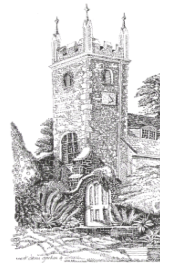




West Dean Church of England Primary School
West Dean, Chichester, West Sussex, PO18 0RJ
Telephone: 01243 811247 Headteacher: Mr C Williams



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 - Spring 2025



Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year! We hope you all had a fantastic Christmas and would like to thank you once again for the thoughtful cards, gifts, and good wishes you kindly shared at the end of last term. As we begin the Spring Term, we are excited to share that our learning journey for this term is based on the book called **"Don't Let Them Disappear,"** which will focus on the importance of endangered species and environmental conservation. The children will explore how their actions can make a positive difference to the planet.

To bring this learning to life, we have arranged a trip to Marwell Zoo, where the children will have the chance to see endangered animals up close and learn about conservation efforts during a guided workshop. This trip will deepen their understanding of the challenges faced by endangered species and highlight the importance of protecting animals and their habitats.

Throughout the term, the children will engage in a variety of activities that link to our theme. In Literacy, they will develop their persuasive writing skills by crafting a letter to the Prime Minister, urging action to protect endangered animals, as well as creating imaginative stories inspired by the "Lost Words" book. They will also write poetry and research facts about endangered species to produce informative reports. In Maths, the children will build on their knowledge of money, multiplication, division, and measurements, applying these skills in real-world contexts.

Our creative subjects will also reflect the theme, with art projects inspired by wildlife, including animal drawings and clay sculptures. In Music, students will compose pieces based on animals, exploring how music can capture the essence of the natural world. Science lessons will focus on living things, habitats, and food chains, while Geography will explore the impact of human activity on ecosystems, comparing the Lacandon Rainforest with our local environment.

Through PSHCE and Religious Education, the children will reflect on their roles as responsible citizens and how values of care and renewal connect to protecting our planet. They will also explore practical ways to contribute to conservation efforts, such as building bird boxes and designing T-shirts to raise awareness of endangered animals.

We are confident this term's topic will spark curiosity and creativity, fostering a deeper understanding of environmental conservation and their role in caring for the planet. We encourage you to discuss these themes at home and explore ways your family can engage with conservation.

A few reminders: Forest School sessions will take place every Tuesday afternoon until February half-term, so please ensure your child brings their Forest School clothes on those days. Show & Tell will continue every Thursday, and details are available on Google Classroom. 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