



West Dean CE Primary School

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 6 09.10.26

Our whole school attendance this week has remained at **96.8%**.

Don't forget to check out Rev Sarah's Rector's Rambling this week, which can be viewed by [CLICKING HERE.](#)

It has been another week of amazing effort from all four houses. Scoring just five points more than second placed Buzzard, this week's winning house is Kestrel with 252 points.



Election Day Success

The polling station opened at 9.00am on Thursday morning for our eagerly anticipated Pupil Parliament election.

The children came in class by class to cast their votes in authentic voting booths under the watchful eye of a team of Chestnut election clerks. The votes were counted, double checked and ratified, which needed really careful concentration as it was a very close result indeed. In one class, the elected MPP won by a margin of just one vote!

Well done to our elected MPPs; Finlay, Hettie, Ned, Indigo, Florence and Mia. Commiserations to those who lost out this time - that is politics I am afraid. I hope, like us, you are all proud of the fact that you had a go, rather than too disappointed. Watch this space for news of Parliaments first meeting.



West Dean Bonfire and Firework Night



The annual West Dean College Bonfire and Fireworks Night will take place on **Friday 6 November, from 6:00pm**, with the fireworks display beginning at **7:15 pm**. If you would like to attend, West Dean Primary will receive a reduced price of £4 until the 5th October for school families using the [link](#) and code **BONSCH**. Children under 16 attend free of charge but please purchase a ticket. Additional tickets can be purchased for **£6 each** via the West Dean website from the 5th October.

Bookfest visiting authors

We were lucky enough to secure visits from two children's authors this week, as part of Bookfest 2026. Apple and Maple Class were entertained by Gareth P Jones with the book 'Chicken Vs Egg' and Beech and Chestnut enjoyed an interesting afternoon with Kieran Larwood with the book 'Jed Greenleaf'. In addition to an exciting author visit each child received a copy of the book. These fun, interactive sessions were made all the better by sharing it with our friends from KS1 and KS2 at Lavant Primary School, who travelled up the valley to join us. In the past we have been able to fund this through school but this year, as finances are so squeezed, we would like to request a donation from parents towards the cost of this. **A payment will be set up on Arbor to enable parents to make a suggested contribution of £4.20 per child.**



CHILDREN'S
BOOKFEST



Important - Parent consultation meeting bookings

Our autumn term parent consultation meetings (Parents' Evening) will take place on Tuesday 20th and Wednesday 21st October. Most appointments are for in-person meetings with your child's class teacher in school. There are also a small number of video-call appointments towards the end of the second evening on Wednesday 21st. If your child is on our current SEND register, you will also have the option to meet with Mrs Bowman on Tuesday 20th.

Bookings go live on Arbor on **Monday 12th October at 9.00am** - under **Guardian Consultations**



Friends Meeting

Wednesday 23rd September, 2.30pm

West Dean Christmas Market. This proved to be an extremely valuable fundraising event for our school last year, but to run a stall over two full days again this year, we will need significant help from parents and families. **There is a sign up sheet available in the office, please do let us know if you are able to help either on Friday 27th or Saturday 28th November. We need lots of volunteers to sign up to man the stall and also helping to set up and take down.**

Please see the Christmas Wreath banner on this page for details of this year's **Friends wreath making event on Monday 30th November.** Please do sign up for this now if you are interested. There are 25 spaces available, to us at the moment, but it will be advertised to our wider community and on social media.

Apologies, we were having some technical issues with the previous QR codes but this is now resolved and the codes on the right are working. Alternatively, you can book via the following links: <https://pay.sumup.com/b2c/QUUY8UXV> (11.00am)

<https://pay.sumup.com/b2c/QFYWNW9W> (7.00pm)

You can also ring or email the school office: 01243 811247 office@westdean.w-sussex.sch.uk.

Booking is also available on Arbor as a school shop item.

