



West Dean CE 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 36 03.07.26

Our whole school attendance figure for the year has remained at **96%** this week

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

Welcome to our (slightly) new look newsletter. Due to some software upgrades on the school IT system, we have had to change how we produce our weekly newsletter. As you can see it is a slightly different format, but still with a familiar feel. Into the new school year, we are going to be experimenting with other digital methods to bring you the newsletter, so watch this space...!

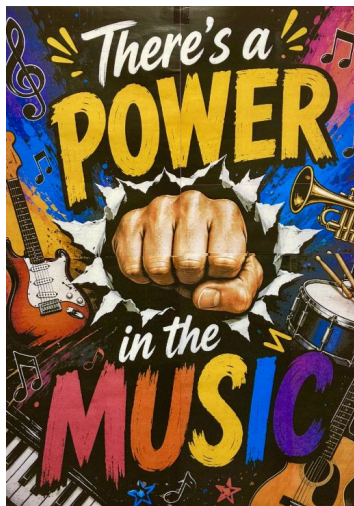
Year 6 Leavers' Assembly and Mrs Chilton's Afternoon Tea.

We would like to invite our Year 6 parents and carers to share their Leavers' Service with us on Tuesday 21st July at 1.00pm. Following the service they will have tea, served by our Year 5 children. You are welcome to stay and join us. The children will then return to class to be 'rung out' on the playground at 2.45.

At 3.00pm, we would like to welcome our guests, families and community to our afternoon tea celebration of Mrs Chilton's time at West Dean, everyone is welcome. Please feel free to bring a picnic blanket and any other snacks or drinks though offering tea and coffee and a selection of afternoon tea treats.

We would like to ask for donations of cakes and bakes for our afternoon tea, tray bakes, cup cakes, scones and flapjacks, all your delicious creations welcomed, thank you. Please could we ask that donations are brought into the pavilion on the morning of Tuesday 21st July.





There is all manner of exciting music related learning going on in school at the moment as we are in the full throws of our whole school 'There's a Power in the Music' project.

You are invited to attend an evening exhibition event on **Wednesday 15th July**, where all the children's work will be on display in classrooms between **5pm and 7pm**.

Please note: you do not need to attend for the full two hours, just pop in for half an hour and spend a little time in each class looking at the amazing array of learning the

children have been doing this term, all linked to music.

You might be surprised to read that this won't include live performance. Never fear, there will be video recordings of some children performing music for you to enjoy, but rather than performance, the core aim of this project has been to raise the profile of music and deepen the children's understanding of how music links to so many aspects of our lives, as well as to learn about how music has changed and developed through history.

In order to have some idea of numbers and the flow of visitors, you will receive an email from us soon, with a digital form to return, simply to indicate roughly when you intend to visit the exhibition.

We look forward to seeing you in school on the evening of the 15th to celebrate a term of musical learning.



With some forecasts suggesting that the weather is set to get hot again next week, please assume that school is running as normal every day, unless you receive a communication from Mr Williams to say otherwise.

Apple Class would like to put out a plea for any kind of tape for their art creations please.

They use copious amounts of sellotape, masking tape and brown packing tape. If you have anything at home that you would be able to donate then we would be very grateful. They also desperately

Need brooms, if anyone has any they can donate. Thank you.



South Coast Sports After School Club

Please be advised that our Autumn club is now open for booking,

<https://southcoastsports.ipalbookings.com/>

Please do check the lost property bin on the pavilion decking, it is overflowing, there might be something of yours in there that you are missing!





Introducing Curtis

If your children are in Key stage 2, they may have told you that they have had two SCS sport coaches for most of this term.

Our regular coach, Sean, will be moving on at the end of this term, so to ensure a smooth transition, he has been joined for part of our Friday provision

this term by Curtis. He is an experienced coach who has been working with SCS for over ten years and already runs PE sessions at Fishbourne School. Curtis will be taking over the leading of all SCS sessions for all classes from the start of the new year in September. Welcome, Curtis, we look forward to working with you and thank you and good luck to Sean.



