



Dear Parents/Carers,

Last week, I visited Marten House in Burgess Hill with a group of Year 5 children. As part of our community values we have developed links with this establishment. It was wonderful to see our children interacting with the elderly residents. Both young and old had plenty of questions for each other. All children in Year 5 will have the opportunity to visit the residents over the coming months.

We held our KS1 productions on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoon this week and the children really shone as they delivered their lines confidently. Yesterday, our KS2 pupils walked to St John's Church for their Carol Service. This has always been my personal favourite event at school and this year the children excelled themselves. None of these events would be possible without the hard work and dedication of our staff, so I would like to thank them all.

At the end of the Carol Service there was a retiring collection to be split between St John's Church and The Burgess Hill Pantry. Ms Brayne, myself and four of our Year 6 pupils took £110 to The Pantry on our way back to school which was very greatly received.

We were delighted to hear from the LMA that over £3,200 was raised at the Christmas Fair. This money will certainly be beneficial for the children. Thank you!



Our school Christmas lunch yesterday was full of joy and merriment and the kitchen and dining hall staff worked extra hard to make it a success. Class parties have gone extremely well and the drink and snacks were provided by the LMA. Thank you to our very hard working staff who have ensured the children have made many festive memories.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you all, and please click on the link below for a festive clip from the London Meed Pop Choir:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IzDRYpRBkg0><https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IzDRYpRBkg0>.

We look forward to seeing the children on the 2nd January 2024.

Kindest regards, Natalie Langtree, Headteacher



Reading Raffle winners



Congratulations to this half term's Reading Raffle winners: EYFS- Annabelle, Harry, Y1- Arthur, Erlil, Y2- Leo, Charlie, Y3- Seb, Lucas, Y4- Noah, Finn, Y5 - Aaron, Lucy and Y6 -Charlie and Lila.

Marten House visit

On Friday we went to Marten House to visit people and ask them questions about their lives. They were all very interesting and had lots of stories to tell and all had a funny personality. We had a bingo sheet and had to find different people who liked different things such as cooking. We asked some questions such as "What significant events can you remember from the year we were born?". Many thanks to Mrs Langtree and Ms Brayne for taking us. Lola and Caragh.



Junior Governors trip to Parliament



On the 12th December, Junior Governors from Years 3-6: Mia, Sebastian, Molly, Sabreen, Lukas, Aoife, Fernando, Isla, Riley, Abner, Clara, Bethany and Miles went on a trip to the Houses of Parliament. From Burgess Hill we went to London Victoria via train, then we walked to Parliament whilst going past landmarks such as Westminster Abbey. We also saw the River Thames and the London Eye. When we arrived we went inside and watched a video about the history of parliament and the House of Lords and House of Commons. When we had finished the video a man called George came over and said he was our guide. He gave us headphones so we could hear him clearly on the tour, which included lots of rooms. In a room, which had Queen Victoria's throne in it, there were also secret doors to secret rooms. George showed us part of parliament that survived a fire. One of the highlights was going into the House of Lords. At the end we ate our lunch on a bench then we walked back to the train station. It started raining when we got close to the station, luckily we didn't get very wet. On the train we played games. We would like to say a big thank you to the adults who went on the trip; Mr Terrill, Mrs Cole, Mrs Eastley, Mrs Elliott and Ms Brayne - we had a very good time. Thank you ! Mia and Sebastian Year 6.

LONDON MEED PRIMARY SCHOOL - Newsletter 15th December 2023

BRAVERY, COMMUNITY, CURIOSITY, RESILIENCE, RESPECT



Many congratulations to this week's London Meed Hero award winners!

<i>Name of child</i>	<i>Class</i>	<i>Reason</i>
Charlie D	6B	For being a supportive member of our community, an excellent writer, a fantastic football player and an amazing friend. Keep being yourself! We will miss you very much, Charlie. From 6B
Esme	6H	For being a responsible, reliable and helpful member of our school community. Fantastic attitude Esme!
Aden	5D	For displaying bravery and a sense of community when learning his lines and narrating as part of the Year 5 performance in the KS2 Carol Service . Well done, Aden!
Om	5S	showing resilience when writing, editing and publishing a descriptive, action-packed Viking Saga. Well done!
Evelyn	4P	For showing curiosity in her writing by looking for a variety of ways to express her ideas.
Gaia	4O	For always showing such a positive attitude towards learning and approaching everything with a smile and trying her best- showing resilience.
Rhys	3M	For showing resilience when applying his 8 times table knowledge to multiplication and division problems. Well done Rhys!
Spencer	3C	For showing resilience and perseverance when handwriting, to clearly publish his Christmas poem.
Ivy	2K	For exceptional bravery and resilience shown during our nativity this week.
Jesse	2M	For setting himself high standards in every lesson and always showing curiosity in his approach to his learning. Great work Jesse!
Izzy	1S	For showing the school value of community when helping her friend with their DT 'Chair for Baby Bear'.



