



Term 3 Week 4 Newsletter 2025

Dear Families,

We have come to the end of another exciting fortnight filled with learning and fun. Year 1 visited the Booth Museum and Year 3 visit Brighton Museum - do read the class updates to see what the children got up to! We have also focused on our Term 3 school value - courageous in whole school assemblies and discussed the importance of taking small steps towards something that may seem daunting.

Alongside the focus on the school value, we will mark Children's Mental Health Week during class and whole school assemblies and PSHE lessons. The School Council have voted to for a whole school own clothes day on Friday, 7th February 2025 where children are able to wear

what they like to mark the day. If your child has PE that day (Year 4 and EYFS), please ensure they are in suitable clothing and footwear for the PE lesson. Thank you for your support.

A huge thank you to Mrs Hamilton for all her hard work with Seedy Saturday:

We were delighted to return to Seedy Saturday on Saturday, 1st February for our third consecutive year of selling greetings cards. Featuring graffiti art created by our Year Sixes last summer when they were in Year 5, this year's project, the Lost Flowers, raised awareness about native wildflowers. As has been the case in previous years, the cards each have a QR code on the back linking to the children's research about the 30 species that feature on the cards, to raise awareness with every card that is sent. Throughout the day, I was joined by a number of Year 6 volunteers who helped to run the stall. The volunteers were a true credit to the school - informing customers about the project, discussing the techniques they used to produce the art, as well as sharing their knowledge of the species featured. We are delighted to have raised just over £300! As with previous years, the profits will go towards future arts and outdoors learning; this year we are hoping to purchase seeds and plug plants to start our own wildflower area to build on our knowledge and enhance the biodiversity of our site. Thank you to all of the Year 6 children who have helped to launch and sell the cards over the last couple of weeks, and to all of the families who visited our stall at the weekend. A special thank you also to Tonka Peeva for photographing the original artwork, and to Cloud White for formatting the photographs, designing the cards and arranging the printing. We will be holding a further card sale after school one day this week (day tbc). Some of our Year 6 children will also be showcasing the Lost Flowers project at a Green United conference at the University of Sussex next week.

Please note, the EYFS team will be hosting a Maths meeting for parents and carers on Wednesday, 12th February (2.45pm - 3.10pm). Please do come along to the meeting to discuss how we help your children to learn.

Please remember that we are 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. 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.

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.

One child who is demonstrating our school value is Mara. *She recently lost her confidence cycling when she got a new bike and became really scared to cycle at all. However, a few weekends ago, Mara got back on the bike, even though she really didn't want to, and she practised going round and round the basketball court in Malling. Mara did so well that she was able to cycle all the way to her grandparents' house in South Street. I was really proud of her doing something she had got so scared of. Well done, Mara and keep up the super courageous cycling!*

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.***
- ***Football boots/alternative trainers must be worn for girls' football lunchtime club due to the current muddy conditions.***
- **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 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



Royal Academy of Arts - Young Artists' Summer Show

We are delighted to participate in the Young Artists Summer Show again this year, through the Royal Academy of Arts. Registration and submissions are now open to the Young Artists' Summer Show, the online and onsite exhibition at the Royal Academy of Arts, featuring work by

artists aged 4-18. Find out more and get involved by visiting <https://youngartists.royalacademy.org.uk/> The Summer Show is free for parents/carers to enter their child's work but please do submit all pieces by **Wednesday, 5 March at 5pm.**

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, 3rd February 2025

Year 2/4 Gymnastics with Zara

Children's Mental Health Week

EYFS Muddy Monday

Tuesday, 4th February 2025

Year 5/6 Swimming

Company of Critters to visit EYFS

Thursday, 6th February 2025

Zoolab to visit Year 4

Friday, 7th February 2024

9am Parent Forum

Own clothes day to mark Children's Mental Health Week

Monday, 10th February 2025

Year 2/4 Gymnastics with Zara

EYFS Muddy Monday

Tuesday, 11th February 2025

Year 5/6 Swimming

Safer Internet Day

Wednesday, 12th February 2025

9am Celebration Assembly

2.45pm - 3.10pm EYFS Maths Meeting (all EYFS parents/carers invited)

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

Friday, 7th February 2025

9am Parent Forum

Non-uniform day to mark Children's Mental Health Week

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.

