



Term 4 Week 4 Newsletter 2025

Dear Families,

It continues to be a busy term, filled with exciting learning opportunities. Do take a look at the newsletter items for your child's year group, along with the others so you can see what we have been up to!

I have sent out some separate emails today regarding Parents' Evenings (dates below) which are bookable via the Arbor app. There are also SENCo meetings with Mrs Bennett this week and emails have been sent directly to families to book an appointment, also via the Arbor app.

I am very sad that Mrs Bennett and Mrs Griffiths will be leaving Western Road at the end of this term. Mrs Bennett has worked at the school supporting a number of children in her role as interventions lead and as SENCo maternity cover. She has also been a great subject leader for DT as well as being an integral member of the English team. Mrs Bennett has a new role as

SENCo and Assistant Head in West Sussex. Mrs Griffiths has worked tirelessly as a Teaching Assistant, helping children to build their confidence and self-esteem. She has decided to devote more time to running Forest School and Art Club, both of which she will continue to run at Western Road. I am sure you will join me in wishing both Mrs Bennett and Mrs Griffiths the very best for the future. I am delighted that Mrs Bedford, SENCo, will return from maternity leave in May.

I will be sending Term 5 and Term 6 club information out shortly but please note Choir Club is returning:

Choir will be back after Easter!

We look forward to welcoming children to choir club on Mondays after the Easter holidays, after school until 4:15, where we will be singing a variety of songs from different genres, times and places.

This term, choir is open to children from Year 2 up to Year 6, with a limited number of spaces. Please email the office if your child would like to attend and we will let you know if your child has a place.

Please note - we need our choir members to be committed to coming to every Monday choir club; please only sign up your child if they are prepared for this!

Many thanks, Ms Callow

Plea from EYFS

Silver Birch are looking to jazz up their role play with open ended resources to inspire our imagination. If you have any of the following we would LOVE them!

Assorted hats - wedding, riding, bowler, fishing, spy, flying, winter, summer or any other!

Bags - handbags, picnic hamper, small holiday suitcase

Purses or wallets

Glasses - sunglasses or other (plastic please!)

Dolls' clothes, nappies, bottles etc.

Items of clothing for dressing up - waistcoats, scarves...

Wicker baskets - big or small!

Term 4 School Value - Pupil Voice

Our school value for Term 4 is 'pupil voice' and we will focus upon that in our school and class assemblies, in addition to our curriculum. Please do share any examples of your child showing their 'pupil voice' by emailing me (head@westernroad.e-sussex.sch.uk) by Thursday, 27th March 2025. Thank you.

Whole school reminder: As the weather is so changeable, please ensure your child continues to come to school in appropriate uniform and footwear (see below for full details), ***all clearly named:***

- ***Children must come to school in their PE kit and trainers/plimsolls if they have PE that day.***
- ***Football boots/alternative trainers must be worn for girls' football lunchtime club due to the current muddy conditions.***
- **Children should wear their usual black or blue school shoes/trainers at all other times.**
- ***Children should have their hair tied back if it reaches their shoulders.***
- ***Warm (preferably waterproof) coat with hat/scarf/gloves.***
- ***Wellies may be also needed depending upon the weather forecast.***

By having appropriate clothing in school, it helps everyone to enjoy PE to the full as well as being outdoors at break and lunchtimes, outdoor learning time and the Daily Mile. Please do let me know if you need any support in sourcing coats or wellies. Thank you.

Best wishes,

Irèna Wooler

Headteacher

Please remember that we are a pine nut and nut-free and sesame-free school due to some children having severe allergies. It is imperative you do not send your child to school with any items that contain or may contain pine nuts, nuts and/or sesame seeds. Those items will be removed from your child and returned at the end of the school day to ensure the safety of those with allergies. Thank you.

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion



Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

We are keen to work with the school community to make sure our school is a place where every child thrives. Our goal is to build a school community that rejects discrimination, values diversity, and fosters mutual respect. If you'd like to join the school's Equality, Diversity and Inclusion working party to be in dialogue with staff and school governors please do let us know via office@westernroad.e-sussex.sch.uk and we will be glad to welcome you.

