



West Green Primary School Newsletter

May 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

This may have only been a 5 week term, but we have managed to pack a lot in. It has whizzed by, and to think that we only have half a term left before the Summer holidays begin! This year seems to have gone very quickly.

This term some of the things we have done include rearing some ducklings, hosting another Come & Share Our Learning session, helping Year 6 through SATs week by putting on a SATs top up breakfast every morning of the exams, and seeing Reception and Year 2 off on their class trips.

We hope you all have a lovely half term break and we look forward to seeing all students again on Monday, 2nd June 2025, ready for the last part of the Summer term.

West Green Team

OUTSTANDING EFFORT

Year 4 have been learning about ancient Egypt this term and have produced some amazing work. Here are a few examples...



Year 5 have been busy sewing...



Also, our Reception class have had great fun making models of The Gruffalo!



RECEPTION TRIP TO WASHBROOKS FARM

Reception class visited Washbrooks Farm this term. This is what their teacher had to say...

"Despite the rain, Reception had a fantastic time on their trip to Washbrooks Farm. We started our day by looking at lots of different farm animals, including lambs, calves, chicks, kids and a peacock showing off his feathers - which we were very excited to see! We were able to stroke a rabbit, guinea pigs, goats, tortoises and a horse! After learning lots of new facts about these lovely animals we went bobbing up and down on a tractor, where we were able to see more animals around the farm. We finished off our day by building on our physical skills through riding the small tractors and bikes, climbing a pirate ship, jumping on the trampolines and whizzing down a hill and the slides! We are so proud of our Reception children, who were amazing role models for our school."



YEAR 2 TRIP TO DRUSILLAS PARK

Year 2 visited Drusillas Park this term. This is what their teacher had to say...

"On Tuesday 20th May, Year 2 visited Drusillas Park for their class trip. The children were bubbling with excitement and had a fantastic time. They got to see some brilliant animals including the Humboldt penguins being fed! In the afternoon the children enjoyed the play area with a large variety of climbing equipment, and just before coming home they were lucky to have a session with one of the keepers to teach them all about minibeasts. They even got to stroke some real minibeasts! Overall it was an exciting day with lots of fun, and fantastic weather!"

Ms Shaw - Year 2 Teacher



YEAR 6 SATS WEEK

Year 6 took their SATs tests this term, and the effort every Year 6 pupil made did not go unnoticed. Not only did they handle the tests well, their whole approach was admirable, but the support they gave to one another is not something that can always be taught.

They were treated to a SATs top up breakfast every morning before they sat the tests, and we only wish we had shares in a bread company because the amount of toast that Year 6 can get through should surely be a Guinness World Record. Well done Year 6, the hardest part is behind you! Now that the SATs are out of the way Year 6 can concentrate on working on their end of year performance, which we are all looking forward to.



BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

A few of our students had the opportunity to attend a basketball event at K2 this term. They were very attentive and enjoyed the experience. Here is what our PE lead had to say...

"The children in Years 3 and 4 represented West Green so well at the Basketball Festival at K2. Our children demonstrated kindness and great sportsmanship, especially when a little girl from another school did not have a partner and so joined our team. The children said they really enjoyed learning new skills like running at speed and stopping, as well as tricking their opposition when dribbling the ball. Some future basketballers in the making! Well done all."

Miss C Jeffery - PE Lead



YEAR 2 CLASS ASSEMBLY

"Year 2 presented their class assembly and what a fantastic job they did! They shared all sorts of learning including some children reading about their brilliant English work from various books they have used. They also shared some of their artwork, showing off their new learned skills for sketching. To finish off, the children sung two folk songs they have learnt in music, and they sung proud and clear. Well done year 2!"

Ms Shaw - Year 2 Teacher



RECEPTION DUCKLINGS

The children in Reception class have once again done a marvellous job this term in overseeing the hatching of, and then caring for some ducklings. They even helped teach them how to swim. They were so responsible and we are very proud of how well they behaved around the ducklings so that they did not frighten them. Well done to all of the Reception class.

We are very careful to ensure that we source our duckling hatching kit from an ethical source. For more information visit the Incredible Eggs website at www.incredibleeggs.co.uk

We went from this...

...to this...



