



West Dean Church of England Primary School

West Dean, Chichester, West Sussex, PO18 0RJ

Telephone: 01243 811247



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 7 17.10.25 Our overall attendance has dropped again this week to 96.8% Let's get back to at least 98% as soon as we can.

Don't forget, Rev Sarah's 'Rector's Rambling' available by [CLICKING HERE](#) Always an interesting and inspiring read.

Parent Consultation Evenings

Tuesday 21st, 3.00-5.30pm and Wednesday 22nd October, 3.00-6.00pm. Thank you for booking an appointment to see your child's teacher. We look forward to seeing you next week.



Following new guidance to schools, we now have a nominated Paediatric first aid member of staff. During training it was raised that children under the age of 5 should avoid having popcorn, marshmallows or uncut grapes, all of which have appeared in some children's lunch boxes. As a precautionary measure we would request that these items are not included in your child's lunchbox. A polite reminder too, that we are a 'Nut Free' school. Thank you.

School Meals and Healthy Lunch Boxes



Under the UIFSM Government scheme, children in Yr R, 1 and 2 are entitled to a hot meal at school each day. It is your responsibility to order the meals that you would like for your child through the Parent Pay/Cypad portal.

The ordered meals are provided for your child and school is charged for this per meal ordered.

We seem to have a number of children who have ordered meals but are then bringing a packed lunch from home.

We have a report which shows us meals ordered and not taken, for our monitoring purposes.

Please could we ask that you do not order a meal if your child is having a packed lunch as we are charged for this and it is then wasted food.

If you have ordered a meal and then change your mind, please remember to cancel this if possible.

The cost to school for wasted meals in September was £105.60

Your support to help us to keep our costs down and reduce our food wastage is greatly appreciated.



**Welcome Miss Stamp,
Headteacher for the Day!**



It is a pleasure to write to you, our school community, as Headteacher for the Day. I was so excited when it was announced that I was going to be awarded this role. Doing assembly in front of the whole school was an amazing experience this morning, as well as giving me a slightly nervous feeling. I also love spinning on the spinny chair in Mr Williams' office (or should I say my office?) it's so fun! Even walking around the classes and sitting in Mr Williams' office is a privilege I get. I am very happy and excited about walking Monty, as he is such a cute dog to be around.

It has been interesting to learn about all the different jobs that a headteacher does during the day. I now know that you don't just sit in an office! It has been brilliant and I would recommend applying for the opportunity next time.

Best wishes for the weekend,
Miss Khloe Stamp — Headteacher for the Day



Some Deep Learning about the Deep Sea!

It was wonderful to welcome Dr Roterman from the University of Portsmouth Marine Biology department into school again this week. On his last visit he amazed Apple Class with tales of his deep sea exploration; this time it was Chestnut Class' turn to use his expertise to enrich their class topic 'Dragons, Darwin and DNA'.

Doctor Roterman talked about what his job was like and how it worked. He told the children about a tradition where they had thrown fresh buckets of sea water at him to celebrate his first time going down in a submarine. Everyone was intrigued about the model of a Japanese submarine which could open up and was a replica of the real life one he had gone down to the deep ocean in.

What brought the amazed faces to the children was when he actually took out showed us real life specimens of Hoff crabs, preserved in pots of alcohol. Dr Roterman was part of a team of marine biologists who discovered this species. The crab apparently got its comical nickname from because it has a hairy chest! He discovered it at the bottom of the ocean eating bacteria.

It was amazing to work with Dr Roterman and so interesting to hear about the work of a marine biologist. **Khloe Stamp.**

Head Lice

We have had reported cases of head lice in school.

Please be vigilant and follow the link below for guidance.

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/head-lice-and-nits/>



Friends Film Night, Weds 5th November, 3.00pm.

Apple & Maple—Lilo & Stitch

Beech & Chestnut - How to Train Your Dragon (Live Action). Available to book on Arbor, £5 per child.



Friends Wreath Making Evening,

Monday 1st December at Farbridge, 11.0am and 7.00pm.

Poster attached with full details, available to book on Arbor as a shop product.





Thank you for all of your generous donations for our first Foodbank Friday.

These will be donated to Chichester District Foodbank to help those in need.



We were delighted to receive a lovely message from our partnership friends at Bishop Luffa this week, following the success of their Big Walk event last week. It is really great to be able to support each other in providing these opportunities for the young people in our partnership schools.

