

Slindon CofE Primary School Newsletter



29th November 2024

Colder days!

Dear Parents/Carers,

The weather has certainly changed over the last couple of weeks, from mild and sunny to the darker, colder start of the winter months. But with the dark and cold mornings, comes the sparkle and shimmer of Christmas! The next few weeks of the autumn term are full of dates and events, so please do keep an eye on the newsletter and MCAS for any updates.

The cold weather arrived just in time for two of our classes to go on school trips. Catkin class had a wonderful time at Goodwood Farm and came back with tales of cute pigs and huge cows! The children behaved impeccably and the education workers commented on their politeness. Chestnut class braved the bustle of London to visit the Houses of Parliament; taking in many of our famous landmarks and asking some insightful questions.

Along with this cold weather, we also wanted to send a reminder that the children tend to go outside in all weathers. Please ensure your child has a coat to bring to school each day and that this is labelled, so we can reunite stray coats with their owners.

Thank you for your continued support.

All the best,
Laura Webb
Headteacher

Our collective worship theme is thankfulness, linked to goodness.
We are now thinking of all the things around us that make us thankful.

Galatians 5:22-24 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

Dates

4/12	Own clothes for a bottle.
6/12	School Christmas Fair
09/12	Whole School Pantomime
12/12	Christmas Jumper Day
12/12	Chartwells Christmas Lunch
13/12	Christmas shopping day
13/12	Catkin Class Nativity (PM)
15/12	Christingle Service at St Mary's
16/12	Christmas film night
17/12	Messy Church
18/12	Christmas Carol Service
19/12	Christmas lunch and parties
06/01	Back to school
13/01	Year 5/6 Little Life Savers session
20/01	Start of prayer week
20/01	Splash Assembly
22/01	Year 4 Play leaders
04/02	Travelling book fair
05/02	Netball tournament
07/02	Benchball Yr 5/6

What's happening in school?

Goodwood Farm

Catkin Class had a very exciting trip this month where we visited Goodwood Farm near Chichester. The children were very enthusiastic during their time at the farm, and I was so impressed by the level of engagement and questions, it was great to see!

During our visit to the farm, we met many different animals including cows, sheep and pigs. The majority of the class enjoyed seeing the pigs the most. The farm was an insightful place to learn, for instance the children learnt about the stomach of a cow (they have four compartments!), how milk is taken from a cow, where it is then stored and how milk is sold in the local farm shop. The children could then explore the farm shop and see the milk in various products, including the cheese.

The children had a great time going on a nature walk around the grounds where they saw multiple tractors and a wide variety of trees. They learnt all about the different types, including which trees are evergreen and which are deciduous. This links with our current focus in science where we continue to explore seasons.

The children additionally took part in a small workshop where they looked at various crops (wheat and barley for instance) and how these are milled. Some of the children had the chance to do their very own milling and went on to explore how these are used in different products.

Please see some of the photos of Catkin Class enjoying their time at the farm and in particular a picture of the children learning how to milk 'Daisy the Cow'.



Maths fact – Did you know every odd number has an 'e' in it?

Why not try it out...

One

Three

Five

Seven Can you prove me wrong?



SPAG fact- An expanded noun phrase is a descriptive clause normally made up of a noun as well as one or more adjectives.

The pretty, blue boat.

A large, fluffy tabby cat.

Three perfect, pristine pearls.





Houses of Parliament

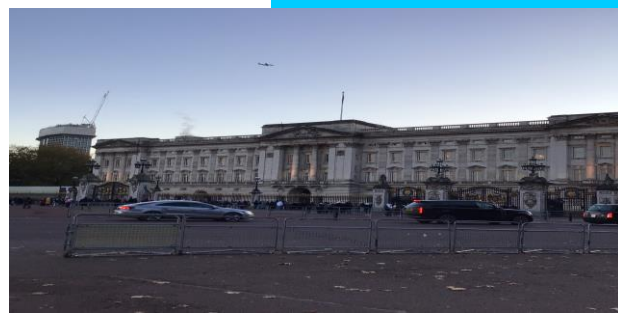
On the 22nd November, Chestnut class braved the ice and snow to make the trip to London. After a slightly delayed start the children made a speedy walk down to the Houses of Parliament. On the way we took in the sights of Westminster Abbey, the Oliver Cromwell statue and the memorial to Emmaline Pankhurst.

Once at the Houses of Parliament, we were greeted by our tour guide Kai. Kai took us all around the House of Lords and House of Commons, where we watched a debate on the war in Ukraine, and told us many facts about the building and its beautiful decoration. We also got to visit the great hall, which was where Queen Elizabeth II lay in state and where Henry VIII was rumoured to have played tennis.

After our tour, we took part in a workshop about how the House of Lords and Commons works. The children had a fantastic time and became quite knowledgeable about the passing of laws.

