



West Dean Church of England Primary School

West Dean, Chichester, West Sussex, PO18 0RJ

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Newsletter 9 18th November 2016



Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had another busy week in school with some super work from all the classes. Chestnut class have also been put through their paces at The Weald and Downland museum, where they 'took over'! They each took on a role, such as gardening or working in the shop, and did a really good job. Our KS2 children are already immersed in preparations for our Christmas Production, Silent Night, which will take place on Wednesday 7th December at 2.00pm and Thursday 8th at 6pm. Tickets will be available on-line. Do check the dates below for our other Christmas events so that we can all enjoy this exciting time!

For most of our children, the highlight of this week has been our science show. On Tuesday 15th November we were very lucky to have a visit from Tim Harrison, a working scientist, who gave a demonstration and talk to the children about materials in the Earth's atmosphere. He showcased all the different gases and conducted different experiments with them. The demonstration was visually spectacular and interactive, really WOW science and the children loved it.

You will have received information about our **new on-line payments** system in school to enable 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 trips available to book are Westgate swimming, Maple Weald & Downland visit, Chartwells Christmas Lunch, the French residential, and Mr Popper's Penguins.

Please do put the class **Open Morning dates** in your diaries, as these are the best way to find out how we teach key concepts. You won't be put on the spot - you will just be able to join in with your child in class! This half term we have **Beech Class Literacy on Tuesday 22nd** and **Chestnut Class Grammar on Wednesday 23rd November**. These are not suitable for younger siblings: if you would find a **crèche** useful for any of our Open Morning dates, please do let us know *in advance* and we will do our best to arrange this for you.

Strutt & Parker Estate Agents are running their annual **Charity Christmas Card Competition** again this year. For every entry received they will donate £1 to UK Youth Charity (ukyouth.org). The winner of the competition will receive a £50 book voucher, a framed copy of their design and £500 for their school. The winning design will be their corporate Christmas card. To enter you can collect an entry form from the school office - entries must be back to school by Wednesday 23rd November.

Chartwells Christmas Lunch - Tuesday 13th December. This must be ordered through school and not via mealselector, the day is blocked on their order form. R/Yr1/Yr2 parents, please let the office know if you would like a meal ordered. KS2 parents can book and pay on-line using Schoolmoney.co.uk. **The deadline for us to place our order is Tuesday 22nd November - we will not be able to order any meals after this date.**

Plants: Maple Class will soon be selling plants after school so bring your cash with you at pick up time!

Please please drive and park safely.

DO NOT rush into the car park and drop children off without supervision or in the middle of the car park. You are putting your children at risk!

	Current Useful Information and Reminders
PE KIT	We will no longer be sending PE kit home each week as we are still having instances of kit left at home each week. If it becomes dirty or smelly it will be sent home, otherwise we will keep it here all half term. Parents surveyed have said this will be helpful at home too! Exceptions to this may be AAA sports club, where a different kit will be required to be brought in for the club. Please support us in this.
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
Class Open Mornings 8.45-9.30	Beech Class Literacy, Tuesday 22nd November and Chestnut Class Grammar Wednesday 23rd November. Maple Class, Monday 28th November and Apple Class Friday 2nd December.
School Uniform	<p>If you have ordered and received uniform, please could you make payment to the school office as soon as possible. We still have a number of outstanding payments.</p> <p>We are currently in the process of transferring the sale of our uniform to Game, Set & Match in Chichester. This means that you will be able to order your uniform on-line or call into their shop in Quarry Lane to try on and buy uniform there. They are open 7 days a week and have easy access and parking. We feel this will help us to improve the uniform service that we are able to offer by letting the 'experts' do a good job for us. It will also eliminate congestion in the reception when you need to purchase uniform and save space for us by not having to keep lots of stock of sweatshirts etc.</p> <p>We are confident that, although you may see a very small price increase in some items, the quality and service you receive will be excellent. This will happen for January but in the meantime, uniform will still be available to purchase from the school office. A list of uniform available from Game, Set & Match will be available shortly.</p> <p>We are also planning changes to our uniform in response to our Respect focus. We want our children to look as smart as pupils from other schools and we are planning some minor changes. These changes will be phased in from January onwards, when both styles will be worn. From September 2017, our new uniform will be fully in place: the major changes are that our logo will be embroidered, the sweatshirts will be V neck, and we will have ties for our older pupils.</p>
Class Assemblies 8.45	Thursday 24th November Chestnut Thursday 1st December Maple Friday 9th December Apple
Valley Voices	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)
Autumn Term Clubs and Care Bears	<p>Care Bears After School Provision - this will run every day from 3.00-4.00. Please see attached club timetable for the Autumn term. Please do make a note of these dates. The clubs DO NOT run throughout every week of the term! 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! If you have booked a place and your child is not attending please let us know.</p> <p>Please email: sandra.muggeridge@btinternet.com 07852 255628 (Please note new telephone number) Thank you for your support in this matter.</p> <p>AAA Coaching will be available on Monday 19th and Tuesday 20th December, in the Christmas holiday. See attached flyer for information and how to book your place.</p> <p>Please look out for information coming soon about our Spring term programme of clubs. You will be able to book and pay for your child's clubs via our on-line booking system www.schoolmoney.co.uk.</p>
IS YOUR CHILD WORTH LESS? Our campaign for better funding for West Sussex schools continues, as you may have seen on national news. Pupils and staff visited 10 Downing Street with our letters. You can support our schools in our campaign for fair funding on Facebook and there is a petition which can be found at the following link; https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/167761	

