



West Dean Church of England Primary School

West Dean, Chichester, West Sussex, PO18 ORJ
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 14 13.12.24 Our overall attendance is at **96.8%** this week.

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



CYE Christmas Assembly — It was great to welcome our friends from Christian Youth Enterprises into school yesterday, bringing with them the good news of Jesus' birth in their usual lively and entertaining way! CYE is a Christian charitable organisation and operate to exceptionally high professional standards, running an activity centre alongside Chichester Harbour in Cobnor. Underpinning their operation is their shared Christian faith. They endeavour at all times to show unconditional positive regard to every person who walks through the gate – regardless of ability, background or faith. Their annual assembly tour is popular in schools across the locality and their wacky approach to re-telling the Christmas story never fails to bring a smile to everyone's face.



Christmas evening of Song — How blessed we were by clear skies and calm weather last Friday, for our wonderful evening of Christmas song. Our children sang beautifully beneath the twinkling lights, creating such a lovely family atmosphere. Huge thanks to our brilliant PTA volunteers for all they did to make this event such a success. Together with the proceeds from the Christmas Raffle, it looks like in the region of £1000 was raised, which is incredible and will be put to good work enhancing your children's school experience in all manner of ways. Well done to the children for their fabulous singing and thank you everyone for coming along and supporting. **We look forward to seeing you for more joyful singing at our Carol Service in church at 6pm next Tuesday, 17th December.**





Chartwells: CENSUS Day Menu

Thursday 16th January is the Chartwells "American Allstars" Lunch.

Burger & Chips, Mac & Cheese, and our New Celebration Cake.

Meals must be booked no later than Thursday 2nd January, don't delay, you can book today.



Beech Class presentation from Southern Water 'Sewer Wise'

On Monday, Southern Water came to talk to Beech Class about our sewer systems. We learnt about the items that should and should not be put down the sink or in the toilet. We also learnt the possible consequences if the

wrong things get into the sewers. Ask your child if they can tell you the three Ps (and the secret fourth P!) that can all, safely be flushed.



Activ8 for Kids.

We are very pleased to be able to share with you that Activ8 for kids is coming to West Dean in the Spring Term.

Please see attached brochure, registration and booking information. Booking is now live for January 2025 onwards. This system will be for wraparound care bookings only. This will replace our current Care Bears after school provision.

We will still be running our Breakfast Bears club in the morning, 8.00—8.20am. This can still be booked on schoolmoney.co.uk, £4 per session per child to include breakfast. Our variety of after school clubs will continue, the timetable will be ready to share with you next week. Our clubs will also be bookable on schoolmoney.co.uk, with the exception of SCS (South Coast Sports), which is bookable through their own system.

Beautiful Singing at the Bishop Luffa Carol Service

Those of you with older children who attend Bishop Luffa School, will know that they held their annual Carol Service in Chichester Cathedral on Wednesday of last week. Mr Williams was invited along to join the other Primary School Headteachers from the Bishop Luffa Learning Partnership. As well as seeing a number of friendly West Dean faces, it was fantastic to hear ex-West Deanie, Tilly Goodband, now in Year 10 at Bishop Luffa, singing the most wonderful solo part to 'O Holy Night'.

Well done, Tilly, you were superb and made your West Dean family (and Mum and Dad no doubt) very proud!



Lessons from a Boat—Atlantic Challenge

Good Luck to Jon, Steve and the team!

Earlier this term, we were excited to be visited by ex West Dean Dad, Jon Wilburn, along with retired headteacher of Westbourne Primary, Steve Potter, to talk to us about their incredible Atlantic Rowing Challenge.

After years of preparation, the race finally began on Wednesday and the 'Lessons from a Boat' team, along with around 30 other rowing teams, set off on their epic journey from La Gomera in the Canary Islands.

We wish Jon and the team fair weather, calm seas and the very best of luck on this most extraordinary of challenges. They will be rowing shifts of two hours on, two hours off, non-stop until at least the middle of January—just remember that for a moment as you cosy up and tuck into your Christmas lunch!

