbor, £4 per child, per session.

The pool is ready for use, in school, depending on the weather and water temperature, so if we get the opportunity, the children will be swimming. Please ensure that your child has their swimming kit in school, everyday, in a named bag. Thank you for your support and fingers crossed for some lovely sunny weather.



Parents/carers are required to be present poolside during swim sessions and responsible for their own child.



News from West Dean 'Friends' Spring Term Events: Save the Dates!

**'Friends are busy planning for our Summer Sizzler event,
Friday 19th June - Save the Date.**

Please do let us know if you are able to help in any way, run a stall, donate your expertise, organise etc, we would love to hear from you. Look out for your **raffle tickets** which have been sent home. Each family has been allocated x2 books to sell, please do your best.

Plea for raffle prizes please, if you have anything that you would like to donate or you have a contact that might be happy to donate a prize, please do let us know.

We would like to start collecting things for the event and would like to invite you to bring in items for our Tombolas. Bottles of any kind, size, variety for the adult tombola, and Teddies/soft toys for the children's tombola. Please bring any items either to the office or to the pavilion.

We are also asking for donations for our preloved homeware, good quality children's clothes on hangers and children's books stall.

We are also having a 'Jumble' stall, so any clothes, toys etc, please do bring them in for us.

Our plant stall has been confirmed so we will have lots of plants for sale on the day, ready for your tubs and baskets!

We need your delicious **cakes and bakes** to sell on the day, please bring these into school on the day, morning would be preferable, thank you.





SUMMER SIZZLER



**WEST DEAN
PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Everyone welcome
Please come and have fun!

Friday 19th June

3pm - 6pm

**Bouncy Castle *Food & Drink*
**Fun Games & Stalls*
**Live Music *Children Performances*

FREE ENTRY!



Event organised by West Dean Primary School Friends
to raise important funds for West Dean Primary School



BISHOP LUFFA PFA PRESENTS



BIG BAND *& Cocktails Night*

SATURDAY 27TH JUNE 2026 • DOORS OPEN: 7:00 PM
MARQUEE ON THE SCHOOL PLAYING FIELDS, PO19 3HP

- **LIVE BIG BAND MUSIC** • **DANCING** • **COCKTAILS** •

FEATURING THE INCREDIBLE
PHOENIX BIG BAND (ARUNDEL)

Cocktails crafted by a qualified mixologist
Delicious street food available to buy from Fire & Smoke
(of "Ghost at the Feast" in Chichester)

Tickets: **£12.50** per person
Includes a complimentary drink
STRICTLY OVER 18s ONLY
Dress Code: Party Ready
Parking available on site

**CLICK TO
BOOK
TICKETS HERE**



Dance **THE NIGHT AWAY**
AND SUPPORT OUR BIGGEST FUNDRAISER OF THE YEAR!

**OR SCAN QR
CODE**

We can't wait to see you there - invite friends and family!

Final 2025/26 INSET Day: Wednesday 22nd July 2026

All 2026/27 INSET Days:

Autumn: Tues 1st September 2026 (school closure), Weds 2nd September

Spring: Mon 4th January 2027, Friday 5th February 2027 (NB: not aligned with the half term break)

Mon 22nd February 2027 (aligned with half term break)



Summer Term 2026: Monday 13th April — Tuesday 21st July.




Monday 8th June	Yellow School Photos, Year 6 Leavers' and Classes
Tuesday 9th—Fri 12th June	Chestnut Class Residential Visit to YHA Medway
Wednesday 10th June	10.00, Mr Porter visiting Apple Class for music
Monday 15th June	Sports Afternoon (all welcome)
Tuesday 16th June	Maple Class visit to Goodwood Farm (details to follow)
Wednesday 17th June	Open The Book Worship in School
Wednesday 17th June	2.00-2.45, New Entrants, first visit
Wednesday 17th June	BLLP Cricket Sessions in school for all classes
Thursday 18th June	Bishop Luffa Worship in school
Friday 19th June	3.00-6.00pm, 'Friends' Summer Sizzler Event (No SCS after school sports club)
Monday 22nd June	Open The Book Worship in School
Monday 22nd June	1.30, Year 6 Leavers' Service—Chichester Cathedral
Wednesday 24th June	1.45-2.45, New Entrants, second visit
Wednesday 24th June	BLLP Cricket Sessions in school for all classes
Thursday 25th June	Beech Class Big Camp (Year 4 camping)
Friday 26th June	Beech Class Activity Day (Year 3 & 4)
Monday 29th June	Sports Afternoon (Reserve date in case of bad weather on the 15th June)
Wednesday 1st July	1.45-2.45, New Entrants, third visit
Wednesday 1st July	BLLP Cricket Sessions in school for all classes
Thursday 2nd July	Bishop Luffa Worship in school
Thursday 2nd July	5.30, Full Governing Body Meeting
Tuesday 7th July	Hugo Van Driel Assembly in school
Wednesday 8th July	BLLP Cricket Sessions in school for all classes
Wednesday 15th July	BLLP Cricket Sessions in school for all classes
Wednesday 15th July	Whole School Music Event—Save the Date (details to follow)
Thursday 16th July	End of Term Disco (details to follow)
Friday 17th July	Year 6 Bikeability at West Dean
Monday 20th July	Year 6 Bikeability at Singleton
Tuesday 21st July	2.45, Mrs Chilton's Afternoon Tea (all welcome)