Then we had a late lunch before setting off on our tour around London. We took in the sights of the Queen Elizabeth tower (Home of Big Ben), the Cenotaph, the women of war memorial, Horse Guards, Trafalgar Square, Admiralty Arch, The Mall, Churchill's war rooms, St James Park and finally Buckingham Palace. After a short rest at the Palace we then headed back to Victoria.

In Victoria there was a surprise for us, Santa Claus was driving a Morgan! The children got their photograph with Santa, before hopping on the train back to Barnham. After a long day, we all needed a rest and to warm up slightly. But, as usual, the children were a credit to the school.



PTA dates



The PTA are busy putting together our Christmas events, here are a few dates for your diary...

Christmas Dates!

Friday 29th November – Own clothes day in exchange for a tombola prize.

Wednesday 4th December – Own clothes day in exchange for a bottle.

- **Christmas Fair- 6th December- 3.45pm- 5.30pm.**
- **Christmas shopping day- Friday 13th December**
 - **Presents to cost £3 each.**
- **Christmas movie night- Monday 16th December**
 - **£2:50**

Safeguarding at Slindon

What is safeguarding?

Visitors coming on to school premises, including the playground, have a duty of care towards the welfare and safety of the children and adults in the school. This is called safeguarding.

Safeguarding means that:

- children are protected from maltreatment
- a child's health or development is protected
- children grow up with safe and effective care
- action is taken to ensure the best outcomes for all children

Safeguarding is the action we take to promote the welfare of children in our care to protect them from harm. **We take this responsibility very seriously** and we work in close partnership with parents and professionals to protect all of our children. The school will take any reasonable action to ensure the welfare and safety of its pupils is maintained.

Our staff and governors have been trained on safeguarding in line with the KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE IN EDUCATION document and have taken part in 'PREVENT'.

If you worried about a child's safety you can contact IFD (Integrated Front Door) directly on [01403 229900](tel:01403229900)

Who to contact in our school

If in doubt, talk to someone... Designated Safeguarding Lead

Miss Laura Webb, Headteacher

Designated Safeguarding Deputies

Mrs Hazel Flower, School Business Manager

Mrs Karen Cooper, School Secretary

Safeguarding Governor

Mrs Katy Horner

Or you can email: dsl@slindonprimary.co.uk

REMEMBER, KEEPING OUR CHILDREN SAFE IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TOO!

School governor vacancy – Slindon CofE Primary School

Parent Governor vacancy

Being a school governor is a challenging but hugely rewarding role. It will give you the chance to make a real difference to young people, give something back to your local community and use and develop your skills in a board-level environment. As a governor you will be able to:

- Use your own experience of education and life beyond school to inform conversations
- Develop and utilise your skills in a board-level environment
- Make a valuable contribution to education and your community
- Support and challenge the school so that it improves for pupils and staff
- Bring your unique experiences, perspectives and insights in to decision-making in the interests of the school community

Governors set the aims and objectives for the school or group of schools and set the policies and targets for achieving those aims and objectives. They monitor and evaluate the progress the school is making and act as a source of challenge and support to the headteacher. In action, this means:

- Managing budgets and deciding how money is spent
- Engaging with pupils, staff, parents and the school community
- Sitting on panels and making decisions about things like pupil exclusions and staff disciplinary
- Addressing a range of education issues within the school including disadvantaged pupils, pupils with special needs, staff workload and teacher recruitment
- Looking at data and evidence to ask questions and have challenging conversations about the school
- Appointing and performance reviewing the head teacher and senior leaders, including making decisions about pay

For an informal conversation please contact Phil Johnson, Chair of Governors –
pjohnson@slindonprimary.co.uk

Skills

Anyone aged over 18 can be a governor and you do not need to be a parent. There is no requirement for you to have an understanding of the education system, just the necessary skills, character and time to contribute. There is plenty of training available to help you learn about education.

Schools needs and benefit from a range of professional knowledge on their governing board including education, finance, human resources, legal, marketing and public relations, property and estates management, and organisational change.

It is also important that you have time to commit to the role. School governors typically attend 6-12 meetings per year, as well as making school visits and having background reading and training.

Other specific questions for school to answer

You will also need to undertake a DBS check with the school and pass all relevant disqualification checks.

