



West Green Primary School Newsletter

October 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

We have had an eventful start to our first half term of the academic year here at West Green Primary School.

So far this term we have had our individual school photos taken, we enjoyed the Harvest Assembly, our Reception children have joined us full time in school and are settling in very well. Our Year 3 class have started their ukulele lessons, and Year 5 their cornet lessons (it is a wonderful sound to round off our week on a Friday)! Year 4 have started their swimming lessons, after school clubs have begun, Year 6 attended the Junior Citizen event at The Hawth and represented the school brilliantly, and we joined in the Diwali celebrations by having a 'dress to impress day' and everyone looked fabulous! Year 6 gave a wonderful class assembly which was attended by a lot of their parents and carers.

We are sure that all the children are looking forward to a week's rest before the second half of the autumn term and the run up to Christmas.

We hope you all have a lovely half term break, and we look forward to seeing you all in school again on Tuesday, 4th November 2025 (3rd November 2025 is an INSET day so the school is closed to all children on that day).

West Green Team

HEADTEACHER - START OF ACADEMIC YEAR

Dear parents and carers

Welcome to our first newsletter of the academic year.

This half term seems to have gone so quickly. The start of the new school year is always so busy, with us all getting used to being back at school with our new teachers and year groups. Our Reception children have made an amazing start to their time at West Green. It has been a great pleasure to get to know them all.

The children are working incredibly hard and I always enjoy the opportunity of seeing their work whilst visiting classes. The best part of my day is when a child comes to my office with a piece of work that they are particularly proud of (whether it be maths, writing, art, DT or homework etc.) to get a 'Headteacher's Award'. Not only do they get a special sticker to wear and put on their work, they also get a mention and a round of applause during our celebration assembly at the end of the week.

Thank you to all the children, staff and parents/carers for such a positive start to the school year.

I look forward to seeing you all after the half term break.

Best wishes.

Mrs Chapman
Headteacher

SCHOOL PHOTOS

The individual student photos have been taken, and by now you will all have received the proof of your children's photos. It is entirely your choice whether you purchase a copy of the photos. Please do not feel obliged to buy a copy, only purchase one if you really want one. As you can see below, even the staff get to have their photo taken...



HARVEST FESTIVAL

We had our Harvest Festival assembly recently and the children really seemed to enjoy being a part of it. Thank you to all the children who brought in donations for Crawley FreeShop (and thank you to all the parents who we know provided the items in the first place). Once the donated items are taken to the Crawley food bank they are then distributed to families in need. Below is a picture of what we collected as a school. It will go a long way in helping those that need it.



OUTSTANDING EFFORT

Once again the children have been very creative. Here are some examples of some of the lovely work they have produced.



REMINDER FOR YEAR 6 PARENTS

A reminder that all parents/carers of Year 6 children need to apply for a place at secondary school for their child. All Year 6 parents have been provided with the information regarding the application process.

It is extremely important that you apply for a secondary school place for your child before the deadline. If you do not apply for a secondary school place for your child then your application will be of lower priority, and may result in your child being offered a school place a long distance from your home.

We have noticed in the last few years that many Crawley secondary schools that our students wish to attend are over subscribed and some children are not offered a space at a school in their catchment area, even though they applied well before the deadline. Therefore, the chances of you getting into the school of your choice if you apply after the deadline is unlikely. **Please make sure you submit your application by the deadline of 31st October 2025.**

If you are struggling with the admissions process there is help available via the SENDIAS Service. Their details are:

Helpline: 0330 222 8555/Email: send.ias@westsussex.gov.uk/www.westsussexsendias.org

Holy Trinity Admissions Update

Holy Trinity School are proposing to make several changes to their admissions policy. These changes can be found on their school website. There will also be a link available to leave comments on each of the changes proposed.

This is part of the consultation process required by West Sussex.

The consultation will end on Tuesday, 12th November 2025.

You can access Holy Trinity's website by following the link below.

