



Term 2 Week 3 Newsletter 2024

Dear Families,

We are nearly half-way through the term and the school is buzzing with learning and enrichment activities. The brief snow spell today was met with great excitement and it was wonderful to see so many children enjoying playing it while it lasted!

We marked Armistice Day on 11th November with two minutes silence and class assemblies, helping the children to understand the day. The school also raised £232.22 for the Royal British Legion - thank you everyone for your support.

We celebrated Anti-Bullying Week last week where the children learned about the importance of kindness and staying safe. We really enjoyed seeing everyone marking Odd Socks Day with a wide range of socks worn to raise awareness of everyone being unique and special. As part of that week, the school also dressed in own clothes/spots/yellow items to recognise Children In

Need where we raised just over £300 for the charity. Thank you so much to everyone who contributed towards the day and to Miss Jones and Ms Ferber for helping to plan the week with the School Council.

The School Council and Debating Team (some of Years 5 and 6) also visited the Town Hall on Monday, 18th November to learn about local council and the importance of having a voice. The Debating Team discussed lowering the voting age to 14 with the potential benefits and drawbacks. Thank you very much to Miss Jones for leading the trip and to Gabbie Jerrit (Chair of Governors) for leading the Debating Team!

Looking ahead, we have the EYFS Open Sessions next week for families with children starting school in September 2025. I am delighted that so many Year 6 children have volunteered to lead the tours as they are fantastic ambassadors for the school. The School Choir are also busy rehearsing for their performance at Glyndebourne in December, along with the school preparing for the festive season.

As last term, I would love to continue to celebrate examples of Western Road children showing the school values each term. Term 2's value is 'resilient' and it would be super to hear of children being resilient outside of school and share those examples with the school community in 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, 6th December. Thank you!

One example of a child showing incredible resilience is Zoe (Year 3) who Zoe was a prize-winning finalist at the Third Chinese English Bilingual Recitation Competition in London on Sunday, 17th November, reciting a story in Chinese and English in front of an audience of over 60 people! Congratulations Zoe, we are so proud of 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 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

School Calendar



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

Thursday, 21st November

Final Year 4 Brass Band - performance to parents and carers 2.30pm

Monday, 25th November

EYFS Muddy Monday

Year 5 and 6 Gymnastics

1.30pm - 2.30pm EYFS Open Session (for those starting school September 2025)

Tuesday, 26th November

9.15am - 10.15am EYFS Open Session (for those starting school September 2025)

Wednesday, 27th November

9.15am - 10.15am EYFS Open Session (for those starting school September 2025)

Friday, 29th November

6.00pm - 8.30pm Artists and Makers preview night - Lewes Town Hall

Saturday, 30th November

10.00am - 5.00pm Artists and Makers event - Lewes Town Hall

Monday, 2nd December

EYFS Muddy Monday

Year 5 and 6 Gymnastics

Tuesday, 3rd December

2.30pm Rachel Fryer's piano students' concert

Thursday, 5th December

9am Maths meeting for Years 1 - 3 families (rearranged from Wednesday, 13th November, see email sent 13th November with more information and MS Form to book)

2pm Sussex Downs Pantomime performance (Peter Pan)

Friday, 6th December

2pm Parent Forum

Monday, 9th December

EYFS Muddy Monday

Year 5 and 6 Gymnastics

Final Choir Club of the term

Wednesday, 11th December

9am Celebration Assembly

4pm School Choir performance at Glyndebourne (leave school at 12.15pm for 12.45pm arrival, 4pm performance)

Thursday, 12th December

9.20am Nativity

Friday, 13th December

1.30pm Nativity

Monday, 16th December

No Choir Club

EYFS Muddy Monday

Year 5 and 6 Gymnastics

Thursday, 19th December

Polly's piano students' concert (time to be confirmed)

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 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.

Artists and Makers Fair 2024 - message from Jane Morley



ARTISTS & MAKERS FAIR

**FRI 29 / SAT 30
NOVEMBER**

2024

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**

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

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 Harvest Festival last term.

