



## Term 3 Week 6 Newsletter 2025

Dear Families,

As we come to end of Term 3, we have held NSPCC assemblies in each class, reminding children how to stay safe and speak out if they are worried or concerned about anything. These assemblies have coincided with Safer Internet Day on 11th February where all children discussed the importance of staying safe online. Last week, we also marked Children's Mental Health Week with a range of activities in classrooms, as well as an own clothes day (voted for by School Council).

This week has continued to be busy with Year 5 visiting Battle Abbey as part of their learning about the Anglo-Saxons (write-up to come in the next newsletter). Thank you to Miss Callow and Mrs Hamilton for planning and carrying out this trip. Green United have also met as part of

a wider group with other Lewes schools to showcase the environmental projects we have all been participating in over the last two years. The children also joined in a workshop on rising sea levels and had to vote on which solution(s) would work best and why. Thank you to Mrs Hamilton for facilitating this trip too!

### **World Book Day - Thursday, 6th March 2025**

We will celebrate World Book Day on Thursday, 6th March with a cake-baking competition where children/families can bake a cake that is related to a specific book or reading in general. Mrs Bishop and the Book Club will then 'judge' the cakes before they are sold at the end of the school day to raise money for the school and class libraries. Please ensure all cakes are pine nut, nut and sesame free and have all ingredients listed.

Throughout the week, we will focus on daily reading activities, including children sharing their favourite books, reading with other year groups and a book swap after school (Friday, 7th March 2025). On Thursday, 6th March, children are welcome to dress up as a book character if they would like. Alternatively, children can wear school uniform as usual.

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

*We are very proud of Fred who was selected to swim in a gala for Lewes Swimming Club. Fred was immensely nervous as he had a goggle issue after his dive in the recent Club Championships meaning he couldn't see when he was swimming which slowed him down. This made him very anxious about swimming in a gala again - he was reluctant to give it another go - even on the morning of the gala he didn't believe he could do it! He was also scared of the "unknown" - swimming at a different pool, with lots of people he didn't know and also having had a tricky experience previously but he overcame all those fears and gained 2 PBs! He even beat one of those PBs once again that same evening! Well Done Fred for showing resilience and determination to overcome your anxiety.*

*Amélie recently completed 60 lengths/1.5km in a sponsorship event for Lewes Swimming Club. It took just under 40 minutes and although she was scared and nervous she pushed herself demonstrating plenty of grit to swim further than she ever has before without stopping. Upon completion of the event Amélie said she is keen to swim even further next time to raise money! Super proud of Amélie for being brave and challenging herself to go beyond previous accomplishments. At home we talk about bravery as being scared of “something” but doing the “thing” anyway and how good it feels once we’ve done it!*

Our school value for Term 4 is 'pupil voice' and we will focus upon that in our school and class assemblies, in addition to our curriculum. Please do share any examples of your child showing their 'pupil voice' by emailing me ([head@westernroad.e-sussex.sch.uk](mailto:head@westernroad.e-sussex.sch.uk)) by Thursday, 27th March 2025. Thank you.

### **Equality, Diversity and Inclusion**

We are keen to work with the school community to make sure our school is a place where every child thrives. Our goal is to build a school community that rejects discrimination, values diversity, and fosters mutual respect. If you'd like to join the school's Equality, Diversity and Inclusion working party to be in dialogue with staff and school governors please do let us know via [office@westernroad.e-sussex.sch.uk](mailto:office@westernroad.e-sussex.sch.uk) and we will be glad to welcome you.

Some parents have started a parent-led Equality, Diversity and Inclusion group. All Western Road parents are welcome to join. Many families don't totally fit society's boxes. This can mean being othered in an environment which is, for example, largely white, expects all families to have a mum and a dad, discriminates against religious minorities, marginalises Disabled people, stigmatises people on benefits, assumes everyone is straight and promotes gender stereotypes. The initial aims of this group are to provide peer support and help the school be more inclusive. Anyone wanting to join please contact Sakina 07870 146335 or Susie 07952 838921.

**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.

**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.**

**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, 24th February 2025**

Start of Term 4 (8.40am)

*EYFS Muddy Monday*

**Tuesday, 25th February 2025**

Year 5/6 Swimming

***Monday, 3rd March 2025***

*World Book Day activities throughout the week*

*EYFS Muddy Monday*

**Tuesday, 4th March 2025**

Year 5/6 Swimming

**Wednesday, 5th March 2025**

9am Celebration Assembly

***Thursday, 6th March 2025***

*World Book Day celebrations - children are allowed to dress up as their favourite book character if they would like to*

*Book cake competition and cake sale*

**Friday, 7th March 2025**

*Book swop after school*

**Monday, 10th March 2025**

*EYFS Muddy Monday*

**Tuesday, 11th March 2025**

Year 5/6 Swimming

**Monday, 17th March 2025**

*EYFS Muddy Monday*

**Tuesday, 18th March 2025**

Year 5/6 Swimming

**Wednesday, 19th March 2025**

9am Celebration Assembly

**Monday, 24th March 2025**

*EYFS Muddy Monday*

**Tuesday, 25th March 2025**

Year 5/6 Swimming

**Monday, 31st March 2025**

*EYFS Muddy Monday*

**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)

***Friday, 23rd May 2025***



*Whole school own clothes day - voluntary donation (cash please) towards Year 6 Patina fundraising please*

**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](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](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.

