



# 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 6 10.10.25** Our overall attendance so far this year has dropped again this week to **97.1%** Let's get back to at least 98%

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

## Parent Consultation Evenings

Tuesday 21st, 3.00-5.30pm and Wednesday 22nd October, 3.00-6.00pm

We would like to invite you to our Parent Consultation Evenings which will be available to book on Arbor, from 4pm on Friday 10th October. This will be an opportunity for you to meet our teaching staff to discuss your child's settling in and progress this term.

If your child is on our SEND register, appointments with Mrs Bowman are also available to book (Tuesday only).

## Westbourne House Swim

Swimming training is well under way, this week we had a big focus on strong starts and powerful finishes! We are in need of some year 3s to join our team. If you can confidently swim 25m please talk to Mrs Johnson or Mrs Goacher to find out more - we would love you to come along and see what it's all about!



## Chartwell's Hot Meals.

Please could we ask that you do not order a hot meal from Chartwells if your child brings a packed lunch. Although they are UIFSM, (Universal Infant Free School Meals) for Year R, 1 & 2, school are charged for every meal ordered even if it is not taken. The amount of food that is being wasted is quite significant at the moment so we are keen to reduce this and costs to school. Thank you for your help.

## Super Sing-a-long Success

Beech Class are loving their new classroom carpet which they chose with the money they raised from their sponsored Sing-a-Long. Thank you to everyone who supported them.



**Friends Film Night, Weds 5th November, 3.00pm.**

**Apple & Maple**—Lilo & Stitch

**Beech & Chestnut** - How to Train Your Dragon (Live Action). Available to book on Arbor, £5 per child.

**Friends Wreath Making Evening,**

Monday 1st December at Farbridge, 11.0am and 7.00pm.

Poster attached with full details, available to book on Arbor as a shop product.





## A week of community

The theme of our collective worship and assemblies this week and next is 'community & diversity'. This was planned, in part, to coincide with Black History Month, but as it has turned out, has also aligned with a number of special events this week that have celebrated community and diversity on a number of levels.

On Tuesday, we opened our top field to over 850 student and teacher visitors from Bishop Luffa School, for rest and refreshment at the half way point of their charity 'Big walk' event. The students had been given the choice of walking to our partner school, Lavant Primary, or to really stretch themselves and make it all the way up the valley to West Dean. It was impressive to learn that well over half of them chose the latter, and lovely to welcome some familiar faces, older siblings of our children and ex-West Deanies, as well as some new friends who had not ever visited us before. Our field has never been so full of joyful noise and weary teenagers; it was a great event with a real sense of partnership community.



Two children from the Community Committee of our Pupil Parliament went to Chichester District Foodbank this week with Mr Williams, to donate all of our Harvest produce, and learn a little about how the food is distributed to those in need. Thank you again for all of your donations. Next Friday 17th October, is our first Foodbank Friday for this term and we would invite you to make a donation if you are able to.

On Wednesday (KS1) and Thursday (KS2), all of the children had the opportunity to work with other pupils in the Bishop Luffa Partnership again, this time travelling down the valley to Lavant Primary for author visits organised by Chichester Children's Bookfest. The Apple & Maple Class children were entertained and inspired by author and illustrator John Bond, who talked about his book 'How long is that dog?' and Beech & Chestnut children got to meet Catherine Wilkins and to hear about her book 'Café Chaos'.

## Ambassador's Reception



For those of you of a certain age who remember the advert, that headline may have you reaching for the Ferrero Rocher!

Joking aside, it was our great honour to welcome a very special guest to school today, representing our global community. Her Excellency, Josefa González Blanco Ortiz Mena, Ambassador of Mexico to the UK gave generously of her time to talk with members of our Pupil Parliament about the role of ambassador, have a tour around our school, and to hear more about our partnership project with Macovi School in Xilitla, Mexico.



The Ambassador was very impressed by the articulate conversation of our parliamentarians and by the unique and special nature of West Dean's connection with Mexico. We are delighted that Her excellency is keen to support our ongoing partnership work with Mexico and are very grateful to her for taking time in her busy schedule to visit us.

What a week; giving our children a real sense of belonging and of their place in both our local and international communities.

With best wishes, Chris Williams.



- Yr R** *Mila* - for your fantastic approach to learning in Apple Class.
- Yr 1** *Barnaby* - for asking fantastic questions to our visitors about being a paramedic.
- Yr 2** *Raffy* - for your love of learning and the joy you bring to the classroom. You have a fantastic attitude and are a joy to teach!
- Yr 3** *Alice* - for the enthusiasm you bring to Beech Class. Your excitement is contagious!
- Yr 4** *Harry* - for being our resident Ancient Egypt expert. We love hearing all about what you have discovered!
- Yr 5** *Florence* - for superb vocabulary choices in your Syms diary entry and working hard on all the different sentence structures. Well done!
- Yr 6** *Max* - even when you're not feeling 100% you always put in 100% and set an example to others. Thank you!





### 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

INSET - Friday 24th October 2025

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



Monday 13th October	Open Book Assembly in school
Thursday 16th October	Bishop Luffa Worship in school
Friday 17th October	Foodbank Friday
Friday 17th October	Year 6 'Headteacher for the Day'
Tuesday 21st October	3.00—5.30, Parent Consultation Evening
Wednesday 22nd October	8.30-9.00 'Friends' Meeting (Year Group Reps only please)
Wednesday 22nd October	3.00—6.00, Parent Consultation Evening
Thursday 23rd October	Last day of first half of Autumn Term
Friday 24th October	INSET—School Closed
Tuesday 4th November	Hugo Van Driel Assembly
Wednesday 5th November	3-5pm. 'Friends' Film Night, now available to book on Arbor
Thursday 6th November	Bishop Luffa Worship in school
Friday 7th November	West Dean Bonfire and Fireworks (details to follow shortly)
Monday 10th November	Open Book Assembly in school
Wednesday 12th November	Yellow School Photographs (Individuals and Siblings)
Thursday 20th November	Bishop Luffa Worship in School
Thursday 20th November	5.30, Full Governing Body Meeting
Friday 21st November	Children in Need
Monday 24th November	Flu Vaccinations in School
Monday 24th November	Open Book Assembly in school
Saturday 29th November	West Dean Christmas Market Event (details to follow)
Monday 1st December	11.00am & 7.00pm 'Friends' Wreath Making at Farbridge
Friday 5th December	8.45, Christingle Service in School
Tuesday 9th December	Hugo Van Driel Assembly in School
Wednesday 10th December	KS1 Nativity (details to follow shortly)





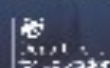
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