



Term 1 Week 2 Newsletter 2024

Dear Families,

Welcome to Term 1 - I cannot begin to tell you how wonderful it is to see everyone in school! We have already welcomed our new Reception class who are settling really well and playing with Years 1 and 2 at lunchtimes, along with the buddies. Year 4 children have met with Miss Ferber, along with children in Years 5 and 6, and the new buddy rota is up and running too. The older children are able to help the younger children in the hall at lunchtimes and also have the option to work with them on the playground, helping them in their play. Thank you to all the buddies who have signed up and are doing a great job already!

Our Year 3 and Year 5 classes have started their Forest School sessions with Katie Griffiths. Thank you to FWR who fund the incredible sessions and to all the parents and carers who volunteer to help make the sessions possible. Year 4 have also started to learn brass band instruments on Thursdays with Create Music and these lessons will continue until the middle of Term 2. Thank you to Rachel Callow, our music subject leader, for organising the lessons.

Year 6 have had a busy week with Bikeability, learning and consolidating safe cycling around the streets of Lewes and earning their Level 2 badges and certificates. The Bikeability team, Sarah and Ed, have been so impressed with the resilience the children have shown throughout the sessions.

Years 5 and 6 went to Branching Out on Wednesday, 11th September where they tackled high ropes and climbing. The children had a fantastic time, many facing their fears, and working well together to build their teamworking skills. Well done Years 5 and 6!

All after-school clubs started this week and Choir Club re-starts on Monday, 16th September. Please remember that all after-school clubs finish promptly at 4.15pm and children should be collected from the black gate. **Please note, due to an existing appointment, Sewing Club will not run on Thursday, 26th September.** Children who are not attending after-school clubs should be collected promptly at 3.15pm please.

Over the summer holidays we had a number of exciting projects taking place. The school library has moved upstairs, allowing children greater access to the books and enjoy sharing them with their peers and reading to adults. The room (downstairs) that used to house the library been split into two rooms, with thanks to FWR for helping to fund the project. We now have a dedicated quiet space and a sensory space to help children with their learning. Two sinks have been fitted in the Gallery area, with thanks to FWR for funding this, as phase 1 of the development of the space. The next step is look at converting existing furniture to moveable pieces and building storage spaces with the intention that the space can and will be used for whole class and group Art and DT projects, as well as being an area for interventions when needed. Katie Griffiths and Rea Hamilton worked together to design and make a whole school timeline, showing different periods in history which link to our curriculum. The children have already had great discussions about key events and how they link to historical periods! A huge thank you to FWR, Katie Griffiths, Rea Hamilton, Zoe Fisher and Suzy Bennett for helping to organise the different projects.

Our whole school value for Term 1 is 'well-rounded' which we teach through our broad and balanced curriculum and is a focus of our assemblies. As part of the term's focus, I would love to celebrate examples of Western Road children being 'well-rounded' outside of school by sharing them with our community in the the next newsletter. Examples could be all sorts of different activities including music, sports, charity work, caring for animals and our environment - the list is endless! Please do send any contributions you are happy to share to the School Office office@westernroad.e-sussex.sch.uk by Friday, 27th September. Thank you!

Please remember that we a nut-free and sesame-free school due to 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.

Notes from Parent Forum for the whole school community:

Following on from our Parent Forum meeting at the end of last year, please could everyone work together to ensure the school site is as safe as possible by switching off car engines whilst waiting in the car park. The exhaust fumes while the cars idle affect the school site and impact on the children's wellbeing as they enter and leave the school, in addition to the adverse impact it has on the environment. Your support in this would be greatly appreciated.

Also raised in Parent Forum was safety of families as they enter the black gates, are on the field and coming through from Potter's Lane. There are a significant number of people (adults and children) using scooters and bikes which do help the environment. However, some of these people are not showing safe behaviours e.g. cycling/scooting too fast around children, particularly younger children, cycling/scooting on the path and weaving through groups of people. Please ensure you are modelling safe scooting and cycling and encouraging your children to do the same.

Whole school reminder: As we enjoy some sunny periods in our steps towards Autumn, please ensure your child continues to come to school in appropriate uniform and footwear (see below for full details). Children should come to school in their PE kit and trainers/plimsolls if they have PE that day or Forest School clothes (Year 3 on Tuesdays and Year 5 on Thursdays). Children should wear their usual black or blue school shoes/trainers at all other times. As the weather is so changeable at the moment, please ensure your child comes to school with a warm (preferably waterproof) coat, clearly labelled, each day, in addition to a sunhat. Wellies may also be needed depending upon the weather forecast. By having appropriate clothing in school, it helps everyone to enjoy the 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







School Calendar



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

Tuesday, 17th September

Year 3 Forest School

Wednesday, 18th September

9am Celebration Assembly

2.45pm EYFS Phonics Meeting (all Reception families welcome to attend)

Thursday, 19th September

Year 5 Forest School

Year 4 Brass Band

Tuesday, 24th September

Year 3 Forest School

Thursday, 26th September

No Sewing Club

Year 5 Forest School

Year 4 Brass Band

Tuesday, 1st October

Year 3 Forest School

Wednesday, 2nd October

9am Celebration Assembly

Thursday, 3rd October

CENSUS DAY

Year 5 Forest School

Year 4 Brass Band

Year 2 to Brooklands Motor Museum

Tuesday, 8th October

Year 3 Forest School

Thursday, 10th October

Year 5 Forest School

Year 4 Brass Band

Year 6 Safety In Action (9.30am - 11.30am to Plumpton)