...and look at us now! Thank you for looking after us Reception class.



GREEN FINGERS

Some of our Year 2 children enjoyed a bit of gardening this term. They planted some sunflowers at the front of the school. With our new hanging baskets, and all the new paintwork spruced up by Mr Lang, our school is looking lovely. We hope to have some beautiful tall flowers by the end of the Summer term. Well done Year 2 for your hard work.



COME & SHARE OUR LEARNING

We hosted another *Come and Share Our Learning* morning. The children are always keen to show their parents what they have been learning in school, and we have found that it is a great way for parents and carers to be able to pick up some tips on how to help their children continue with their learning at home. We had approximately 125 parents and carers join us in school, and it was lovely to see so many parents supporting their child's learning. Thank you to everyone who was able to join us, we do realise that some parents were not able to attend due to work commitments. At this event we invited some community organisations to come in who can offer help and assistance in a number of areas. They were on hand to offer advice if needed. Thank you to the following for attending: Ten Little Toes Baby Bank, Crawley Wellbeing, Early Help, Employ Crawley, Everyone Active/Crawley Parkour, Crawley Volunteers and Dance Hub.

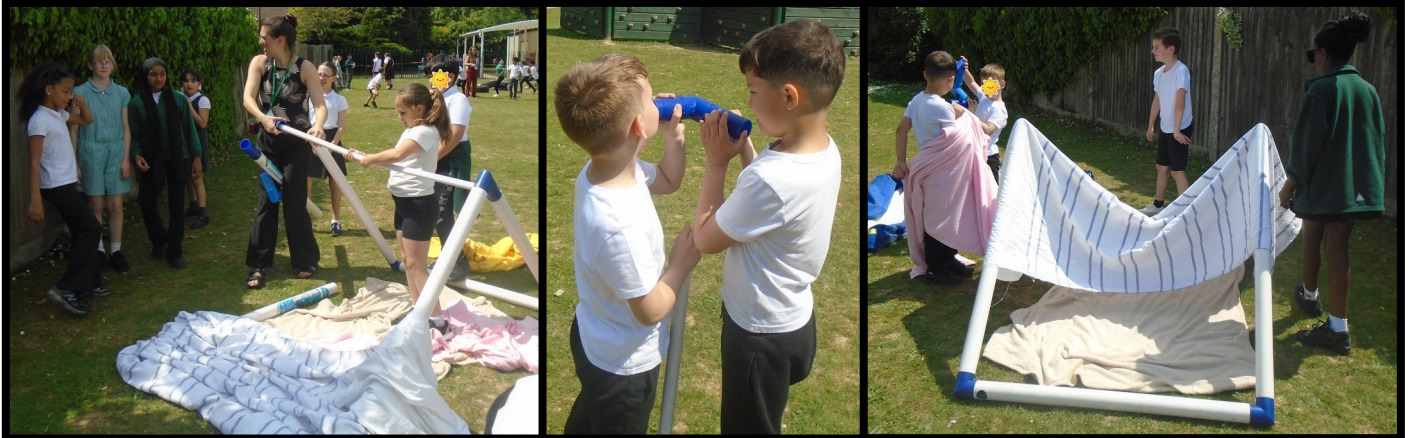


OUR PLAYTIMES

Our playtimes are constantly evolving and the children are still enjoying them. For a number of months now we have not heard the words “I’m bored...” at breaktimes. A huge thank you to all the generous donations that we have received. We are very grateful for the response we get when we send out our flyer asking for donations. Every donation you make has a big impact on the children’s school experience.

This term some of the things we have been enjoying are...

...den building...



...dressing up...



...and building life sized marble runs!



HALF TERMLY ATTENDANCE CLASS WINNERS

There has been some friendly class rivalry in school this half of the term for the class who has the best attendance each week. Here is the list of weekly winners:

Week 1: Year 4 - 96.05%

Week 2: Year 1 - 98.89%

Week 3: Year 1 - 99.52%

Week 4: Year 6 - 99.26%

Week 5: Year 5 - 95.98%

The overall winner for this half term is: Year 1 with an average attendance of 97.12%.

We are very pleased with the effort the children have made with their attendance this term, and well done to their parents too!