<https://www.holytrinitycrawley.org.uk/admissions-consultation/>

NURSERY UPDATE

Business Opportunity

West Green Primary School are seeking an Early Years provider to lease our, soon to be refurbished, community room and offer it as a day nursery/pre-school.

This is a much needed expansion of EYFS childcare in the area for an anticipated September 2026 opening. You may be an existing provider or a child minder wanting to expand.

If you are interested please contact our Business Manager, Annette Tomsett, for more information via email on sbm@westgreenprimary.com

RECEPTION CLASS

Reception class have made a wonderful start to their school year. They have settled in well, and they are enjoying getting to know their new school environment. Below are some examples of the brilliant work they have done so far. Welcome to school Reception class, you are doing really well and we look forward to seeing more wonderful work from you throughout this academic year.



RECEPTION COME & PLAY SESSION

Parents and carers of children in Reception class were invited to join their children for a Come & Play session this term. The children loved showing their parents their learning environment. Here is what the class teachers had to say:

"It was wonderful to have so many of our parents join us for our recent 'Come and Play Session'. After talking about the importance of play, the Reception children had a great time playing with a range of activities, toys and everyday objects - as we said in the session, never underestimate the power of a box, stick, piece of material, spoon etc when it comes to play!"

Mrs Whitlock & Miss Delgado - EYFS Teachers

DIWALI DRESS TO IMPRESS DAY

We joined in with the Diwali celebrations by having our 'Dress To Impress' day. Everyone looked fabulous! Here are some pictures of the day.



YEAR 6 ASSEMBLY

Year 6 gave an impressive assembly this term and their parents/carers were invited along to watch. Here is what their class teacher had to say...

"Year 6 did a great job of sharing their learning from this term, in their class assembly. They showed off a variety of spooky writing based on their class text "The sister who ate her brothers" and were able to display some stunning art work from this term's artist study on Paula Rego. Thank you to everybody who came and watched and well done to Year 6 for speaking so loudly and clearly!"

Mr Wretham - Year 6 Teacher



West Green Primary school is committed to supporting and working with all our amazing pupils to ensure they feel seen, heard and valued. This helps to enable us to provide our pupils with the best possible learning experiences and work together as a school community to help them achieve their full potential. One of the ways we do this is through our school council.

What is the school council and how does it work?

The school council consists of a member of staff who works in collaboration with two representatives of pupils from each class from Reception through to Year 6. These pupils are elected by their peers to represent the views of all pupils to help improve the school and local community. The school councillors meet regularly to represent the views of each class. The school council changes periodically through the academic year.

Meet the School Council

It is our pleasure to introduce to you our new school council.



School Council Agenda

This academic year the school council will be:

- Focusing on our school behaviour values and thinking about what makes West Green Primary school special.
- Reflecting and evaluating our 'Golden Goals' and lunchtimes, adapting and improving where necessary.
- Continuing to make links and work with the local community to support the Crawley Community Action Group to help enhance the West Green Anniversary Gardens.

Cont/d...



SCHOOL COUNCIL ANNIVERSARY GARDEN VISIT

Our school council visited the Anniversary Garden this term to help with some gardening. Here is what Miss Delgado had to say about the visit...

"On Wednesday 15th October our amazing school councillors visited the West Green Anniversary Garden to plant daffodil bulbs alongside the Crawley Action Charity Group. The children were exceptional ambassadors for our school and we are incredibly proud of the way they worked as a team to help enhance our local area. It was lovely to hear about how the garden is developing and how the children's ideas are being included. We even brought daffodil bulbs back to school to plant in our school grounds. Thank you again for all the parent helpers who supported us on this visit."

Miss Delgado - School council Lead



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 2 - 100%
Week 2: Year 2 - 99.31%
Week 3: Year 6 - 98.66%
Week 4: Year 1 - 96.55%
Week 5: Year 5 - 97.74%
Week 6: Year 1 - 97.70%
Week 7: Reception - 95.70%

The overall winner for this half term is: Year 6 with an average attendance of 96.43%.

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 excerpt 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.

SELECTIVE MUTISM

October is Selective Mutism Awareness Month!