Super Sunflowers

On arriving at school recently, you cannot have failed to notice that the Maple Class outside area has been a haven of green-fingered activity. The children have been growing strawberries, radishes and the tomato plants are coming along nicely and smelling glorious too.

It is definitely the sunflower growing competition that is generating the greatest excitement though - whose sunflower do you think is going to win? It looks like Finley's is reaching furthest for the sky so far!

SAT Results Delay

You may have seen in the news that all Primary schools were contacted by Bridget Phillipson, The Secretary of State for Education, yesterday and informed that there has been a delay in preparing the online system for publication of this year's SATs results.

Schools were due to be informed of the results next Tuesday 7th July; the results are then passed to parents and Y6 children via their end of year report.

There will not be a delay to the latter, as we will still send reports to all parents towards the end of the week beginning 13th July. However, schools will now not receive the SATs results until 16th July.

Please be assured that the Secretary of State has made clear that the error is with an online results portal operated by Pearson Educational Ltd and not related to the tests themselves:

*"Importantly, this delay is **not** due to any concerns about the quality of the tests or the accuracy of results. Test papers have been marked in line with usual processes and the standards maintenance process, which ensures results remain comparable with previous years, has been completed. The Standards and Testing Agency is confident in the quality and accuracy of the results that schools will receive."*

We look forward to celebrating the Y6 children's achievement, albeit slightly later than anticipated in a few weeks.



West Dean CE Primary School
Acorn Awards
Friday 3rd July 2026



- Year R - *Otilie - for being such a super role model in class. A good friend and always with a smile.*
- Year 1 - *Olivia - for your brilliant attitude to all your learning. Keep it up!*
- Year 2 - *Eva - what a super musical instrument. You showed great creativity with your design and worked with perseverance and independence.*
- Year 3 - *Jack - for being such a thoughtful and patient teacher, showing others how to play various chords on the guitar.*
- Year 4 - *Luna - for approaching all your learning this week with enthusiasm. You have been a super role model.*
- Year 5 - *Teddy - for your fantastic descriptive setting writing - you created such a powerful opening!*
- Year 6 - *Fynn - for your courage and brilliant smile. You are always kind and thoughtful and give your best in all you do.*



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

INSET Days in 2026/27:

Autumn: Tuesday 1st September 2026 (school closure), Wednesday 2nd September

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

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

Summer: Wednesday 21st July 2027



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

Tuesday 7th July	Hugo Van Driel Assembly in school
Wednesday 8th July	BLLP Cricket Sessions in school for all classes
Thursday 9th July	Year 4 Big Camp
Friday 10th July	Beech Class Activity Day
Wednesday 15th July	BLLP Cricket Sessions in school for all classes
Wednesday 15th July	(afternoon / evening) Whole School Exhibition Event 'There's a Power in the Music'
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	1.00, Year 6 Leavers' Service, ring out and tea
Tuesday 21st July	2.45, Mrs Chilton's Afternoon Tea (all welcome)

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Summer: Wednesday 21st July 2027



Autumn Term 2027: Thursday 3rd September - Friday 18th December 2026

Half Term: Monday 26th October - Friday 30th October 2026

Tuesday 1st September	School Closure
Wednesday 2nd September	INSET (school closed to children)
Thursday 3rd September	First Day of Autumn Term for Year 1 - Year 6
Thursday 10th September	First Day of Autumn Term for new Year R

GOODWOOD FESTIVAL OF SPEED - NEXT WEEK

It's that time of year next week when the attention of the world's motoring enthusiasts is focussed on Goodwood and the Chichester area in general.

It is a fantastic event and I am sure many of you may well be going to enjoy the thrill of the hill climb and the beautiful machines on display, but amidst the glamour and excitement, it does tend to cause a few traffic issues, not least when trying to get your children to school on time each morning.