As you are likely aware, one of the education areas that the government is focusing on is school attendance. This is due to an increase in poor attendance since the pandemic. The following is an exert from 'working together to improve school attendance' DFE 2024

The law on school attendance and right to a full-time education

The law entitles every child of compulsory school age to an efficient, full-time education suitable to their age, aptitude, and any special educational need they may have. It is the legal responsibility of every parent to make sure their child receives that education either by attendance at a school or by education otherwise than at a school.

Where parents decide to have their child registered at school, they have an additional legal duty to ensure their child attends that school regularly. This means their child must attend every day that the school is open, except in a small number of allowable circumstances such as being too ill to attend or being given permission for an absence in advance from the school.

This is essential for pupils to get the most out of their school experience, including their attainment, wellbeing, and wider life chances. The pupils with the highest attainment at the end of key stage 2 and key stage 4 have higher rates of attendance over the key stage compared to those with the lowest attainment.

IMPORTANT SAFEGUARDING NOTICE

Children's Mental Health

Did you know that thousands of children are turning to Childline to seek help for anger issues?

New data shows Childline delivered 2,895 counselling sessions to young people struggling with anger issues, a 6% increase from the previous year. The NSPCC are encouraging children to process their anger in a healthy way and contact Childline if they need to talk. Thousands of children and young people have received support from Childline for anger issues over the past year. The rise in contacts on the topic has made anger issues a top ten mental health concern for all genders contacting the service. This data gives insight into a generation increasingly struggling to manage and control their emotions in the face of a range of pressures at home, school, online and in the community.

The NSPCC offer help in dealing with these emotions in a healthy way. Counselling sessions delivered by Childline reveal several recurring themes when children are discussing anger. Some are struggling with regulating their emotions during challenging situations and often experience frustration with parents and peers following disagreements. Others are sharing that they are aggressively criticising themselves.

One girl, aged 9, confided to Childline:

"I feel so angry all the time, shouting is just how I express myself. When my parents shout at me I shout back. They tell me to talk in arguments and tell people how I feel but no one cares, no one listens unless I shout."

The NSPCC tips for children are:

1. Talk to someone you trust - Whether it is a parent, teacher, friend or Childline, sharing how you feel helps.
2. Find healthy outlets for emotions - Try physical activities, creative expression, journaling, or relaxation techniques.
3. Take care of your body - Regular sleep, healthy food, and exercise all support good mental health.
4. Practice mindfulness - Take time each day to focus on your breathing and notice how you're feeling.
5. Create a feel-good toolkit - Identify activities, people, and places that help you feel calm and happy when you're struggling.

Some useful NSPCC tips for parents are:

1. Create regular check-in times - Establish consistent opportunities for conversations about feelings, perhaps during dinner, car rides, or before bedtime.
2. Use open ended questions - Ask "How are you feeling today?" rather than questions that can be answered with just "yes" or "no."
3. Model healthy emotional expression - Show children how you manage your own emotions in a constructive way.
4. Look for changes in behaviour - Notice shifts in sleeping patterns, appetite, social withdrawal, or increased irritability which may signal emotional struggles.
5. Normalise seeking help - Talk positively about therapy, counselling, and support services.

For further advice you can contact the NSPCC Helpline by calling 0808 800 5000, e-mailing help@nspcc.org.uk, or by completing the NSPCC online abuse form via their website.

SUPPORTING OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY

CRAWLEY SIGNAL BOX (BRIGHTON ROAD)

Many of you may have noticed the old railway signal box by the railway crossing at the end of Brighton Road. They often have open days where you can have a look around the signal box. It really is an interesting piece of our Crawley history and is well worth a look. It is a great experience for children (especially if you happen to be in the signal box when a train is going past). Their next open days will be on **Saturday, 21st June, Saturday, 19th July, and Saturday, 9th August 2025 between 12:00 midday – 4:00p.m.** The signal box is only kept open and in such good condition due to the volunteers who give up their time to preserve it's history, so your support would be greatly appreciated. It's a lovely opportunity to make a memory with your child.



TEN LITTLE TOES BABY BANK

We try to support Ten Little Toes Baby Bank when we can. They work very hard to make sure every growing family gets off to a good start. The support they give parents, carers and children is invaluable. If you are ever in a position to make a donation to them you can find out what donations would be of use by having a look on their website.