Friends Film Night - Wednesday 4th November

Friends Christmas Disco - Thursday 17th December

A festive banner for Christmas Wreath Making Workshops. It features a large gold star in the center with the text 'CHRISTMAS Wreath Making Workshops MONDAY 30TH NOVEMBER 11am & 7pm'. The background is decorated with greenery, pinecones, and red berries. Text at the top lists activities: 'Create a beautiful Wreath to take home', 'Enjoy Festive drinks', 'Mince pies and Biscuits', and 'A wonderful Christmas atmosphere'. A price tag of '£45 per person' is shown. Booking information states 'Booking open on Arbor to our West Dean Families'. At the bottom, it says 'Brought to you by West Dean School PTA & Friends'. Two QR codes are provided for booking, labeled '11am Session' and '7pm Session'. The locations 'FARBRIDGE BINDERTON CHICHESTER PO18 0JT' are listed between the QR codes.

Create a beautiful Wreath to take home

Enjoy Festive drinks

Mince pies and Biscuits

A wonderful Christmas atmosphere

£45 per person

Booking open on Arbor to our West Dean Families

CHRISTMAS
Wreath Making Workshops
MONDAY 30TH NOVEMBER
11am & 7pm

Brought to you by
West Dean School PTA & Friends

Book here

Book here

FARBRIDGE
BINDERTON
CHICHESTER
PO18 0JT

11am Session

7pm Session



*West Dean CE Primary School
Acorn Awards
Friday 9th October 2026*



- Year R Arthur - for being a brilliant learner this week. Always focussed and trying your best in everything you do. Well done Arthur.*
- Year 1 Sam - for a brilliant week, showing focus and determination with all your learning. In particular, your lovely art work which is now displayed in the classroom.*
- Year 2 Darcey - for your quiet kindness to your class mates. We spotted you helping others without being asked. What a role model!*
- Year 3 Leo - for showing peace in Beech class this week and always. You are always showing us that you are ready to learn and listen. Well done Leo!*
- Year 4 Ava - for always showing joy in Beech class. You are kind and helpful and always trying your best. You are wonderful!*
- Year 5 Paddy - for your impressive attitude to learning; your focus, hard work and willingness to improve has made us smile. Well done.*
- Year 6 Florence - for being the kindest person we know! You continue to be polite, caring and a true role model. Don't ever stop!*





Let's Talk About Our Kids & Their Tech

This session, Let's Talk About Our Kids & Their Tech, offers parents and carers clear, research-backed insights and practical strategies for managing children's mental health and tech use. It covers the impact of smartphones and social media, helping families set healthy boundaries and make informed choices. The session is non-judgmental, open for honest discussion, and for adults only.

This is on the same evening as our Parent consultation meetings, but slightly later and online, so you will still be able to attend if you wish

**ONLINE workshop on
Wednesday 21st October at 7.30pm**

Link to be circulated closer to the time!

Papaya have already been to Fishbourne to lead both a children's and parent workshop – this workshop is appropriate for parents of children of all ages.

"The talk is so relevant, full of insight and eye-opening. You will walk away inspired to connect, reflect, and find out more. I highly recommend it."

Claire Curtis, parent and SFC volunteer.



Clerk to Governors of West Dean CE Primary School

The Governing Body of our welcoming and inclusive Church of England Primary School is seeking to appoint a highly organised and professional Clerk to Governors to support the effective governance of our school.

This is a key role, providing administrative and procedural support to the Governing Body, ensuring meetings are well organised and governance is carried out in line with statutory and regulatory requirements.

We are a caring and nurturing CE primary school with a strong Christian ethos, committed to enabling every child to flourish academically, socially and spiritually. Our Governors work strategically to support and challenge school leaders, ensuring the very best outcomes for our pupils.

The role:

- The Clerk will prepare and distribute agendas in consultation with the Chair of Governors and Headteacher.
- Attend Governing Body and committee meetings (typically evenings)
- Take accurate minutes and maintain official records
- Provide procedural advice in line with current legislations and guidance
- Manage governor membership records, terms of office and statutory information
- Ensure compliance with relevant governance regulations and policies.

