

**WESTERN ROAD C.P.SCHOOL**

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<http://www.westernroad.e-sussex.sch.uk>**Newsletter No 5 – 10<sup>th</sup> December 2020**

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is difficult to believe we are already nearing the end of term! The children are busy preparing their Christmas celebrations – EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2 will perform their version of the Christmas Nativity, Years 3, 4 and 5 will perform 'The Grinch' and Year 6 will perform 'The Night Before Christmas'. Each performance will be managed carefully to ensure class bubbles are maintained and singing takes place in well-ventilated spaces.

The performances will be filmed on Tuesday, 15<sup>th</sup> December and then edited so they can then be shared with parents and carers via the school's private You Tube channel (accessible only via a link sent to each parent and carer). The permission slip asking for signed permission to film your child in their performance is attached to this newsletter. Please do complete the slip and return it to the School Office no later than Monday, 14<sup>th</sup> December.

Yesterday we celebrated the festive season with our Christmas lunch and had a visit from Father Christmas. Thank you to everyone who came into school wearing a Christmassy top or jumper too.

We are continuing to maintain our class bubbles to help keep everyone as safe as possible. Each classroom is well-ventilated and has their windows and doors open throughout the day. As the colder weather is upon us, please ensure your child is appropriately dressed with warm layers under their school uniform. Please also ensure your child brings a coat (preferably with a hood) into school every day.

**News from Year 4**

Can a plant survive in a bottle? Year 4 have been exploring living things in Science this term. This week, we investigated whether plants are alive, then planted our own biome in a bottle. We predicted whether it will maintain the seven life processes inside, using our knowledge of water cycles from last term to help us. We will be closely observing over the next few weeks to record a result!



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## Friends of Western Road's Christmas Festival 2020

### Western Road's Christmas Festival 2020

**Tree of Wishes:** You may have noticed the Christmas tree on the school field, this will be transformed into a *Tree of Wishes*. The children have been writing or drawing their wishes and hanging them on the tree.

**Hamper Raffle:** This year our hamper raffle is Sussex themed. There are six sea-grass baskets to be won, packed with hand-picked local luxury chocolates, drinks and food, ticket for Kipper's Snowy Day at the Depot and a set of five contemporary hardback books. Four more winning tickets will be drawn for additional sets of 5 contemporary hardback books. Raffle tickets will be on sale after school every day, starting Monday, 7th December, until the draw on Wednesday, 16th December. £1 per ticket. Please pay by card or cash (exact money only).

**Tea Towels:** Children's portrait tea-towels (£4.50 each) will be available for purchase after school, alongside the hamper raffle ticket sales. Please pay by card or cash (exact money only).

**Cake Sales:** Cake sales will be held after school on Wednesday, 16th and Thursday, 17th December. Please pay by card (£1 minimum) or cash (exact money only).

**Social Distancing:** Thank you for helping us maintain social distancing guidelines. For ticket and cake sales, we invite you to arrive at the school field 10 minutes before your child's scheduled pick-up time, leaving promptly as usual.

The Christmas tree on the field was kindly donated by Wilderness Wood <http://wildernesswood.org/christmas-trees/>

FWR raising funds for Western Road  
Thank you and Merry Christmas!



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The **Artists & Makers Virtually There Fair** is planned to take place Saturday, 12<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, 13<sup>th</sup> December. There will be a raffle with sales running from Monday, 7<sup>th</sup> December until Sunday, 13<sup>th</sup> December with raffle draws taking place at 6pm on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday that week. The Artist and Makers Fair supports local artists and raises much-needed funds for the school so please do support the event as much as you can. Thank you.

FWR have been looking for other ways to raise money for the school and you can help when you shop online. *Easyfundraising* turns your everyday online shopping into free donations with no cost to you or the school. Simply follow this link:

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/westernroadpta/?invite=8GW4C4&referral-campaign=c2s>

You could even download the free app to make it even easier. It would be really great if you and your friends and family could help the school raise money in this way, especially in the run up to Christmas. Thank you for your continued support.

FWR raising funds for Western Road  
Thank you and Merry Christmas!

### **Introduction of Forest School**

I am delighted that we will have a Forest School starting at Western Road in Term 3 for Year 1. We are working with colleagues from the Railway Land to offer Forest School on Tuesday afternoons, based on the school field. The nature of Forest School is child-led but we anticipate some of the following activities will be available: fire lighting, den making, green woodwork, nature observation, group games, creative activities, story making / telling, challenges etc! Thank you to FWR who have generously agreed to fund Forest School for the Year 1 class in Term 3. We hope other year groups will be able to participate in the sessions in due course.

### **Term 3 After School Clubs**

Albion In The Community will continue to run football club for Years 3 and 4 (girls and boys) after school on Thursdays on the school field. The club is running from Thursday, 14<sup>th</sup> January to Thursday, 4<sup>th</sup> February with a footballing coach for each class bubble. There are still spaces available so please do follow the links below if you would your child to join:

To book a place for a Year 3 child, please visit:

<https://bookings.albioninthecommunity.org.uk/soccerschools/courses/courses.htm?coursesSearch=search&clientCode=ASC-WRCPS-15>

To book a place for a Year 4 child, please visit:

<https://bookings.albioninthecommunity.org.uk/soccerschools/courses/courses.htm?coursesSearch=search&clientCode=ASC-WRCPS-16>

Premier Sport will continue to run Archery Club for Years 5 and 6 on Tuesdays. This will be on the school field so please ensure your child has appropriate wet weather clothing if necessary. Premier Sport will also be running a Gymnastics Club for Years 1 and 2 in the school hall on Tuesdays. Please see flyers sent out last week if you would like to book the sessions.