You can track the team's progress across the Atlantic at <https://www.worldstoughestrow.com/> and find out more about the team at <https://lessonsfromaboat.com/> If their technology works mid-Atlantic, the team are planning to livestream some actual 'lessons from a boat' and we hope to be able to tune in from school.

WEST DEAN PTA PRESENTS

Christmas Disco



Thursday 19th December | £6 per child

KS1 5pm-6.30pm | KS2 5.30pm-7pm

Drink & snack included : Please bring a refillable water bottle

Book on school money



- Yr R **Wilfred** - for your enthusiasm and love of learning
- Yr 1 **George** - for such amazing reading skills, you have worked hard.
- Yr 2 **Theo** - for showing resilience and a positive attitude when faced with a challenge, well done!
- Yr 3 **Matilda** - for the brilliant links you are making in your learning as shown in our 'environment' discussion last week. A joy to see!
- Yr 4 **Frank** - for the curiosity you show for learning through the fantastic questions you have been asking in class recently.
- Yr 5 **Phoebe** - for rising to the challenge of Chestnut Class, always giving 100% and persevering, especially in maths.
- Yr 6 **Poppy** - for reliably demonstrating our school values, you are always ready to learn and consistently give your very best.





- Yr R **Olivia H-C** - for being so kind to others in Apple Class. Well done!
- Yr 1 **Hugo Y** - for your enthusiasm in your learning, especially finding facts from information books in the library.
- Yr 2 **Mila** - for your brilliant scientific explanations during our material investigation. You were amazing at sharing what you found out, well done!
- Yr 3 **Casper** - for your thoughtful contributions to class discussions. You are making super links in your learning.
- Yr 4 **Keanu** - for your enthusiasm and determination making our pop up books in DT.
- Yr 5 **Bronte** - for bringing joy and laughter to our classroom. You give your best to everything you do and with a smile.
- Yr 6 **Finley** - for fantastic manners and always being ready to learn, doing the right thing and setting an example for others to follow - well done!



Do support the Charity Tractor Run if you can at some point along the route this Sunday.
 You might even spot some familiar West Dean tractor driver faces!

Chichester Christmas Charity Tractor Run

Sunday 15th of December



Please visit our JustGiving page to donate.
Chichester Christmas Charity Tractor Run 2024
 fundraiser for Air Ambulance Charity Kent
 Surrey Sussex.