The ideal candidate will have:

- Excellent organisational and administrative skills
- Strong written communication and minute-taking ability
- Knowledge of school governance (desirable, not essential as training can be given)
- Discretion and confidentiality
- Good IT skills
- The ability to work independently and meet deadlines
- Experience of working in an educational setting would be an advantage but not essential for the right candidate.

We offer:

- A supportive and collaborative governing body
- Training and on going professional development
- Flexible working arrangements
- The opportunity to contribute to the life of the school

This role would require circa 2 hours per week, with some flexibility to be agreed with candidate, term time only, to include some evening meetings. Salary: GO3, Point 4 - £25,185 pro-rata (£13.05 per hour)

Our school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. An enhanced DBS check will be required.

To apply:

Please request an application form from the school please contact office@westdean.w-sussex.sch.uk

Closing Date: 31st October 2026

Interviews: Wednesday 4th November 2026



Be a chorister for the day!

Saturday 7 November 2026 | 1.30-4.30pm | Chichester Cathedral

Spend an afternoon finding out what it is like to be a cathedral chorister. Join us for a singing workshop, open-forum Q&A, a short service and tea.

We welcome children who enjoy music and are curious about the choir, as well as those who might want to explore the opportunity to join our choir school and become a chorister.

Who is this event for?

The open day is suitable for boys and girls in years 2, 3, and 4, accompanied by a parent or guardian. No musical experience is expected: we welcome children who are enthusiastic about singing and music.

Booking

To book a space or ask any questions about the event, please contact Chris George:

E: Chris.George@chichestercathedral.org.uk T: 01243 812488

For more information about the chorister life please contact Charles Harrison:

E: organist@chichestercathedral.org.uk T: 01243 812486

Dear parents and carers,

Rumboldswyke CE Primary School, part of the Bishop Luffa Learning Partnership, are currently seeking to employ an Inclusion Teaching Assistant (Maternity Cover) to join our friendly, dedicated and motivated team.



Rumboldswyke
Church of England Primary School

Please ring for further information. We strongly encourage candidates to visit the school prior to submitting an application.

If you or anyone you know may be interested in these roles, please click on the following link to visit our website for further information and to download a copy of the job descriptions and application form.

[Vacancies - Bishop Luffa Learning Partnership](#)

All application forms should be returned by midday Thursday 15th October 2026 to Hannah Light, Business Manager, at bursar@rumboldswyke.org.uk or to our postal address:

Rumboldswyke CE Primary School

Rumbolds Close

Chichester

West Sussex

PO19 7UA

If you would like any further information, please contact the school office on 01243 782368 or email bursar@rumboldswyke.org.uk.

Hannah Light
Business Manager



Main Scale Teacher
Permanent Full Time Class Teacher

Start Date: January 2027



*'There is only one you in this great big world...
...make it a better place.'*

We have an exciting opportunity for a teacher to join our fun, creative and innovative learning community. At Fishbourne Church of England Primary School every member of the school family is valued for the unique gifts and talents they bring to the school and championed to be the best they can be. We strive to make learning irresistible and for children to be nurtured to become determined, courageous, positive, collaborative and reflective learners.

We are looking for someone who is:

- *Passionate about **every** child's learning and progress
- *Positive about growing as a teacher and a learner
- *Able to work closely within a strong, collaborative team

In return, we can offer you:

- *A skilled, enthusiastic and dedicated staff team
- *A positive and supportive school family – children, parents, staff and governors
- *A fun, creative and innovative learning community

We are committed to safeguarding and all applicants must be willing to undergo screening including checks with past employers and the Disclosure Barring Service.

We would warmly welcome you to visit the school prior to application to meet a member of the leadership team and see our school in action. Our website has a wealth of information about our vision, values and pedagogical approach - please do explore it!

Closing date: Wednesday 14th October 2026

Interview date: Friday 23rd October 2026

'There's work and there's your life's work. The kind of work that has your finger prints all over it. The kind of work that you'd never compromise on. People don't come here to play it safe. They come here to swim in the deep end. They want their work to add up to something. Something big. Something that couldn't happen anywhere else.'