The event officially starts on Thursday 9th, but we anticipate that roads may well be busy on Wednesday too. Please rest assured, that if you encounter problems getting here on Wednesday, Thursday or Friday next week and are a little late, we will exercise some leniency and not mark your child(ren) as late. No! That doesn't mean you can stop on a grass verge in the sunshine for an hour to watch the Lamborghinis and Ferraris go by! 😊🚗

THE
READING
AGENCY

UNIVERSAL
UNIVERSAL MUSIC GROUP
UNITED KINGDOM

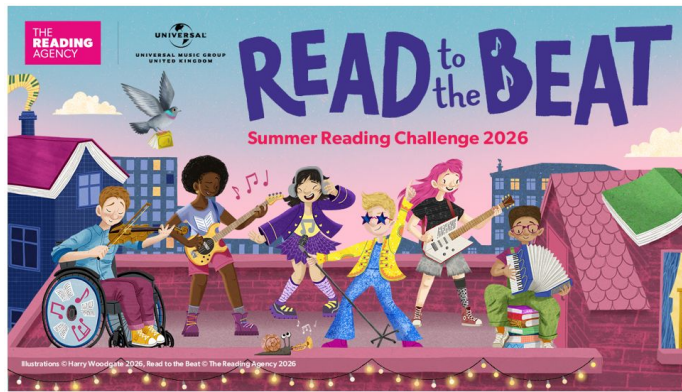
READ to the BEAT

Summer Reading Challenge 2026



Illustrations © Harry Woodgate 2026, Read to the Beat © The Reading Agency 2026

DETAILS ON NEXT PAGE



Pick up the tempo and *Read to the Beat* at a library near you

West Sussex Library Service's popular Summer Reading Challenge is back!

This year's theme is ***Read to the Beat***, a celebration of reading and music.

Pre-registration is open from **Monday 15 June** and the Summer Reading Challenge starts in your local West Sussex library on **Saturday 4 July**, running until **Saturday 12 September**. It's free for families to take part and a great way to encourage reading for pleasure during the long summer holiday.

Once registered online for the Challenge at libraries.westsussex.gov.uk/src, children reveal a special code word to staff at their local library to get a *Read to the Beat* sticker booklet. The main Challenge is aimed at children aged 4-11 years, whilst under-4s can take part in the Mini Challenge.

Children will have access to a wide range of books – both physical and downloadable! They will have all summer to enjoy books and achieve personalised reading goals, returning to the library several times to discuss the books they have been reading with Summer Reading Challenge Volunteers, collecting stickers and other exciting rewards along the way.

[For anyone interested in volunteering in this role, full details and the application form are available at libraries.westsussex.gov.uk/src, with a closing date of **Friday 3 July**.] – *optional depending on space; won't be relevant past start of July*

Sing from the rooftops – it's nearly Summer Reading Challenge time!



in partnership with
westsussexwest
School Sport Partnership

Summer holiday camps



Sessions run by experienced & qualified teachers,
coaches & School Games Organisers. Activities include:

**Football, Tennis, Golf, Athletics, Striking &
Fielding, Arts & Crafts and much more!**

Please note activities may vary daily

Bookings open **Monday 1st June**. (limited places available)

Arena Sports Centre 09:00-15:00

School years 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 (Academic year 25-26)

Dates **Tuesday 21st July - Friday 24th July** (check your school
inset days!)

& Monday 17th - Thursday 20th August

(individual day bookings available)

£19.75 or £74 for all 4 days! - Includes Lunch!

All Free school meal pupils can access this provision for FREE, via HAF,
check with West Sussex County Council for more information.

HAF places please book via the WSCC website:

www.westsussexwestssp.co.uk/summer-camp



HAF bookings via WSCC

Paid Places bookings



Booking deadline week 1: **Sunday 19th June**
Booking deadline week 2: **Wednesday 12th August**

Email info@phoenixcentre.uk (we can assist with HAF bookings directly and paid places)

Tel 01243 872112 www.westsussexwestssp.co.uk/summer-camp



Westloats Lane, Bognor Regis, West Sussex PO21 5JD



SEND Stay & Play

Chichester Family Hub

St James Road, Chichester, PO19 7AB

Join us for lots of sensory fun and messy play

Monday 17th August

We have two sessions running on the day

10.00am – 11.30am

1.30pm – 3.00pm

Open to all families with a child with special educational needs
and/or disabilities (SEND) up to age 11, and their siblings.

To book your place at this FREE event,
please call the Hub: 01243 642950

For further information please email:

ChichesterFamilyHub@westsussex.gov.uk