Trips and Enrichment Activities



Following the wonderful Indian Dance Workshops this term, we would really appreciate a voluntary donation of **£2.86** towards costs. This is payable via Arbor/Trips.

Please be aware that any shortfalls from trips/enrichment activities is very kindly covered by FWR. From September 2024, that shortfall currently equals £889.14. 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 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.

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 are enjoying their 'Habitats' topic and have so far enjoyed learning about woodland, rainforest and polar habitats. The children have compared habitats by their environment and also by the creatures that live there.

We have written animal fact files for rainforest creatures and considered why and how they have adapted for their climate and environment.

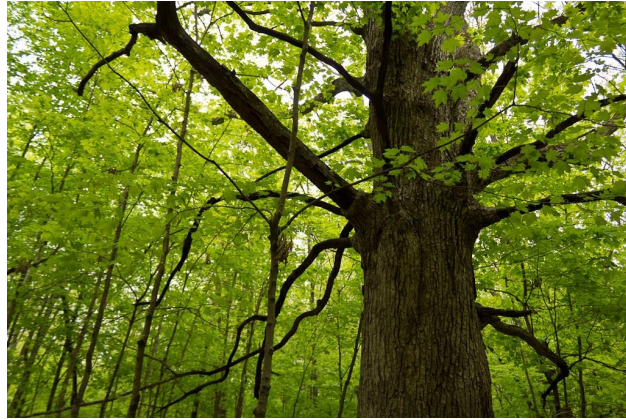
This week we have been learning about polar regions and sorted creatures between the north and south polar regions.

The children have taken part in lots of creative activities such as making snakes, tiger masks and penguin collages. The children are developing their cutting skills by making rainforest pictures.

The learning environment has been buzzing with fantastic team work and a day does not go by without us seeing a brilliant creation made from wooden blocks, crates or magnetic shapes!

Keep it up Silver Birch!

News from Elm Class (Year 1)

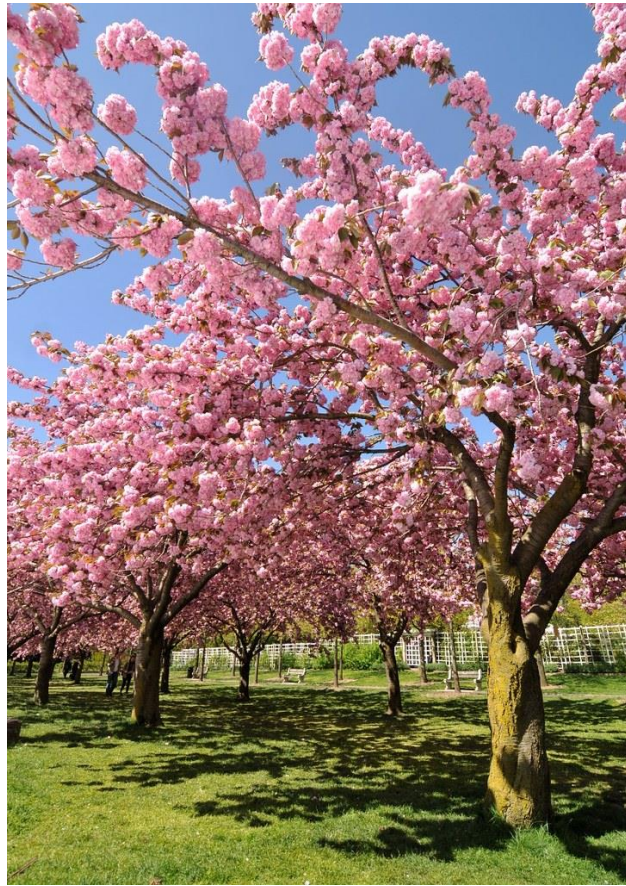


Year 1 have just returned from a informative trip to the Booth Museum. At the museum they had the opportunity to 'meet' Mary Anning and ask her questions including finding out about her life and her love of finding fossils. We were given some jobs to do namely, identifying dinosaur features on birds, sorting out and selling items from Mary's shop and sorting objects into manmade, fossil and rock.

