



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 1 06.09.24 Our overall attendance rate is 97.2% this week. Great start everyone!

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

Many of you will have met a rather special visitor who has been working in school this week. Wildlife and pond expert Pete 'The Pond' Birchell has been breathing new life into our school pond area, including installing a brand new liner to solve what has been a very persistent leak! The children were very interested in all that Pete was doing, but it has to be said, were completely captivated by his pet parrot, Mango, who sits on Pete's shoulder all day whilst he works.

We can't wait to see our rejuvenated pond area springing into new life and being used to enhance the children's learning. We are very lucky and grateful to be receiving a substantial grant from the South Downs National Park Authority to fund this work.



Jack Holt found our school scarecrow, 'King Bob' on display at the Weald and Downland Living Museum during the summer holidays. We'd love to see your photos if anyone else paid him a visit!

After School Clubs and Wraparound Care.

Information about our range of after school clubs and wraparound care for this term has been sent out with our club timetable. We are very fortunate to be able to offer such a wide range of extra curricular provision but we are unable to guarantee the same offer and can change between terms. Please do make sure that you book a place for your child for the provision that you would like. Our payment platform will not allow you to book on the actual day, bookings need to be made at least 24 hours in advance please.

We are sorry!

Despite our very best efforts during the holidays, we were unable to staff Care Bears on every day of the week this half term. We want to support all of our families and are looking into potential solutions, including the possible use of an external provider. Mr Williams will write to families soon to explain the potential options and solutions. We acknowledge that unfortunately we gave very short notice of the unavailability of Care Bears on some days this week, which we know caused some problems for some families. We are sorry about that—it was not our intention and we hope to have a sustainable solution soon.



2024/25 INSET Days



Monday 2nd September 2024

Monday 6th January 2025

Monday 21st and Tuesday 22nd July 2025

The final INSET day is still TBC, pending training availability.

Autumn Term 2024 - Monday 2nd September (INSET) - Friday 20th December 2024

Half Term - Monday 28th October—Friday 1st November 2024

Spring Term 2025 - Monday 6th January (INSET) - Friday 4th April

Half Term - Monday 17th February - Friday 21st February

Summer Term 2025 - Tuesday 22nd April - Friday 18th July

Half Term - Monday 26th May (Bank Holiday) - Friday 30th May

Monday 9th September	First Day for our new Reception children (staggered start times) 8.30, Tea and Tissues with PTA for new parents.
Tuesday 17th September	One Term2Learn Music starts for Beech and Chestnut
Tuesday 24th September	Hugo Van Driel Worship
Thursday 26th September	5.30, Full Governing Body Meeting
Friday 27th September	Food Bank Friday
Wednesday 9th October	Bookfest Author Visit for Beech and Chestnut
Thursday 17th October	Chestnut Class visit to London (Details to follow)
Thursday 31st October	Deadline for Year 6 secondary applications
Tuesday 5th November	Hugo Van Driel Worship
Friday 15th November	Children in Need
Tuesday 19th November	Flu Vaccination Programme
Friday 29th November	Food Bank Friday
Tuesday 10th December	Hugo Van Driel Worship

Meet The Makers Day at Makers Barn, Petworth. Saturday 7th September, 9.00am-8.00pm

If you're free this Saturday and you're looking for something to do for the whole family come along to Makers Barn in Petworth! There will be over 20 craftspeople demonstrating their skills and you can even have a go at wood turning, willow weaving, throwing pots on a potters wheel, making copper jewellery, smelting, knitting and more... So come along and get involved!

We will serve delicious food from midday cooked by executive chef from Farbridge (and Dad of Mila and Nella!) Simon Dixon.

Live music from 5-7pm from the Superstrings Trio so feel free to bring a bottle and a blanket!

This is a free event so no tickets required. There will be a small charge for some of the crafts to cover the costs of materials etc but also some free activities.

It's going to be a wonderful day so I hope to see lots of you there

Rosie (Ava's Mum) xxx

Makers Barn
Horsham Road
Petworth
GU28 0HB

(When you get close just look for the big green road sign as the postcode isn't 100%!)
What3words ///munch.prancing.fewer



- Yr 1** *Margot* - for your brilliant curiosity and love for learning! Keep up the enthusiasm .
- Yr 2** *Freddie* - for the amazing kindness you have shown to everyone this week. You've helped your friends and the grown ups without being asked. What a superstar!
- Yr 3** *Holly* - for your kindness and politeness to everyone. You look out for your class mates and are a friend to everyone.
- Yr 4** *Frank* - for a brilliant start to the year. You have worked well with others, sharing your own ideas but taking others into account too!
- Yr 5** *Khloe* - for being calm, kind and supportive to everyone. You are a super friend and a wonderful West Deanie!
- Yr 6** *Blaise* - for being a super Year 6 role model, showing good manners throughout the school and demonstrating our high expectations.

