



January Newsletter 2011

Issue Number 42

Dear Parents,

Here is the January Newsletter (although only just as February is upon us tomorrow). I should wish you all a very happy new year albeit somewhat belatedly.

The term has started with the children engaging enthusiastically in their new learning journeys. At present all four classes are working around the theme "Telling Tales" as part of our whole school focus, supported by the School Association.

Curriculum Theme Week



We will be holding our termly Curriculum Theme Week from **Monday 14th to Thursday 17th February**. We are planning a range of exciting opportunities for the children. Here are our plans for the week to date. There will be other elements which will be decided upon during the next few days. Please watch the website for full details and updates.

Monday 14th February

Dress-up Day: All the pupils (and staff) are invited to come to school dressed as their favourite story character. We will have a parade of costumes during our normal morning assembly time and hopefully take lots of fun photographs to display on the website.

Wednesday 16th February

Jamie Crawford, Storyteller: Jamie is a professional story teller. He will give two performances, one for the older children and one for the younger, in the morning and will then work with some of the older children to prepare story

telling performances for the younger children to enjoy. Jamie is also a qualified teacher and knows exactly how to get children involved in these exciting activities.

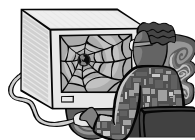
Thursday 17th February

Special Assembly: At 2.00pm on the Thursday afternoon, in the Jubilate (school) Hall we will be holding a special assembly to share some of our work with parents. Each class will be presenting a story for the rest of us to enjoy. There will also be some singing and we will distribute certificates. You are all welcome to attend.

Also during the week we hope to provide each class with the opportunity to visit (or be visited by) Marianne Pattison, a local artist and story teller who, by good fortune, lives directly opposite the school. She has worked with us in the past and her enthusiasm is infectious. Marianne uses puppets, drama, musical instruments and art to engage folk in story telling.

If you would like to visit the school at some point during the theme week to share a part (or all) of a favourite book with a group of children then please speak to the various class teachers. We hope that the staff will also have the opportunity to share our favourite books.

Website



Our school website, with the tremendous efforts of our ICT Trainer Shirley Hickey, assisted by our Chair of Governors Helen Schofield, is now fuller, more informative and up to date. Don't forget to visit the site regularly to check up on the latest news, dates and information. Visit us at www.westhoathlyschool.org.uk and add us to

your favourites list, or even make us your home page. The Home page now includes a "News Updates" section which also gives details of recent site updates. All our school letters and flyers etc. are available online so you can check if you have missed anything under the correspondence section.

Welcome Return



This term we welcome back Mrs Sara Mannion following her period of Adoption Leave. Sara is now working in a job share arrangement, with Kerry Scarratt, teaching the Pegasus Class. Under normal circumstances Sara will be teaching the class on Mondays and Tuesday and Kerry from Wednesday to Friday. The governors have agreed to this initially until the end of the Summer Term and are closely monitoring the arrangements to ensure that the children receive the very best.

Church School Inspection



As you will recall, during November, as well as our visit from the OfStEd team we were visited by a Church School inspector, nominated by the Diocese (Chichester). As a Church of England primary school certain elements of our practice, including collective worship and ethos, cannot be evaluated by the OfStEd team and therefore are covered by the Diocesan inspector.

Since our last inspection the criteria for evaluation have changed significantly and there has been a greatly increased focus on "Christian Values". Judgements have been based on various sources of evidence including discussions with staff, pupils, parents and governors. Whilst I do not disagree with any of the judgements in the report, given that they are based on the criteria expressed in the inspection guidelines, I do think that the emphasis on being able to talk about the origins of values is less important than actually demonstrating them e.g. being loving and caring towards others is of more value than being able to talk about being loving and caring. That being said the report is attached to this letter for you to read and we will be reviewing the judgements in the very near future.

