



West Green Primary School Newsletter

July 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

After a much busier academic year compared to the last two years, we have made it to the end of term with smiles on our faces. We have even managed to squeeze in an ice lolly day where every child in school that day was treated to an iced lolly.

The children have been such a credit to our school over the last few months. With school trips now happening much more frequently, we are regularly congratulated on how well behaved and polite our children are. Although we do encourage good manners and behaviour at school, you as parents and carers also need to take credit for the good manners you have clearly taught your children at home. Thank you, they are a credit to you!

We say goodbye to our Year 6 class this year as we send them off to their new secondary schools. It has been a blast Year 6. Remember to work hard and keep smiling!

We are all ready for a lovely break and hope that the sun will show an appearance for most of the time off.

From everyone at West Green Primary School, have a great Summer holiday.



HOT DINNERS ANNUAL REMINDER

If your child is currently in Year 2, they will no longer be eligible for Universal Infant Free School Meals (UIFSM) from September 2022, when they go up to Year 3. Therefore, you must either provide your child with a packed lunch, or book a hot lunch via the Chartwells website. We have already sent home information regarding this. Families in receipt of Free School Meals (FSM) are still entitled to a hot meal at lunchtimes.

QUEEN'S JUBILEE

It seems a long time ago since we celebrated the Queen's Jubilee. By now your child should have received their free storybook so they have a memento of the event. We had a Red, White & Blue day in school so that we could do our part to join in the celebrations. Here are a few pictures of the day, we had a great time.



YEAR 3 AND YEAR 4 WEALD & DOWNLAND MUSEUM TRIP

Year 3 and Year 4 went on a day trip to Weald & Downland Museum. It is a fascinating place where they preserve historic buildings by dismantling them bit by bit, and reassembling them at the museum, which hopefully is their final destination. The houses are all fully accessible and the children could see the conditions people in days gone by used to live in. They also got to take part in some activities laid on by the museum. The coach journey was quite a long one, and the children handled it well, although everyone was very tired at the end of the day!

"This half term Year 3 and 4 went on a school trip to the Weald and Downland living museum. Year 3 had a fantastic time playing Tudor games and exploring Tudor homes and kitchens, whilst Year 4 enjoyed exploring Anglo Saxon tools and homes. We all enjoyed our picnic lunch outside and seeing the ducks in the pond!"

Miss Forman—Year 3 Teacher



YEAR 5 ANCIENT GREECE DAY

Year 5 had a day where they could experience what it was like to live in ancient Greece. They really threw themselves into it by dressing the part and enjoying the activities laid on for them. The chap who came to lead the day told us that he visits about 150 schools every year, and he said that the children were a delight to spend the day with. He was amazed at their good manners and focus. Well done Year 5!

On 7th June 2022, Year 5 were transported through both time and space to arrive in 507 B.C Athens where we transformed into Ancient Athenians! We had so much fun in the morning becoming Athenian citizens (and training like an Ancient Greek army!), Metics (an Ancient Greek not from Athens) and (unfortunately) Athenian slaves. We learnt about democracy (and experienced it first hand!), engaged in some traditional Greek art such as mosaics, pottery and creating pendants, and tried our hand at some Ancient Greek home remedies for common medical issues such as toothache or the common cold! In the afternoon, it was time for our Greek theatre! We all performed either a Greek Myth, poetry or dancing and shared a wonderful Greek feast where the children got to try wine (really it was blackcurrant squash), bread, feta cheese, black and green olives, dates and grapes. Our least favourite food was definitely the olives but at least everyone tried it (even Miss Blunden)! We had a super fun day with Phil from ThoseHistoryPeople and learnt so many new, cool things!

Miss Millar—Year 5 Teacher



PLANETARIUM VISIT

Some of the children were fortunate to be able to experience the planetarium that we organised to visit the school. It was enormous, and a few of the children described it as “awesome/amazing/brilliant”! They got to see a range of constellations, it really was an incredible activity for the children to be able to take part in. One of the constellations they learnt about was called the Butterfly Nebula. It reminded us that what can be found in space is amazing.



WEST SUSSEX FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE

After what seems like a long wait (and a few cancellations due to covid) we were finally able to welcome the Fire Brigade in to visit Reception, Year 2 and Year 5 classes. The weather was perfect for the visit, and the children got very excited when they were able to experience life as a firefighter. There was a slightly hairy moment when one of the firefighters tried to take aim at Mr Hodgson with a stream of water, but it was expertly dodged so disaster was averted. Not only did we enjoy ourselves, but it seemed the firefighters did too as it has been a long time since they have been able to visit schools.



Goodbye Year 6

TIME TO MOVE ON

It is time for Year 6 to leave us and move to their new schools. They have had a busy year and so we are sure they will enjoy a bit of a rest before they start secondary school in September. They have taken part in some fun activities in the last few weeks such as a residential trip to Gaveston Hall, a trip to Crawley Cinema where they had the entire cinema to themselves, they had a pizza van come in and cook them pizzas to order, and they have had a trip to Tilgate park where they had a meet the animals experience.

We hope you have enjoyed your last year with us. **Good luck Year 6!**





SUMMER FAIR

We are celebrating because we were finally able to hold a Summer Fair. We all had a great time and the sun even shone on us, it was **very** hot! All the staff pitched in to make the event a success, and the children got involved and helped run some stalls. Once again it was the support of the Parent Group that really helped with the smooth running of the event, they managed to obtain some superb raffle prizes, and really pushed up the monies raised due to their terrific fundraising. Thank you Parent Group for all the support you have given us, and continue to give us. We do appreciate it.



