



West Dean Church of England Primary School

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Telephone/Fax: 01243 811247

Headteacher: Mrs G. Moss

Newsletter 25 15th July 2016



Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a super week in school with a very successful and well-attended **sports morning** on Wednesday. The children were great athletes and great sports too. This valuable learning experience, a combination of collaboration and competition, is always a valuable learning opportunity as well as a lot of fun! I was really impressed by how well everyone took part and did their best. The staff team - supported by ex-pupils, friends of the school and governors - did a fabulous job of managing the events, and we had a large audience, which made for a lovely atmosphere. The sun shone and yellow team finally won, after several years without the cup. Our thanks go especially to Mrs Johnson and Mrs Goacher who took a lead role in organising the morning, with lots of help behind the scenes! We are already planning little tweaks and minor improvements for next year! Thank you to those parents who stayed behind for ten minutes to take the tents down.

This afternoon, the children had a **taster session in their new classes** for next year, and our new entrants joined us for the third of their transition afternoons. It has been lovely to welcome another enthusiastic group of children and grown ups into our school community: thank you to those of you who came along to meet them this afternoon. Each year, we sadly say good-bye to a few families we know well and who are real assets to the school community, and each year we welcome a few more!




With this transition comes the move for our Y6 pupils to secondary school. With this in mind, and with the increased 'freedom' and responsibility secondary school brings, I felt it would be useful to share with you a link which will inform you about some **safety issues** you ought to be aware of. For all our pupils, accessing the internet is exciting and can be very valuable. For children of ALL ages, however, it poses threats too. Please do ensure you are aware of what your children are actually doing when they play games and chat to one another online. The current craze of Pokemon games may not be not a safe game, as it encourages communicating with unknowns and potentially meeting unknowns. This is one of the risks to our children. Other risks include becoming drawn into sending explicit, bullying or threatening texts/messages. Also, sending images of oneself or others is worth warning children about: this has caused serious upset and even police and social services involvement for some families in local schools. Generally, children become engaged in these activities with a mischievous rather than malicious intent, but the outcomes can have long lasting and shocking impact.

Our locality parent sessions were poorly attended, but extremely useful and informative. We will endeavour to arrange a repeat of such sessions and to publicise them for you. In the meantime, we will support as much as we can, and keep children as aware as we possible.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/pokemon-go-parents-guide/>

I would also like to issue a reminder regarding photographs taken of school events such as assemblies and sports days. Please do ensure that these pictures DO NOT END UP ON SOCIAL MEDIA or shared inappropriately. This is an important safeguarding measure which we take seriously, however, we do realise that visitors want very much to capture images of their own children experiencing the exciting learning activities through their school career. Please do follow our policy on this strictly. Thank you.

Next week will be our final week, culminating in an end of year assembly which will be open to parents and carers, and our PTA rounders and BBQ after school next Friday. We hope to see as many of you there as possible, with a BYO food and drink arrangement at 3pm for the BBQ. Next year's dates will be on our next newsletter.

Parent & Carer Drop-in Sessions	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
Learning Journals	Please remember to return your Learning Journals in on Monday morning every week.
Clubs and Care Bears	After School Childcare Provision - Please see timetable attached for dates. Care Bears contact telephone number: 07507 327466
Swimming Pool 	The swimming pool is now up and running and in use. Please ensure that all children have named swimming kit, in a named bag, in school every day ready to swim. Look out for details of the PTA after school swim sessions and check the rota for helpers. The children are really enjoying this, so thank you to all our volunteers.
Sports Activities  	We have lots of opportunities for the children to take part in sports activities during the summer term: Sports Morning - Wednesday 13th July, 8.45 GAS sports event for selected children - Tuesday 5th July, 1.00 at Boxgrove Tennis - Mr Justin Pollard (James' dad) has very kindly agreed to run some sessions for Apple class and Chestnut class. GAS Cricket - Monday 11th July for selected children at Boxgrove. AAA Coaching will run a sports club on our Inset day - Wednesday 6th July, 9.00-4.00. Details of this and the dates for the 'Summer School' have been sent home - look out for the flyer.

Please find below a letter inviting you to our Rocksteady concert, from Cameron, who has been teaching the children with Rachel Hawker.

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to invite you to an informal Rocksteady concert at West Dean next week. As you know, I have been working for a short time with the students in Rocksteady, and am incredibly proud of what they have achieved in such a short time.

The usual concerts at the end of term would be more formal, however fellow band leader Rachel and I felt that we wanted you to be able to see what the children have done so far in a slightly more informal setting before the school breaks up for the summer. In a very short time the bands have developed some great versions of their chosen songs!

The concert details are below:

DATE: 20th July

TIME: 9 a.m

VENUE: Either outside the pavilion/school playground or (in the case of rain) the school hall

I would advise arriving at around 8:45 for a 9:00a.m start. Hopefully this means you can drop your son or daughter off and not have to wait too long before the concert.