Selective Mutism (SM) also known as Situational Mutism is an anxiety disorder that affects many young people and usually commences in early childhood. Those with SM can speak fluently in some situations like when at home or with immediate family, but they may remain silent in others like when at school or when directly spoken to. They may have a blank expression or appear 'frozen' when expected to speak. It is important to understand that those with SM do not choose not to speak, they actually want to speak but find themselves physically unable to do so due to their anxiety. Early diagnosis is key to helping young people overcome their anxieties. For more information visit SMIRA webpages: www.selectivemutism.org.uk.

What is Selective Mutism?

1

It's Anxiety

People with Selective Mutism are able to **speak** openly and freely in **some situations** where they are comfortable (often at home with close family) but **consistently not in other situations** such as nursery, school or college. It's like a phobia and is due to **anxiety around speaking** in that situation, and some people therefore prefer the term situational mutism.

X

What it's not:

2

- NOT a **refusal** to speak.
- NOT a case of being **rude, defiant, stubborn or controlling**.
- NOT caused by absent or over indulgent **parenting**.
- NOT **choosing** to be silent.
- **Different** to someone who does not speak in any **setting**.
- NOT simply **shyness**.

3

The Stats:

*(taken from www.nhs.uk)

Selective Mutism affects **around 1 in 140** young children.*

It affects at least **as many girls as boys**.*

It is more common in children who have recently migrated from their country of birth*

It can start at any age but most commonly **between the ages of 2-4***



Timing is Crucial

4

If you know a child who has Selective Mutism, it's important that they receive **support as early as possible**. When **appropriate help** is put in place at the **right time**, children can overcome their anxiety. However, if left untreated, the SM can persist into teens and adulthood and have a huge, ongoing impact socially, academically and on mental health.

EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

There are many free educational resources available for parents and children. Here are a few that you may find of interest. If you know of any that are not listed below, and feel they would be beneficial to parents and/or children, then please let the school know.

- <https://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/> - Learn English, songs, and stories.
- <https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/> - Good site with some free phonics games.
- <https://www.funwithspot.com/> - Try creating your own spot story.
- <http://www.crickweb.co.uk/> - Lots of maths and literacy games.
- <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/> - Games of varying quality to support different areas of learning.
- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize> - Great learning resources.
- <https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/> - Interactive books and reading resources to share with children.
- <https://urbrainy.com/> - The 'Daily Challenge' covers maths, mental arithmetic skills for all primary schools
- <https://ictgames.com/> - Great numeracy and literacy resources.





IMPORTANT SAFEGUARDING NOTICE

Is your child ready to have their own phone?

The following is taken from a leaflet provided by NSPCC and Vodafone. You can find further information via the NSPCC website.

There are no exact rules about the right age to give your child access to technology. Every child is different and will mature in their own time. Parents have to make choices about whether and when to grant greater independence and freedom.

Whether you're handing down an old device or buying your child a new bit of tech, it's important to think about:

- The age you give your children their own device.
- The access your child has to online platforms and services.

We regularly speak to children and their families about access to technology and consider this alongside what evidence tells us about its impact.

Here are some helpful tips to help you determine what's right for your child in terms of tech ownership and usage throughout childhood.

Advice for parents of under 5s

- Supervise use - We recommend this age group only have supervised access to technology. This means that they should only be using technology when fully supported by a parent or carer.
- Use family devices, accounts and services – Use child friendly devices and services like children's tablets and child versions of popular video sites.
- Check content first – Check the content on apps and games each time before use and turn off features like 'autoplay' so you can be in control of what is shown next.