Standard School Year 2024/2025

Recommended school term and holiday dates for the academic year 2024/2025 for West Sussex

The School Year





	2024			
	September	October	November	December
Monday	2 9 16 23 30	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	2 9 16 23 30
Tuesday	3 10 17 24	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	3 10 17 24 31
Wednesday	4 11 18 25	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25
Thursday	5 12 19 26	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	5 12 19 28
Friday	6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29	6 13 20 27
Saturday	7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30	7 14 21 28
Sunday	1 8 15 22 29	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24	1 8 15 22 29
	2025			
	January	February	March	April
Monday	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28
Tuesday	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29
Wednesday	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30
Thursday	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24
Friday	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25
Saturday	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26
Sunday	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27
	May	June	July	August
Monday	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25
Tuesday	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26
Wednesday	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27
Thursday	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28
Friday	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29
Saturday	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30
Sunday	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24 31

Bank and Public Holidays 2024/2025

Christmas Holiday	25th December 2024	May Day	5th May 2025
Boxing Day	26th December 2024	Spring Bank Holiday	26th May 2025
New Year Day Holiday	1st January 2025	Summer Bank Holiday	25th August 2025
Good Friday	18th April 2025		
Easter Monday	21st April 2025		

Useful Information

Term Lengths (days)

School holidays		September to October half term	40
		October to December	35
Bank holidays and national holidays		January to February half term	30
		February to April	30
Start of Term		April to May half term	23
		June to July	37
End of Term		Total	195 days

Please note that the first day of the autumn term in September 2025 will not be determined until the 2025/26 timetable has been consulted upon and approved.

Headlice

We have recently had cases of headlice in the school. Please ensure you are checking your child's hair regularly and treating any lice found.

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/head-lice-and-nits/>



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LAVANT ADVENT WINDOW TRAIL 2024

Again, the village will be building another trail of Advent Windows throughout the month of December, to brighten up our wintry days!

Each day a different house will light up a new window for you to discover, as you walk around the streets and paths of the village. (Note: they are all obvious windows on the roadside) Each one will have both the day number and a seasonal theme for you to find e.g. bells.

Over the page is a pull-out sheet for you to use to record the windows which you find. The 24 windows will remain in place until 29th December so you have lots of time to find them all. You can then return your form to one of these doors for a chance to win a box of biscuits for your family or friends:

Jenny Quest at 34 Lavant Down Road, or Sara Pickford, Harpers, Lower Road, East Lavant.

The trail begins at The Earl of March on Sunday December 1st. Families are welcome between 4 and 5pm where festive food will be available. The grand opening/lighting up time will be at 5pm.

We don't think anyone in our community should have to face going hungry, especially at Christmas, so we are hoping to raise money for the local Foodbank. Each house with an Advent window will have a collection box for donations. Thank you!

Map included to help you on your way!