OFSTED Inspection



A number of parents have expressed interest in having the opportunity to discuss the outcomes of the recent Ofsted Inspection, how the school will be addressing these and how parents can be involved in helping the school to achieve a better outcome next time round. To reassure you we have not been complacent but have been working towards an action plan which we will soon be ready to share and discuss with you, to fill out the details and decide how best we can all work together to ensure that our school is the very best it can be.

A small group of governors (including parent governors) and staff will be meeting on Wednesday this week (2nd February) to pull together the work so far and identify particular priorities. Following this a brief report will be placed before the whole governing body (on 3rd February) and we will fix a date, shortly after the half-term vacation, for an information and planning evening for parents, governors, staff and, we hope, some pupil representatives. The date and details of this meeting will be published shortly.

A similar review will be carried out in response to the Church School inspection by the foundation (church nominated) governors.

Musical Opportunities



I have been approached by two of our "musical" parents who have asked me to enquire as to whether parents and pupils would be interested in some additional music opportunities.

Sophie Pepler is interested in offering small group singing lessons (at a reasonable cost), possibly during lunch breaks. Groups would be limited to maybe 3 or 4 students to allow careful focus and feedback to each singer. If you would like to know more please inform the school office via email office@westhoathly.w-sussex.sch.uk or in person and, if viable, Sophie will contact all interested parents.

Liz Shannon has been teaching flute to a couple of our pupils, in response initially to a request

from their parents when the county music service were unable to provide us with a teacher. She is happy to offer other pupils this opportunity (again at reasonable cost). Timing of lessons will be by agreement with parents, Liz and the school. If you are interested in finding out more, again contact the school office and Liz will get back to you.

Clubs & Activities



We like to offer our pupils a broad range of clubs and activities in addition to the curriculum timetable. At present we are offering the following:

Monday

- 8.00am to 8.45am Tri-Golf with Ben Knight
(R-6 @ £12.50 / ½ Term)
- 3.15pm to 4.15pm Drama with Sophie Pepler
(R-6 @ £1.50 / Session)
- Bridge with Kathy Whiting
(3-6 @ £18.00 / ½ Term)

Tuesday

- 8.00am to 8.45am Dance Mat
(R-6 @ £24.00 / 6 Weeks)
- 3.15pm to 4.15pm Football with Paul Murray
(3-6 @ £2.00 / Session)

Thursday

- Lunch Break Chess with Kate Champain
(3-6 Chess Players)
- 3.15pm to 4.00pm Dance with Tracy Swaffer
(Currently R-2)

Friday

- Afternoon Gardening
(All children via rota)

We would also like to offer the following clubs and activities. If your child is interested in taking part in any of the following please sign them up on the list on the Clubs and Activities board in the hall corridor or contact the school office.

Challengers Club



This will take place on Wednesday morning from 8.00am. Led by me (Adam Earle), it will provide the participants with opportunities to solve problems, undertake brain teasing challenges, play games and try out new ideas. There will be a maximum of ten places and the club is open to children from Year 2 to Year 6. Given the nature of my diary commitments it may be necessary, very occasionally, not to hold the club but we will give plenty of notice as far as possible. I will provide all participants with a list of dates when we begin. Our first session will be on Wednesday 2nd March (the first week after half term).

ICT Open Suite



Children will need to sign up for this on a weekly basis. I intend, once or twice a week, to make the computer suite available at lunch times, for children (Years 1 - 6) to make use of the systems, perhaps in support of homework, to practice particular skills or to just learn more about any aspect of ICT which interests them. The exact day for this will vary in accordance with my diary and timetable. Priority will be given to pupils who have no or very limited access to computer facilities out of school.

Choir



Mrs Parry has indicated that she would be happy to run a lunchtime choir again, on Friday. I will also support her in this where possible. If your child is interested in taking part there will be a sign-up list in the usual venue!

Gardening Club



James Masters, Chair of the SA, continues to offer, with the support of a faithful group of parent supporters, Gardening Club each Friday afternoon. To allow every child the opportunity to participate at least once or twice in each term, James has drawn up a rota. These are displayed around the school and will shortly be available on the school website (Clubs Page). Children will need wellies or other old shoes to take part.

