

I sincerely apologise for any inconvenience caused by Premier Sports stopping gymnastics and multi-sports clubs. I was only made aware of the situation when they contacted me at the beginning of this week. Unfortunately, I am unable to put on any other clubs for Mondays or Tuesdays this term but will look to add more in Term 4 if possible.

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.

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.

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 remember that we 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. 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

Term 2 Sewing Club



Here are some examples of the Christmas decorations made in Sewing Club with Mrs Mannering. The children used a range of stitching techniques, along with adding beads and further embroidery for decoration. Well done, Sewing Club!





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, 6th January 2025

INSET 4 - School closed

Tuesday, 7th January 2025

Year 5/6 Swimming

Health Living Week begins

Wednesday, 8th January 2025

9.15am - 10.15am EYFS Open Session for prospective parents (September 2025)

Monday, 13th January 2025

NHS to visit EYFS - oral health focus

Year 2/4 Gymnastics with Zara

Tuesday, 14th January 2025

Year 5/6 Swimming

Indian Dance Workshops (whole school sessions)

Wednesday, 15th January 2025

9am Celebration Assembly

Monday, 20th January 2025

Year 2/4 Gymnastics with Zara

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

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

Tuesday, 4th February 2025

Year 5/6 Swimming

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

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.

Reminder: Arbor - School Trips and Club Payments



Thank you for your patience regarding the trip and club payment transition to Arbor.

We have really valued the feedback we have received to help make this transition smoother moving forwards. A reminder that ParentPay should only now be used for paying for school meals.

Remember that in order to pay for trips and clubs in Arbor, you must confirm your child is attending. If, for whatever reason you cannot do this, please do contact me at bursar@westernroad.e-sussex.sch.uk and I will do the necessary to push through the payment promptly. Sometimes turning your phone into landscape mode will give you options you can't see in portrait.

If the date of the trip or club has elapsed, you will no longer be able to confirm attendance. Again, please drop me a line with your child's name and club/trip, and I can push this through.

For those of you it has worked seamlessly for, we hope you agree that having the trip added to your child's calendar has been useful.

As we become a bit more familiar with the setup process, trips will start appearing within a much broader timeframe. Clubs, swimming reminders, INSET days, photo days and Parents

Evenings, will all start appearing in this calendar, making Arbor a 'one stop shop' for all things Western Road!

If you are having difficulty logging into Arbor, please do let us know and we will try our very best to resolve your issues.

Thank you,

Sarah Clifford

School Bursar (my working days are Mondays - Wednesdays)

Reminder - Lewes Foodbank Donations



Thank you so much for all the donations given for Lewes Foodbank for in Term 2 and following our Carols Around The Tree celebration.

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.

From this term, we will put 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.

News from Silver Birch (EYFS)

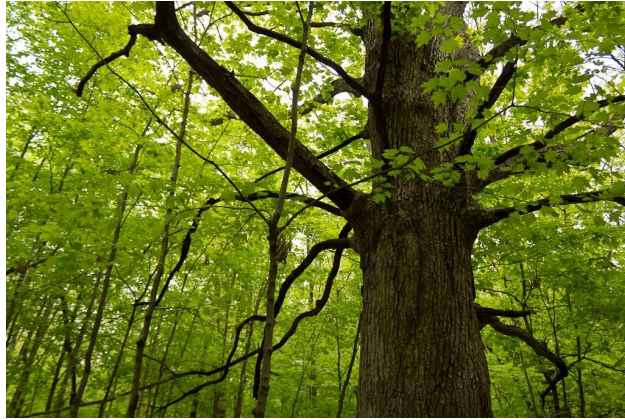
Before we broke up, Reception had another busy couple of weeks learning about more festivals. We have learnt about the Jewish festival of Hannukah and the Christian festival of Christmas.

The children were able to make comparisons between these festivals and talk about their own family traditions around Christmas time.

We enjoyed performing in 'Lights, Camel, Action' and feel proud that every child took to the stage and sang and danced brilliantly; well done Reception!

The last few weeks of term were particularly creative in EYFS and the children have used different decorating skills such as collage and printing to make a range of Christmas decorations.

