



West Dean Church of England Primary School

West Dean, Chichester, West Sussex, PO18 0RJ

Telephone: 01243 811247 Headteacher: Mr C Williams



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



Spring 2025



Dear Parents and Guardians,

We hope you had a restful break and are looking forward to the exciting term ahead.

This half-term, our learning will be centered around the theme "A Ticket to Ride." We have an engaging range of activities planned to ignite curiosity and inspire creativity. We have selected both fiction and non fiction books to read, including 'One hundred decker bus' and 'The Little Red train.' We will explore various forms of transport, including bicycles, cars, planes, and trains, with the enquiry question, "How has transport developed, and why are these firsts so important in history?" One of the highlights of our learning will be a visit to Goodwood on Wednesday, March 19th, where we will see examples of vehicles and aircraft up close and gain further insights into their development (further details will follow).

In science, we will investigate the strength of materials and how they are used in building different vehicles, exploring why certain materials are more suitable than others. Our geography lessons will focus on understanding maps and map symbols and how people use maps to travel to different countries. We will link this to how transport connects various parts of the world and shapes our daily lives. In art and design, children will practice observational drawing to capture details of various forms of transport, and in design technology, they will create their own models of vehicles using axles and wheels in woodwork. In French, we will expand our vocabulary with key words and phrases related to transport, bringing a global perspective to our learning.

In a sequence of discrete lessons, Reception children will develop a deeper understanding of numbers within five, investigate mass and capacity, and explore concepts of length, height, and time. Year 1 children will work on addition and subtraction within 20, place value within 50, and continue to strengthen their problem-solving skills. In Religious Education, Year 1 will explore the question, "Who made the world?" and learn about Christian beliefs on creation, while Reception children will focus on the theme, "How can we help others when they need it?" focusing on kindness and compassion. In PSHE, Year 1 will learn about safety and the changing body, while Reception will focus on managing self and taking on challenges, promoting independence, confidence, and perseverance. The children will learn basic algorithms to instruct a Bee Bot to move in our computing lessons.

To support your child at home, you could discuss the types of transport your family uses, explore books on transport history, and identify materials used in everyday objects.

We are excited about the term ahead and look forward to supporting your child's learning journey. Thank you for your continued support, and feel free to contact us with any questions.

Kind regards,

Alison Chilton and Laura Plackett