### **Reminder - Remaining INSET Days**

Monday, 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2021

Friday, 28<sup>th</sup> May 2021

### **Reminder - Advice and Support**

CLASS+ are a service that supports families and carers of children and young people with autism. They have a twice weekly advice line open Mondays 10am - 1pm and Fridays 12noon - 3pm. Please do call CLASS+ on 01273 336887 and ask for the CLASS+ advice line.

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### Reminder - Communication

Please ensure that you tell your child's class teacher or email/call the School Office **as early in the day as possible** if your child is to be collected by someone other than yourselves. We will not allow a child to go to a different adult without parental permission. If your child is in Year 5 or 6 and you would like your child to walk/cycle home without an adult, please email the School Office to confirm that in writing.

Please ensure your child's school uniform and belongings are clearly named so that any misplaced items can be returned to their owners. If your child brings home an item which does not belong to them, please return it to school as soon as possible.

### Reminder - Hot School Lunches

Chartwells continue to supply hot school lunches for EYFS – Year 6. These can be ordered by the children in the usual way in class each morning and paid for using ParentPay. If you have any queries regarding your ParentPay account, please contact the Bursar, Angi Samuels, [bursar@westernroad.e-sussex.sch.uk](mailto:bursar@westernroad.e-sussex.sch.uk). Children in EYFS – Year 2 are entitled to Universal Free School Meals.

### Reminder - The School Day

Thank you for helping by ensuring your child is on time for their class' staggered start at the appropriate entrance to the school site and for collecting them at the staggered exit times.

Year Group	Arrive Time	Departure Time	Entry/Exit Point
EYFS	8.45am	3.15am	White gate
Year 1	8.35am	3.05pm	White gate
Year 2	8.30am	3.00pm	White gate
Year 3	8.40am	3.10pm	Green gate (in Key Stage 2 playground)
Year 4	8.40am	3.10pm	Fire escape (around side of white fence)
Year 5	8.30am	3.00pm	Green gate (in Key Stage 2 playground)
Year 6	8.30am	3.00pm	Fire escape (around side of white fence)

A copy of the latest COVID-19 risk assessment can be found on the school website. It includes information on the wearing of face masks following current Government guidance.

As part of the risk assessment, we ask that you avoid 'gathering' on the school grounds and adhere to the above timings of the school day to ensure everyone can enter and exit the school safely and in a socially distanced manner.

**Please ensure you enter and exit the field as quickly as possible for drop off and collection times.**

**Please ensure you exit the field as quickly as possible once you have collected your child.**

### Reminder - Healthy Snack and Lunchbox Guidelines

At Western Road School we encourage a healthy, balanced diet. As such, we ask that **all** children bring a named water bottle to school to ensure they are hydrated throughout the day. Juice/smoothies can only be drunk at lunchtimes. Milk is provided for children on request (please see [www.coolmilk.com](http://www.coolmilk.com) for more information). Fizzy drinks are not permitted on the school site.

At breaktime, only fruit/vegetables, a healthy cereal bar, bread sticks or rice cakes should be eaten. Free fruit/vegetables for EYFS and Key Stage One is available daily.

### Packed Lunches

Please find below a list of suggested foods for lunch boxes and a list of foods that are not appropriate. We ask you to please follow these guidelines so your child is best prepared to concentrate and learn in the afternoon.

### Foods we encourage

- Sandwiches/rolls/wraps with meat, cheese, fish, marmite, salad (no chocolate spread or jam)

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- Salads: pasta, rice, couscous, potato
- Dairy products – cheese, Baby Bel, etc
- Fruit yoghurts (no chocolate content)
- Fresh fruit/dried fruit
- Vegetables
- Seeds
- Healthy cereal bars (low sugar/fat content)

#### Foods not appropriate

- Confectionary (chocolate, including chocolate biscuits, or sweets)
- Products which contain nuts (we have some children with nut allergies)

#### Only one of the following on any day

- Bag of crisps
- Small pack of biscuits
- Cake
- Processed food (e.g. Pepperami)
- Food high in fat/salt content (e.g. sausage rolls)

#### **Reminder - Attendance and Illness**

School attendance is mandatory again from the beginning of Term 1. Children's absence must be recorded in the usual way, by telephoning the School Office on the morning of absence and giving a clear reason so we may put the correct mark in the register. If your child has a stomach bug, please ensure they do not return to school until 48 hours after the last bout of illness to prevent the spread of infection.

It is usual at this time of year for children to suffer from common coughs and colds and the BBC have produced a helpful video which gives information about whether to send your child to school:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/av/health-54182329>

If a child or member of the household is unwell with COVID-19 symptoms:

a high temperature;

a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual);

a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste

the child should not attend school and we must be informed of this immediately by contacting the School Office.

In accordance with current Government guidance, if there is a case of Coronavirus in school, the person with symptoms must self-isolate for 10 days. The people they live with must self-isolate for 14 days.

#### **Updated COVID-19 information from the DfE (9<sup>th</sup> December 2020) for during the Christmas holidays**

- Where a pupil or staff member tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), having developed symptoms more than 48 hours since being in school, the school should not be contacted. Parents and carers should follow contact tracing instructions provided by NHS Test and Trace.
- For the first 6 days after teaching ends, if a pupil or staff member tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), having developed symptoms within 48 hours of being in school, the school is asked to assist in identifying close contacts and advising self-isolation, as the individual may have been infectious whilst in school. We ask that you contact [head@westernroad.e-sussex.sch.uk](mailto:head@westernroad.e-sussex.sch.uk) if a pupil or staff member tests positive for COVID-19 between the end of term and 24<sup>th</sup> December.

Thank you for your support in keeping the school community safe.

Irèna Wooler