



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 6 11.10.24 Our overall attendance rate is **96.6%** this week. Still good, but a slight drop from last week.

There is no 'Rectors Ramble' this week, as Rev Sarah is on holiday. We wish her an enjoyable and relaxing break!



We're on a mission this Christmas!

Please join us in supporting @ChiDistrictFoodbank **Christmas Kids Lunch Packs** initiative. We're collecting donations to ensure no child in the Chichester District community goes hungry during the Christmas holidays.

We're looking for: A Tin of Soup or a Packet of Biscuits

They need 1000 of each item, so a lot to collect. Any amount you are able to donate would be greatly appreciated.

Please drop off your kind donations at our Pavilion Donation Station between Friday 18th October and Friday 22nd November and make a difference. The collection of the donation bin will coincide with our usual Foodbank Friday on Friday 22nd November when we will collect all donations.

Together, we can fill every lunch pack with love and nutrition!

If you need more inspiration, check out their most wanted list: <https://bit.ly/3V1sBF2>

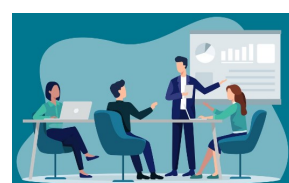
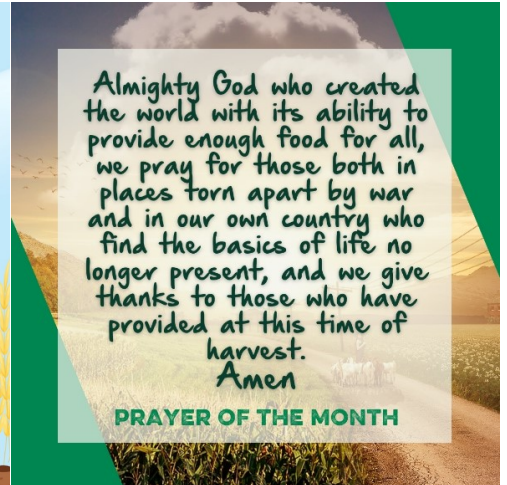
Let's make this Christmas a season of giving.

#ChristmasKidsLunchPacks #CommunitySupport #FeedTheFuture
#ChiDistrictFoodDrive

The Chichester Foodbank sent their thanks to us this week on Instagram, following your generous gifts offered for our Harvest Service last week.

West Dean Primary donated 30.6kg of produce, which is a fantastic effort that will really help to make a difference in our community.

The Foodbank have also posted this prayer for the month of Harvest on their Instagram, which we thought we would share with you all.



THANK YOU

...to all who attended the meeting last Monday evening about our recent Ofsted inspection.

It was good to be able to provide some clarification about how the inspection had been conducted and how the specific inspection judgements were reached, as well as to answer your questions. Should you have any further questions in follow-up, my door is always open. Do please get in touch.

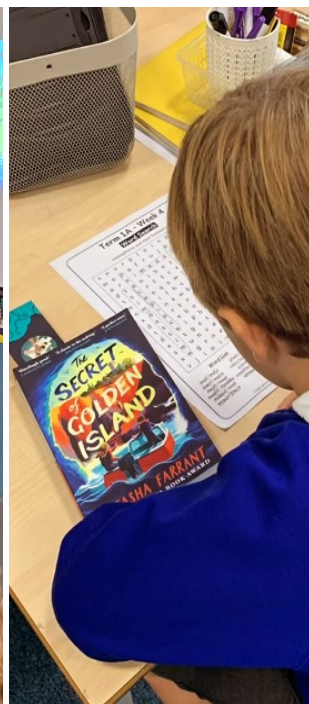
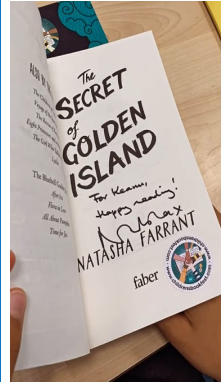
Chris Williams.

An interesting discovery!

Kash made an interesting discovery whilst out at play time this week. Nestled in one of the trees next to our orchard, was this incredible creature.

With Mrs Bowman's help, Kash managed to take some photographs of the creature and used Google Lens to find out what it is. The answer—A Lobster Moth caterpillar. We always make sure that we don't touch any creatures we find in our grounds, but it was amazing to see this unusual visitor.





Brilliant Bookfest

NATASHA FARRANT

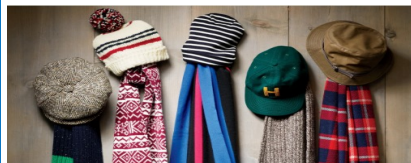


The children in Beech and Chestnut Class enjoyed a fabulous and inspiring visit from author, Natasha Farrant, this week, as part of Chichester Bookfest.

Natasha explained to the children about how she came up with the ideas for her latest book, 'The Secret of Golden Island'.

Every child received a copy of the book, with a personal message from Natasha.

Huge thanks to Chichester Children's Bookfest, who work so hard to bring authors to us each year, inspiring our children and nurturing their love of reading. Thank you too to our PTA for funding this event.



Hats, coats & hairbands!

There has been a distinct nip in the air towards the end of this week, which, although a refreshing change from the wet weather, is a sign of colder times ahead.

As you know, we love that your children are able to enjoy our outside spaces all year round, but we do want them to be appropriately dressed and warm.

Please ensure that your child has a coat, particularly when the weather is wet, even if you arrive by car in the morning. As the weather becomes colder, a warm hat and gloves will also be needed.

Whilst on the subject of things to wear on your head... thank you for ensuring that children with longer hair have it tied back. For the purpose of minimising distraction, we ask that headbands or anything used to tie hair back are in a muted colour (blue, black, grey, brown etc), which is in keeping with the school uniform, and are simple in style.