Some parents have started a parent-led Equality, Diversity and Inclusion group. All Western Road parents are welcome to join. Many families don't totally fit society's boxes. This can mean being othered in an environment which is, for example, largely white, expects all families to have a mum and a dad, discriminates against religious minorities, marginalises Disabled people,

stigmatises people on benefits, assumes everyone is straight and promotes gender stereotypes. The initial aims of this group are to provide peer support and help the school be more inclusive. Anyone wanting to join please contact Sakina 07870 146335 or Susie 07952 838921.

School Car Park - are you doing your bit?

If you are choosing to park your car in the school car park during the day (for example to visit the Grange after school), please ensure you pay to park using the **PayByPhone app, location 807542**.

The money raised by the car park contributes to vitally-needed school funding for both Western Road and Southover schools. Thank you for your support.

Please do not park on the yellow hatched area in the car park AT ANY TIME. By keeping the area clear, it allows for emergency vehicles to have immediate, necessary access to the school site.

Online Safety information for families



As part of our safeguarding and child protection procedures and the National Curriculum, we continue to teach children the importance on staying safe online and what to do if they see something inappropriate. The National College have produced a range of information pieces that may be helpful for you in supporting your child to use the internet safely. Please use this link [Library | The National College](#) and click on download to access any of the articles.

If you are concerned about your child's use of the internet, please do speak with your child's class teacher in the first instance. Thank you.

School Calendar



The dates below are also on Arbor for your child's year group/whole school events.

Items added or changed from the previous newsletter will be in italic:

Monday, 24th March 2025

EYFS Muddy Monday

Tuesday, 25th March 2025

Year 5/6 Swimming

Thursday, 27th March 2025

PARENTS' EVENING APPOINTMENTS POSTPONED TO THURSDAY, 24TH APRIL

SENCo APPOINTMENTS WILL GO AHEAD AS PLANNED

4.30pm - 7.30pm SENCo appointments (see email sent 24.03.2025 regarding booking via Arbor)

Friday, 28th March 2025

9.30am Fire engine on field (Year 2 Great Fire of London on playground)

2pm Parent Forum

3.15pm Year 6 cake sale (fundraising for Patina)

Monday, 31st March 2025

EYFS Muddy Monday

Year 5 trip to Hove Synagogue

Tuesday, 1st April 2025

Year 1/3/5 Drumming Workshops

Year 5/6 Swimming

3.30pm - 6.30pm Parents' Evening

Wednesday, 2nd April 2025

9am Celebration Assembly

Friday, 4th April 2025

End of Term 4 (3.15pm)

FWR Make the Rules Day

2pm Talent Show - led by the School Council

Term 5

Please note, Year 3 and Year 4 will resume swimming each Tuesday afternoon for Terms 5 and 6

Thursday, 24th April

4.30pm - 7.30pm Parents' Evening (see email sent 24.03.2025 regarding booking via Arbor)

Friday, 25th April 2025

3.15pm Year 6 cake sale (fundraising for Patina)

Wednesday, 30th April

9.30am - 11am ESCC Book Awards author visit at Southover C of E Primary School

Friday, 2nd May

RNLI visiting

Monday, 12th May - Thursday, 15th May

Year 6 SATS week

Friday, 16th May

Year 6 Bowling trip (Brighton Bowlplex)

Saturday, 17th May

FWR Westival event (more details to follow)

Monday, 19th May - Wednesday, 21st May

Year 6 Bowles residential

Friday, 23rd May 2025

Whole school own clothes day - voluntary donation (cash please) towards Year 6 Patina fundraising please

Term 6

Monday, 2nd June 2025

INSET 5 - School closed

Friday, 6th June

Kittles - class photographs

Thursday, 26th June

PATINA artist working with Year 6

Friday, 27th June

PATINA artist working with Year 6

Friday, 4th July

Year 6 PATINA parade

Friday, 11th July

Sports Day (followed by picnic on the field, children are welcome to go home after this)

Wednesday, 16th July

6pm Year 6 production to families (children to be at school for 5.30pm)

Friday, 18th July

Reserve Sports Day (followed by picnic on the field, children are welcome to go home after this)

End of year reports out to parents

Tuesday, 22nd July 2025

1.15pm End of Term 6

Attendance and Punctuality



In August 2024, the Government published the statutory guidance on attendance (see link below). As per the guidance, parents and carers are expected to:

Ensure their child attends every day the school is open except when a statutory reason applies;

Notify the school as soon as possible when their child has to be unexpectedly absent (e.g. sickness);

Only request leave of absence in exceptional circumstances and do so in advance;

Book any medical appointments around the school day where possible.