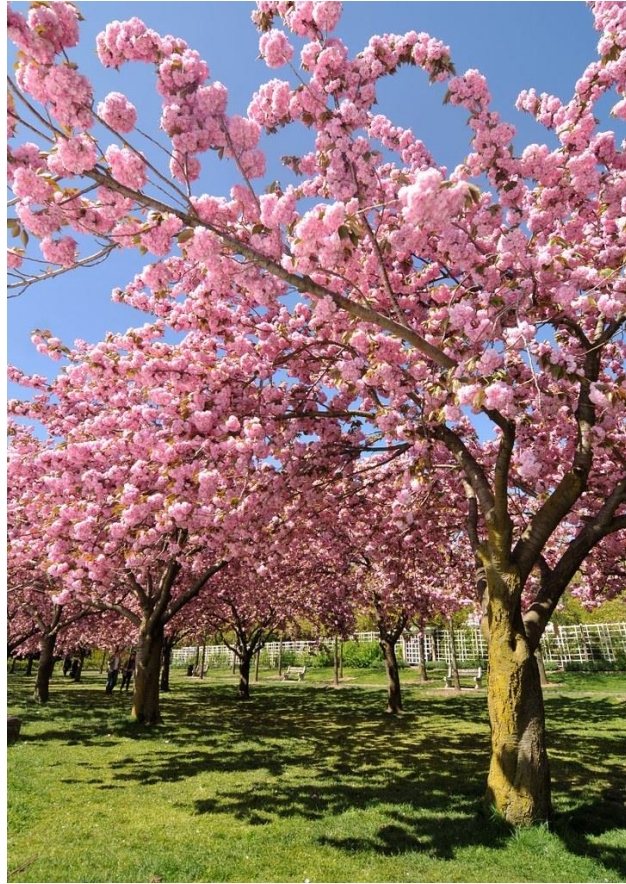
News from Elm Class (Year 1)



The children have designed their own Christmas Winter Houses, we looked at some houses to inspire us and then drew and labelled our own. The children made the houses in stages, initially choosing the wood they wanted, shaping the roof, adding windows, doors and a chimney. The children then decorated their houses with some smaller items and then decided to either paint or varnish them dependent on their initial design.

The project took many weeks and the children were able to demonstrate many of the values of Western Road, particularly resilience, courage and incredible skills.

News from Cherry Class (Year 2)



At the end of last term, Year 2 has truly shone in their nativity performance! They did an amazing job and we are so proud of their hard work and dedication. Their enthusiasm and effort really brought the story to life and it was a joy to see them perform.

In addition to their nativity success, Year 2 learned all about emperor penguins. The children showed great curiosity and enthusiasm as they explored these fascinating creatures. They also began writing some fantastic stories, showcasing their creativity and imagination. Well done, Year 2! Keep up the great work!

News from Larch Class (Year 3)



Before the break, Year 3 had a fun couple of weeks, finishing up units of work from the term. We did an investigation about shadows and the students made observations of the width of the shadow when the light source moves farther away from the opaque object. In English, we used non-fiction features to write facts about King Tutankhamun. We gathered information by watching videos, reading websites and reading books. Did you know that there were over 5,000 objects found in King Tut's tomb? We saved the best project for last and created tombs with rising mummies using syringes and tubes to use air to make things move (pneumatics). Thanks for all those shoe boxes!

News from Willow Class (Year 4)



Last term, we learned about extreme weather, using the Lewes floods as a case study to explore the causes of flooding and the impact such an event had on the lives of people in our community. We also learned about the effect greenhouse gases have on the planet and are keen to share with others in our school community the small changes we can make in our everyday lives to help the environment. Simple actions, such as switching off lights when leaving a room, can make a real difference.

In maths, we focused on strengthening our times tables knowledge, particularly the 6, 7, 8, and 9 times tables. We encourage you to continue practising these at home to help your child build confidence and ensure any gaps are filled. Our goal is for all children to achieve quick and accurate recall of these key facts. A highlight of last term was been the candy cane advent calendar, which helped us count down the days to the end of term and Christmas.

News from Elder Class (Year 5)

Last term in our Year 5 music lessons, we listened to Gustav Holst's "Planets Suite" - a set of 7 pieces of orchestral music written around 100 years ago, each describing or imagining a different planet in our solar system. The children then worked in groups to compose music to represent Earth, they rehearsed and performed these, using percussion instruments. The compositions were all based on a single ostinato (repeating rhythmic pattern) that the group composed to describe the Earth. We have also been listening to a range of other space-influenced music, including David Bowie's famous "Space Oddity", as well as the themes from E.T. The Extra Terrestrial and 2001 Space Odyssey.

News from Oak Class (Year 6)



At the end of last term, Year 6 made carousels in DT as part of both our electricity unit in Science and our learning about the Victorians. The children first designed and built their own circuits to control the movement of their projects. We then measured and sawed different materials to make the foundations of our carousel, before creating and decorating the platform the passengers will ride on. Whilst lots of the children wanted their projects to pay homage to our much-loved class ducks, many have chosen other interesting concepts to theme their carousel around - from outer space to axolotls!

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



Southover High Street,

Lewes,

East Sussex

BN7 1JB

01273 473013

<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.