Advice for parents of children under 10 years old

- Enable access to devices with limited features - device usage at this age is best kept to devices with limited capability. This could include tablets without data and non-smart phones that only allow calls and texts.
- Keep tech use visible in the home - try to keep tech use in shared family spaces or used with bedroom doors open. This will allow you to support your child and be more aware of what they are doing online.
- Follow age ratings – apps, sites and games come with age ratings which are important to follow. You can find out the age rating on the website for the platform or by visiting Common Sense Media's reviews.
- Use safety settings – explore the in-app and device safety settings with your child and check them regularly to make sure they are still in place.
- Revisit parental controls – as children grow up and need the internet more for schoolwork you may want to adjust your parental controls. Keep checking these regularly to make sure they are in place.
- Have regular safety conversations – at this age online safety conversations should be happening regularly. Visit our advice on talking to your child about online safety.
- Build healthy habits - acknowledge the positives it brings as part of your safety conversations and agree rules and boundaries together as a family.

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 day will be on **Saturday, 6th December 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

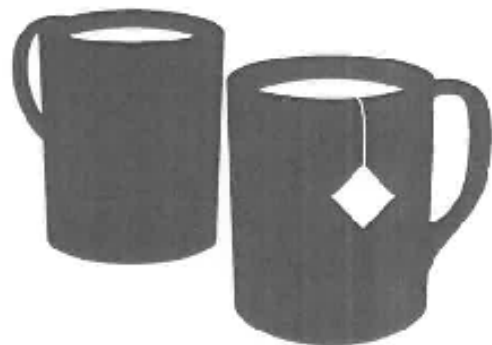
We have trained First Aid staff at our school setting. If you do not wish for your child to receive First Aid (non emergency) then the onus is on you as a parent/carer to inform the school of your decision.

FREE Language Cafes in Crawley

Come along and learn English, make friends and enjoy a cup of tea or coffee!

**Address: Broadfield Community Centre,
RH11 9BA**

**Every Thursday from
12:45pm to 3:15pm**



**Want to find
out more?**

www.advicewestsussex.org.uk

**If you have questions, you
can email us at:
[community.engagement@
westsussexcab.org.uk](mailto:community.engagement@westsussexcab.org.uk)**



**citizens
advice**

**in West Sussex
North South East**

www.advicewestsussex.org.uk



Play tennis at Crawley Parks Tennis this autumn

Exclusive
offer for you

**This autumn, why not hit the courts at
Maldenbower, Southgate, and West
Green Park? It's the perfect way to stay
active and have fun!**

An annual household season ticket covering all courts costs **Crawley residents just £48.20 for the year per household**. A household season ticket covers up to five people and can be used for a maximum of five hours of tennis per week and a maximum of two hours of tennis per day. – That's just 19p a game!

Or Pay and Play sessions on our award winning courts cost from just £4. An additional fee of £2.10 for members or £4.30 for non-members will be payable for the use of floodlights at West Green Park.

Where to play

Here are the Crawley Parks Tennis venues where you can play:

-  **Maldenbower Park**
Maldenbower Drive, Crawley RH10 7HG
-  **Southgate Park**
Southgate Avenue, Crawley RH10 6HG
-  **West Green Park**
Ifield Avenue, West Green, Crawley RH11 7AJ

Fancy Joining Crawley Parks Tennis?

We've got an exclusive treat for you—£5 off your annual seasonal membership at Crawley Parks Tennis!

To activate this offer – Please email parks.tennis@crawley.gov.uk quoting **SCHOOLOFFER**. We will then be in touch with a link to set up your discounted annual seasonal membership. For more information on the Crawley Parks tennis see: clubspark.lta.org.uk/Crawley



Free tennis programmes

Free, social tennis sessions. You can sign up to a session at **West Green Park** – no matter your age, background or ability – and play tennis for free on select Saturdays at 11am.

- any child can attend Free Park Tennis
- under 12 need to be accompanied throughout the session by an adult
- 13+ can come on their own but should be picked up and dropped off by an adult

See: clubspark.lta.org.uk/westgreen/coaching



TENNIS
FOR BRITAIN



clubspark

crawley wellbeing



SUMMIT TENNIS

CRAWLEY PARKS



Walking to 6 yrs



5.5 yrs to 9 yrs



8.5 yrs to 13.5 yrs



Tennis for all



Free trial sessions!
Beginners welcome
WWW.SUMMIT-TENNIS.COM

