



Term 3 Week 2 Newsletter 2025

Dear Families,

We another busy week at Western Road including Indian Dance Workshops for Years 1 - 6, Year 5/6 girls' football tournament and planning trips for this term. Please do note the upcoming key dates from the Calendar section below; these are also on Arbor too.

We have had a number of people trying to leave the white gate open for others which poses a safeguarding risk. Please continue to support the school community by closing the white gate once through it.

Please remember that we are a 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 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.

Term 3 School Value - Courageous

Our school value for Term 3 is 'courageous' and we will be focusing upon that in our school and class assemblies, in addition to our curriculum. Please do share any examples of your child showing courage by emailing me (head@westernroad.e-sussex.sch.uk) by Thursday, 6th February 2025). Thank you.

One child has shown particular courage in the cooler temperatures is Vivi. *"She has been cold-water dipping in the sea with me [Dad] over the winter. The latest was at the weekend, when she and I went to the beach sauna in Lancing, and she did 3 separate sea plunges. She even insisted on putting her head under, which is far braver than me: I was loath to even get my hands in! I think her spirit animal in a penguin 🐧"*

Hope has also shown courage - *"she literally ripped off a plaster that had started peeling off her shin. Since she was small, she's had a real fear of peeling off plasters - she gets terrified that it will hurt, and leaves them on for weeks rather than take them off when they're more than ready. But yesterday morning, she took a deep breath, and we did a big loud cheerful shout together, and she pulled it off, and she was fine. She faced her fear :)"*

Well done Vivi and Hope!

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.

Whole school reminder: 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. Thank you.

Best wishes,

Irèna Wooler

Headteacher

Royal Academy of Arts - Young Artists' Summer Show

We are delighted to participate in the Young Artists Summer Show again this year, through the Royal Academy of Arts. Registration and submissions are now open to the Young Artists' Summer Show, the online and onsite exhibition at the Royal Academy of Arts, featuring work by artists aged 4-18. Find out more and get involved by visiting <https://youngartists.royalacademy.org.uk/> The Summer Show is free for parents/carers to enter their child's work but please do submit all pieces by **Wednesday, 5 March at 5pm.**

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, 20th January 2025

Year 2/4 Gymnastics with Zara

EYFS Muddy Monday

Tuesday, 21st January 2025

Year 5/6 Swimming

Wednesday, 22nd January 2025

Year 1 visit to the Booth Museum

Thursday, 23rd January 2025

Year 3 to Brighton Museum

Monday, 27th January 2025

Year 2/4 Gymnastics with Zara

EYFS Muddy Monday

Tuesday, 28th January 2025

Year 5/6 Swimming

Wednesday, 29th January 2025

9am Celebration Assembly

Monday, 3rd February 2025

Year 2/4 Gymnastics with Zara

Children's Mental Health Week

EYFS Muddy Monday

Tuesday, 4th February 2025

Year 5/6 Swimming

Company of Critters to visit EYFS

Thursday, 6th February 2025

Zoolab to visit Year 4

Friday, 7th February 2024

9am Parent Forum

Monday, 10th February 2025

Year 2/4 Gymnastics with Zara

EYFS Muddy Monday

Tuesday, 11th February 2025

Year 5/6 Swimming

Safer Internet Day

Wednesday, 12th February 2025

9am Celebration Assembly

Thursday, 13th February 2025

Year 5 visit to Battle Abbey

Friday, 14th February 2025

End of Term 3 (3.15pm)

Monday, 24th February 2025

Start of Term 4 (8.40am)

Tuesday, 25th February 2025

Year 5/6 Swimming

Tuesday, 4th March 2025

Year 5/6 Swimming

Wednesday, 5th March 2025

9am Celebration Assembly

Tuesday, 11th March 2025

Year 5/6 Swimming

Tuesday, 18th March 2025

Year 5/6 Swimming

Wednesday, 19th March 2025

9am Celebration Assembly

Tuesday, 25th March 2025

Year 5/6 Swimming

Tuesday, 1st April 2025

Year 5/6 Swimming

Wednesday, 2nd April 2025

9am Celebration Assembly

Friday, 4th April 2025

End of Term 4 (3.15pm)

Monday, 2nd June 2025

INSET 5 - School closed

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.

Indian Dance Workshops - Year 1 - 6, Arbor

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

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.

