



West Dean Church of England Primary School
West Dean, Chichester, West Sussex, PO18 0RJ
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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 18 26.01.24 **96.1% whole school attendance** rate this week.

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

SSP Cross Country Races



Very well done to our Chestnut Class cross country runners who took part in the local area races at Bishop Luffa School on Wednesday afternoon. Despite the glorious sunshine, it was a long and tough race and we are really proud of the perseverance and team spirit that everyone showed. Particular congratulations to Humphrey, who, with a 15th place finish, has qualified to represent West Sussex West Area at the county championship race in April.

Lego Club successfully completed their bridge building challenge this week. Well done, brilliant team work under the guidance of Mrs Pearmaine.



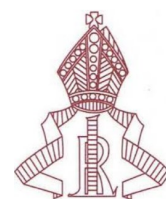
Hot Meals—Tuesday 20th February

The holiday return menu of jacket potato with suitable topping has now been loaded onto Parent Pay for the 20th February. If you have already placed your order for this day, you will need to reorder the jacket potato option if you wish your child to receive a meal for that day.



Academy Update

You will already be aware that our school governors have been actively considering and researching options for West Dean School to join an academy trust. This week, the governors have voted in favour of moving forward with the process of joining The Bishop Luffa Learning Partnership.



These are the very early days in what will be a fairly lengthy process—please be assured that there will be plenty of opportunity to ask questions and find out more detail in due course.

We very much see this as an exciting step in the life of our school.

Welcome Mrs Pierron I am now able to share the news that Mrs Kim Pierron is joining our teaching team in Beech Class later this term. Mrs Pierron is an experienced teacher who currently works at senior leadership level in a school in Berkshire. She has relocated to the Chichester area with her family and is very excited to join West Dean Primary.



Apple Class Engineers

The children in Apple Class have had a very busy and industrious week getting to grips with all kinds of tools and materials in their engineers workshop. We are really impressed with their incredible creations and by how carefully they have used the saws, hammers and glue. They are definitely the problem solvers of the future!

Beech Class flex their muscles

You might have thought you were walking into a gym on entering Beech Class today. As part of their science learning, the children have been finding out how muscles contract and relax to control the movement of various parts of our bodies. Using carefully cut paper, they made a very effective model demonstration of this muscle movement in action.



Young Voices 2024

Please keep Chestnut Class in your thoughts and prayers as they head off on their Young Voices 2024 adventure to the O2 Arena on Monday.



The children will be joining children from a huge number of other primary schools to form a choir of around 7000 people.

It is sure to be an incredible experience for all involved, but it is a long day and a late night return home, so spare a thought for them, both on Monday and when they are getting out of bed to come to school on Tuesday!

Worship for Hope

Our worship this week has been on the theme of Hope. The children have considered how hope is not just something we do, but also something we try to have, particularly in times of difficulty, challenge or sadness. The children have reflected on how this affects their own lives and those in difficulty elsewhere in the world, such as the little boy in this photo, taken in Gaza.



Diary Dates 2023/24



2023/24 INSET Days

Tuesday 2nd January 2024

Monday 19th February 2024

Monday 22nd & Tuesday 23rd July 2024

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

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

Monday 29th January	Young Voices at O2, Chestnut Class
Tuesday 30th January	GAS Drama Workshop at Singleton (selected 3/4 children)
Wednesday 31st January	8.45, Westgate Swimming for Beech and Chestnut
Wednesday 31st January	1.30—3.30 SP High 5 Netball at Bishop Luffa (selected children)
Thursday 1st February	Maple Class visit to Marwell
Monday 5th February	Whole School Wellbeing Walk—West Dean Arboretum
Tuesday 6th February	Hugo Van Driel Assembly
Wednesday 7th February	8.45, Westgate Swimming for Beech and Chestnut
Wednesday 7th February	1.30-3.30, AAP Tag Rugby at Bishop Luffa, Year 3/4 (details to follow)
Friday 9th February	Foodbank Friday
Wednesday 21st February	8.45, Westgate Swimming for Beech and Chestnut
Thursday 22nd February	1.00-3.00, SSP Future Flyers at Westgate (Selected Yr 5/6)
Wednesday 28th February	8.45, Westgate Swimming for Beech and Chestnut
Wednesday 28th February	1.00-3.30, SSP Bronze Ambassadors at Westgate (Selected Yr 5&6)
Thursday 29th February	2.00-4.30, Beech and Chestnut visit to Chichester Festival Theatre
Tuesday 5th March	Hugo Van Driel Worship
Wednesday 6th March	8.45, Westgate Swimming for Beech and Chestnut
Thursday 7th March	World Book Day (Dress Up—details to follow)
Wednesday 13th March	8.45, Westgate Swimming for Beech and Chestnut (Last Session)
Friday 15th March	Comic Relief—Red Nose Day
Wednesday 20th March	Apple Class visit to Tuppeny Barn (details to follow)
Wednesday 20th March	SSP Swim Gala at Arun Leisure Centre (details to follow)
Friday 22nd March	8.45, Palm Procession to West Dean Church for Service
Thursday 28th March	Chestnut Class Maths in Action at Fontwell Racecourse (details to follow)



- Yr R** *Leo* - for your safe use of the tools when sawing and hammering as an engineer! Super!
- Yr 1** *Eadie* - for your fantastic listening and independent learning in English. You are focused and always give your best!
- Yr 2** *Ettie* - for your perseverance during our 3D shape lessons. You worked hard to learn what faces, edges and vertices were. Well done!
- Yr 3** *Finlay* - for your fantastic attitude to learning. You are giving everything a go and showing super resilience.
- Yr 4** *Martha* - for always being ready to learn. You set a shining example to the rest of the class!
- Yr 5** *Poppy* - for great collaborative work during our geography when you worked hard to compare Kyiv and London
- Yr 6** *Harry* - for stepping up and taking charge of your learning and attitude, a super positive week. Well done!