Community Spirit



This year for Christmas Henry P (2k) has decided that rather than have presents for himself he wanted to make other children happy! In doing so, he decided he would run a mile a day for a month to raise as much as possible to buy presents for children in hospital over Christmas. So far he has raised around £260 in both just giving and cash donations. Here is the link to his just giving page

https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/david-pullen?utm_term=dNJ3gzEQj&fbclid=PAAaabkyJrMU03go9mmg86JJ5teoya0GZysPeDbHsgj-oC3wfTm_oUdzAsbEA



Well done Ryan!

Ryan S, from class 3M has been working hard and recently achieved his yellow belt in Taekwondo. He showed resilience in learning the required moves, patterns and words and phrases in Korean.

Christmas Concert

On the 10th December, a number of our children took part in Mrs Dudding's Concert at the Adastra Hall in Hassocks. Well done to : Eva M, Oscar P, Milo, Sami, Kitty, Molly, Isla P, Hugh, Elizabeth, Oscar 6H who performed outstandingly.

Mental Health concerns

If you have concerns about your child's mental health or if they are in **crisis** please contact the "**Sussex Mental Health Helpline**" for free on **0800 0309 500** or via **111 (Option 2)**. This helpline is open 24/7 365 days a year.

If you feel your child presents with risks to self or others or is at risk of harm from others please make a direct referral to the **Integrated Front Door Service (IFD)** by either calling **01403 229900** or email **wschildrenservices@westsussex.gov.uk**. IFD is best placed to offer advice and provide support regarding risk.

Please also advise the school of any referral that you make.



12 Top Tips for Children and Young People to Enjoy a Tech-Free Christmas

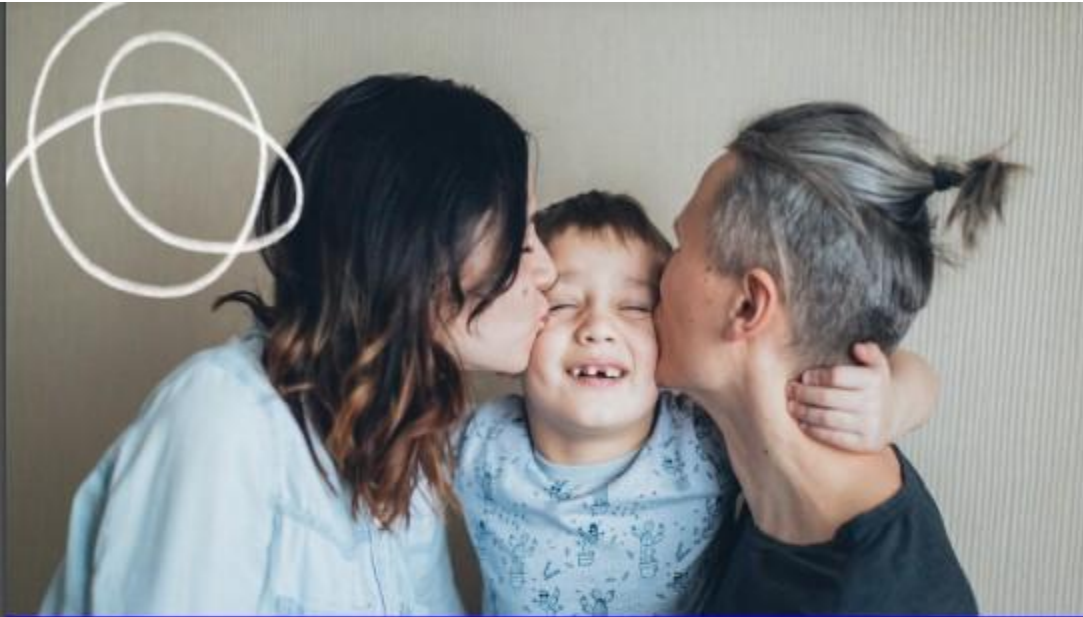
There's no disputing how integral the digital world has become to modern life 🌐 📱 It can prove difficult for many young people to stay off smart phones, tablets and other devices for a single day – even one as special as Christmas. In fact, according to a survey by e-commerce platform Groupon, almost 80% of parents and carers would prefer a festive period that's free from technology 📵 Going online, of course, is useful for checking in with friends and relations who we can't be with, or for arranging celebrations – but if we allow gadgets to dominate our Yuletide break, that precious time could pass in a flash. This #WakeUpWednesday, we've got suggestions for keeping a handle on device use over the holidays, so your family can be truly together this Christmas.