After lunch we went back to the museum and used our science learning to identify the diets of various animals in the museum. We were able to identify omnivores, herbivores and carnivores focusing on features such as their teeth and claws.

The museum staff commented on how well behaved the children were which made us extremely proud of Elm Class.

News from Cherry Class (Year 2)



Year 2 have truly embraced their new topic of India, diving in with enthusiasm and curiosity! The children kicked off their learning by role-playing an aeroplane flight, sparking excitement for their journey around the world. They've been busy researching India's human and physical features, gaining a deeper understanding of the country. In addition, we've been exploring the fascinating world of animals, focusing on how they are grouped and their unique needs for survival. During learning environment time, the children have shown great creativity and teamwork – booking holidays around the world in our role-play area, building dens and strengthening cooperation and communication skills, constructing symmetrical buildings using 3D shapes which they can now name, and creating beautiful patterned art. In music, they've begun learning a friendship song, using glockenspiels to practice parts of the melody and even improvising their own rhythms. It's been a busy, engaging start to the term and the children have shown incredible enthusiasm and dedication in their learning!

News from Larch Class (Year 3)



The Year 3s went to the Brighton Museum last week to go back in time. They participated in a Stone Age workshop where they handled various a lot of Stone Age artefacts that were found on Whitehawk Hill in Brighton. By examining the artefacts and other objects, the students were able to determine what jobs people had: hunter-gatherers, farmers, tool makers and cooks.

News from Willow Class (Year 4)



This term, Year 4 students have been busy creating rainforest dioramas! These detailed 3D models showcase the different layers of the rainforest – the emergent layer, canopy, understory, and forest floor. We have also included rainforest animals such as toucans, jaguars and tree frogs, along with key vocabulary to describe this incredible ecosystem. It has been a fantastic way to bring their learning to life!

In French, Year 4 have been learning to express their food preferences! They have been using phrases such as:

J'aime (I like)

Je n'aime pas (I don't like)

Je déteste (I hate)

We have had fun discussing our favorite and least favourite foods – from les croissants to les escargots!

News from Elder Class (Year 5)

Year 5 have immersed themselves in their learning about the Anglo Saxons this term. After learning about who the Anglo Saxons were, and considering the push and pull factors that led to them settling in England, we have gone on to learn about Alfred the Great and the many things he did that influenced life as we know it today - including making Lewes a burh (fortified town) as part of his defence against Viking raiders. We have also been learning information about what every day life was like in Anglo Saxon times, and the children have been set the homework task of making models of Anglo Saxon homes to complement this learning. In our English lessons, we have been taking inspiration from the story of Beowulf to innovate our own class mythical tale, featuring alliteration, kennings and perfecting our use of accurate speech punctuation and fronted adverbials. We are very proud of the work we have done so far, and we can't wait for all of the children to build on their learning by inventing their very own myth over the next two weeks. We are also looking forward to visiting Battle Abbey in the last week of term, to learn about the Battle of Hastings and its impacts.

News from Oak Class (Year 6)



This week in Year 6, the children have been publishing the short suspense stories they have been working on over the first half of Term 3. We have worked hard on our descriptive writing skills to create a tense atmosphere, and how we can build suspense using different sentence types. The children have also made a huge effort to expand their vocabulary using thesauruses — they've even managed to teach Miss Wilkes and Mrs Allcorn some new words! Whether it be bone-chilling beasts lingering in the shadows or a gruesome discovery in an alleyway, Year 6 have worked tirelessly to produce stories they are proud of and it has certainly paid off!

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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<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.