



West Green Primary School Newsletter Easter 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

We have had a lot of fun this term in the run up to Easter.

The Easter assembly was a lovely event, and we were joined by Crawley Baptist Church who helped explain the meaning of the celebration of Easter (it's not all about chocolate eggs)!

Over the last few weeks the children have been able to earn raffle tickets for a number of different things like good behaviour, good work and even for showing good manners as just a few examples. All the raffle tickets earned are put together by class, and then winners are selected at random who win an Easter prize.

We have had our Ofsted report and it has given us a rating of 'Good'. We are very happy with this result and extremely proud of our children and staff. You can find a copy of the report on our school website.

Also this term we have had West Green Primary School's version of World Book Day, hatched some ducklings, had our class school photos taken, had parent evenings and joined in the Red Nose Day celebrations. Some of our children will also get to attend the Easter Explored event at the Charis Centre.

From everyone at West Green we hope you all have a lovely Easter break, and we will see you back in school on Monday, 15th April 2024.

<u>West Green Team</u>

A NOTE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents and Carers

I am delighted to have been appointed as Headteacher of West Green Primary School. I have worked at this school for 10 years and consider myself to have been very fortunate to work alongside such wonderful children, the caring and hardworking staff, and not to mention the support I have received from the school's Governing body.

The opening line in our Ofsted report says "Pupils are proud to attend this nurturing and inclusive school" and it is something to celebrate. In fact, we have taken it to heart and it is one of the first things that visitors see when they enter our school.

I hope you all have a good Easter, and I look forward to welcoming you all back into school following a restful break.

Mrs Chapman Headteacher





WORLD BOOK DAY AND RED NOSE DAY

One of our favourite days at West Green Primary is World Book Day. Every year the imagination of the children (and the parents/carers) is impressive. We have all sorts from Hogwarts students, to princesses and superheroes, and this year we even had a set of Crayons! It was lovely to see the effort everyone in the school made. Well done to all, here are some pictures of the day...

We also joined in the Red Nose Day celebrations. We do not ask for donations in school, but if you do want to make a donation we ask that you do so via the official collection sites.





UKULELE AND CORNET CONCERTS

The parents of children in Year 4 joined us for their ukulele concert, and the Year 5 parents joined us for a cornet concert. The children have worked so hard learning these instruments and it really was a pleasure for them to be able to show their parents what they have learned.



DUCKLINGS

The children in the Reception class did a marvellous job this term in overseeing the hatching of, and then caring for some ducklings. They even helped teach them how to swim. They were so responsible and we are very proud of how well they behaved around the ducklings so that they didn't frighten them. Well done Reception class.

This is where it all began...



Then this happened...



Look at us now...





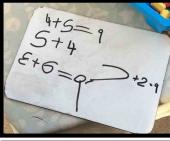
RECEPTION CLASS

This academic year our Reception class have been...

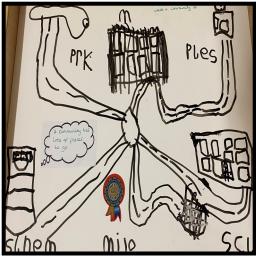
From learning about Superheroes and what makes us super, to Nursery Rhyme week, sharing which celebrations are special to us and learning about People Who Help Us and our Community, Reception have certainly had a busy start to their first year in school! The children were very excited and enthusiastic about our ducklings and have written lots of facts about them and what they need, as well as creating some fantastic artwork. They have also been super mathematicians, looking at numbers 1-10 in lots of different ways and how to make them. What superstars they are!

Mrs Whitlock and Mrs Delgado











YEAR 1 CLASS

This academic year our Year 1 class have been...

"This term in D&T we have been learning about different fruits and vegetables. We tasted a variety of different fruits and described them using our senses. We have designed a fruit plate which we will be making and evaluating in the coming weeks."