If you have any queries, please do let me know and you can read the guidance here:

Please ensure your child arrives at school on time - the gates open at 8.40am and close at 8.50am. Any child arriving after this time must be signed in at the School Office, as per our health and safety and attendance policies.

Trips and Enrichment Activities



Following the wonderful Indian Dance Workshops this term, we would really appreciate a voluntary donation of **£2.86** towards costs. This is payable via Arbor/Trips.

Please be aware that any shortfalls from trips/enrichment activities is very kindly covered by FWR. From September 2024, that shortfall currently equals £889.14. Please do make voluntary donations for your child's trips/enrichment activities if you are able to do so. Thank you very much for your support.

Reminder - Lewes Foodbank Donations



We continue to support the Foodbank this term and Debbie Twitchen has asked that we focus on collecting tinned products: meat, fish, tomatoes, vegetables and pulses. They also ask that we donate children's drinks and snacks too.

Please do bring any donations to the School Office and we will arrange for a delivery at the end of this term.

Thank you in advance.

Reminder - school uniform



Western Road Community Primary School's Uniform consists of:

- Navy school fleece with school logo (optional but these are very warm and ideal for Winter and Spring)
- *Navy school jumper with or without school logo or navy or mid-grey cardigan*
- White shirt/blouse with long or short sleeves with or without logo or
- White or navy blue polo shirt with or without school logo
- Mid-grey or navy trousers or smart shorts, or
- Mid-grey or navy skirts (or skorts), pinafore dresses or school summer dresses (blue/white check)
- White/navy/grey socks or tights
- ***Plain black or navy school shoes (or plain black or navy trainers with no logos); plain sandals in the Summer terms only.***

- Plain hair accessories (optional and in school colours preferably). **Long hair (past shoulder length) must be tied back.**

PE kit:

- White T-shirt or polo shirt with school logo (or plain)
- Grey or navy shorts or jogging bottoms (plain with no logos)
- Trainers or plimsolls

Please note, hoodies and jewellery (apart from a wristwatch when appropriate or stud earrings that can be taken out for PE) are not part of the school uniform and must not be worn in school.

The school also has school caps, rucksacks and book bags available. Please ensure all items of clothing are named including shoes or trainers.

Navy blue polo shirts, fleeces and sweatshirts with the school logo on are all available from Intersport http://www.gameforlife.co.uk/section.php/781/1/western_road_cp_school.

Second-hand items are regularly available at low cost at school fairs and events.

Reminder - Message from the Bursar, Sarah Clifford

Please ensure your ParentPay accounts for dinner money are cleared at the end of each week, or (ideally) are in credit by a small amount. **School dinners cost £2.97 per day for children in Years 3 - 6.**

Children under 5 are entitled to free school milk each day, given at morning snack time (this is in addition to milk given to children who have school lunches). If you would like your child to receive milk, either as they are under 5 or at an additional cost, please do visit <https://www.coolmilk.com/parents/> for more information and to register your child.

If you think your child might be entitled to **Free School Meals** (regardless of their age) through the **Pupil Premium Grant**, please do look at <https://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/education-learning/schools/school-life/school-meals/free-school-meals> for more information. If your child is entitled to Free School Meals and/or the Pupil Premium Grant, the school will receive additional funding to support them with their learning and enrichment activities.

All school trips and school-run clubs (for example Sewing Club) through Arbor so please do make sure you are able to login. We will continue to use ParentPay for Chartwells payments.

Please do speak with me, Sarah Clifford, or email me bursar@westernroad.e-sussex.sch.uk if you have any queries. Thank you.

A reminder to the parents of children moving into their new Key Stage in September!

For those moving from Year 2 to year 3, your Universal Free School Meal entitlement is coming to its end.

If you think you may be eligible for Free School Meals, please apply using this link <https://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/education-learning/schools/school-life/school-meals/free-school-meals> It's free, and easy to do.

A reminder for parents with children in Year 6, in receipt of Free School Meals, you will be required to reapply as your child enters Year 7.

Reminder - Bikes and scooters



Please ensure your child collects their bikes/scooters at the end of each school day. There are a number of bikes and scooters that have been in the bike shed for some time and I'm sure they are missed at home! If you would like to check the bike shed for any missing bike/scooter, please do speak with a member of staff at the white gate at drop-off or pick-up.