If you are ever in need and would like to ask Ten Little Toes Baby Bank for help, you can contact them in one of the following ways:-

Website: www.tenlittletoesbabybank.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/tenlittletoesbabybank

Instagram: [@tenlittletoes_babybank](https://www.instagram.com/tenlittletoes_babybank)

TikTok: [@tenlittletoes_babybank](https://www.tiktok.com/@tenlittletoes_babybank)

JUNIOR PARK RUN AT TILGATE

Tilgate junior parkrun is a FREE 2km event for juniors of all standards, which takes place every Sunday at 9:00am in Tilgate Park,

It offers an opportunity for all the family to get involved and come together on a regular basis to enjoy Tilgate Park. They want to encourage people to run, walk, volunteer and be together irrespective of their ability.

Taking part is easy – just register in advance before your first ever parkrun. Your individual barcode can then be used for this weekly 2k event, or on any of the weekly 5k parkruns around the country.

It is a free event but Park Run ask you to please register at **<https://www.parkrun.org.uk/tilgate-juniors/>** before you first come along. You only need to register with Park Run once.



COST OF LIVING CRISIS — WHERE TO FIND HELP IF YOU NEED IT

turn2us

This website is designed to help you find out if you are able to get help with your energy bills. There are many grants out there you may not know about. Some energy suppliers have their own grant scheme in place. You can ask your supplier if they have a scheme, and what the criteria is for claiming a grant. Turn2us also has other useful links in relation to other household bills e.g. water bills. To search for grants that you may be eligible for, you can use an easy tool on <https://www.turn2us.org.uk>. Tel: 0808 802 2000

StepChange Debt Charity

If you are worried about any debt, you can contact the StepChange Debt Charity for free advice on <https://www.stepchange.org>. Tel: 0800 138 1111

Food Banks in Crawley

There are a number of food banks in Crawley, if you do a web search you should be able to find some details. Listed below are some contact details to help get you started:

Freeshop - info@freeshopcrawley.com - Tel: 07861 907133

Crawley Food Bank Partnership (they are The Easter Team and also Crawley Open House who are working together)

Tel The Easter Team: 07940 900948/Tel Crawley Open House: 01293 447702

Government and Local Council Resources

The government have an online tool to help people check the benefits and financial support they might be able to apply for. You can check at:

www.gov.uk/check-benefits-financial-support you can also find help at:

www.crawley.gov.uk/moneyworries

Your local council may be able to help you pay for things like:

- Energy and water bills;
- Food;
- Essential items such as clothes or even an oven.

This help is known as Welfare Assistance or the Household Support Fund. Each council runs its own scheme. The help they offer, and who can get it, varies. Ask your local council if they run one of these schemes. You do not have to be in receipt of benefits to get help from your local council. If you are in receipt of benefits, they will not be affected if you get help from one of these schemes. See below for information on the WSCC Community Hub.

COMMUNITY HUB

WSCC have a community hub for anyone who may need help. You can request support from the Hub, including accessing the Household Support Fund, and where to get advice.

WSCC are focused on making sure they continue to support the most vulnerable people in our community.

If your request is urgent, for example, you are going to run out of food within the next two days, please phone [033 022 27980](tel:03302227980) so that they can make sure you get the help you need as quickly as possible.



CHANGE OF DETAILS

If any of your contact details change (address, home phone, mobile etc), please inform the school office so they can update the school records accordingly.

MEDICATION

From time to time we will sometimes administer paracetamol to a child if they are feeling unwell, but it is not necessary to send them home. The brand we use is Calpol paracetamol 6+ (so cannot be administered to anyone under 6 years old). For this to be administered to your child you will have needed to have signed a form giving your permission. We will always telephone you to get your permission before we administer any paracetamol, but without the signed consent form we cannot administer it in any event. This is also relevant for antihistamine's. We use Piriton, but only if the parent has provided written consent and also verbal consent just before it is administered. No child is allowed to carry their own medication in school. Please speak to the school office for further advice.

