



# West Dean Church of England Primary School

West Dean, Chichester, West Sussex, PO18 0RJ

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Newsletter 14 22nd April 2016



Dear Parents and Carers,

At the end of another busy week in school, I would like to remind you of the whole school topics for the term: we are learning about things we could be 'when we grow up!' Please see the information below about our forthcoming visit to Kidzania in London - more information to follow. Our 'text free book' topic, with Quest as our whole school book, is in full swing and the children are busy responding to this in a variety of ways.

## Church School Inspection

Our inspection took place on Tuesday and we are pleased with the outcome, but cannot let you know more until the feedback and report have been completed and approved by the diocese, as this is a confidential process. Our governors and I would like to thank you all for your support - the children were, as always, great ambassadors for our school! It was a long and demanding day and a useful experience to go through in terms of evaluating what we are doing well and what we would like, as a school community, to develop further.

## BUILDING INFORMATION

## KEEPING OUR CHILDREN SAFE

Thank you once again for your support in keeping everyone safe during the building work I am delighted to let you know that the work is almost completed and we are proposing to be pretty much back to normal on Monday.

Please be aware that **Apple Class will continue to line up on the playground in the mornings** - they will be escorted into school by a school adult. In the afternoons, parents and carers should collect from the Apple Outdoor area as in previous weeks.

## Links with Other Schools and Organisations

For those of you who have managed to make it into our reception area, past the builders and painters, you may have seen a beautiful giraffe book shelf/reading seat. This is one of the beautiful and high quality pieces of Design and Technology work which has been made by the Midhurst Rother College students, for whom the school acts as a client. The children and staff were consulted by the students who then designed and made products for the school. We also have a fabulous box from which to sell our eggs and a super storage system. This is something we have done in partnership with MRC previously - you may recall the arrival of the display cupboard in the entrance area which acts as a stand for the screen with our photos on.

## SWIMMING

Building on the success of our swimming team before the Easter holidays, Mrs Sue Goacher organised and ran an enrichment day for swimmers between the ages of 7 and 11 from the Goodwood Area Schools on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April. Singleton, Boxgrove, North Mundham, March, Lavant and West Dean Schools all took part and had a wonderful day, interacting with other local children and learning a variety of new skills, including water safety and rescue.

We have just found out that our elite swimming team have made it through to the regional finals in Guildford. This prestigious competition takes place tomorrow, Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> April, and we wish our team the best of luck and thank all the parents involved for their support. Our thanks go to Mrs Goacher and Mrs Cruttenden who have driven this and will, once again, accompany the teams and lead the swimmers. We will, of course, let you know how we get on!

## MUSIC

Many of you will remember Rachel Hawker the talented singer, songwriter who taught with West Sussex Music and inspired many West Dean children. She now works for 'Rock Steady', an organisation which offers a peripatetic music service to schools, specialising in teaching children how to play instruments in a band setting. On Thursday, Rachel visited the school with a number of electronic instruments including a guitar, drums, keyboard and microphone. Playing well known chart hits, including Justin Bieber, the children were totally enraptured by her music, energy, talent and sound. The favourite instrument of the day was the electric guitar; the loud rock sound got the biggest cheer. We hope to invite Rachel and her colleagues back in the near future.

## SPONSORING GREAT CAUSES

The next Community Café will be opening on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May from 2.30 to 3.30pm

This popular event will take place just before half term, once again, thanks to Mrs Prudence and the Chestnut Class children and team.

The children have decided that profits from the Community Café will be given to Education West Africa, a charity set up by ex-West Dean pupil Penelope Sharman (Rosie's grandma!) and her husband. Focusing on one of the poorest areas of Africa, Sierra Leone; their work building schools, providing uniforms and making school furniture not only gives the children of Sierra Leone an education but gives jobs to the local people. Penelope regularly visits our school to give us updates on progress and the class have the opportunity to speak to the children they are helping. The children will get to see exactly where the money is being spent and how it is helping the community. We hope that this will become a long term link between our school and Education West Africa.

Penelope and Rosie are doing a sponsored swim for the charity and would love you to sponsor them - please see Rosie or ask in the office for details. For more info about the charity, please see: [www.educationwestafrica.info](http://www.educationwestafrica.info)

The Button family are doing a sponsored walk in May. This will be called GO THAT EXTRA MILE and is a 3 mile walk – with the 'extra mile', the family will walk 4 miles in total. The sponsorship money will go to LUPUS UK, a charity which supports those with Lupus, an illness of the immune system which can affect any part of the body. Again, please see Tilly or Chris, or ask at the school office for more information or to sponsor them in this highly worthwhile cause.