- Yr R *Rosa* - for your gentle and kind nature towards everyone in school.
- Yr 1 *Bertie M* - for your determination in your writing. Fantastic sentences with amazing adjectives!
- Yr 2 *Margot* - for always being ready to learn with the right attitude and enthusiasm in everything you do.
- Yr 3 *Mila* - for your confidence in our musical art lesson. We loved hearing how the music made you feel.
- Yr 4 *Sophia* - for the extraordinary effort you've made to conquer your times tables. We are very proud of you!
- Yr 5 *Emji* - for your hard work and creativity with your 'sneeze' story. You have written some fantastic paragraphs.
- Yr 6 *Phoebe* - for the improvement in your use of punctuation—your editing this week has been brilliant.



Summer Term 2 Club Provision

Day	Adult Lead	Club	Year Group	Description
Monday	Mr C Williams	Cricket (20)	3, 4, 5, 6	Develop cricket skills in a fun, safe environment learning bowling, batting, fielding and teamwork through engaging games and activities.
Tuesday	Mrs J Anstee 	Choir (Lunch time)	Yr 2,3,4,5,6	A chance to practice and improve your singing and have fun
	Mrs K Chesshire	Lego (15)	Yr 1,2,3	Explore fun building challenges and imaginative projects, children can design, build and experiment with Lego models.
Wednesday				
Thursday	Mrs E Holder 	Dance (Hall)	Yr 3,4,5,6	A structured dance club for children to explore music and movement in a variety of dance styles.
Friday	South Coast Sports 	Multi-sports	Yr 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	This club needs to be booked and paid directly with SCS. Details: https://southcoastsports.ipalbookings.com/

For our after school provision this half term we are offering a range of after school clubs, which our teaching staff will be leading (with the exception of Dance Club, led by Ellie Holder and our usual SCS sports club).

The cost of our Dance club will be £5 per child, per session. SCS is booked and paid directly through their booking system. (details above. Other clubs will be free of charge to join and all of our clubs run between 3.00 – 4.00.

After School Club Dates: W/C 1st, 15th, 22nd, 29th June, 6th and 13th July.- x6 weeks

With just 7 children signed up so far, there are still lots of spaces left in Mr Williams' Monday afternoon cricket club. Come along and enjoy a game—the more the merrier!

Mrs Goacher will be running a lunch time **Gardening Club** on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, children are invited to sign up to this.

SCS Please check their website for details: <https://southcoastsports.ipalbookings.com/> No after school club on Friday 19th June, our 'Friends' Summer Sizzler event.

In addition to our after school club programme, Activ8 will be offering wraparound care between 3.00 and 6.00pm. Booking for wraparound care should be made directly with Activ8. <https://activ8forkids.ipalbookings.com>. Bookings must be made in advance, up to 12 noon on the day of care. Email: Josh at westdeanmanager@activ8forkids.co.uk.

Our **Breakfast Bears** Club is also available, Monday to Friday, 8.00 – 8.30, £4 per child (including breakfast) Please make sure that you book at least 24hrs in advance.

After School Clubs and Breakfast Bears, you can make your bookings on-line at Arbor. Please contact the school office if you require a reminder of your log-in details.

PETWORTH FESTIVAL FAMILY FUN

SUNDAY 26 JULY, 2.30PM
PETWORTH HOUSE STABLE YARD

With Family Theatre Magic from
Alice's Adventures in Wonderland
& Foot-tapping Musical Theatre from the Fabulous
Bowjangles!

Music
Ice Creams

Family Fun
Pizza

Balloon Modelling
Bar & Street Food

Face Painting
Family Theatre

PETWORTH
FESTIVAL



Tickets at
petworthfestival.org.uk



WEST DEAN C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL

WAC NEWSLETTER



April - May 2026

WELCOME BACK

Welcome back! Last term, the children enjoyed a wide range of fun indoor and outdoor activities.

Boggle was a popular choice, with children racing the timer to form words from letter grids, supporting spelling, vocabulary and quick thinking.

Football was a big hit outdoors, with mini-games, passing drills and goalkeeping activities that encouraged teamwork and energy.

On wetter days, Snakes and Ladders provided a calm, social option, full of laughter and turn-taking.

We also enjoyed making and flying paper planes, designing different styles and testing whose flew the furthest.



Other creative and active experiences have included dinosaur hand drawings, where the children carefully sketched and decorated their own prehistoric designs, and turbo javelin throwing, which gave them a chance to practise aim, coordination and safe throwing techniques outdoors.

To celebrate springtime and May Day, the children made beautiful May flower crowns, carefully selecting and arranging flowers to create colourful headpieces.

We have also enjoyed crochet sessions with Maddy, where the children began learning basic stitches and practising patience and fine motor skills while creating simple handmade pieces.