



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 12 01.12.23

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

Christingle Service

This morning we held our Christingle service for the children and staff in school. Rev Sarah led us in worship, explaining the significance of each candle on the Advent wreath, the first of which we lit today, and the symbolism in each element of the Christingle. Thank you to our volunteers who helped the children to make their Christingles yesterday. It was a busy couple of hours as each child contributed to making over 100 Christingles, but a very effective and efficient production line was established! Thank you to West Dean College for the provision of the oranges.

Through our Christingle service, we are supporting The Children's Society. It used to be the case that children would collect spare copper change in shaped money boxes to donate in return for their Christingle. In this cashless age, where we all pay by smartphone, if you would like to make a donation, there is a shop item on schoolmoney.co.uk. Thank you for supporting this very worthy cause.



Bookfest Author Visit

Thank you so much to author, Jenny McLachlan for her brilliant and fun visit to school this week, all organised by our friends at Chichester Children's Bookfest.

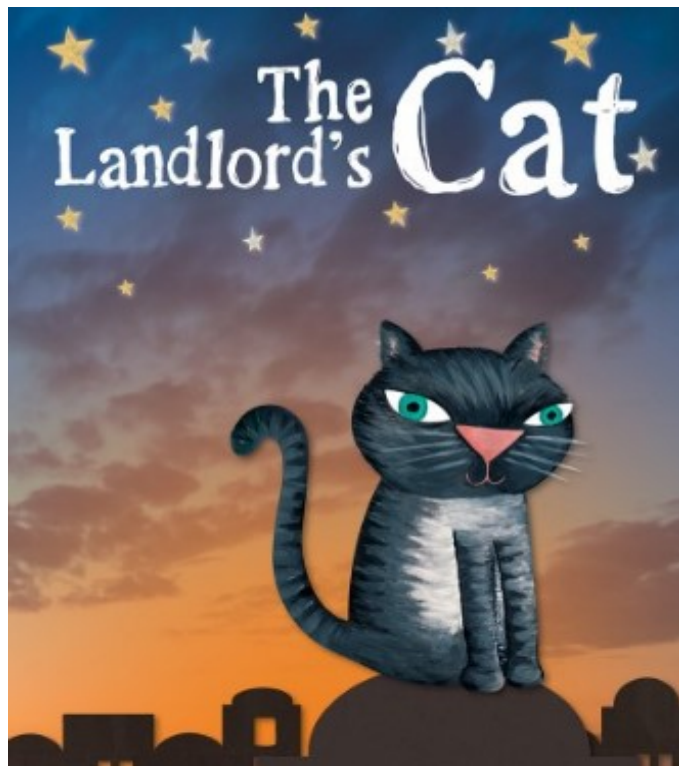
Jenny worked with the children in Beech Class and Chestnut Class, inspiring them with extracts from her own books, with a little help from her dragon, as well as encouraging the children to get creative with some book illustration.



The Great Fire of Maple!

There were alarming scenes and much excitement on the playground on Tuesday as Maple's mini model London went up in flames in a re-enactment of The Great fire of London. The children couldn't believe how quickly the fire spread through their model buildings.





The Landlord's Cat

Tickets are now on sale for our KS1 production of The Landlord's Cat.

Apple and Maple classes have been busy rehearsing and perfecting their lines and singing, preparing for the show. Please note that additional tickets are now available as a shop item on schoolmoney.co.uk.

Foodbank Friday 24th November

Thank you to everyone who supported our second 'Food Bank Friday' last week, we had a lovely range of items to donate. Staff at the Foodbank were really thankful for our donations and told us how difficult it is for them, they are receiving less donations but demand is currently high.



PTA—Carols and Cakes, Thursday 7th December, 3.30pm.

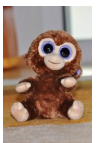
Please do come along and join us for some festive fun, carols, cakes and bakes. These events raise valuable funds for the PTA's continuing investment in your child's time at West Dean.

Volunteers are needed to help on Wednesday morning, 6th December, to cook for the carols and bake sale on Thursday. If you are available please do let us know, either contact Ellie Holder or the school office.



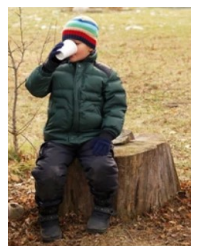
Chestnut Class Pre-Loved Toy Sale.

Thank you to everyone who supported us with our pre-loved toy sale. We hope that you found something new and exciting to play with. If you still have an IOU you can bring in cash or donations can be made on schoolmoney.co.uk. Thank you for supporting us, we have raised an amazing £119.



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.



Tuesday 12th December, 6.00pm at St Andrew's Church, West Dean—Save the date
More details to follow next week.

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

Monday 4th December	7pm—9pm, PTA Wreath Making Evening
Tuesday 5th December	2.00—2.45, Mrs Anstee, Miss Evans and Choir to Marriott House for Carols
Wednesday 6th December	9am & 2pm, KS1 Christmas Production—The Landlord's Cat
Wednesday 6th December	1.00-3.30, SSP Sportshall Athletics at Bishop Luffa—Chestnut Class
Thursday 7th December	9.45, Bishop Luffa Worship
Thursday 7th December	Christian Youth Enterprises (CYE) 'Panto'
Thursday 7th December	3.30, PTA Christmas Carols and Cake Sale (details to follow)
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