



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 2 2025



Dear Parents and Guardians,

We hope you are well. This half term, we are excited to explore a variety of subjects with your child. Our theme is *Exciting Explorers*, where we will focus on the enquiry question, "Where have humans explored?" The children will learn about famous explorers, such as Ibn Battuta and Robert Falcon Scott. This topic will tie into our science lessons, where we will explore animal habitats, adaptation, hibernation, and migration. We will read the books "Miranda the Explorer" by James Mayhew, "Migration" by Mike Unwin and "We travel so far" by Laura Knowles. Through these lessons, children will make connections between the environments animals live in and the explorations of humans around the world.

In Geography, we will be investigating the hot and cold parts of the world, linking it with our science topic of animals and their habitats. We will be exploring the travels of the monarch butterfly as they migrate to Mexico. We will also explore the weather and seasons, looking at how they affect both animals and the environment. Our Religious Education lessons will focus on the Christian celebration of Easter, with Year 1 exploring the question, "Why does Easter matter to Christians?" and Reception investigating, "Why do Christians put a cross in an Easter garden?" As part of our wider learning, Reception will also have an encounter with Buddhism, exploring the Monkey King story.

In Maths, Year 1 will work on addition and subtraction within 20, as well as understanding length, height, weight, and volume. They will also consolidate their learning on these topics. Reception will focus on building an understanding of length, height, and time, as well as exploring the numbers 9 and 10 and developing an understanding of 3D shapes. In PSHE Year 1 will be looking at citizenship and Reception will be learning about self-regulation including listening and following instructions.

We are also excited to announce our class exhibition, which will be held in the school hall on Wednesday, 26th March at 2.15pm. The children will showcase their work from the term, and we would love for you to join us to celebrate their learning. Additionally, we are looking forward to our exciting visit to the Goodwood Motor Circuit on Wednesday, 19th March. This will be a fantastic opportunity for the children to engage with real-world examples of exploration and innovation.

We are excited about the half term ahead and are confident your child will enjoy these hands-on, engaging learning opportunities.

Thank you for your continued support, and feel free to contact us with any questions.

Kind regards,

Alison Chilton and Laura Plackett