Parent Consultations



Our next round of parent consultations will take place during the week immediately following the half term break. The times and dates are **Monday 28th**

February from 3.30pm to 5.00pm and Thursday 3rd March from 3.30pm to 7.00pm. A sign-up letter is attached.

Thank You



I would like to express our thanks to the School Association for the two visits that they have funded this half term, as part of our "Read On" and "Telling Tales" development project.

You can read all about the Key Stage Two visit to London, to see City Hall and the Globe on our website (with linked photo page) and we will add information about the Key Stage One and Foundation Stage visit to the Hawth Theatre to see "Laura's Star" later this week. Both were successful and enjoyable events and the children gained a lot from the experiences.

I would also like to thank the School Association for organising another very enjoyable school disco with Terry Sumner at the "turntables". The children had a really terrific time and we are all looking forward to the next one.



East Grinstead Group of Schools (EGGS)



We are very proud to be part of the EGGS Locality. We work closely with the other member schools including thirteen primary, one infant and two secondary schools, to help support and develop excellent learning for all members of our community.

Led by the Headteachers' Steering Group the group organise various projects to develop particular aspects of provision and to share good practice across the schools. Our key aim is to ensure that, whichever East Grinstead school a child might attend, they will get the very best experience and learning opportunities.

Current projects include the "Learning Mentors" programme. In our school this has led to the training and appointment of Mrs Brand as our Learning Mentor, supporting individuals in overcoming potential barriers to learning which are not necessarily learning related e.g. anxiety, confidence, external pressures etc.

The "Creative Curriculum" project has enabled us to explore ways of developing learning in our school through joint school projects. We will again be participating in a performance at Chequer Mead later this year.

With the current climate of "cuts" and increased pressure being placed on dwindling financial resources, the group have signed up to a National College for Leadership project to develop joint working further, including commissioning services for all the locality schools. This will, we hope, enable us to offer services and support to our learners which will not be available from the LEA following reductions. We also aim, through the project, to develop "Community Learning" opportunities.

I am currently developing the EGGS website, which is still very much in its infancy and lacking in content. However, please add this site to your favourites list www.eggsweb.org.uk and check up from time to time to find out what we are doing for the benefit of all the schools and our learners.

Dates List



Attached, as usual, is the latest list of dates for the rest of the academic year. Please double check the list and update your diaries and calendars accordingly.

Especially please note the change of date for the Easter Celebration Service and the additional "bank holiday" due to the Royal Wedding. Please also note the Parent and Pupil planning afternoons when we invite you to join your child's class, at the end of the day, to think through some exciting ideas for the following term's topics.

Yours Sincerely,

Headteacher



*Parent Consultation Evenings
Spring Term 2011*

Dear Parents,

You are invited to meet your child's teacher(s), to discuss progress and areas for improvement, on either **Monday 28th February** between **3.30pm & 5.00pm** (Last appointment at 4.50pm) or **Thursday 3rd March** between **3.30pm and 7.00pm** (Last appointment at 6.50pm). Consultations will take place in the school hall and classrooms will be open, with your child's work displayed for you to examine. Appointments will last ten minutes.

Please indicate below by ticking the appropriate time intervals you would prefer. Please tick as many boxes as possible, especially if you have children in more than one class. Class teachers, will arrange appointments together to ensure that no clashes occur.

Whilst we appreciate that work arrangements for some parents may make certain times and dates difficult we would appreciate if all parents would endeavour to attend on these dates and be as flexible as possible with times. **Please return the response form below by Friday 11th February.** Appointments will then be arranged and we will inform you of the details.

Yours sincerely,

Adam J. Earle
Headteacher

PARENT CONSULTATION RESPONSE FORM

Child's Name:	Class Teacher:
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Please tick the time intervals during which you would prefer to have an appointment.