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

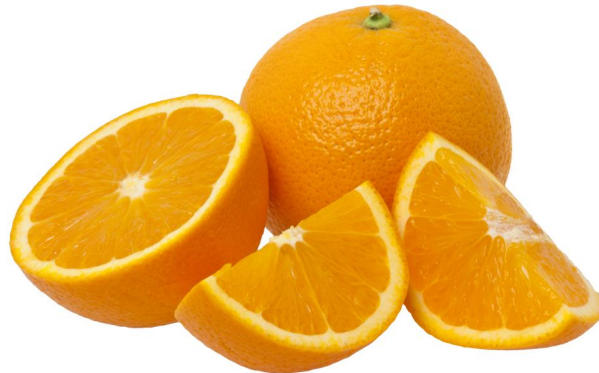
Please note, hoodies and jewellery (apart from a wristwatch when appropriate or stud earrings that can be taken out for PE) are not part of the school uniform and must not be worn in school.

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.

News from Silver Birch (EYFS)

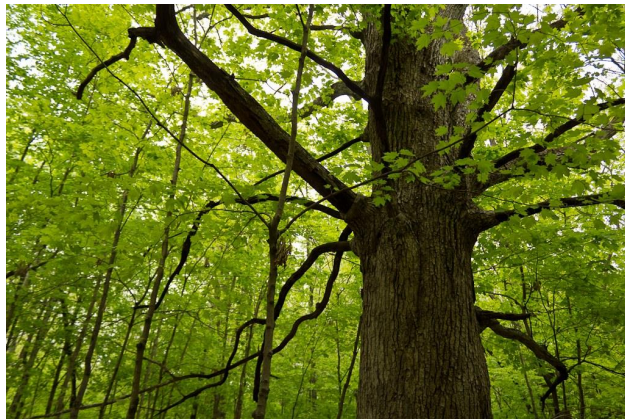
Silver Birch have had a busy start to the term!

We have begun our topic 'Celebrations.' Of course, the learning in the first week was around Bonfire Night! We spoke about how it is celebrated in Lewes and why. The children were keen to talk about their feelings and experiences linked to bonfires and fireworks. So lovely to hear! We used this learning to create some beautiful firework inspired art as well and having a go at writing onomatopoeias such as hiss, pop and whizz! The children were so inspired, we changed our role play area into a fire and even have hot chocolates for sale!

Everyone has loved starting Muddy Monday's! During our time in the woodland we have spoken about Autumn and the changes we have noticed. The children loved rustling and crunching the beautiful leaves. There has been great team work building dens and the mud kitchen is a massive hit!

Last week we are celebrating us! We thought about what is special and unique about ourselves. We are looking forward to thinking about other celebrations and talking about our own family traditions.

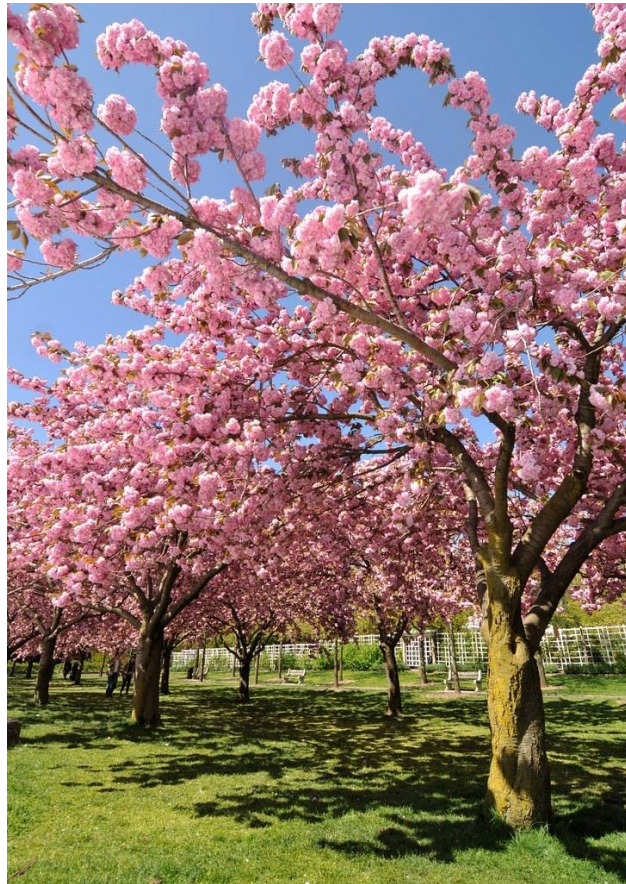
News from Elm Class (Year 1)



