



Lavant

C.E. Primary School

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23rd October 2026

Dear Parents and Guardians,

It was great to see so many of you at parent consultations this week; thank you for your overwhelmingly positive feedback as to how useful and informative you find these meetings. The children have had a really good first few weeks in school and it has been lovely to see all the creative learning that has taken place. An extra special well done to our early years children who have thrown themselves into school life. They all settled so quickly at the start of the term and we are so pleased to have them in our school. We look forward to seeing each child in Wren Class flourish over the coming months and years.

Harvest

A big thank you to everyone who donated harvest gifts for our Harvest Festival. As usual, the service was very well attended and a wonderful celebration of God's provision for us. We have received a letter of thanks from Chichester Food Bank for the donations made.



Book Fest



We were delighted to partner again with West Dean CE Primary School to celebrate Chichester Book Festival. Children's Authors Gareth Jones and Kieran Larwood both shared the inspiration for their books and kindly signed a copy of their books for each child in school to take home. We hope your children were inspired by their visit and are enjoying their new book.

Grounds morning

A huge **thank you** also to all of you who worked so hard tidying and improving our school grounds during our Grounds morning last Saturday. We have such a wealth of talented parents, and we hugely appreciate your commitment and willingness to help. These mornings make such a difference in maintaining and improving our school grounds.



Staff news



After seven years of being a key member of our Lavant Team, Mrs Totman is moving into the Learning Behaviour Advisory Service for West Sussex at the end of this term. Mrs Totman has taught nearly every child in our school and we thank her for all she has brought to our school for many years. We understand how sad children in Wren class will be to say goodbye to Mrs Totman but we wish her all the best and are very excited for the new adventure that lies ahead of her. We are delighted to have appointed a

fantastic new teacher to join our school and look forward to sharing more information with you next half-term. Our new teacher will be teaming up with Mrs Game to continue the provision of fabulous learning opportunities in Wren Class.

Governing Body News



Mr David Peart, who has been a very active governor for many years, stepped down from his governing role at the start of this academic year. We thank David for all he has contributed towards the leadership of our school for so many years. Mrs. Ann Smith is kindly continuing as our Chair of Governors, and we are grateful to Mrs. Georgina Blair, who is continuing as our vice chair. As always, I am very grateful to all our governors who effectively offer challenge and support to our school. Their dedication to the children of Lavant

and in helping our school grow from strength to strength is hugely important to our development.

Safety and parking

A number of people, including local residents, have recently spoken to me regarding children's safety at the start and the end of the school day. Part of the concern is parents are parking illegally / inconsiderately, either partially blocking driveways and crossings, or parking on the zigzag lines and very close to the junction with the A286. This restricts views and makes it much more dangerous for children and other drivers on the road. Please can we all ensure we are doing our utmost to ensure the safety of everyone as we arrive and leave school. If you have any concerns regarding hazards / safety of our highways, please report directly to the [West Sussex County Council Reporting Portal](#).



Winter Ready



As the autumnal weather is well upon us now, please can you ensure that all children bring a warm waterproof coat to school every day. We aim to get all the children outside at playtimes even when it is cold and damp so that everyone has some fresh air and a chance to run around. We encourage children to continue playing on the school field at lunch times but do insist that they have a change of footwear and an old pair of tracksuit bottoms to put on.

Please remember that in winter all children must wear smart school shoes in school, no boots or trainers please.

School Medication

As many of you are aware, we keep a stock of Calpol, Piriteze, emergency asthma inhalers and Auto Injectors in school. These essential items are needing to be replenished increasingly more frequently and the associated costs have significantly risen over recent years. If you are in a financial position that you feel able to make a small contribution towards our emergency medication stock, we have now added 'Emergency Medication' as an item you can buy in the school shop on Arbor for £2 (or multiples of). Thank you



Attendance



A huge thank you for your commitment in ensuring your children are in school every day possible. We are delighted that, last summer term, our attendance was again in the top 10% of schools. There is a clear link between academic outcomes and school attendance and we want all pupils to achieve excellent outcomes to give themselves the very best chance in life. If, in an exceptional circumstance, you need to request an absence for your child, please complete an **'Absence Request' form**, **available from the school foyer and website**. Once completed, it should be returned to the school office for processing.

For further information regarding school attendance, please see our full policy which can be found on our school website 'Key Information & Policies' – 'Attendance Policy and Leave request'

Remembrance Day Poppies

We will be selling poppies on behalf of the British Legion during the first two weeks after the half term break. Children in year 6 will bring around the poppies first thing each day and any child is welcome to one by offering a small donation.



Anti-bullying week 16th – 20th November



Later this term we will be celebrating Anti-bullying week, exploring the theme of bullying and ensuring all children know what to do if they are worried that they, or someone else, is being bullied. We are extremely fortunate that incidences of bullying are very low at our school but each and every possible case is always taken seriously. Time is always taken to talk to all those involved, and if bullying is suspected, parents will

immediately be informed as we work together to support those affected. In our school we use the acronym of **STOP** Several **T**imes **O**n **P**urpose as a way of helping us identify bullying behaviour

Christmas Fair

I apologise for mentioning Christmas so early but organisation is now well underway for our Christmas Fair which, this year, is being held on Saturday 5th December. We will be holding a donation day on 20th November. On this day the children will be able to wear non-school uniform in return for bringing in items to the fair. Please do all make a real effort to support this excellent event which raises a huge amount of funds for our school, whilst getting everyone in the Christmas spirit.



Best wishes,

Adrian King

Daniel Taylor

KEY UPCOMING EVENTS FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday 2 nd November	INSET DAY – School closed for children
Tuesday 3 rd – 6 th November	Jumble may be brought into school this week
Saturday 7 th November	Friends Jumble Sale
Tuesday 10 th November	Pheasant Class Ted Talk Launch at Bishop Luffa School
Friday 13 th November	Children in Need Day – More details to follow
Tuesday 17 th November	Pheasant Class visiting the Life Exhibition at Swanfield Chapel
Friday 20 th November	Non Uniform day – Donations for the Christmas Fair
Friday 20 th November	Evening Showing of The Peoples Emergency Briefing
Friday 27 th November	Whole School Interhouse Curling Competition
Saturday 5 th December	Christmas Fair
Tuesday 8 th December	Pheasant Class Ted Talk finale at Bishop Luffa School
Tuesday 8 th December pm	Wren and Robin Class Nativity
Wednesday 9 th December am	Wren and Robin Class Nativity
Monday 14 th December	CYE Christmas Assembly
Tuesday 15 th December	Carol Service at St Mary's Church
Thursday 17 th December	Christmas Jumper Day Caterlink Christmas lunch
Friday 19 th December	Christmas Music Assembly Last day of the autumn term

If you have any ideas or additional suggestions for our school please feel free to complete the slip below and return to the school office at your convenience

Name:

Comment: