



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



Maple Class - Summer 2025



Dear Parents and Carers,

We're excited to begin our new topic this half term: *Come Dine with Me*. This theme will bring together a wide range of learning experiences linked by food, health, and creativity. Throughout the term, we'll be using the stories *Oliver's Vegetables* and *Oliver's Fruit Salad* to support and enrich our learning, helping us explore where food comes from and the importance of healthy eating.

Our work in English will focus on persuasive writing, starting with exploring different texts to understand how language, layout and purpose work together. Using *The Amazing Jam Shop* as a model, the children will build the skills needed to create their own persuasive adverts, which they'll use to promote a meal they'll design and make for our very own *Come Dine with Me* event.

Maths lessons will link closely to real life too, as we focus on fractions—finding halves, quarters, thirds and three-quarters of shapes, objects and quantities. The children will learn to recognise unit and non-unit fractions, use simple division strategies, and explore ideas of equivalence, all supported by practical, hands-on learning.

Science will see the children becoming young gardeners, learning how seeds and bulbs grow, and what plants need to stay healthy. They'll observe the growth of their own fruit and vegetable plants, keeping a bean diary to track progress and use their findings to decide where plants grow best. This ties in with our food technology work, where children will learn how to prepare food safely and use what they've grown to create a hidden fruit and vegetable meal for our celebration event.

To support and enrich this learning, we're very excited to be going on a trip to **Lordington Lavender**, where the children will learn first-hand about farming and how food is grown. This visit will bring our classroom learning to life and help children understand the journey from field to fork.

In our history sessions, we'll be travelling back in time to explore hospitals and healthcare in the past, focusing on the important work of Florence Nightingale, Mary Seacole and Edith Cavell. Children will explore how hospitals have changed over time and reflect on the values and bravery these individuals demonstrated.

To support our creative learning, children will also explore digital music. They'll experiment with rhythm and pitch, compose animal-inspired music using software, and review and improve their work. Our music lessons will continue this journey with movement, body percussion and active listening, using pieces from Shostakovich's *Jazz Suites* to explore beat patterns and musical metre.

This topic encourages teamwork, creativity, healthy choices and curiosity across all areas of learning. We're looking forward to a vibrant, hands-on term and can't wait to share the children's work with you.

Our classroom will be open after school on Wednesdays for a short time if you would like to see your child's work.

Thank you for your continued support. We are looking forward to a wonderful term of learning and discovery with our Marvellous Maples! If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to speak to me on the playground.

Best wishes,

Mrs. Reynolds and Mrs. Pearmaine