



## Term 3 Week 1 Newsletter

Dear Families,

Happy New Year to you all! I hope you have had a lovely Christmas break and we are looking forward to seeing the children return to school tomorrow.

**The heating has been on in school today (Monday, 5th January 2026) and it will continue to be on to warm up the building before the children are on site and after lunch. During this cold snap, we will assess the building and site each day for safety and in case the heating needs to be on a bit more than usual. However, we are asking all children to ensure they are appropriately dressed for the weather and bring in a suitable coat (not hoodie) each day, along with hat/scarf/gloves as necessary. This helps to ensure the children are well prepared for break and lunchtimes (alongside learning environment time in EYFS and Key Stage 1) and**

**means they can enjoy the fresh air each day. Children should continue to wear their usual black/blue school shoes/trainers during the day but can bring these to change into from wellies/snow boots each morning. Please ensure ALL items are clearly named to prevent lost items.**

The gates will open at 8.40am and close at 8.50am - any child arriving after this time must be signed in at the School Office, in-line with our health and safety and attendance policies. As usual, there will be members of staff to greet the children at the white gate (EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2) and the green gate (Years 3 - 6) so please do let them know if you have any brief messages. You can also email the School Office ([office@westernroad.e-sussex.sch.uk](mailto:office@westernroad.e-sussex.sch.uk)) if you have a message for the class team or if your child has different arrangements for collection. As we are now in Term 3, we expect the younger children to walk through the white gate by themselves and wave to you from the EYFS gate/classroom step.

Years 5 and 6 begin their swimming sessions tomorrow and last until Tuesday, 24th March 2026. Please ensure children in Years 5 and 6 bring their swimming kits with them and do let the class teacher know if you are able to support with walking either class to/from Wave Leisure Centre. Years 3 and 4 will swim in Terms 5 and 6.

### **Term 3 School Value - Courageous**

Our school value for Term 3 is 'Courageous' and we will celebrate examples of it this term. If your child has shown particular courage, please do email me ([head@westernroad.e-sussex.sch.uk](mailto:head@westernroad.e-sussex.sch.uk)) so we congratulate them and share their it with our school community!

Best wishes,

Irèna Wooler

Headteacher

**We are a pine nut, nut and sesame-free school**



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.

## Healthy snacks / lunches



Please ensure your child brings in only fruit/vegetables OR a healthy cereal bar (we are a nut, pine nut and sesame-free school) OR bread sticks OR rice cakes. The Government also provide free fruit/vegetables for EYFS/Years 1-2 daily too.

We have noticed a number of children bringing crisps to school for their breaktime snack. These are not permitted so please ensure your child has an alternative (as above). We have also shared this with all children during our whole school assembly. Thank you for your support.

## Equality, Diversity and Inclusion - Global Citizens Project - UPDATE



At Western Road, we are proud to be a community that reaches far and wide. Each of our families brings with them stories, traditions, and connections that make our school a richer and more vibrant place.

This year, we are launching a **Global Citizens Project** to celebrate the many links we all have across the globe. Whether through family heritage, places we have lived, languages spoken at home, or experiences in the UK or abroad, we want to highlight the ways our community is connected to the wider world, beyond Lewes. We all need a sense of belonging. When we share our stories and learn from each other, we not only strengthen our sense of community but also help our children grow as open-minded, compassionate global citizens.

The world map is going up today!

## School Car Park and Safety - are you doing your bit?

Unfortunately we have noticed a number of vehicles parked unsafely around the school entrance. Please DO NOT park on the double yellow lines outside the school. It is hugely dangerous, obscuring places for children to cross the road safely and cutting off lines of sight for other drivers.

As part of being a healthy school, we encourage all families (where possible) to walk/cycle/scoot to and from school each day.

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.**

Reminder - Peripatetic teachers at Western Road



It was noted in Parent Forum that there are a number of families who would like to know more about peripatetic music lessons, please do contact the following for more information:

Russ Robinson (violin) [Russrobinsonviolin@outlook.com](mailto:Russrobinsonviolin@outlook.com)

[Create Music | Brighton Dome](#) (piano, keyboard, flute, singing)

Tom Cheek (guitar) [Welcome | Guitar Clubs | East & West Sussex](#)

Reminder - Online Safety Information



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.

*All dates added since the last Newsletter are in italic.*

### Term 3

#### Week 1

**Monday, 5th January**

INSET Day (4) - school closed, no after-school clubs

**Tuesday, 6th January**

Children return, after-school clubs restart (*apart from Outdoors Project which restarts 13th January 2026*)

***Healthy Living Week***

Year 5/6 swimming (afternoon and **every Tuesday afternoon until end of Term 4**)

**Week 2**

**Tuesday, 13th January**

9.15am EYFS September 2026 Open Session

Outdoor Project after-school club returns

**Wednesday, 14th January**

9am Celebration Assembly

**Friday, 16th January**

Indian Dance Workshops (Years 1 - 6)

**Week 3**

**Tuesday, 20th January**

*EYFS - Company of Critters visit (classroom)*

**Week 4**

**Wednesday, 28th January**

*9am Celebration Assembly*

## **Week 6**

**Tuesday, 10th February**

*Year 4 - Zoolab visit (classroom)*

*Internet Safety Day*

**Wednesday, 11th February**

Year 5 trip to Battle Abbey

*9am Celebration Assembly*

**Friday, 13th February**

3.15pm End of Term 3

## **Looking ahead:**

Monday, 11th May - Thursday, 14th May Year 6 SATS Week

Friday, 15th May - Year 6 Bowling trip

Monday, 18th May - Wednesday, 20th May Year 6 Bowles Residential trip

Monday, 1st June - INSET Day (5), school closed

Friday, 10th July - Sports Day

Tuesday, 14th July - Year 6 end of year dress rehearsal for the school

Wednesday, 15th July - 6pm Year 6 end of year performance

Friday, 17th July - Sports Day reserve day; reports out to families

Wednesday, 22nd July - 9.15am Year 6 Leavers' Assembly; 1.15pm finish

## Attendance and Punctuality



In August 2024, the Government published the statutory guidance on attendance. 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.

***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



**Please be aware that any shortfalls from trips/enrichment activities is very kindly covered by FWR. 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 year 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 this term.

Thank you in advance.

## Reminder - Message from the Bursar, Sarah Clifford

**The price for a two-course Chartwells school meal from September 2025 is £3.06.**

**It is important for all those with KS1 pupils to participate in the main two Census Days to maximise the funding available to you. We also encourage you to take advantage of the free added-value opportunities available, such as themed workshops, parent open days, and lunchtime taster pots.**

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 £3.06 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](mailto: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.

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 (DLSs): Mrs Hamilton, Mrs Bedford 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/>

Family First is changing how the support children and families in East Sussex; helping earlier before problems escalate. Please do use the consultation line (**01323 464655**) for early help and guidance. The service is open:

Monday - Thursday 8.30am - 5.00pm

Friday 8.30am - 4.30pm

## 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/](http://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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01273 473013

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

Headteacher: Irène Wooler

Deputy Headteacher: Rea Hamilton

SENCo: Kerry Bedford (Wednesday - Thursday)

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