"In Science we have been learning about plants and what they need to grow. We have learnt about different parts of a plant and what their job is. We have also planted sunflower seeds which we will look after and observe over the coming weeks. We are all very excited to watch them grow.

Mrs Marshall & Miss Shabir

















YEAR 2 CLASS

This academic year our Year 2 class have been...

This term Year 2 have been studying different sculptors in art. The children learnt about the different materials sculptures can be created from, and the various stories they can tell. They then created their own sculptures from using pipe cleaners and then markers to create a light sculpture on a clear cup. In Design and Technology, the children have been studying vehicles and what makes them function effectively. The class are now working towards building their own vehicle that will have functioning wheels and axles.

Science has been a focus on animals including humans, looking at various habitats and what animals need to live, while looking at animals and humans growing. The children explored the school grounds searching for minibeasts and discussed the microhabitats that these creatures live in. Geography has linked well to this as we have been on a virtual safari to Kenya, learning all about the Country and its culture. The children have investigated different animals and their habitats in Africa and how these compare to the UK, as well as comparing the culture and lifestyle of Kenyans and the UK.

Ms C Shaw





YEAR 3 CLASS

This academic year our Year 3 class have been...

It has been a jam packed term for Year 3 with lots of exciting learning going on! In maths, we have been learning how to multiply and divide and how to measure perimeter using mm, cm and m. In our writing lessons this term, we have looked at the daring adventures of Arthur and the Golden Rope. We produced newspapers all about the terrifying attack of the wolf and some excellent descriptions. We have also looked at Ug, boy genius of the stone age, and his struggle for comfy trousers. We have written about other problems Ug might encounter in the stone age and learnt all about anachronisms. For our science learning this term, we have learnt all about the life cycle of plants and then how rocks are formed and what different types of rocks might be used for. We've been really impressed by how much the children have been interested in life in prehistoric Britain for our history learning this term. We have looked at the stone age, bronze age and iron age and discussed what life might be like for people during this period of history. We made some amazing Mesolithic settlements together thinking about what people might need to survive. Finally, we have produced some stunning art work in the style of Van Gogh; thinking about creating texture and depth to our work. We all agreed starry night was our favourite picture! Well done for working so hard this term Year 3!

Mr Wretham











YEAR 4 CLASS

This academic year our Year 4 class have been...

Over the term, Year 4 have engaged in a variety of activities. They have enjoyed reading The BFG and been inspired to craft their very own dream jars. They have delved into Roman history through engaging lessons full of discussions and many children have created some amazing shields as part of their homework. We have also honed their photography skills through editing exercises allowing the children to showcase their creativity.

Our new art topic is allowing children to explore innovative art techniques to enhance their expressiveness which we will continuing into next term. We hope that our Summer Term will be just as exciting.

Mrs Riadat & Mrs Davis





YEAR 5 CLASS

This academic year our Year 5 class have been...

We have been very busy in Year 5 learning how to draw self-portraits as well as practicing our musical instrument ready for our end of term concert.

In art we have been studying Frida Kahlo artworks and her life as a Mexican painter. She is best known for creating self-portraits which include her Mexican roots, love of animals and nature. Over the course of a few weeks we drew and painted our portraits ensuring that our backgrounds included special items, people, nature, faiths, and cultures. We then created a mini art gallery in our class to display our amazing work.

This term the children have been learning how to play the cornet, in preparation for our end of term performance. Each week they have improved, and I am impressed at how far they have come in a short amount of time.

Miss Stone







YEAR 6 CLASS

This academic year our Year 6 class have been...

In Year 6 we have been busy studying our new book 'Wonder' which has led to lots of fascinating discussions about what it means to fit in. We have worked on characterisations, information reports, and lots of role play to help us empathise with the main character August. In Maths we have been busy working on all areas of the curriculum in order for us to start revising ready for our upcoming SATs tests. The children have taken this very seriously and are all working very hard to ensure they know what they need to work on to progress in Maths in their abilities and confidence. We've really enjoyed using physical learning aids (especially our lesson using real Smarties sweets!).