➔ [DOWNLOAD YOUR GUIDE](#)



LMA second hand uniform shop

The LMA are really pleased to report that the first load of second hand uniform stock is ready and on sale in its new location at Once Upon A Boutique, 34 The Martlets.



Parenting support service

Supporting children and young people's mental health

Our parenting support service aims to increase the confidence, knowledge and skills of parents and carers around supporting their children and young people's mental health.

If you would like support, contact our Help Point:

Monday to Friday, 10am – 4pm

0300 303 5652 or
helppoint@westsussexmind.org

Support includes:

- Online peer support groups
- Talks from 'experts by experience' on topics such as EBSA and Self-Esteem
- In-person peer support groups across the county
- One to one telephone support
- Casual check-ins
- Private Facebook group
- Signposting.

West
Sussex
mind

westsussexmind.org
Charity no: 1155918



Is my child too ill for school?

It can be tricky deciding whether or not to keep your child off school, nursery or playgroup when they're unwell.

There are government guidelines for schools and nurseries about managing specific infectious diseases at GOV.UK. These say when children should be kept off school and when they shouldn't. For more guidance please visit

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

If you do keep your child at home, it's important to notify the school on the first day before 9.20am to let them know that your child won't be in and give them the reason. You can leave a message on the absence line 01444 232336 or report their absence on the [Study Bugs App](#) If your child is well enough to go to school but has an infection that could be passed on, such as a cold sore or head lice, please let their teacher know via their year group email address.

Free School Meals

Is my child eligible?

From 1 April 2018, free school meals in all West Sussex maintained and free schools and academies are available to pupils in receipt of, or whose parents are in receipt of, one or more of the following benefits:

- **Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods)**
- **Income Support**
- **Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance**
- **Income-related Employment and Support Allowance**
- **Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999**
- **The guaranteed element of state Pension Credit**
- **Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more £16,190)**
- **Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit.**

A number of pupils will also be protected against losing their current free school meals. You can find more information on GOV.UK. If you are not eligible for benefits-related, free school meals, but your child is currently in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2, they will automatically be entitled to Universal Infant Free School Meals and you need not apply. Contact your school for details.

If you are eligible for benefits-related free school meals in accordance with the above criteria, and your child is also receiving Universal Infant Free School Meals, please continue to register. This will enable your child's school to claim valuable 'pupil premium' funding. To apply for Free School Meals please visit

<https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/education-children-and-families/schools-and-colleges/free-school-meals/#how-to-apply>

Max Card

Discounts for fostered and disabled children – MaxCard
MaxCard – The Max Card is the UK's leading discount card for foster families and families of children with additional needs. Families can use their Max Card at venues across the UK to get free or discounted admission. (mymaxcard.co.uk)



Please remember to send your child in their PE kits on their allocated PE day below. - these are the new days from 4th September 2023

Year Group/Class	PE days
Apples	Wednesday and Thursday
Cherries	Monday and Wednesday
Year 1	Wednesday and Thursday
Year 2	Tuesday and Friday
Year 3	Wednesday and Friday
Year 4	Monday and Friday
Year 5	Tuesday and Wednesday
Year 6	Monday and Thursday

West Sussex Family Hub

There is a Family Hub in Penn Crescent Haywards Heath that is open to all families. Family hubs offer a range of support, information and guidance to parents, carers and young people as part of Early Help. Hubs are open for you to drop in and speak to our staff Monday to Friday during opening times on a whole range of issues affecting you and your family. They also have public access computers to use, free of charge, as well as social spaces available to meet other parents. in all our hubs on the front desk who can offer information, advice and guidance.

They can help you with:

- finding childcare
- applying for free childcare entitlement
- finding local activities and support services
- pregnancy and early child development
- Parenting and health advice for you and your family
- how to access local housing services
- crisis support, such as emergency access to food and utilities, personal finance and the benefits you may be entitled to.

For further information please click on the link in the title.



Forthcoming events

To view forthcoming diary dates please visit our [Online calendar](#) which can be accessed via our website www.londonmeedprimary.co.uk

Term Dates 2023-2024

For WSCC term dates please visit

https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/media/15495/school_term_calendar_2022_23_res.pdf

Academic Year 2023-2024 term dates including INSET Days

Autumn Term 2023

Last day of term Friday 15th December

Spring term 2024

Starts Tuesday 2nd January

Half term 12th February to 16th February

INSET DAY - Monday 19th February

Children return Tuesday 20th February

Last day of term Thursday 28th March

Easter Holidays 29th March to 12th April

Summer term 2024

Starts Monday 15th April

Bank Holiday - 6th May

INSET DAY - Friday 24th May

Half term 27th May to 31st May

INSET DAY Monday 3rd June

Last day of term Tuesday 23rd July