News from Silver Birch (EYFS)

Reception have had another busy two weeks of learning around our topic of 'Farms'. We have focussed on the story of 'What The Ladybird Heard' and have used this as a basis to design our own maps to guide each other around our outside area, retell the story using props and even write 'Wanted' posters for Heft Hugh and Lanky Len!

The sunshine and warmth has been welcomed and the children are enjoying our outside area even more! Our daffodils are growing and Mrs Reed has had a revamp of the outside area to allow for more children to enjoy the space, especially because water play and large construction are so popular!

News from Elm Class (Year 1)



In Year 1 we have been continuing with our Science topic of growing. The children have transferred the seedlings into our greenhouse which the children helped to put together. We would love to see how their beans at home are growing, you can add a photo to your child's tapestry page and we can then share it with the class. We are busy planning a visit to The Grange to support our learning in Science and growing the date will be shared with you soon. In Maths we have been focusing on numbers to 20. The children have been using ten frames to make the numbers and learning that a teen number has one ten and some ones. They have been putting numbers in order and adding one more or one less to a teen number. We will be moving on to adding and subtracting within 20.

News from Cherry Class (Year 2)



Year 2 have become experts on the Great Fire of London! The children have been busy gathering evidence and writing fantastic newspaper reports to share their findings. Over the next couple of weeks, we will be exploring fire-themed poetry, using our knowledge to create some powerful descriptive writing. In dance, we have been working with Zara to learn a whole-class fire dance, which we are excited to share on Tapestry once it's complete. Meanwhile, the children have been making the most of the sunshine during learning environment time, enjoying water play, den building, and using money in our bakery role-play area. It's been a busy and exciting time in Year 2! Next week we welcome 2 university students in to our classroom to provide extra support for the children.

News from Larch Class (Year 3)



Year 3 have enjoyed learning about plants. We have started an investigation of planting between 2-8 seeds in a space and made predictions of what might happen. Some who planted 2 seeds think the 2 seeds will sprout. Others who planted 8 seeds think that the seeds won't sprout because they don't have enough space. We will be checking them daily to see if our predictions are correct.

News from Willow Class (Year 4)



Year 4 Trip to Fishbourne Roman Palace

On Wednesday, we visited Fishbourne Roman Palace. We learnt that it is a site that was discovered by chance in 1960 and quickly became an archaeologist's dream. As we explored the palace, we were given a unique glimpse into what life would have been like during Roman times. The site was once home to a powerful individual, likely a person of great influence, and the luxurious features of the palace reflected that status.

The grandeur of the palace was revealed through its intricate mosaics, underfloor heating, and impressive baths, all of which showed just how advanced the Romans were in their engineering and design.

One of the highlights of the day was a hands-on workshop where two of us were dressed up as a Roman prince and princess. We also got to experience life as a slave as it would have been in a Roman kitchen, even using a grinding stone to make flour. Other activities included using wool to spin yarn, using ink and a quill, and writing on wax tablets, just like the Romans did!

This trip gave our Year 4s an incredible opportunity to connect with history, deepening their understanding of Roman culture in a fun and interactive way. We are so proud of how engaged and enthusiastic the Year 4s were - what an enjoyable day!

News from Elder Class (Year 5)

This term in English, Year 5 have been reading the wonderful novel by Louis Sachar; "Holes". This is a story set in the USA about a juvenile detention centre called Camp Green Lake, where young boys have to dig holes in the desert to 'build character'. However, all is not as it seems: why does the camp Warden really force the inmates to dig holes, and what is she really looking for? How do the events in the prison camp link with what may have happened in the past at Green Lake? We are all really enjoying the story so far - ask your child to tell you more about it.

This term we are also becoming newspaper reporters during our English lessons, building up to writing our own sensational newspaper story about a daring escape from Camp Green Lake! The children have been immersing themselves in the features of newspaper reports and

collecting some fantastic vocabulary to use in their own writing, as well as putting together adverts for their newspaper pages, and even letters of complaint to the editor!

Well done Year 5, we are so proud of all your hard work in English this term.

News from Oak Class (Year 6)



This week in Year 6, we have been practising our sewing skills as part of our DT project 'Make do and Mend': an upcycling movement pushed by the Government in WWII to help with the pressures of clothes rationing. Thanks to several expert stitchers in our class (and Miss Wilkes!), we were all able to try our hand at some basic stitches and decide which would best suit our projects. The children can't wait to use their new skills to stitch together something new from something old!

