



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 13 08.12.23 **96% whole school attendance** rate this week — Well done everyone!

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



Tuesday 12th December, 6.00pm

at St Andrew's Church, West Dean

Children and families should arrive

no earlier than 5.45pm.

Please note, the church will not be open before 5.30pm.

There will be **very limited** parking available at the church, please do your best to find alternative parking in the village. The school car park will be open and is just a 10 minute walk away—bring a torch though as it is very dark!

We look forward to seeing you there.

HELP make our church sparkle this Christmas!

Can you help to clean our wonderful West Dean Church in preparation for Christmas? Any willing volunteers, please come along to the church at 10.30am this Saturday (9th).



Choir Carol Singing at Marriott House

Mrs Anstee and Miss Evans took their Choir to Marriott House this week to sing Carols with the residents there.



Christmas Congratulations

Congratulations to Aven in Year 6 for being the runner up in Chichester MP and Secretary of State for Education, Gillian Keegan's Christmas Card design competition. Aven's design will

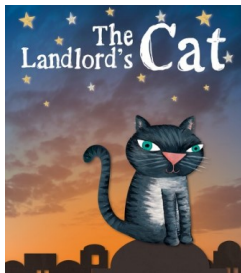
feature on the rear of Gillian's card this year. Who knows—it could even end up on the mantelpiece at No. 10 Downing Street!

SSP Sportshall Athletics

On Wednesday 6th December, Chestnut Class took part in Sportshall Athletics event at Bishop Luffa.

"It was a busy, loud afternoon and we all competed in lots of different athletic based events. It was great fun and we all enjoyed cheering each other on as well as singing along to some Christmas songs".





The Landlord's Cat

We are so proud of all of the children in Apple and Maple class for the absolutely fantastic performances of their Christmas Nativity Play, The Landlord's Cat. Every child knew exactly what to do and when, they had learnt their lines, every word of every song and they performed with complete joy

on their faces. A special mention must go to Elsie and Luna, both of whom were brilliantly brave in singing solo parts on stage.

Thank you to all of the adults in Key Stage One, for supporting the children in putting together such a wonderful performance, which was enjoyed by one and all.



PTA—Carols and Cakes,

Thank you to everyone who came along and joined us for some festive fun, carols, cakes and bakes. The choir sang beautifully and the raffle was a great success. Thank you to Ellie and her team for a fabulous festive afternoon.

You will have received a message if you have won a raffle prize, please do call into the office to collect.



PTA Wreath making Evening

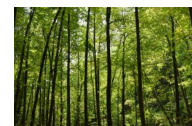
Festive fun was had at our wreath making evening this week and some creative masterpieces were made!

A huge thank you to Isobel Younghusband and the PTA team for organising.



Forest School Plea

Please could we ask if anyone out there has a hot water bottle that they might like to donate to our Forest School. Our Forest School sessions take place in all weather and it is really lovely, on cold, frosty days for the children to enjoy a warm drink at their hot chocolate station and a hot water bottle would help to keep them snuggly too.



Online Safety at Christmas

Please do have a look at this information sheet on page 3 of the newsletter this week, put together by Skips online safety.

Helpful tips for parents on how to keep your children safe online at a time of year when they may be testing out new gadgets received as Christmas gifts, or

simply have more holiday time to engage in gaming or other activity online. Use your smartphone to access the full information on the SKIPS website, by scanning the QR code on page 3.



Farewell Mrs Pinnington

It is with great sadness that we have to say farewell to Mrs Pinnington this week, who, after a short time with us this term teaching in Beech Class, is unable to continue in her role, due to personal reasons.

We thank Mrs Pinnington for all she has brought to Beech Class and to the school this term and we wish her well for the future.

An advertisement has gone out to begin the recruitment process of a new teacher to work in Beech Class with Mrs Anstee. Please do spread the word if you know of an experienced and creative teacher, who would love to join our brilliant team.