15th October 2025

Mr Chris Williams
West Dean C of E Primary School
Chichester
PO18 0RJ

Dear Mr Williams,

On behalf of the Bishop Luffa Parents & Friends Association, I'd like to express our sincere thanks to you and your fantastic team for your kindness, flexibility, and generous support during our recent Big Walk event.

We truly recognise that welcoming such a large group onto your site was a significant undertaking, and we are incredibly grateful for how accommodating and helpful your staff were throughout. Providing refreshments for so many children was no small feat, and your assistance helped things run smoothly and with minimal stress for our PFA volunteers. Your help the day before and on the day was beyond our expectations and we would like to thank you for that.

We hope our visit wasn't too disruptive and that your pupils enjoyed seeing the Bishop Luffa students making the most of the day. It certainly added a fun and memorable dimension to the event for everyone involved!

Thank you once again for your hospitality and collaboration. We very much hope there will be more opportunities for the PFA to work together with you as part of the Bishop Luffa Learning Partnership.

Wishing you and all at West Dean continued success.

Warm regards,

Sharon Quail
Co-Chair
Bishop Luffa Parents & Friends Association





- Yr R** **Toby** - for your quiet determination in your learning. Keep it up!
- Yr 1** **Olivia B** - for your huge improvement in your reading. Well done.
- Yr 2** **India** - for your insightful questions during our computing session about keeping safe using technology. You shared some brilliant thoughts, well done!
- Yr 3** **Alfie** - for the way you approached making your Canopic jar. You worked at lightning speed!
- Yr 4** **Elsie** - for the kindness and confidence you show in Beech class. You are a terrific role model
- Yr 5** **Mia** - for always being 'on it'! Your homework is well presented, you are always ready to learn and even more importantly, you are prepared to dig deep and 'sweat it out'!
- Yr 6** **Jack** - for being such a diligent 'getting ready' monitor - you have worked so hard to try to keep our class in order and ready to go!





2025/26 INSET Days

Wednesday 3rd September 2025
Friday 24th October 2025
Monday 5th January 2026
Monday 23rd February 2026
Wednesday 22nd July 2026



Autumn Term 2025 - Wednesday 3rd September—Friday 19th December

INSET - Friday 24th October 2025

Half Term - Monday 27th October - Friday 31st October 2025



Tuesday 21st October	Year 6 Healthy Schools Programme
Tuesday 21st October	3.00—5.30, Parent Consultation Evening
Wednesday 22nd October	8.30-9.00 'Friends' Meeting (Year Group Reps only please)
Wednesday 22nd October	3.00—6.00, Parent Consultation Evening
Thursday 23rd October	Last day of first half of Autumn Term
Friday 24th October	INSET—School Closed
Tuesday 4th November	Hugo Van Driel Assembly
Wednesday 5th November	3-5pm. 'Friends' Film Night, now available to book on Arbor
Thursday 6th November	Bishop Luffa Worship in school
Friday 7th November	West Dean Bonfire and Fireworks (details attached)
Monday 10th November	Open Book Assembly in school
Tuesday 11th November	Remembrance Assembly in school
Wednesday 12th November	Yellow School Photographs (Individuals and Siblings)
Thursday 20th November	Bishop Luffa Worship in School
Thursday 20th November	5.30, Full Governing Body Meeting
Friday 21st November	Children in Need
Monday 24th November	Flu Vaccinations in School
Monday 24th November	Open Book Assembly in school
Wednesday 26th November	Beech Class Egyptian Day and Exhibition (2.00-3.00pm)
Saturday 29th November	West Dean Christmas Market Event (details to follow)
Monday 1st December	11.00am & 7.00pm 'Friends' Wreath Making at Farbridge
Friday 5th December	8.45, Christingle Service in School
Tuesday 9th December	Hugo Van Driel Assembly in School
Wednesday 10th December	KS1 Nativity (details to follow shortly)
Monday 15th December	9.30, CYE Assembly in school

WEST  DEAN

Bonfire Night

7th November

West Dean College
6pm - 8pm

**Add "School" to your surname when
booking for West Dean to donate £1.25
back to the school.**

£5

Per person

Under 16's go free



For more information:

01243 818300

meetings@westdean.ac.uk

Book your tickets at

westdean.ac.uk/events



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by Monday 20th October!**

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