Cycle Lewes - message from James Herbert



Following on from last year's family group bike ride to Southease and back, I am now working with Sheila O'Sullivan from Cycle Lewes, to set up fun family bike rides for all parents of Lewes and surrounding areas. The aim is to help children and parents grow confidence in their bike abilities and be a bit more active together. Our greater ambition is for families to swap car journeys for bike journeys to and from school. And everywhere else in between!

With permission from all parents with children involved, I recorded the 2024 ride with the intention to use the footage to make a short promo video for future events (I also followed up again before editing).

A little video of our adventure can be found here on our Instagram page:

<https://tinyurl.com/bikeridejan2025>

and here on our facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/reel/910902557835162>

While we're promoting these events via social media groups, I hope you can also promote our first event directly to Western Road parents via email - or in any manner you see fit! Attached is a hyperlinked pdf, and some useful blurb about our first event:

CYCLE LEWES: BIG FAMILY BIKE RIDE

Sun Jan 19th, 2025 we're kick starting our year with a Big Family Bike Ride! Come along and ride with us!

Destination: Lewes to Rodmell Return

Distance: 8 miles approx.

Description: This ride is a circular flat route of approx. 8 miles from Lewes to Rodmell and back, (it's off road, but on surfaced paths).

Start Location: 11am - Linklater Pavilion, Railway Land, Railway Ln, Lewes BN7 2FG

What Three Words: <https://w3w.co/trickling.enhancement.vessel>

SIGN UP USING THIS FORM! <https://forms.gle/qxR5i1AeP9XH4fq18>

This is an accompanied ride organised by Cycle Lewes, a member of Cycling UK. This event is organised in compliance with Cycling UK guidelines. Support is being given by Get Bikery E-cargo bikes.

Wraparound Care Survey - ESCC



ESCC are asking families to help them review wraparound provision across the County. Please could you complete the survey using the link:

[Wraparound childcare survey for families – January 2025](#)

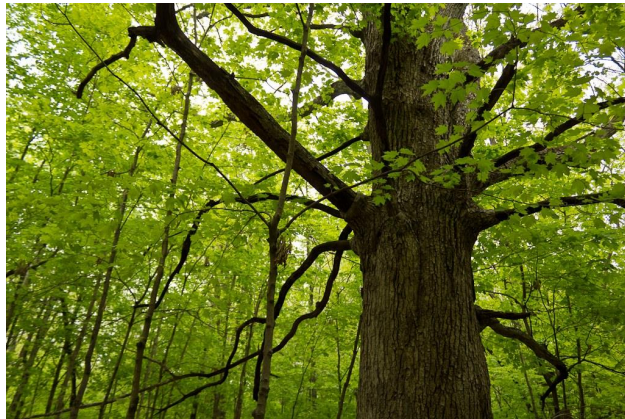
The survey responses will be returned directly to East Sussex County Council and they will share a summary of the results with the school after the **survey closes on 28 January 2025**. Thank you.

News from Silver Birch (EYFS)

Reception have had a great start to the term. We enjoyed our 'healthy living' week last week and we all designed and made healthy muffins. We chose between banana, blueberry and carrot fillings. Most of us thought they were yummy but some children were not so sure!!

This week we have started our topic on 'Save our Planet!' We will be looking at different habitats and the creatures that live in them. We are starting with woodland and have made bird feeders to encourage birds to come to our school woodland area. We will take them up next week when we go for our 'Muddy Monday' session!

News from Elm Class (Year 1)



During our first week back at school we straight got involved in Healthy Living Week by making our own veggie rolls. We peeled, chopped and rolled as we made our veggie rolls! The children loved eating them. We also spoke about all the ways we can keep healthy e.g. doing exercise, eating well, drinking water, making sure we have enough sleep. The children also spent some time thinking about their mental health and how to keep our 'bucket filled' by having some time to ourselves, spending time with friends, taking care of ourselves and how we can fill our friend's 'bucket' by being kind or helpful.

It has been great being back together after the break and we are looking forward to all the learning the children will take part in this term.