Monday, 14th October

9am Friends of Western Road Annual General Meeting

Tuesday, 15th October

Year 3 Forest School - final session

Wednesday, 16th October

9am Celebration Assembly

Thursday, 17th October

Year 5 Forest School - final session

Year 4 Brass Band

4.30pm - 7.30pm Parents' Evening (more details to follow)

Friday, 18th October

9am Parent Forum

Tuesday, 22nd October

3.30pm - 6.30pm Parents' Evening (more details to follow)

Wednesday, 23rd October

9am Harvest Festival (more details to follow)

3.15pm - 4.15pm EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2 FWR Halloween Disco

4.30pm - 5.30pm Years 3 - 6 FWR Halloween Disco

Tuesday, 5th November

No after-school clubs due to Lewes Bonfire Night celebrations

Wednesday, 6th November

INSET 3 - School closed (INSET day in middle of the week due to Lewes Bonfire Night celebrations on Tuesday, 5th November)

Friday, 20th December

1.15pm End of Term 2

Monday, 6th January 2025

INSET 4 - School closed

Monday, 2nd June 2025

INSET 5 - School closed

Tuesday, 22nd July 2025

1.15pm End of Term 6

Attendance Update



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:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/66bf301e253aee7aafdbdfea/Summary_table_of_responsibilities_for_school_attendance_-_August_2024.pdf

School Council



As you may have seen, we are really excited to have our new trim trail on the field! This was a joint project between Western Road and Southover School to provide the children with more opportunities to develop their physical and mental health during lunch and break times.

The School Councils from both schools met over a period of time to look at different pieces of equipment and then voted on pieces that they thought would make the best trail. The children were encouraged to consider the different ages and abilities of the children as well as thinking about moving through, over and between equipment.

I think you can agree that they've done a great job!

The trim trail will have a 'grand opening' with School Councillors from both teams present. It will then be available for Western Road children on their usual field days which are Tuesday and Thursday. We will also make sure that every class has the opportunity to use the trim trail during next week so that they have the opportunity to spend time getting to use the different sections. We will have a play assembly too to discuss how we will be using it safely with consideration to others.

As with Forest School and our playgrounds, the trim trail will not be for use by families before school and after school. Whilst we understand that it is new and exciting, the children will only have access to it during the school day under supervision of school staff. Thank you for your understanding.

This term, the School Council we will continue with our gender stereotyping work with the school in Beijing. Please look over the copy of 'The Paper Bag Princess' that I gave you and begin to consider how you will present your thoughts to the rest of School Council and our link school.

Do you think the representations of the Prince are accurate? Why? Why not?

Do you think the representations of the Princess is accurate? Why? Why not?

How are princesses often depicted in stories? Has this changed over time?

How would you want to be depicted in a story? Why?

Your thoughts could be presented in a game, a poster, a power point. Whatever you like!

Thanks again for your time and commitment on School Council.

Miss Ferber

Friends of Western Road



You're Invited



Friends of Western Road Coffee Morning

Come along to find out more about FWR & chat to some of the members over a coffee and cake!

Monday 14th October

9am

School Hall



westernroad.friends@outlook.com

The Friends of Western Road (FWR) are holding their Annual General Meeting on Monday, 14th October at 9am in the School Hall. You are all welcome to come along to the meeting, find out more about what FWR and what they do to support the whole school (huge amounts!!!). There will be tea/coffee and CAKE and we look forward to seeing you there!

If you have any queries, please do email westernroad.friends@outlook.com

Artists and Makers Fair 2024 - message from Jane Morley



The graphic is a colorful grid of icons and text. The top row contains a red and white triangle, the word 'ARTISTS' in white on a blue background, an ampersand '&' in white on a red background, a sunburst icon, and an eye icon. The second row contains a hand icon, a tree icon, the word 'MAKERS' in white on a green background, and the word 'FAIR' in white on a red background. The third row contains a star icon, the text 'FRI 29 / SAT 30 NOVEMBER' in white on a blue background, the year '2024' in white on an orange background, a starburst icon, and a bird icon.

SAVE THE DATE!

Opening Night
Fri 29th Nov, 6pm-8.30pm

Main Fair
Sat 30th Nov, 9am-5pm

80+ stalls, gifts, art, food & fun
Lewes Town Hall

Find out more at –
www.artistsandmakersfair.com

 [artistsandmakers](https://www.instagram.com/artistsandmakers)

The incredible Artists and Makers Fair is back on 29th and 30th November! It is sure to be a wonderful event and raises much-needed funds for Western Road.

As always we're looking for volunteers both in the lead up and on the day. If you're interested in getting involved please email artistsandmakersfair@gmail.com

Thanks

Jane

Jane Morley

Events and Special Projects

07719 091 642

Reminder - Arbor - School Communication and Contacts



All emails go from the school are sent via Arbor. Please ensure you check your personal information carefully so we have up-to-date contact details, home addresses, medical information etc. Please ensure you keep this information up-to-date to ensure we are able to contact you in emergencies.

If you have any queries once you have logged in and checked your child's details, please do email me (head@westernroad.e-sussex.sch.uk). Thank you.

Reminder - Lewes Foodbank Donations



Thank you so much for all the donations given for Lewes Foodbank last academic year.

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 this term, along with our Harvest Festival donations.

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.

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 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

SEND/CO: Suzy Bennett as Kerry Bedford is currently on maternity leave

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