Monday 28th February	
3.30pm to 4.00pm	
4.00pm to 4.30pm	
4.30pm to 5.00pm	
5.00pm to 5.30pm	
5.30pm to 6.00pm	

Thursday 3rd March	
3.30pm to 4.00pm	
4.00pm to 4.30pm	
4.30pm to 5.00pm	
5.00pm to 5.30pm	
5.30pm to 6.00pm	
6.00pm to 6.30pm	
6.30pm to 7.00pm	



Dates for 2010-11

SPRING TERM

February

- 2 Children's Centre Bus on playground
- 3 Full Governors' Meeting
- 6 19.30 SA Meet - Intrepid Fox
- 14-17 Curriculum Theme Week - Telling Tales
- 18 INSET Day - School Closed
- 21-25 Half Term Vacation
- 28 3.30 - 17.00 Parent Consultations

March

- 2 10.15 Ash Wednesday Assembly
- 3 3.30 - 19.00 Parent Consultations
- 7-11 Scholastic Book Fair Week
- 9 Street Dance Event @ Sackville
- 18 Red Nose Day
- 26 SA Quiz Night
- 30 Children's Centre in Studio
- 31 Full Governors' Meeting

April

- 4 Bags 4 School - Collection 2 Begins
14.00 Dragon & Unicorn Planning Meeting
- 7 14.00 Pegasus & Phoenix Planning Meeting
- 8 End of Spring Term
- 11-21 Easter Vacation
- 22 Good Friday - School Closed

- 25 Easter Monday - School Closed

SUMMER TERM

April

- 26 Summer Term Begins
- 28 14.00 Easter Celebration @ Church
- 29 Royal Wedding Holiday - School Closed

May

- 2 Bank Holiday - School Closed
- 4 Bags 2 School Collection Date
- 9-13 Year Six - Test Week
- 23-26 Curriculum Theme Week
- 26 Full Governors' Meeting
- 27 INSET Day - School Closed
- 30-3 Half Term Vacation

June

- 6 INSET Day - School Closed
- 18 SA Summer "Event"
- 27-1 "Bikeability" - Year 6
- 30 Full Governors' Meeting

July

- 7 Diocesan Leavers' Service @ Worth Abbey]
- 11 Annual Progress Reports
- 22 9.15 Leavers' Service @ Church
3.15 End of Summer Term



West Hoathly CE Primary School

Diocese of Chichester

Statutory Inspection of Anglican Schools

Inspection Report



Date of inspection:	19 November 2010
Name of inspector:	Susan Thompson/Lyn Field 151
NS inspector's number:	151
School address:	North Lane West Hoathly East Grinstead W Sussex RH19 4QG
Unique reference number:	126012
Status:	Voluntary Controlled
Number on roll:	79
Age range of pupils:	4-11
LA:	West Sussex
Name of chair of governors:	Helen Scholfield
Name of headteacher:	Adam Earle
Date of previous inspection:	3 and 6 December 2007

The inspection of denominational education and collective worship in the school was carried out in accordance with Section 48 of the Education Act 2005

Description of the school

West Hoathly school is situated at the centre of a small village community. The school community is very stable and is predominately of white British heritage. Pupils represent a range of socio-economic backgrounds. The proportion of children with special needs is in line with the national average. With the exception of Reception all classes are formed of mixed year groups. The original Victorian building was extended in 2006; provision now includes a light and sizeable school hall. The local parish church is currently without a vicar and there have been significant changes in the governing body during this year.

Summary judgement

The distinctiveness and effectiveness West Hoathly CE Primary School as a Church of England school are satisfactory.

Pupils, staff, governors and parents are proud of the school which has a warm, family atmosphere evidenced by the behaviour of the pupil's and the relationships within the school community. Progress is being made to ensure that the school's distinctive Christian ethos underpins the life and work of the school, where every child feels safe. The headteacher gives committed Christian leadership and plans effectively for collective worship.

Grade: 3

Established strengths

- The strong Christian leadership of the headteacher.
- The high quality care that makes pupils feel valued and special.
- The thorough planning of collective worship which reflects the traditions of the Anglican church.
- The strong relationship of the school with the parents which facilitates open dialogue.