In History we have loved learning about life in Britain since 1948, and how fashions, music and society has changed! In our science lessons we've been studying electricity and circuits. We are all looking forward to the Easter break and the summer term where we have lots of trips to look forward to as well as rehearsals for our end of year production.

Mrs Brotherton & Miss Jeffery





A WELCOME SHELTER

Our canopy at the front of the school was originally installed to provide shade to the children during the summer months. However, it has also proved useful for sudden and unexpected downpours to shelter under until they pass. Despite the heavy rain this shower only lasted about 2 minutes and the children were able to carry on playing!





IMPORTANT SAFEGUARDING NOTICE

Help children stay safe on chat apps

Messaging and chat apps are a great way for a child to stay in touch with their friends and family but it's important both of you are comfortable with who they're talking to.

Talk to your child about who they're chatting to and how they know them. Remind them to be conscious of who they're sharing personal information with and not to share information with people they haven't met before. This includes information like their name, location, email, phone number and school name.

What are chat apps?

Chat apps allow the user to send messages, photos, videos and documents, as well as creating large group chats. Most of them have age restrictions so please check any app your child downloads to ensure it is age appropriate.

Some apps allow users to message people they don't know, so your child could receive messages from people they don't know - most apps have settings to allow this to be changed so that they only receive messages from people they know. With your child, make sure these settings are in place and show them how to reject requests from people they don't know.

Even with friends, your child might see something that upsets them. Explore each app to see if there are reporting and blocking features. Show your child how to use these features and talk about situations when they might want to report or block.

Safety settings in chat apps

A risk for children and young people using chat apps is being added to group chats where they don't know the other people in the group, which could increase the chance they come across upsetting or negative messages.

Many of the chat apps have different privacy settings to help restrict who can contact you. If your child is using a chat app, we'd recommend looking at the privacy settings to see what's most appropriate. If there aren't any options to restrict contact then we'd recommend that your child doesn't use the app.

End-to-end encryption

You might have heard about end-to-end encryption, but do you know what it is, and what that means for your child?

End-to-end encryption is where only you and the person or people you're communicating with can view the messages that have been sent.

The company who runs the messaging service or app can't view end-to-end encrypted messages, messages won't be remotely accessible by police or government when preventing crime, and they can't be seen by hackers. This means that the message privacy is more secure, but also means they can't be monitored for illegal activity.

One-on-one messages (between you and one other person) or group chat messages (you and multiple people) can be end-to-end encrypted. This can include written messages, photos, videos, voice messages, audio, documents and calls.

A lot of popular apps are automatically end-to-end encrypted, and some are not. What's most important is how safe your child is on each app, site and game they use, whether it's encrypted or not. This means talking to your child about what they're sharing, who they're talking to and how to stay safe.



VISITORS COMMENTS

"There is a lovely calm atmosphere within the school" **Maths Hub Rep**

"This is a lovely school."

Gaynor - Agency Staff

"The staff and children were polite and welcoming. The children's manners were great and the staff gave me a warm welcome."

Matt Alford - Real PE

"Thank you so much for a lovely day at West Green. The children have been amazing learning about how to be safe around dogs!"

Steph Butler - Dogs Trust

Thank you so much. Fabulous well behaved and happy children to photograph. Always a pleasure to visit. Staff amazing!

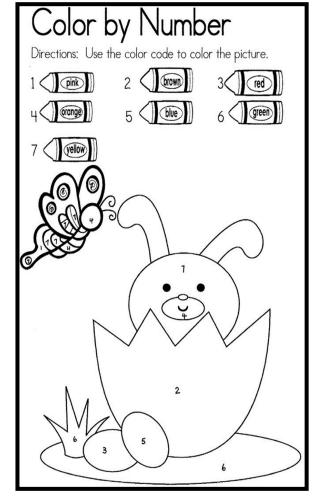
Yellow Photography representative

STAFFING UPDATES

We will keep you updated on our new starters as and when they arrive. You can find information on school jobs that are currently available by visiting: www.westsussex.gov.uk/jobs/school-jobs/

You can then type in the location where you are searching for jobs, i.e. Crawley, Horsham etc.

