



West Dean Church of England Primary School

West Dean, Chichester, West Sussex, PO18 0RJ

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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 5 04.10.24 Our overall attendance rate is **97.3%** this week. Well done everyone!

Don't forget Rev Sarah's 'Rectors Ramble' which can be found at: <http://thevalleyparish.org/from-the-vicar>



Harvest Leaf Gathering - Apple Class children



This morning we held our School Harvest Festival Service in St Andrew's Church, West Dean. Thank you to our parents and carers for bringing children directly to the church for the service, for donating produce for the Foodbank, and for joining our Harvest celebration. During the service we heard all about the amazing Forest School autumn leaf creations, that Apple Class had made this week, as well as the Beech Class' crumble bake-off—some lucky parents even got to taste it!



Beech Class Crumble Bake-Off!



Fall Fiesta

THANK YOU, to everyone on the PTA who worked so hard to make the Fall Fiesta such a success last week, and also to all who attended and supported the event. Two hours of fun was enjoyed by all, and although the weather didn't 'sizzle' as originally intended, it was still a lovely event.

We don't seem to have many photos of the event (although there are a lot of Mr Williams being soaked funnily enough). If you have any other photos, we would love to see them.

Do please take time to read the PTA Autumn Update, included in this newsletter.



Our rambling club enjoying the autumn sunshine this week, while exploring a West Dean footpath that they hadn't seen before!



Lessons from a boat

We were delighted to welcome back ex West Dean Dad, Jon Wilburn, along with Steve Potter, former Headteacher at Westbourne Primary School, to lead our assembly on Tuesday.

Jon and Steve, along with two other friends, are about to take on the most epic of challenges this December, rowing across the Atlantic Ocean, from the Canary Islands to Antigua.

Being teachers, they have named their challenge 'Lessons from a Boat', and if technology allows, intend to do just that, streaming lessons live from the boat mid-Atlantic.

As well as being an incredible personal challenge for Jon, Steve and the team, they also want to raise money for several charities and do some work to support mental health awareness.

The children enjoyed a really inspiring session, learning all about the team's preparation, equipment and the journey ahead. If you want to find out more or sponsor the them, visit their website at:

<https://lessonsfromaboat.com/>





2024/25 INSET Days



Monday 2nd September 2024

Monday 6th January 2025

Monday 21st and Tuesday 22nd July 2025

The final INSET day is still TBC, pending training availability.

Autumn Term 2024 - Monday 2nd September (INSET) - Friday 20th December 2024

Half Term - Monday 28th October—Friday 1st November 2024

Spring Term 2025 - Monday 6th January (INSET) - Friday 4th April

Half Term - Monday 17th February - Friday 21st February

Summer Term 2025 - Tuesday 22nd April - Friday 18th July

Half Term - Monday 26th May (Bank Holiday) - Friday 30th May

Monday 7th October	5.30, Ofsted Meeting for Parents in school
Wednesday 9th October	Bookfest Author Visit, Natasha Farrant, for Beech and Chestnut
Tuesday 15th October	Magistrate visit to Chestnut Class
Thursday 17th October	Chestnut Class visit to London
Wednesday 22nd October	Maple Class visit to Selsey Lifeboat Station (details to follow)
Wednesday 23rd October	Apple Class visit to Chichester Library
Wednesday 23rd October	3.15, PTA Movie Night
Friday 25th October	10.00, NHS Yr6 National Child Measurement Programme
Thursday 31st October	Deadline for Year 6 secondary applications
Tuesday 5th November	Hugo Van Driel Worship
Thursday 7th November	1.00-3.30, SSP Girls Football (details to follow)
Tuesday 12th November	Parent Evening (details to follow)
Tuesday 12th November	7.15-8.30, Valley Voices
Wednesday 13th November	8.30, Yellow School Photographs—individuals
Wednesday 13th November	Parent Evening (details to follow)
Friday 15th November	Children in Need (details to follow)
Tuesday 19th November	Flu Vaccination Programme
Thursday 21st November	1.00—3.30, SSP Football (selected Yr 3&4, details to follow)
Thursday 21st November	5.30, Full Governing Body Meeting
Friday 29th November	Food Bank Friday
Tuesday 3rd December	1.00-3.30, SSP Small Schools Football (details to follow)
Tuesday 10th December	Hugo Van Driel Worship



Don't forget, we love to share special events and learning highlights wherever possible on Instagram. Follow us [@westdeanceprimary](https://www.instagram.com/westdeanceprimary)



The West Dean Parent Teacher Association

Update - Autumn 2024

We would like to welcome the new Reception class and their families as well as the returning 'West Deanies' to the 2024-2025 academic year. It is sure to be filled with lots of fun, faith and community spirit!

Fundraising -

Thank you to everyone who took part in the **Fall Fiesta** last Friday and our AMAZING group of volunteers who made it all happen! The weather held out and we were thrilled to finally be able to host the event after being postponed from the summer term. We took in an impressive **£1352.41** (before expenses).

COMING UP THIS TERM...



Film Night - 23 October 2024



Wreath Making Evening at Farbridge - 4 December 2024



Christmas Marketplace and Evening of Song - 6 December 2024

Christmas Disco - 19 December 2024



And as always, the PTA will be helping Father Christmas with his visit as well as serving Christmas Dinner to children and staff.

Supporting the School -

The PTA has historically supported the school with financial donations in the following areas:

- Pool (maintenance) - £1000
- Music (1 Term 2 Learn) - £500
- Swimming Transport - £500

Alongside other ad hoc events and activities such as Book Fest, Sports Day and Beach Day, in 2023/24, the PTA was able to purchase **10 new iPads** for the school as well as managed and financed the **library 'Treehouse' renovation project**.

In order for the PTA to continue to support the school and our children with these enrichment events, we need to bolster our annual fundraising efforts. **To do this we need your help.**

If you would like more information on how you can get involved with the West Dean PTA, please email us on westdeanpta@outlook.com





West Dean CE Primary School
Acorn Awards
Friday 4th October 2024



Today we held our Harvest Festival in St Andrews Church, so we'll be celebrating our children's achievement in an Acorn Assembly on Monday instead, with a bumper list of Acorns next Friday!