Focus for development

- To embed an understanding of the school's core Christian values by the children.
- To develop the governing body's strategic leadership role in monitoring and evaluating the impact of the school's Christian ethos, religious education and collective worship on the spiritual development of the pupils

The school meets the statutory requirement for Collective Worship	Yes
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The school, through its distinctive Christian character is satisfactory at meeting the needs of all its learners.

The school's three core values of 'love, hope and forgive' are central to the headteacher's Christian vision for the school. Pupils said that they made the school a 'kind school' and 'Jesus taught these' to articulate the importance of these values. The school's behaviour system is clearly understood in terms of rewards and punishments; however pupils could not articulate how saying sorry was a necessary part of repairing relationships. Parents say that any issues were dealt with swiftly and with compassion.

The school's Christian character is found in displays in the entrance and shared areas; however the school is yet to develop the outdoor environment to enhance its Christian character. Pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is satisfactory overall; links between policy, the curriculum and the learning are being developed by the headteacher. Some pupils have a good understanding of the Christian values reflected in comments such as, 'I can go to the reflective area to remind me that God is with me and I shouldn't be afraid of the dark' commenting on reflection areas or to explain why the school supports charity events, 'Jesus taught us to love others'. However other pupils struggled to articulate ideas in terms of Christian values and teaching.

The impact of Christian values on the curriculum demonstrates patches of good practice, for instance the Early Years Foundation Stage teacher made links between the assembly and the story being read in the lesson. Opportunities for curriculum enrichment exist, such as the ceramic artist helping the children to make candle stick holders to link with the work on light in the reception class. Following the last inspection, religious education is now included in the curriculum policy. Whilst the pupils are very clear on the importance of religious education, they are less confident in explaining what they have learnt.

Grade: 3

The impact of Collective Worship on the school community is good.

The planning of worship is detailed. It reflects a variety of styles of worship, provides opportunities for participation and visual stimuli and follows the Anglican church year. Delivery is good and reflects Anglican traditions well. On entry to the hall children can see a fruit of the spirit display which reflects the theme for the term, with one gift being focused on each week. They are aware of worship being a special time and light a candle to mark it as such. Leaders regularly reflect on the quality of worship and use feedback from individual children to give pointers for improvement. The views of the school council have recently been sought. This has prompted an immediate and successful response as pupils in the school council have planned and led their first act of worship. The school council are keen that these opportunities continue. This proved the value of gathering feedback but there is currently no system for involving everyone in the school.

Parents observe how collective worship is an integral part of the school week and one which has 'a positive effect on life outside school'. Special festivals are celebrated in the parish church, these are well regarded by the school community, parents and members of the church community attend these occasions. These times are seen by parents as a way of the school witnessing to its Christian foundation to the local community. Children are given opportunities to pray during the school day and one child said that worship had taught them that 'Jesus is always with you'. For other children the meaning behind the worship or reason for prayer was not apparent.

Grade: 2

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the school as a church school is satisfactory.

The headteacher has a very clear vision of the school as a church school and had a mutually supportive relationship with the vicar who has now moved on. Arrangements to maintain the links with the church during this time have been made by the headteacher. The school and, in particular, the governing body are experiencing a period of transition this is raising questions about succession planning, a shared vision for the school as a church school and how to embed the systems for monitoring to inform future development. Opportunities are emerging for all members of the school community to contribute to discussions about the school, for instance through the 'Parent Forum'. Such openings will give all members of the school community the opportunity to consider the school's development as a church school.

Good relationships are evident within the school community and its links with the local community. This is evidenced through the school's involvement in a range of activities, including hosting charity concerts and church events, and occasionally displaying children's work in the parish church. Children regularly attend special services at the church and local Christian church leaders have started to lead some collective worship and the school prayer meeting. Parents speak warmly of the school and the 'family feel' of the school community where all children know each other and share in each other's learning. They are unanimous that the school values the achievement of all children, one parent said, 'I am really pleased with how well my son is getting on'. Pupils talk of a link with a school in France which hosted an exchange.

Grade: 3