



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 28.11.25 Our overall attendance has slightly dropped to **96.9%** this week.

Don't forget, Rev Sarah's 'Rector's Rambling' available by [CLICKING HERE](#) Always an interesting and inspiring read.



It is fair to say it is quite a light news week, but there is a definite feeling of excitement and Christmas busyness just around the corner, starting with our participation in the West Dean (College) Christmas Market tomorrow. Thank you to The Friends for their organisation of this and to you for your generous donations.

Although still in November, this Sunday is the first in Advent. The children were excited to see our advent wreath displayed in worship this morning, and we will light the first of its candles on Monday. I look forward to hearing and seeing our choir sing at the market tomorrow, I'm sure it will be a lovely event to get us in the Christmas mood, ready for the next three weeks of term. With best wishes, Chris Williams



Beech Class Egyptian Day and Exhibition

Beech Class have been working tirelessly to put together their 'Illuminating the past' Exhibition. After an action packed 'Egyptian Day', the children, each in beautiful costumes, were thrilled to welcome families to visit the exhibition on Wednesday afternoon. This event showcased the wide range of Ancient Egyptian related learning that the children have covered this term and gave them the opportunity to personally engage with parents, in the role of museum guides. Everybody loved the honey cake and hummus!



Lovely News!

We have some wonderful staff news to share.

Mrs Pierron welcomed her healthy baby boy into the world on Wednesday this week. We send our love and congratulations to her at this very special time. Baby, Mummy and family are all doing really well.

In other special news, Mrs Reynolds has asked me to share with our school community that she is expecting a baby, due in May. Huge congratulation to Mrs Reynolds; we are delighted for her and will begin to make arrangements for Maple Class teaching cover during her maternity leave, which is likely to begin at the end of the spring term.



Booking for Activ8

If you need a space in Activ8 for your child/ren, please make sure that you book in advance.

Booking is open on-line until 12 noon on the day, we cannot guarantee places requested beyond this as staffing needs to be arranged in advance, so that appropriate and safe ratios are in place. Thank you for your understanding. If you need to cancel a booking on the day please email Jenny Munday:

westdeanmanager@activ8forkids.co.uk



in partnership with
westsussexwest
School Sport Partnership

west sussex county council

ARENA
SPORTS CENTRE

Christmas holiday camps

Sessions run by experienced & qualified teachers, coaches & School Games Organisers. Activities include:

Football, Tag rugby, Golf, Athletics, Striking & Fielding, Arts & Crafts and much more!

Please note activities may vary daily

Bookings open **Monday 10th November** (limited places available)

Arena Sports Centre 09:00-15:00

School years 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 (Academic year 24-25)

Dates **Monday 22nd, Tuesday 23rd, Wednesday 24th December & Monday 5th January**

(individual day bookings available)

£19.75 or £74 for all 4 days! - Includes a hot meal!

All children accessing benefits related free school meals can access for free via HAF, check with West Sussex County Council for more information.

HAF places please book via the WSCC website:

www.westsussex.gov.uk/haf

Booking deadline for all dates above:
Friday 12th December

Please contact us for booking:
Tel 01243 870000 **www.arenasportscentre.com**

Email **bookings@arenasportscentre.com**

Westloats Lane, Bognor Regis, West Sussex PO21 5JD





Christmas Lunch

Serving on Wednesday 17th December

MAINS
Roast Turkey
Or
Quorn Roast

SIDES
Roast Potatoes, Stuffing,
Mini Sausage, Gravy,
Broccoli & Carrots

DESSERTS
Festive Chocolate Brownie

Order on ParentPay.com no later than
Thursday 4th December.
Book in advance to avoid disappointment

 www.ParentPay.com

Chartwells
<https://www.chartwells.co.uk/west-sussex/>

Early Help Service

SEND Event

Chichester Family Hub
St James Road, Chichester, PO19 7AB

Join us for lots of winter themed fun including sensory and messy play

Monday 22nd December
10.00 – 11.30am
1.30 – 3.00pm

Open to all families with a child with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) up to age 11, and their siblings

BOOKING ADVISABLE
PLEASE CALL 01243 642950
Chichesterfamilyhub@westsussex.gov.uk







News from West Dean 'Friends'

You will have received separate notifications with details of our Christmas Market event. Save the Date - Saturday 29th November, hope to see you there.

