



# 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

Dear Beech class parents,

We do hope you have all had a very happy Easter, managed to dodge the showers and enjoyed the sporadic periods of sunshine we had! We are really excited about the term ahead. The summer term is always such an exciting term for the children at West Dean with trips, showcases, sports day and swimming in our fabulous pool to look forward to!

## Our Learning

Our learning for the first half of term is linked to trees and owls and will have both a geography and history focus. We will look at how Chichester and the surrounding area, including the harbour, has changed over the years since the Romans arrived in the city in AD 43. We will explore how the changing environment poses danger and threat to looking after the natural world. An exciting Class Trip is planned to Chichester Harbour in May to focus on fieldwork skills and spend time exploring the harbour habitat. More details to follow. We will be using the book 'This is the seed that grew the tree' for our guided reading sessions throughout the term. This is a beautiful anthology of poems for each day of the year. As part of our Guided Reading we will be using dictionaries to understand new words and recognising figurative language in poetry. Our exciting science learning will start with plants before moving on to classification and food chains. In French, we will be learning how to read, write and say the names of animals along with using the correct determiners. We have a fantastic unit of work in art called "Landscape gone dotty" where we will be inspired by the work of Monet, Seurat and Kusama to create our own artwork.

The second half of term will see us turning our learning toward The Olympics. This will include scientific learning about animals including humans and allow us the opportunity to explore the Olympic values. We will learn about some of the athletes heading to the Olympics in Paris and also spend some time learning more about Paris and France. Excitingly, there will be a showcase of the children's learning over the term at West Dean College in July.

## How you can help at home



- ideally, this will happen at least 3 times and should be recorded at the back of your child's **purple journals**. Children will receive DOJO points for reads completed at home.



-practise the list of spellings that will be written at the front of the purple journals. There will be 5 spelling groups and each group will be 'tested' and receive new spellings on different days – this will be written on the inside cover of the **purple journals**.



– every child has a TT Rockstars login and password (written on the inside cover of their **purple journals**) this then gives them access and ability to practise their times tables. We will also be giving the children a weekly times table test to help with their rapid recall of these facts. Many children have got targets related to TTRS and we will be keeping an

eye on who is improving their knowledge as the term progresses.

## KIT and equipment

- PE kit is expected to be in school EVERYDAY! PE lessons will be on MONDAYS and FRIDAYS.
- Wellies are needed as well as tracksuit top and bottoms if your child wishes to play football at playtimes.
- **Purple journal for Spellings, Reading, logins and passwords – in school EVERYDAY!**
- Water bottles are essential and can be refilled from the tap in the classroom.
- As the weather warms up, please can children ensure they have a sun hat in school and come into school with sun cream on.

## Anything else...

Mrs Perrion will teach Monday to Wednesday lunch time with Mrs Anstee taking over the reins for the rest of the week from Wednesday afternoon. Mrs Huxham will cover the class allowing Mrs Pierron and Mrs Anstee to plan together for a short time on a Wednesday afternoon. The children will be supported in class each day by Miss Evans and Miss Scott, who will be our Teaching Assistants all day every day! Mr Johnson will also teach PE on a Friday afternoon.

Assuming the weather plays ball, we shall be swimming as much as possible after half term.

If there is ever anything that you are not sure of, please do get in contact via the school office or grab one of us on the playground before/after school and we will be happy to help.

We are very excited to be running a Year 4 Big Camp this year. This is a brilliant opportunity for the children to camp out on the school field with their friends, take part in forest school activities and cook and sing around the campfire. We will be sending out details of this event soon.

We are all looking forward to another great term together in Beech Class.

Best wishes,

Mrs Pierron, Mrs Anstee, Miss Scott and Miss Evans