## News from Silver Birch (EYFS)

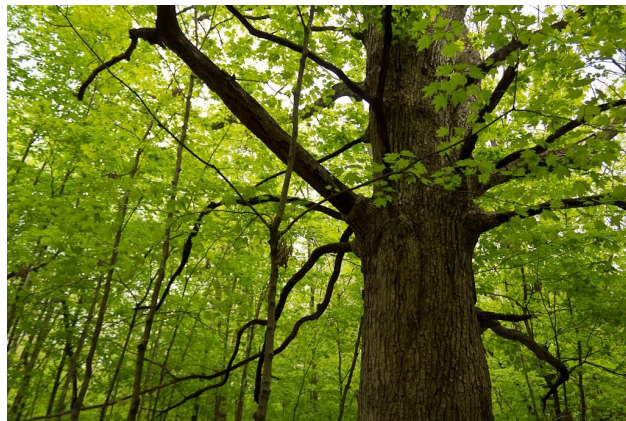
Reception have continued to enjoy their habitats topic. This week we used music as our focus and listened to sounds from the rainforest and then matched instruments to the sounds we could hear. The children played the instruments carefully and sensitively so that they were able to create a calm and relaxed sound to mirror the rainforest.

They particularly enjoyed creating their own habitats in shoe boxes. They matched the creatures to the habitats and thought carefully about the colours of each environment.

Muddy Mondays continues to be popular and the children have made some brilliant clay animals based on the woodland.

A great term, well done Reception!

## News from Elm Class (Year 1)



This term we have been really enjoying learning about different animal groups in Science. We have been looking at the different characteristics of mammals, fish, amphibians, reptiles and birds. We have been sorting images of various animals into their different groups.

In Geography we have been comparing Lyme Regis, London and Lewes. We have been using google maps to look at both physical and human geographical features of the different areas. We are planning a walk around Lewes to consolidate this learning.

## News from Cherry Class (Year 2)



Year 2 have been absolutely brilliant this term, immersing themselves in the fascinating topic of India. The children have worked hard on their map skills, identifying a variety of human and physical features across the country. In our science lessons, we've focused on animals, where the children have gained a deeper understanding of different animal groups and the needs of living creatures. To support their learning, they've made bird feeders and even created animal habitats. During our Diwali Day, the children learned about the significance of the celebration and took part in wonderful activities such as making diya lamps, designing beautiful rangoli patterns on the playground, and sampling some delicious Indian food during a special meal with their friends. We're all excited to begin our next topic, where we'll be learning about the Great Fire of London in the coming term!

## News from Larch Class (Year 3)



In PE, the Year 3s have been having both a Fitness and Netball focus. We have been using skipping as a way to increase our heart rate. Everyone has made progress in their skipping skills and we have enjoyed challenging ourselves to learn new skills or taken on challenges when skipping. A class favourite was when we got out the long rope and tried running in. In netball, the students really showed off their teamwork as well as collaboration when playing in groups. In addition, they have developed their attacking and defending skills when playing in a game like situation. Keep up the amazing work Larch Class!



## News from Willow Class (Year 4)



We are excited to share what the children have been learning this term in Year 4! They have been working hard and making great progress across the curriculum.

**Maths – Multiplication and Division** This term, the children have been developing their understanding of multiplication and division with three-digit numbers. They have been learning how to multiply and divide by a one-digit number using different strategies, including formal written methods and mental calculations. Practising times tables at home will continue to support their confidence and fluency in these areas.

**Art – Inspired by the Rainforest** In art, the children have been exploring the work of three inspiring artists: John Dyer, Henri Rousseau and the indigenous South American artist, Nixiwaka Yawanawá. Through their studies, they have learned about the vibrant flora and fauna of the rainforest and how these artists capture nature in unique ways. Their learning has culminated in designing and painting their own rainforest-inspired artwork, blending the styles and techniques of these artists while adding their own creative interpretations. We are incredibly proud of the effort and creativity the children have shown in their work this term.

## News from Elder Class (Year 5)

This term in Year 5 we have been learning about changing materials in Science. We have done lots of practical investigations to find out about which materials are soluble and insoluble, how we can separate mixtures and solutions, and we even made our own lemonade to learn about irreversible changes! We have explored the three elements of the fire triangle and discovered the difference between heating and burning. Next term, we will become expert product

testers, as we test a range of materials to learn about their properties, including permeability, strength, flexibility, transparency and conductivity and we will find out which materials make the best insulators.

## News from Oak Class (Year 6)



This week, Year 6 presented their homework projects about Audrey Hepburn, whose espionage exploits we have learning about through our Guided Reading text. The children were given free rein to choose whichever medium they wanted for their projects and their creativity has amazed us! From self-coded websites to handmade costumes, it is clear that Year 6 have really enjoyed learning about this courageous actor this term.

## Patina Update



### Patina Update for Year 6 Parents

There's lots coming up for our Year 6 children this year and it's time to get going with Patina fundraising and events. Here's what's happening so far:

16th March - Western Road sponsored beach clean (Or 23rd if wet. Details to follow)

30 April / 8 May - Football Dream Team tournament

23rd May - Western Road own clothes day

4th July - Patina Moving On Parade and celebrations

Fundraising: Each Year 6 child is targeted with raising £20 in any way that they find fun. A sponsored bike ride, a lemonade stand, a toy sale - anything goes. Please talk to your child about what they'd like to do: half-term would be a good time to start! In addition we'll be doing some group fundraising activities such as the beach clean, own clothes day and school bake sales (the target set for group fundraising is £250 and so far we have raised £104 from the Artist & Makers craft table and the Christmas Fair stall). We'll need to submit individual and group funds by May. The fundraising is vital for our school to be able to take part in Patina. It pays for our Patina artist coming to the school and all other central costs to make Patina happen.

From the Western Road Patina Reps

[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/](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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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.**