YEAR 1 ZOO LAB VISIT

Year 1 were treated to a visit from Zoo Lab. They got to hold a variety of animals, some children were keener than others, but they all really enjoyed the experience. Here is what their teacher had to say...

The Year 1 children had an absolutely fantastic experience when Zoo Lab visited West Green. Emily was knowledgeable and patient, answering all of our questions and had a great understanding of the needs and habitats of different animals. It was marvellous to see some incredible animals up close and we were even allowed to handle some of them. The children have learnt plenty of facts about various animals, including corn snakes, giant snails, tarantulas and cockroaches. They were all mesmerised by each of the animals!

Mrs E Marshall—Year 1 Teacher



Staffing Updates



Our lovely Miss Forman is leaving us so that she can work closer to where she lives. She joined us in 2020, and considering she has only been with us a short time, she has been hugely popular within the school with both students and staff. We are so sorry to see her go, but we wish her all the best in the future. Good luck Miss Forman.



We have a new Midday Meals Supervisor who has recently joined us. She is called Ms Tame, she has settled in quickly and the children are enjoying getting to know her.



Our new Reception class teacher is called Miss Delgado. She has already been in to visit the new Reception children when they have come in for storytime, and transition morning. We are looking forward to her joining us in September. She will be working alongside Mrs Spence.



The new Teaching Assistant in Year 4 has been with us for a few weeks now. She is called Miss Patterson. She has settled in really quickly and the children have made her feel very welcome.

CLASS TEACHERS FROM SEPTEMBER 2022

You will all have now received the letter informing you of your child's class teacher in the new academic year. To clarify, they are as follows:-

Reception: Mrs Spence and Mrs Delgado
 Year 1: Miss Millar
 Year 2: Mrs Marshall and Mrs Chapman
 Year 3: Mr Linford
 Year 4: Mrs Riadat
 Year 5: Miss Jeffery and Mrs Brotherton (formerly Miss Ruse)
 Year 6: Mr Parry

We would like to congratulate Mrs Whitlock on her wonderful news that she is pregnant. She will still be working in school until she goes on maternity leave, but will not be based in the classroom.

We will keep you updated on our new starters as and when they arrive. You can find information on school jobs that are currently available by visiting:

<https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/jobs/school-jobs/>

You can then type in the location where you are searching for jobs, i.e. Crawley, Horsham etc.



Vacancy Premises Officer

Do you know anyone who would like to work part time?

We would like to appoint a conscientious, dedicated Premises Officer to join our team.

We are looking for a practical and well-motivated person who can work on his or her own initiative.

As Premises Officer, you will ensure that the school environment is maintained to a high standard. Your personal qualities will include versatility, good communication skills, and a commitment to the role.

The successful applicant will;

- ♦ Possess a range of skills including; building management, maintenance, D.I.Y., caretaking and gardening
- ♦ Have the ability to maintain accurate records (both written and computerised) for premises and health and safety compliance
- ♦ Be flexible to meet the needs of the school

Hours are to be agreed with the successful candidate and will ideally include both opening and locking up the premises.

Location: West Green Primary School, West Green, Crawley, RH11 7EL

Salary: Circa £10.60 per hour (WSCC Grade 5, point 7) £20,444 pro rata for hours worked.

Hours: 20 hours per week, year round, Monday to Friday with paid holiday.

**If you are interested, please arrange a chat with our
School Business Manager**

Please contact us by email: sbm@westgreenprimary.com

**A full application pack, job description and application form available by
request**

CURRENT GOVERNMENT COVID ADVICE

Most people can no longer access free testing for COVID-19. The risk of becoming seriously unwell from COVID-19 and other respiratory infections is very low for most children and young people.

The symptoms of COVID-19 and other respiratory infections are very similar. It is not possible to tell if you have COVID-19, flu or another respiratory infection based on symptoms alone. Most people with COVID-19 and other respiratory infections will have a relatively mild illness, especially if they have been vaccinated.

If you have symptoms of a respiratory infection, such as COVID-19, and you have a high temperature or you do not feel well enough to go to work or carry out normal activities, you are advised to try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people.



SAFEGUARDING

Minecraft is a hugely popular game played by people of all ages. It gives players the freedom to craft entire worlds from an interactive landscape. Minecraft has been described as the ultimate sandbox game, which means it favours creativity and explorations. It encourages inventiveness and problem solving. For the people that produced the game it has been a commercial success.

Minecraft does still need to be monitored closely by parents of children who play the game. Although Minecraft itself is mostly child friendly and conflict free, some hazards persist that could upset younger users, including disruptive rival players, contact from strangers and the occasional in-game scare. One in five boys in the UK name Minecraft as their favourite game. Minecraft does in fact have some educational credibility. It is on the curriculum at some mainland schools in Europe as it is used to teach coding skills, and is also used to teach young people about town planning and environmental issues, so we are aware that as far as video games go it is one of the better ones.

However, please be aware that the average age of Minecraft players is 24 years. This unfortunately raises the possibility of other players using explicit language, or behaving in ways that young children should not have to witness.

As always, we do not want to scare parents we just want to share the information we receive so that your child can use interactive games safely.



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 either Calpol paracetamol 6+ sachets or meltlets (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. If you have already signed a permission slip you do not need to do anything else. The above 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.

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

We no longer take school uniform orders via the school office. When you require new uniform for your child you can order it from: www.myclothing.com

Tel: 0800 069 9949

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, please be aware that we need two, one in the classroom, and one in our medical room. 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).