We already have bookings for our Wreath Making events and would like to ask for some help with foraging. Ideally, this will be over the weekend of 29th and 30th November, all foraged materials can be brought into school on Monday morning, 1st December, and left on the pavilion decking for our organisers to collect and sort, thank you. We need as much as possible, greenery, moss, cones, bay, conifer, anything evergreen etc, thank you.

Pre-loved Uniform: westdeanuniform@gmail.com. If you have any specific requirements from our pre-loved uniform, don't wait for the next sale, you can email us

to see if we have what you need!

Our **Christmas Jumper Day** will be on **Wednesday 17th December**. Children are invited to wear their Christmas jumpers in exchange for a £1 donation to school, available on Arbor.

Our **Christmas Disco** will be **Wednesday 17th December, 5.00-7.00pm**. There will be a staggered time, 5.00-6.30 for KS1 and 5.30-7.00pm for KS2. Bookings can be made on Arbor, the cost of £6.25 includes a drink and a snack during the evening.

Thank you to everyone for all that you do to help and support our 'Friends'.

Gifts Galore!

The children have worked hard and designed a range of bespoke bags and tea towels. These will be available at our Christmas Market but are also available to purchase from school., don't delay in getting your orders in as they are selling quickly. They are a shop item on Arbor, Tea Towels £5 each and bags £6.50. These will make wonderful gifts for friends and family and also a lovely keepsake of your child's time at West Dean.

Apple Class children have been enjoying their new light table and resources, purchased with money raised at our Harvest Bake Sale. A huge thank you for your support.





- Yr R** *Maria* - for being such a kind friend and helper to others in Apple Class.
- Yr 1** *Marley* - for your amazing determination in your writing. What super sentences this week!
- Yr 2** *Rory* - for your enthusiasm towards your learning. You have worked incredibly hard in phonics, maths and art! Well done!
- Yr 3** *Edith* - for the enthusiasm and joy you showed during Forest School this week.
- Yr 4** *Viva* - for taking your role as a guide at our exhibition so seriously. You were brilliant at engaging with our visitors.
- Yr 5** *Lucas* - well done for working hard at being a super Chestnut, being ready for learning and focused concentration.
- Yr 6** *Rufus* - for your engagement with our Victorian prison V workhouse discussion. You asked some very thought provoking questions and observations - a super historian!



2025/26 INSET Days

Wednesday 3rd September 2025

Friday 24th October 2025

Monday 5th January 2026

Monday 23rd February 2026

Wednesday 22nd July 2026



Autumn Term 2025

Wednesday 3rd September—Friday 19th December

Half Term - Monday 27th October - Friday 31st October 2025



Saturday 29th November	10.30-7.00, West Dean Christmas Market Event https://www.westdean.ac.uk/gardens/events/christmas-market Choir slots 10:45-11.00 and 11:45-12:00.
Saturday 29th November	'Friends' Foraging Weekend for Wreath Making Events
Sunday 30th November	Collections to school on Monday morning please
Monday 1st December	11.00am & 7.00pm 'Friends' Wreath Making at Farbridge
Tuesday 2nd December	Music Assembly, children invited to play (contact Janstee@westdean.w-sussex.sch.uk or office@)
Tuesday 2nd December	Closing Date for Yellow School Photos
Tuesday 2nd December	Chestnut Class SSP Sportshall Athletics Event
Wednesday 3rd December	2.15-2.45, Choir visit to Marriot House Care Home
Thursday 4th December	Cut-off for ordering Chartwells Christmas Lunch
Thursday 4th December	SSP Small School Football Event (selected Yr 5&6), Arena
Friday 5th December	8.45, Christingle Service in School
Monday 8th December	Chestnut 3 Peaks sponsored challenge
Tuesday 9th December	Hugo Van Driel Assembly in School
Wednesday 10th December	9.15 & 1.30, KS1 Nativity (details to follow shortly)
Thursday 11th December	3.00, Last Dance Club (parents invited to watch, 3.40-4.00)
Monday 15th December	9.30, CYE Assembly in school
Tuesday 16th December	Visit to West Dean College
Tuesday 16th December	6.00-7.00pm, Carol Service in Church
Wednesday 17th December	Christmas Jumper Day, £1 donation on Arbor
Wednesday 17th December	12.00, Chartwell's Christmas Lunch
Wednesday 17th December	5-7, Friends Christmas Disco (book on Arbor)
Wednesday 17th December	6pm, Rev Sarah Carol Singing, meet Singleton Village Green.
Thursday 18th December	Bishop Luffa Worship in school
Friday 19th December	Final Day of Autumn Term