Year 1 have a great start to Term 2. One day we found 'something' had landed in our playground we had some great ideas about what it may be. The following day the book Beegu arrived and we read her story about her visit to Earth and we have been focusing our writing around her. We have had a visit from the planetarium and the children were in awe at being able to see the planets close up and learn about them. Finally, our Christmas woodwork houses

are coming along nicely - the children are starting to get creative adding their own individual ideas!

News from Cherry Class (Year 2)



Year 2 have had a great start to the term! We have been looking at the changes in our weather and looking out for signs of Autumn which we have used to write some very descriptive poems. We have now moved on to our topic of "Ice" and will be learning all about Ernest Shackleton and his adventures. In science, we have been focusing on habitats and comparing the polar regions to where we live as well as exploring ice. We have also started learning our lines and songs for the Christmas Show which will be on Thursday, 12th and Friday, 13th December. I have sent the children home with their lines - please could they practise these at home. Thank you!

News from Larch Class (Year 3)



Starting the term, Year 3 has looked into the past to the Ancient Egyptian times and this topic has sparked curiosity among the students. We began the unit by learning about mummification and created our own 'natron' to mummify an apple slice. We will open the tomb in one week's time to see what a mummified apple slice looks like. Over the term, we will look at various artefacts which were found in King Tutankhamun's tomb. These historical relics will give us insight into understanding what life was like in Ancient Egypt.

In PE, we started a gymnastics unit and challenged ourselves to create creative balances to hold for 5 seconds on various apparatus.

In Science, we are learning about light and so far, we have found out that it is a form of energy, it can only travel in straight lines and there are two sources of light: natural and artificial.

We are busy getting stuck into our learning and we look forward to a fun and festive term!

News from Willow Class (Year 4)



Year 4 have had a busy start to the term. We are learning about electricity in science and spent the first week categorising appliances in the home and school as those that use no electricity, those that use mains electricity or those that use batteries. Some interesting discussions followed, for example, how to classify cars, both electric and petrol or diesel. In the weeks to follow, we will build simple circuits and learn which materials conduct electricity and which do not.

In art, we are learning how various artists depict the weather in their work. This week, we made a collaged sunscape and in the weeks to come, we will continue to create weather-based art using a variety of media.

We are also very pleased to have created a cover for our new topic of Extreme Weather in Computing using Publisher - each one is unique and reflects our individual learning journeys.

We are continuing to learn to play a brass instrument with Brass Sparks and we can't wait to show off what we have learnt in our upcoming performance.

News from Elder Class (Year 5)

Year 5 have thrown themselves into this term's Science topic "Earth and Space" with great enthusiasm for learning! Last week, we had a wonderful visit from our STEM ambassador, Kerry, who told us all about her fascinating research projects about the Moon and about Venus, as well as inspiring us all with her passion for the space shuttle programme, the International

Space Station, and the future of space exploration! We were also thrilled to take a virtual trip through our solar system and beyond in the visiting planetarium from Herstmonceaux Science Museum and Observatory.

Don't forget Year 5 Moon Day next Wednesday, 27th November - children can dress up in anything Moon-related or anything to do with space!

News from Oak Class (Year 6)



This week, Year 6 went to Preston Manor to experience a day in the life of a Victorian servant. We learned all about the different jobs children could have had in large manor houses, such as a kitchen maid, footman or a chimney sweep and we tried our best to fulfil the expectations of the strict housekeeper, Mrs Allen. We polished boots until they shone, memorised the different pitches of the house bells to see who needed assistance and some of us even got to make Victorian lemonade!

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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Lewes,

East Sussex

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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.