EASTER ACTIVITIES



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Can you and your child find these words in the above wordsearch?

Tomb

Basket	Church	Jesus
Bonnet	Egg	Lent
Chick	Fun	Spring



SUPPORTING OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY

CRAWLEY SIGNAL BOX (BRIGHTON ROAD)

Many of you may have noticed the old railway signal box by the railway crossing at the end of Brighton Road. They often have open days where you can have a look around the signal box. It really is an interesting piece of our Crawley history and is well worth a look. It is a great experience for children (especially if you happen to be in the signal box when a train is going past). Their next open day will be on Saturday, 20th April 2024, between 12:00 midday – 4:00p.m. The signal box is only kept open and in such good condition due to the volunteers who give up their time to preserve it's history, so your support would be greatly appreciated. It's a lovely opportunity to make a memory with your child.



1ST CRAWLEY SCOUT GROUP

If your child is aged between 6 and 14 years of age there are Beaver, Cub and Scout groups available for them to join.

Beavers is a great starting point for any child aged between 6 and 7 years of age (if they are under 6 you can still put them on the waiting list). The weekly (term time) meetings are full of fun and their activities are based around making things, outdoor activities, singing, playing games, going out on visits, investigating nature, listening to stories, learning how to be safe and most importantly, making new friends. All the activities they do are always working towards a badge. It gives a child a real sense of achievement when they have put in some effort and receive a badge at the end of it, which can then be sewn on their uniform. It also gives the children some skills that will stay with them for life.

All the Beaver, Cub and Scout sessions take place at the scout hut in Oak Road, Southgate. If you would like to find out more then please follow this link:

Contact Us - 1st Crawley Scout Group (1stcrawleyscouts.org.uk), or search

www.1stcrawleyscouts.org.uk

JUNIOR PARK RUN AT TILGATE

Tilgate junior parkrun is a FREE 2km event for juniors of all standards, which takes place every Sunday at 9:00am in Tilgate Park,

It offers an opportunity for all the family to get involved and come together on a regular basis to enjoy Tilgate Park. They want to encourage people to run, walk, volunteer and be together irrespective of their ability.

Taking part is easy – just register in advance before your first ever parkrun. Your individual barcode can then be used for this weekly 2k event, or on any of the weekly 5k parkruns around the country.

It is a free event but Park Run ask you to please register at https://www.parkrun.org.uk/tilgate-juniors/ before you first come along. You only need to register with Park Run once.



COST OF LIVING CRISIS — WHERE TO FIND HELP IF YOU NEED IT

turn2us

This website is designed to help you find out if you are able to get help with your energy bills. There are many grants out there you may not know about. Some energy suppliers have their own grant scheme in place. You can ask your supplier if they have a scheme, and what the criteria is for claiming a grant. Turn2us also has other useful links in relation to other household bills e.g. water bills. To search for grants that you may be eligible for, you can use an easy tool on https://www.turn2us.org.uk. Tel: 0808 802 2000

StepChange Debt Charity

If you are worried about any debt, you can contact the StepChange Debt Charity for free advice on https://www.stepchange.org. Tel: 0800 138 1111

Food Banks in Crawley

There are a number of food banks in Crawley, if you do a web search you should be able to find some details. Listed below are some contact details to help get you started:

Freeshop - info@freeshopcrawley.com - Tel: 07861 907133

<u>Crawley Food Bank Partnership (they are The Easter Team and also Crawley Open House who are working together)</u>

Tel The Easter Team: 07940 900948/Tel Crawley Open House: 01293 447702

Government and Local Council Resources

The government have an online tool to help people check the benefits and financial support they might be able to apply for. You can check at:

www.gov.uk/check-benefits-financial-support you can also find help at:

www.crawley.gov.uk/moneyworries

Your local council may be able to help you pay for things like:

- Energy and water bills;
- Food;
- Essential items such as clothes or even an oven.