We are incredibly grateful to Mrs Anstee for increasing her working hours to ensure continuity of high standards and routine in Beech Class. Mrs Bowman and Mrs Plackett will also be helping to support the class until a new teacher is appointed.

It's Christmas Time!



A Parent's Guide to Social Media



A Parent's Guide to Sharing Pictures



A Parent's Guide to Gaming



A Parent's Guide to Online Grooming



scan the QR code with your phone's camera to see the guides on our website



A Parent's Guide to Live Streaming



A Parent's Guide to Online Influencers



A Parent's Guide to Fake News



A Parent's Guide to Privacy Settings

It's always best to be prepared

Many parents may be planning to give electronic gadgets to their children this festive period.

Our guide is designed to help parents take a realistic approach to help keep their children safe when using the internet, social media and playing online games.

Scan the QR code to find out more.

Online safety is when young people know who they can tell if they feel upset by something that has happened online.

Parents please contact your school to enquire attending their next e-safety workshop or have any concerns.

Working with Home Office 'PREVENT', The Police and Crime Commissioner and Children's Safeguarding Partnerships to help keep children safe online.

Skips Educational Email: info@skipsed.com Tel: +44 121 227 1941

Skips

www.skipssafetynet.org

Developed in partnership with





WEST DEAN PTA PRESENTS

SCHOOL DISCO



Featuring:

DJ MONSTER MOVES

Thursday 14th December | KS1 5pm-6.30pm | KS2 5.30pm-7pm

£6 per Ticket | Drinks & Snacks Included

Diary Dates 2023/24



2023/24 INSET Days

Tuesday 2nd January 2024

Monday 19th February 2024

Monday 22nd & Tuesday 23rd July 2024

Autumn Term 2023 - Monday 4th September - Friday 15th December 2023

Spring Term 2024 - Wednesday 3rd January - Thursday 28th March 2024

Summer Term 2024 - Monday 15th April - Friday 19th July 2024

Tuesday 12th December	Whole School visit to West Dean College
Tuesday 12th December	6pm, Carol Service at West Dean Church
Wednesday 13th December	Chartwells Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day
Thursday 14th December	2.15—2.45, Beech and Chestnut Djembe Drum Showcase
Thursday 14th December	PTA Disco KS1, 5-6.30, KS2, 5.30-7
Friday 15th December	Last day of the Autumn term
Tuesday 2nd January	School closed for Inset



- Yr R** *William* - for a brilliant week in Apple Class! You always try to help others and do your best.
- Yr 1** *Willow* - for your hard work and enthusiasm for learning. Well done!
- Yr 2** *Luna* - for being incredibly brave and singing a phenomenal solo in 'The Landlord's Cat'. You learnt the words beautifully and were a brilliant little sheep!
- Yr 3** *Mia* - for your confident approach to our maths this week! You are able to subtract with real confidence now.
- Yr 4** *Lilly* - for the fantastic paper star you decorated so carefully and beautifully.
- Yr 5** *Matilda* - for really 'upping' your handwriting presentation—wow, so neat, something to be proud of!!
- Yr 6** *Benny* - for super contribution to Chestnut team; enthusiastic singing, competitive jumping and being a fantastic Year 6 role model.





- Yr R** **Finley** - for your super writing. You always do your best! Well done!
- Yr 1** **Ivy O** - for your brilliant digital pictures on the i-Pad using a paint programme. Well done!
- Yr 2** **Harry** - for your brilliant flames acrostic poem. You clearly took great inspiration from our model Great Fire of London. Well done!
- Yr 3** **Ned** - for your increased confidence in maths. You are trying so hard and have a really positive attitude to your learning.
- Yr 4** **Bronte** - for the careful thought you gave to the appearance and feelings of the robin in 'Coming Home'.
- Yr 5** **Poppy** - for working hard to understand fractions in maths. You are really trying hard to 'draw' in order to help you understand the problem.
- Yr 6** **Isaac** - for your fantastic narrative as Mr Darwin in our assembly. You really captured his personality and successfully wrote and presented in role!