TRIM TRAIL AND TYRE TRAIL

At the end of the school day it has been noted that parents are allowing their children to play on the trim trail outside the classrooms. If you do allow your child to use the trim trail (or tyres) at drop off/collection time it is **your responsibility** to ensure they use it safely. Please keep an eye on your children at all times during drop off/collection to/from school to ensure their safety.

UNIFORM

You can order uniform with the school logo from: www.myclothing.com or buy it without a logo from a local supermarket/shop.

MOBILE PHONES

Please can you remind your child that if they bring a mobile phone to school with them, they must **not** use the phone whilst on the school premises. All phones must be turned off when your child has arrived at school, and handed to their class teacher. All phones will be returned at the end of the school day.

BIRTHDAYS AND TREATS

We love birthdays, and we love celebrating them even more! If you provide sweets for a class in order to celebrate your child's birthday, we would ask that you ensure they are individually wrapped, nut free and, if possible, vegetarian. This will mean all of your child's classmates can celebrate their birthday with them. We are not able to hand out any cakes or sweets that are homemade.

Also, from time to time throughout the school year, we will give out sweet treats to children. We will ensure we always meet a child's dietary requirements. **Please inform the school if you do not want your child to be given any sweet treats.**

ASTHMA INHALERS/AUTO INJECTORS

If we hold an asthma inhaler or auto injector for your child, when that item is out of date we will contact you and ask you to provide us ones that are in date. **Please make sure that you provide us in date items as a matter of priority. It is for your child's safety and must be acted upon immediately.**

FILMS AT CHRISTMAS AND EASTER (AND THROUGHOUT THE SCHOOL YEAR)

Mainly at Christmas and Easter time we will sometimes arrange for the children to watch a film as an end of term treat. The films will either be a 'U' or 'PG' certificate. We would never show a film that we judged to be inappropriate. **However, if you do not wish your child to watch a 'PG' certificate film then please let the school office know so that a different film can be chosen for your child's class to watch.**

NO NUTS REMINDER

Please remember that we are a 'No Nuts' school. This means that no food brought into school by either children or staff should contain nuts. This includes Nutella (there are other alternative chocolate spreads available that do not contain nuts).

FIRST AID

We have trained First Aid staff at our school setting. If you do not wish for your child to receive First Aid (non emergency) then the onus is on you as a parent/carer to inform the school of your decision.

World Cycling Day 2025

Location: Worthing Town Centre -
South Street Square

Bikeability

Cycling Proficiency for the 21st century

**Sunday, 1st June,
from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM**



Come and meet us, have a chat,
try a balance bike (younger
children) or an adapted cycle (all
ages and abilities)!



Sussex Dental Helpline



NHS

If you need urgent dental help and cannot find a dentist, the Dental Helpline can book you an urgent appointment with an NHS dentist.

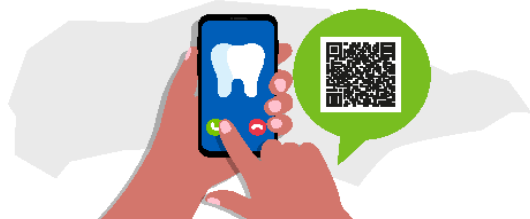
For up to-date-information and support on getting urgent dental care, contact:



0300 123 1663

Monday to Friday 8am and 4pm

Alternatively, email: kcht.dentalhelpdesk@nhs.uk for more information.



Gardening Session Volunteers wanted!

Are you looking for some flexible volunteering that gives back to the community, whilst benefiting your health and wellbeing? Would you like to get out in nature and meet others? Or are you a passionate gardener that would like to share your skills?

The Crawley Growing Together Project by Crawley Community Action are looking for volunteers to help revamp a green space in West Green so it can be enjoyed by all the community.

ALL WELCOME, NO COMMITMENT

To find out more or book onto a session contact Emily
emily.thorpe@crawleycommunityaction.org
or phone/ text : 07716641409



**Crawley
Community
Action**



RESPECT OUR SCHOOL

THINK BEFORE YOU PARK!

Safety tips for parking outside schools

When picking up or dropping off children at school, you should do the following:



Allow yourself plenty of time as the area is likely to be busy.



Do not park on zigzag lines and avoid parking opposite them.



Please be considerate of local residents and avoid blocking driveways or access ways.



Walk your child to school whenever possible and then go home and collect your car for your onward journey.