This help is known as Welfare Assistance or the Household Support Fund. Each council runs its own scheme. The help they offer, and who can get it, varies. Ask your local council if they run one of these schemes. You do not have to be in receipt of benefits to get help from your local council. If you are in receipt of benefits, they will not be affected if you get help from one of these schemes. See below for information on the WSCC Community Hub.

COMMUNITY HUB

WSCC have a community hub for anyone who may need help. You can request support from the Hub, including accessing the Household Support Fund, and where to get advice.

WSCC are focused on making sure they continue to support the most vulnerable people in our community.

If your request is urgent, for example, you are going to run out of food within the next two days, please phone <u>033 022 27980</u> so that they can make sure you get the help you need as quickly as possible.



CHANGE OF DETAILS

If any of your contact details change (address, home phone, mobile etc), please inform the school office so they can update the school records accordingly.

MEDICATION

From time to time we will sometimes administer paracetamol to a child if they are feeling unwell, but it is not necessary to send them home. The brand we use is either Calpol paracetamol 6+ sachets or meltlets (so cannot be administered to anyone under 6 years old). For this to be administered to your child you will have needed to have signed a form giving your permission. We will always telephone you to get your permission before we administer any paracetamol, but without the signed consent form we cannot administer it in any event. If you have already signed a permission slip you do not need to do anything else. The above is also relevant for antihistamine's. We use Piriton, but only if the parent has provided written consent and also verbal consent just before it is administered.

TRIM TRAIL AND TYRE TRAIL

At the end of the school day it has been noted that parents are allowing their children to play on the trim trail outside the classrooms. If you do allow your child to use the trim trail (or tyres) at drop off/collection time it is **your responsibility** to ensure they use it safely. Please keep an eye on your children at all times during drop off/collection to/from school to ensure their safety.

UNIFORM

We no longer take school uniform orders via the school office. When you require new uniform for your child you can order it from: www.myclothing.com

Tel: 0800 069 9949

MOBILE PHONES

Please can you remind your child that if they bring a mobile phone to school with them, they must **not** use the phone whilst on the school premises. All phones must be turned off when your child has arrived at school, and handed to their class teacher. All phones will be returned at the end of the school day.

BIRTHDAYS AND TREATS

We love birthdays, and we love celebrating them even more! If you provide sweets for a class in order to celebrate your child's birthday, we would ask that you ensure they are individually wrapped, nut free and, if possible, vegetarian. This will mean all of your child's classmates can celebrate their birthday with them. We are not able to hand out any cakes or sweets that are homemade.

Also, from time to time throughout the school year, we will give out sweet treats to children. We will ensure we always meet a child's dietary requirements. Please inform the school if you do not want your child to be given any sweet treats.

ASTHMA INHALERS/AUTO INJECTORS

If we hold an asthma inhaler or auto injector for your child, please be aware that we need two, one in the classroom, and one in our medical room. When that item is out of date we will contact you and ask you to provide us ones that are in date. Please make sure that you provide us in date items as a matter of priority. It is for your child's safety and must be acted upon immediately.

FILMS AT CHRISTMAS AND EASTER (AND THROUGHOUT THE SCHOOL YEAR)

Mainly at Christmas and Easter time we will sometimes arrange for the children to watch a film as an end of term treat. The films will either be a 'U' or 'PG' certificate. We would never show a film that we judged to be inappropriate. However, if you do not wish your child to watch a 'PG' certificate film then please let the school office know so that a different film can be chosen for your child's class to watch.

No Nuts Reminder

Please remember that we are a 'No Nuts' school. This means that no food brought into school by either children or staff should contain nuts. This includes Nutella (there are other alternative chocolate spreads available that do not contain nuts).