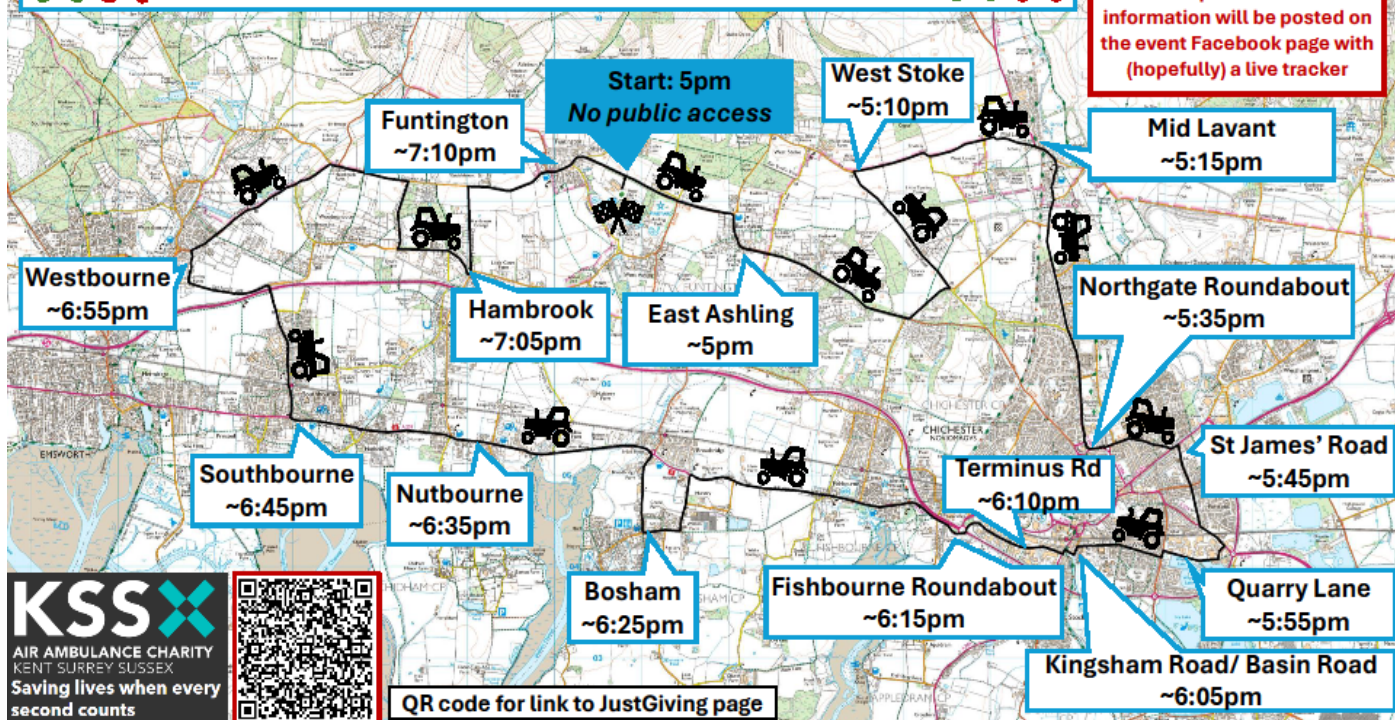
Please visit Chichester Christmas Charity Tractor Run 2024
 for more details and tractor entry forms.
Tractor entry minimum donation of £15.

Starting at 5pm towards East Ashling and travelling through Mid Lavant, Summersdale, Chichester, Fishbourne, Bosham, Nutbourne, Southbourne, Westbourne and Funtington.

Photo by Dave Dobrijevic

Chichester Christmas Charity Tractor Run Sunday 15th December 2024 In aid of the Kent Surrey Sussex Air Ambulance

These times are a guide only.
 Exact times are weather and
 traffic dependent. Further
 information will be posted on
 the event Facebook page with
 (hopefully) a live tracker



2024/25 INSET Days

Monday 6th January 2025

Tuesday 22nd April

Monday 21st and Tuesday 22nd July 2025



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 17th December	Whole School visit to West Dean College
Tuesday 17th December	6.00pm, Christmas Carol Service at St Andrew's Church, West Dean
Wednesday 18th December	Chartwells Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day
Thursday 19th December	5.00—7.00, PTA Christmas Disco (staggered start, details attached)

Spring Term 2025

Monday 6th January	INSET—School Closed
Tuesday 7th January	Start of the Spring Term
Friday 10th January	Chestnut Class United Voices rehearsal at Chichester Free School
Tuesday 14th January	Drama for All visit—Apple and Maple Class
Tuesday 14th January	Beech Class visit to Chichester Festival Theatre—Children's Concert
Wednesday 15th January	Westgate Swim Programme starts, Beech and Chestnut
Wednesday 15th January	Chestnut Class, United Voices rehearsal at Chichester Festival Theatre
Wednesday 15th January	Chestnut Class United Voices performance at CFT
Thursday 16th January	Chestnut Class SSP Sportshall Athletics Event at Bishop Luffa
Tuesday 21st January	Hugo Van Driel Assembly
Wednesday 22nd January	Westgate Swimming—Beech and Chestnut
Tuesday 28th January	Beech Class visit to Fishbourne Roman Palace (details to follow)
Wednesday 29th January	Westgate Swimming—Beech and Chestnut
Thursday 30th January	SSP Future Flyers at Westgate (selected Yr 5 & 6)
Friday 31st January	Foodbank Friday
Wednesday 5th February	Westgate Swimming—Beech and Chestnut
Wednesday 12th February	Westgate Swimming—Beech and Chestnut
Wednesday 12th February	SSP Netball event at Bishop Luffa (details to follow)



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