I look forward to meeting you next week!!

Kind Regards,
Cameron

CRICKET

A huge WELL DONE to our Chestnut class cricketers who took part in a day long training session and tournament with our Goodwood Area Schools (GAS). It seems, although there were no overall winners awarded, that we came first! The children had a super time and behaved really well too. Once again, West Dean are the team to beat! Great work children and thanks to Mrs Atkinson for accompanying them on the day.



Dates for 2016

Summer Term Monday 11th April – Friday 22nd July

Half Term Holiday Monday 30th May – Friday 3rd June

Inset Days: Wednesday 6th July 2016

Monday 18th July – Scarecrows to be in for Garden Competition

Wednesday 20th July – Y2 recorder performance – 2:40 – 2:55

Thursday 21st July 1.30 – St Andrew's Church, West Dean – Y6 Leavers' Service – Governors and Y6 Parents & Carers welcome

Friday 22nd July – 8:45am – Last Day Of Term – End of Year Assembly and music performance by the Children who work with Mrs Schofield – all welcome

Friday 22nd July 3.00 – PTA BBQ and Rounders



Tuesday 6th September – Autumn Term 2016 starts for children

Other term dates for 2016/17 will be in next week's newsletter

Please ensure children have **coats** every day – we will play outside even if it is rainy.

Swimming Pool – We are pleased to say that we have been able to use the swimming pool this week! We will be ready to swim everyday (weather permitting), so please make sure that your child has their swimming kit (named) in school every day. We have very limited spare kit.....

If you are a volunteer for our after school sessions, **please make sure that the key is returned to the office at the end of your session!**

Acorn Awards Friday 15th July 2016

Elliot – for being such a helpful and hardworking Apple

Jago – for working hard and thinking deeply about our work on prefixes

Solomon – for his independent mind – Solly really thinks for himself – and his serious questioning and observations especially in science

Esther – for putting so much care and effort into her European country report, both at home and at school

Milly – for her very mature and calm presentation to the Governors

Franki – for continuing to work hard and showing interest in her learning.

Millie S – for showing enthusiasm and commitment in everything she does – keep it up!

After School Clubs
Summer Term 2016

w/c			11.04.16	18.04.16	25.04.16	09.05.16	16.05.16	
Monday		E Wells		Dance	Dance	Dance	Dance	Yr 1-3
Tuesday		SM/JB	Cookery	Cookery	Cookery	Cookery	Cookery	Yr3-6
		S Johnson	Glee Choir	Glee Choir	Glee Choir	Glee Choir	Glee Choir	Yr3-6
Wednesday		David Morris	Tee Ball	Tee Ball	Tee Ball	Tee Ball	Tee Ball	Yr 3-6
		J Boxall	Craft	Craft	Craft	Craft	Craft	Yr 1-3
Thursday		K Prudence	Think Tank	Think Tank	Think Tank	Think Tank	Think Tank	Yr 3-6
		E Wells		Dance	Dance	Dance	Dance	Yr 4-6
Friday		AAA Coach	Sports	Sports	Sports	Sports	Sports	Yr 1-3

After School Clubs
Summer Term 2016

w/c			06.06.16	13.06.16	27.06.16	04.07.16	11.07.16	
Monday		E Wells	Dance	Dance	Dance	Dance	Dance	Yr 1-3
Tuesday		SM/JB	Cookery	Cookery	Cookery	Cookery	Cookery	Yr3-6
		S Johnson	Glee Choir	Glee Choir	Glee Choir	Glee Choir	Glee Choir	Yr3-6
		S Goacher	Swimming	Swimming	Swimming	Swimming	Swimming	Yr 1-2
Wednesday		David Morris	Tee Ball	Tee Ball	Tee Ball		Tee Ball	Yr 3-6
		J Boxall	Craft	Craft	Craft		Craft	Yr 1-3
Thursday		K Prudence	Think Tank	Think Tank	Think Tank	Think Tank	Think Tank	Yr 3-6
		E Wells	Dance	Dance	Dance	Dance	Dance	Yr 4-6
Friday		AAA Coach	Sports	Sports	Sports	Sports	Sports	Yr 4-6

Please do make a note of these dates. **The clubs DO NOT run throughout every week of the term!**

We would also like to remind parents that **pick up time is 4pm**. Our staff have been taken advantage of by some regular late collections and we would very much like this to stop. We have decided that charges should be made if this occurs on more than one occasion, unless there is a particular unavoidable reason. The clubs are well run by our dedicated team who really care for the children: please do respect their time and good will by ensuring you arrive in good time for collection.

Care Bear Cub will be available every day, but places are not guaranteed and should be booked in advance. This is not a default club for anyone who forgets to collect their children!

Thank you for your support in this matter.