News from Cherry Class (Year 2)



Year 2 have had a fantastic time during Healthy Living Week! We kicked off the week by exploring the importance of hygiene, starting with an experiment using glitter to demonstrate how easily germs can spread. The children then tested three different handwashing techniques to discover that washing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds is the best way to remove germs. We also had fun learning about the power of sneezes! Using spray bottles, we saw how far sneezes can travel and discussed the importance of either catching our sneezes or staying a safe distance away from others. As part of our healthy living focus, the children made and tasted delicious frozen bark, with most agreeing it was very tasty! We are currently working on writing up detailed instructions so you can try making it at home. In addition to our health-focused activities, we've started gymnastics lessons and had an exciting Indian dance workshop, where the children were full of energy and had lots of fun. It's been a week full of learning, laughter, and plenty of happy faces!

News from Larch Class (Year 3)



It has been wonderful to see the children this week. We started off by designing and then making healthy but delicious rock cakes using a variety of savoury or sweet ingredients. We also focused on oral hygiene and soaked eggshells for 15hrs in water, unsweetened oat milk, fruit juice and coca cola. We discovered that coca cola stained the shell and decided that if we do drink coca cola, we should have some water after or brush our teeth. We discussed ways to have good oral hygiene and understood why brushing the teeth twice a day to reduce the build of plaque which can lead to cavities. We are looking forward to our first school trip to the Brighton Museum next week. Thank you to those who have volunteered.

News from Willow Class (Year 4)



This term, our focus is on *Rainforests* and we've kicked things off with some exciting creative activities. The class had lots of fun creating their very own tinfoil animals and then writing detailed information texts about them. Have you heard of the Foxsnake, the Multi-Lizard, or the Winged River Otter? Neither had I, until I read all about their fascinating appearances, habitats, diets, and other unusual habits. The creativity on display has been inspiring!

On the maths front, we are thrilled to share that we have now learnt all the times tables up to 12x12 and the children are continuing to practise regularly to build fluency and develop instant recall. To support this, we've started using [TimesTables.co.uk's Multiplication Tables Check](https://www.times-tables.co.uk/multiplication-tables-check) to become familiar with the format of the times table check scheduled for June. To further support your child's learning, please encourage them to spend some time practising their multiplication skills using this resource at home. Every little bit of practise helps to build confidence and competence.

Last week, we celebrated *Healthy Living Week* by exploring the many ways we can keep ourselves healthy. We discussed the importance of exercising regularly, eating a balanced diet, and ensuring we get enough rest to recharge our bodies and minds. To tie in with our rainforest theme, we made and tasted our own rainforest smoothies! Using fruits and ingredients inspired by tropical rainforests, the class created a unique and delicious blend. While the feedback was mixed, it leaned mostly positive, with one enthusiastic remark declaring it the "*best smoothie ever!*" It was a fun and tasty way to learn about healthy eating.

News from Elder Class (Year 5)

During Healthy Living Week, Year 5 children researched, designed, and created their own healthy flapjack recipes! We found out about the nutritional benefits of a range of different ingredients and then children chose dried fruits and seeds to enhance the basic flapjacks recipe. In groups, the children worked on writing persuasive adverts to encourage buyers to choose their product, and used these to make a page for a digital recipe book. Finally, they followed their recipes to cook and eat the delicious flapjacks! Well done Year 5 - this week you have been food scientists, nutritionists, writers, advertisers, publishers, chefs, and food tasters!

News from Oak Class (Year 6)



This week in Year 6, we have begun to learn all about steganography in Computing: the art of hiding messages in pictures using binary code. In our first lesson, we learned that computers use a language made up of 0s and 1s called binary to read information. Every letter and number and even emoji has its own binary code! We then put our code-breaking skills to the test and wrote each other messages in binary code. It was much trickier than it looked but we're looking forwards to using our new knowledge to help us hide our secret messages!

KIDS' CRICKET!

WINTER SOFTBALL & HARDBALL TRAINING FOR AGES 7-15+



When: Sundays through March

Details:

Sessions start 02/03/25.

No experience needed.

Free taster sessions available.

Open to all, no need to be a member. Cost is £6 per session or £5 per session if you sign up for all five at the start.

Please contact your age-group manager or email Susie Lanaway (susie_maidment@hotmail.com) for information about timings and location for your child's age group.



**LEWES PRIORY
CRICKET CLUB**
ESTABLISHED 1831



LEWESPRIORY.PLAY-CRICKET.COM

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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<http://www.westernroad.e-sussex.sch.uk>

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.