For full job description and application form please contact
Fishbourne CofE Primary School office on
office@fishbourneprimary.co.uk or 01243 785974.

INSET Days in 2026/27:

Autumn: Tuesday 1st September 2026 (school closure), Wednesday 2nd September

Spring: Monday 4th January 2027, Friday 5th February 2027 (NB: not aligned with the half term break)

Monday 22nd February 2027 (aligned with half term break)

Summer: Wednesday 21st July 2027



Autumn Term 2026: Thursday 3rd September - Friday 18th December 2026

Half Term: Monday 26th October - Friday 30th October 2026

Monday 12th October	Flu Vaccination Sessions in school for all children (Closing date for consent 08.10.26)
Thursday 15th October	Bishop Luffa Worship in School
Thursday 15th October	3.00-4.00, Matt Horstead's Football Club, Dance Club with Ellie Holder Lunchtime Choir
Friday 16th October	Foodbank Friday (please bring in donations for Chichester Foodbank)
Monday 19th October	Open the Book, whole school assembly
Tuesday 20th October	Perform Drama Workshop, Apple and Maple in school
Tuesday 20th October	3.00 - 5.30, Parent Consultation Evening - whole school
Wednesday 21st October	3.00 - 6.00, Parent Consultation Evening - whole school
Thursday 22nd October	Chestnut Class visit to The Royal Courts of Justice in London
Thursday 22nd October	3.00-4.00, Matt Horstead's Football Club, Dance Club with Ellie Holder Lunchtime Choir
Friday 23rd October	3.00 - 3.30, Maple Class 'Friends' Bake Sale (please bring in your nut free donations)

Monday 26th - Friday 30th October - Half Term



Tuesday 3rd November	Hugo Van Driel - whole school assembly
Wednesday 4th November	3.00 - 5.00, Friends Film Night - Details tbc
Thursday 5th November	3.00 - 4.00, Matt Horstead's Football Club (Team selection only) Lunchtime Choir
Thursday 5th November	'Raise your Voice' - Beech Class Music Project, details to follow
Thursday 5th November	Bishop Luffa Worship in School
Friday 6th November	West Dean Bonfire (6.00) and Fireworks (7.15)
Monday 9th November	Open the Book, whole school assembly
Tuesday 10th November	Chestnut Class visit to Bishop Luffa for TED Talks
Wednesday 11th November	Remembrance Assembly in school
Thursday 12th November	Yellow School Photographs (Individual and Sibling)
Thursday 12th November	3.00 - 4.00, Matt Horstead's Football Club (Match at Bosham, details to follow)
Thursday 19th November	1.00-3.30, Football Tournament at Chichester University, Year 5 (details to follow)
Friday 20th November	Children in Need (details to follow) - Whole School Wellbeing Walk to West Dean Gardens
Friday 27th November	NHS Year 6 Healthy Child Programme
Friday 27th/Saturday 28th Nov	West Dean Christmas Market (Friends stall and choir) Details to follow
Monday 30th November	'Friends' Wreath Making event at Farbridge, 11.00am and 7.00pm. (See poster for details)
Monday 30th November	Open the Book Assembly in School
Thursday 3rd December	Christingle Making in School
Thursday 3rd December	Bishop Luffa Worship in School
Thursday 3rd December	5.30, Full Governing Body Meeting
Friday 4th December	Christingle Service in School
Tuesday 8th December	Chestnut Class visit to Bishop Luffa for TED Talks
Monday 14th December	Visit to West Dean College
Tuesday 15th December	6.00, Whole School Carol Service in West Dean Church
Wednesday 16th December	2.00, Beech Class visit to Chichester Festival Theatre for Peter Pan
Thursday 17th December	Christmas Jumper Day and Caterlink Christmas Lunch
Thursday 17th December	5.00-7.00, 'Friends' Christmas Disco