Dates for 2016/17

Autumn Term Tuesday 6th September - Friday 16th December 2016

Half Term Holiday Monday 24th October - Friday 28th October

Monday 21st November, 8.30 - Yellow School Individual and Sibling Photographs - please let us know if you would like to include pre-school siblings (we do this at 8:20am)

Monday 21st November, 11.00 - Flu Vaccination for Year 1, 2, 3

Tuesday 22nd November - Maple Class visit to the Weald & Downland Museum

Tuesday 22nd November - **Deadline for ordering Chartwells Christmas Lunch**

Thursday 24th November, 8.45 - Chestnut Class Assembly

Thursday 24th November - Enrichment Day Writers Workshop at Portfield Primary (selected yr5/6 pupils)

Friday 25th November, 11.00 - Bishop of Cameroon visiting Chestnut Class

Tuesday 29th November, 1.00-2.30 - Squash at Chichester Raquet Club (selected Yr 6)

Thursday 1st December, 8.45 - Maple Class Assembly

Thursday 1st December, 5.30 - Full Governing Body Meeting

Week Commencing 5th December - **No Clubs this week, Care Bears as normal**

Tuesday 6th December, 8.45-12.00 - Squash Semi Final, Chichester Raquet Club (selected Yr 6)

Tuesday 6th December, 9.45-10.30 - 'Penguin Party' Workshops with CFT at West Dean (R, Yr1, Yr2)

Wednesday 7th December, 2.00pm - KS2 Production of Silent Night, tickets available on-line

Wednesday 7th December, 2.30 - Apple & Maple Theatre Visit, Mr Popper's Penguins, Minerva Theatre

Thursday 8th December, 6pm - KS2 Production of Silent Night, tickets available on-line

Friday 9th December, 8.45 - Apple Class Assembly

Friday 9th December, time tbc - Violin performance

Week Commencing 12th December - **No Clubs this week, Care Bears as normal**

Monday 12th December, 9.00-12.00 - Beech Class Visit to WW1 Exhibition in Chilgrove

Monday 12th December, 2.30-2.50 - Rocksteady Concert

Tuesday 13th December, 12.00 - Chartwell's Christmas Lunch

Wednesday 14th December, 9.00 - Christingle making at West Dean

Wednesday 14th December - Christingle Service at West Dean Church - **5:15pm**

Thursday 15th December, 8.45 - End of Term Assembly - all welcome

Friday 16th December - School finishes for the Christmas holidays

Christmas Holidays

Tuesday 3rd January - Spring Term begins for children

Wednesday 11th January, 9.15-11.30 - Chestnut Class - Festival of Singing rehearsal at Chichester High School

Thursday 12th January - Westgate Swimming for Beech and Chestnut

Thursday 19th January, - Festival of Singing - Y5/6 at Chichester Festival Theatre - rehearsal in the day and performance in the evening for Chestnut Class - info to follow

Thursday 26th January - Westgate Swimming for Beech and Chestnut

Monday 6th - Friday 10th March - **Chestnut Class French Residential Visit**

Acorn Awards - Friday 11th November 2016

Rupert - for working so hard on your sounds this week

Elizabeth - for thinking deeply about everything we do, with lots to share

Kitty - for being wonderfully creative in art – especially her leaf creation

Amelie - for really working hard in maths to understand inverse

Will - for challenging himself with his target work at home

Martha - for careful and considered colour mixing in art to create her wonderful iceberg. Excellent listening

Gwen - for great focus and concentration this week. This has really shown in the improved quality of her work, well done

Acorn Awards - Friday 18th November 2016

Freddie - for his super self-portrait, looking carefully in a mirror before drawing

Christopher - for his amazing spellings using OW sound independently

Otto - for thinking so hard about his words and reading. Real enthusiasm for his learning

Flora - for her really hard work in maths on the bar method by really challenging herself and thinking independently

Rafi - for his really enthusiastic attitude to our school performance

Alex - for his hardworking attitude and contribution to our topic

Tilly - for continuing to work hard and keep focused