In addition to the Patina Update (below), Year 6 will be holding two bake sales to raise money for Patina. Look out for us in the field after school on Friday, 28th March and Friday, 25th April for some delicious cakes and bakes.

Year 6, we need as many cake donations as possible (no pine nuts, nuts or sesame). Please get in touch with the Patina reps (Carly, Ruth, Claire) via the class WhatsApp group if you can volunteer some time on the stall. Thank you.

Patina Update



Patina Update for Year 6 Parents

There's lots coming up for our Year 6 children this year and it's time to get going with Patina fundraising and events. Here's what's happening so far:

30th April / 8th May - Football Dream Team tournament

28th March - cake sale

23rd May - Western Road own clothes day

25th April - cake sale

4th July - Patina Moving On Parade and celebrations

On Sunday, 16th March we had a lovely sunny afternoon with Year 6 for our sponsored Patina litter-pick near Tide Mills. The children did so well collecting rubbish and it was a great collective effort. If anyone would ever like to litter-pick, the council are very helpful and will provide all the pickers, bags and hi-vis jackets. Great to see our fundraising total increasing for an amazing Moving On Day! Thanks to everyone involved.

Fundraising: each Year 6 child is targeted with raising £20 in any way that they find fun. A sponsored bike ride, a lemonade stand, a toy sale - anything goes. Please talk to your child about what they'd like to do: half-term would be a good time to start! In addition we'll be doing some group fundraising activities such as the beach clean, own clothes day and school bake sales (the target set for group fundraising is £250 and so far we have raised £104 from the Artist & Makers craft table and the Christmas Fair stall). We'll need to submit individual and group

funds by May. The fundraising is vital for our school to be able to take part in Patina. It pays for our Patina artist coming to the school and all other central costs to make Patina happen.

From the Western Road Patina Reps





Reminder - football kits (Thursdays)



Children who attend Albion In The Community after-school club on Thursdays should come to school in their usual school uniform and school shoes/plain black trainers. The football coaches arrive with plenty of time to supervise the children getting changed into their kits before the club starts at 3.15pm. Please ensure all kit (including boots, shin pads etc) are clearly named. Thank you.

Reminder: Child Protection and Safeguarding



At Western Road Community Primary, all staff take child protection and safeguarding children very seriously, both in person and online. All staff have been trained in Safeguarding and Child Protection. If you have any concerns about a child's well-being, bullying or e-safety, please contact the Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSLs): Mrs Hamilton or Mrs Wooler.

During Assemblies, we have reminded all children that if they are worried or anxious at any time, they can talk to any trusted adult in school and who the DSLs are too.

As a school we are also part of Operation Encompass which is a police and education early information safeguarding partnership enabling schools to offer immediate support to children experiencing domestic abuse. Operation Encompass ensures that there is a simple telephone call or notification to a school's trained Designated Safeguarding Lead /Officer (known as key Adult) prior to the start of the next school day after an incident of police attended domestic abuse where there are children related to either of the adult parties involved. Information is shared with a school's Key Adult (Designated Safeguarding Lead or Officer) prior to the start of the next school day after officers have attended a domestic abuse incident. This sharing of information enables appropriate support to be given, dependent upon the needs and wishes of the child. To find out more information, please see: <https://www.operationencompass.org/>

Reminder: Health Service



We are pleased to be part of East Sussex Health Group. East Sussex Schools Health Service is a team of public health practitioners, led by school nurses who work with children, young people aged between four and 19 and their families. **They provide support and advice for a variety of physical, sexual and emotional health and wellbeing issues, and will refer to specialised services when needed.**

For full details about the service they offer please visit the website:
www.kentcht.nhs.uk/service/school-health/school-health-service-east-sussex/

How can you use the service?

- Contact the School Health One Point on **0300 123 4062**, available Monday to Friday from 8:30am to 5pm
- Make a referral online at

- Visit the School Health virtual drop-in, Mondays and Thursdays 10am to 3pm and 6pm to 9pm at <https://nhs.vc/east-sussex-school-health> They can offer support and advice to children, young people and families virtually, face to face or via the phone as well as brief interventions and packages of care where appropriate.

Western Road Community Primary School



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Headteacher: Irèna Wooler

Deputy Headteacher: Rea Hamilton

SENCo: Suzy Bennett as Kerry Bedford is currently on maternity leave

Western Road Community Primary School is a nurturing, creative community where everyone can flourish.