Thank you for your support.



Welcome Sean!



We are pleased to introduce you to Sean Gamble, our sports coach from our new sport provider, South Coast Sports (SCS).

Sean is working with all of the children in each of our classes for one of their two weekly PE lessons, every Friday. He is also running lunchtime break activities for us and an after school sports club.

SCS are a highly regarded provider of sport to schools in the local area and we are delighted to be working with them. If you would like to know more about South Coast Sports and the services they offer, do visit their website: <https://southcoastsports.org.uk/about/>



A Special Visitor

If they are very lucky and cross their fingers, Apple Class families might be receiving a visitor for the weekend sometime soon.

The children have been reading 'The Everywhere Bear', by Julia Donaldson this week and their own class bear is getting ready to travel everywhere itself, by coming home for the weekend with somebody from the class.

Somebody is looking very pleased with herself in this photo, being the first person invited to take the Everywhere Bear home this weekend.





Jess Brown-Fuller MPs Christmas Card competition

I have a lot of Christmas Cards to send this year and I need your help. I would love your creative designs for my official Christmas Card.

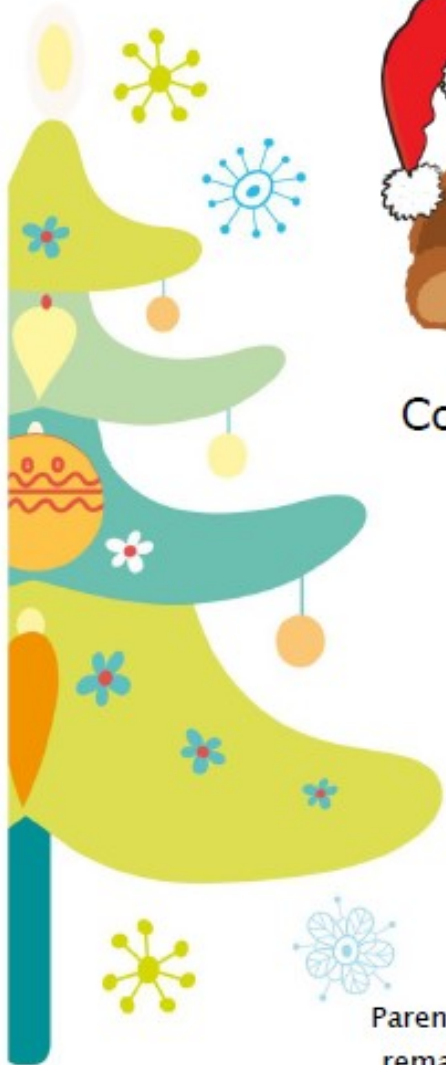
The competition is open to all children in Year 3 to Year 6. Please send me your designs by email or post by Sunday 3 November.

Email: jess.brownfuller.mp@parliament.uk



Post: Jess Brown Fuller MP
House of Commons
London SW1A 0AA





Christmas Storytime

Come and share some festive cheer with Christmas stories at the library!

Saturday 14th December
11.45am-12.15pm

Suitable for children under 7 years

No need to book

Parents and carers are asked to remain with their child during this activity

Chichester Library
Tower Street, Chichester,
PO19 1QJ
01243 777351



www.westsussex.gov.uk/libraries





- Yr R** *Zephyryn* - for your super approach to learning! You show enthusiasm and determination. Keep it up!
- Yr 1** *Leo* - for being a kind friend to everyone. You are polite and generous to others. Well done.
- Yr 2** *Alfie* - for the creativity you showed in your writing. Your story was a joy to read, well done!
- Yr 3** *Luna* - for your enthusiasm for learning in Beech Class. You are a super role model.
- Yr 4** *Teddy* - for the independence you are showing in class. You are growing in resilience and determination.
- Yr 5** *Fynn* - for showing hope and determination when faced with a blank page! Well done, you dug deep and found your creativity. We can't wait to read your story.
- Yr 6** *Iris* - for bringing joy through your writing; you create characters that we want to believe in and descriptions that transport us to another world!





- Yr R **Poppy** - for the kindness you show to everyone.
- Yr 1 **Theo G** - for all your enthusiasm and interest in your learning. Well done!
- Yr 2 **Charlie** - for being a brilliant strategic thinker who always makes links in your learning. It's wonderful to see how enthusiastic you are.
- Yr 3 **Kash** - for making some brilliant choices this week. It's been super seeing you enjoy your learning so much.
- Yr 4 **Nella** - for the kindness you show to others, going out of your way to make others happy.
- Yr 5 **Owen** - for showing real courage and resilience as the term is progressing, well done for embracing the new routines of Chestnut.
- Yr 6 **Henry** - for stepping up to the responsibilities of Year 6, you have taken ownership of being ready to learn. Well done!





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

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	3.00, PTA Movie Night (poster attached with details)
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)
Wednesday 4th December	PTA Wreath Making Evening (see attached poster for details)
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](#)



West Dean PTA Presents
LUXURY CHRISTMAS WREATH WORKSHOP
AT THE BEAUTIFUL FARBRIDGE

Wednesday 4th December
7pm-9pm



£35 on School Money
Mulled Wine & Mince Pies

Book now to secure your spot before we offer the event to the wider community!

WEST DEAN SCHOOL PRESENTS

MOVIE
NIGHT

FEATURING

INSIDE OUT 2

DATE: WEDNESDAY 23RD OCTOBER
TIME: 3PM - 5PM
£5 PER CHILD

INCLUDES A DRINK AND SNACK
CHILDREN CAN BRING EITHER A SMALL CUSHION OR BLANKET
PLEASE BOOK BEFORE TUESDAY 22ND 12NOON