Current Useful Information and Reminders	
<b>Clubs</b>	Please note that clubs will NOT be running w/c 2 <sup>nd</sup> May
<b>Parent &amp; Carer Drop-in Sessions</b>	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. <b>Every Wednesday 3.00-3.15</b>
<b>Learning Journals</b>	Please remember to return your Learning Journals in on Monday morning every week.
<b>Maple Class Assembly</b>	Please note that Maple Class Assembly will now be on Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> June.
<b>Clubs and Care Bears</b>	After School Childcare Provision - Please see timetable attached for dates. Care Bears contact telephone number: 07507 327466
<b>Maple Class</b>	Visit to West Wittering Beach on Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> April - please see letter for more details.
<b>Sainsbury's Active Kids</b>	Sainsbury's Active Kids Promotion ends in-store on 3 <sup>rd</sup> May.
<b>Election Day</b>	Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> May - school will remain open and voting will take place in Chestnut Classroom as we <i>have</i> to act as a polling station - the children will work in the hall/pavilion/outdoors
<b>Kidzania</b>	This KS2 visit to London will support us with our topic which is all about inspiring children to have aspirations to achieve as adults as well as children! Children will gain valuable insights into the 'jobs' and careers out there for them, and we will use this as a stimulus for writing, maths work and to drive work in other curriculum areas. We will be contacting you to see if you would be willing to come into school to run a small hands-on workshop or chat briefly to children about your job/career/role. You may not be keen/able to do this yourself but you may know someone who would be, someone who will inspire our children and who is good at communicating and could bring in some exciting props etc. We have lots of ideas and will communicate this next week! So - look out for more information to follow!

### *Acorn Awards Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2016*

*Elodie* – for super weaving with your body in the hall.

*Willow* – for amazing listening on the carpet every day.

*Cameron* - for his regular, consistent reading at home – will make such a difference to his school work.

*Jack* – for his thoughtful, enthusiastic contribution in RE, and his full involvement.

*Ka'Ci* - for settling in well to Beech Class and becoming a great peer within our class.

*Mathilde* - for an engaging diary entry, you thought carefully about your success criteria and making improvements.

*Summer* – for making a difference and helping others. Well done for raising £69.42 for Education West Africa.

## Dates for 2016

Summer Term Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April - Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> July

Half Term Holiday Monday 30<sup>th</sup> May - Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June

*Inset Days: Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2016*

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2 .30pm - Assembly - Book share with parents - all welcome

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> April am - Governor Visits

Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> April - Maple Class Visit to West Wittering Beach

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> May - Bank Holiday, School Closed

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May - Sainsburys Active Kids Vouchers End

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> May - Election Day - school will remain open

W/C 9<sup>th</sup> May - Test Week, Year 2 and Year 6

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> May pm - Governor Visits

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> May - Paul Ulson visit to Beech Class re Egyptians

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> May am - Governor Visits

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> May - Year 6 'Racing to School' at Goodwood

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> June 8.40am - Di Clack Parent Support Group - **All welcome**  
(even if you haven't attended previous sessions!)

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> June - Beech Class Assembly 8.45

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> June - Yellow School Photo's - Classes & Leaver

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> June - Little Big Sing at The March School - Maple Class

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> June - Maple Class Assembly 8.45

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June 10.30am - Year 6 Leavers Service at Chichester Cathedral

W/C Monday 20<sup>th</sup> June - Parent Evenings

*Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> June - KS2 visit to Kidzania in London - info to follow*

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> June - Chestnut Class Assembly 8.45

Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> June - Apple Class Assembly 8.45

Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 12noon - School Fete

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> July 1.30-2.30 - GAS Sports - selected pupils

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> July - INSET - school closed

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> July - GAS Sports reserve day - selected pupils

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> July 9.45-2.30 - Cricket at Boxgrove - selected pupils

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> July 9.00am - Sports Morning

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> July - Governing Body Meeting

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> July - St Andrew's Church, West Dean - Y6 Leavers' Service

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> July - 8:45am - End of Year Assembly - all welcome

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	Yr3-6				
Wednesday	David Morris	Tee Ball	Yr 3-6				
	J Boxall	Craft	Craft	Craft	Craft	Craft	Yr 1-3
Thursday	K Prudence	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	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	Yr 3-6				
	E Wells	Dance	Dance	Dance	Dance	Dance	Yr 4-6
Friday	AAA Coach	Sports	Sports	Sports	Sports	Sports	Yr 4-6