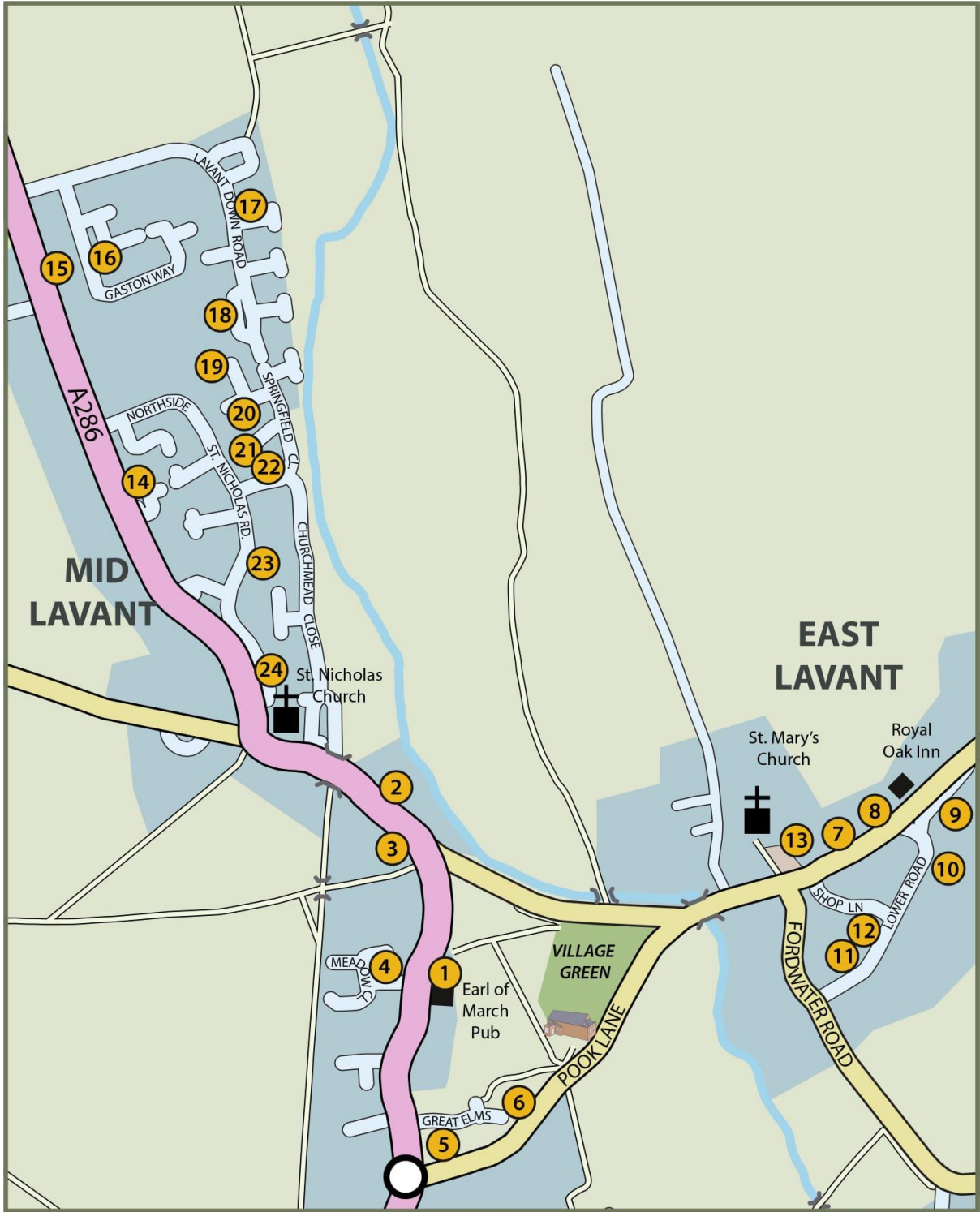
LAVANT ADVENT WINDOWS

Complete this form and return by 29th December to have a chance of winning.

WINDOW NUMBER	THEME e.g bells
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	
9	
10	
11	
12	
13	
14	
15	
16	
17	
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	

Name:

Tel Number:





TOMORROW'S ORCHESTRA PROGRAMME



Starting in JANUARY 2025!

TOMORROW'S ORCHESTRA PROGRAMME

FREE group lessons on orchestral instruments for children aged 7 - 11

BOGNOR REGIS
Thursday

CHICHESTER
Saturday

HORSHAM
Saturday

WORTHING
Saturday

- ✓ Free for term one
- ✓ Free instrument hire*
- ✓ Play in an orchestra

*A booking fee of £10 will apply to cover instrument delivery



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December-
21st,
23rd,
30th
and 31st

Winter Holiday club



Ages 8 to 12 years old

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benefits related free school
meals

Book in through the link
or
haf@westsussex.gov.uk

dalesouthcoastskateclub@outlook.com



-Skateboarding-

-T-shirt design-

-Games-

-Skateboard design-

-Art and crafts and more...



**Unit 8, 33 Chartwell rd,
Lancing, Bn15 8sp**





HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES



2 - 3 JANUARY

BOGNOR REGIS - RAP & LYRIC WRITING

CRAWLEY - DJ & MUSIC PRODUCTION

LITTLEHAMPTON - ROCK & POP BAND

AGES 8 - 16YRS

SIGN UP HERE

WWW.WESTSUSSEXMUSIC.CO.UK/HOLIDAYACTIVITIES



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Christmas holiday camps

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coaches & School Games Organisers. Activities include:

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& Fielding, Arts & Crafts and much more!**

Please note activities may vary daily

Bookings open **Monday 4th November** (limited places available)

Arena Sports Centre 09:00-15:00

School years 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 (Academic year 24-25)

Dates **Monday 23rd & Tuesday 24th December
& Thursday 2nd & Friday 3rd January**

(individual day bookings available)

£19.75 or £74 for all 4 days! - Includes a hot meal!

All children accessing benefits related free school meals can access for
free via HAF, check with West Sussex County Council for more information.

HAF places please book via the WSCC website:

www.westsussex.gov.uk/haf



Booking deadline for all dates above:
Saturday 14th December

Please contact us for booking:

Tel 01243 870000 www.arenasportscentre.com

Email **bookings@arenasportscentre.com**

Westloats Lane, Bognor Regis, West Sussex PO21 5JD





Walberton Players Youth Theatre
are looking for children aged 7-17yrs old
to come and join us and be part of our
next show **Shrek Jr.**

Rehearsals start on
Thursday 9th January 2025
18.30-20.30pm
At Walberton Village Hall.

Contact Claire for more information at:
Youth@walbertonplayers.org



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DECEMBER
2 + 3
JANUARY



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www.jc-sportsonline.com

PLEASE SEE THE STEPS BELOW ON HOW TO SECURE YOUR SPACE

DEC - JAN

- 23 30 2 3

	- 23	30	2	3
East Preston Junior School	✓	✓	✓	✓
The March CE Primary School	✓	✓	✓	✓
Berewood Primary School	✓	✗	✓	✓
Steep CE Primary School	✓	✗	✓	✓
Yapton Primary School	✓	✓	✓	✓
St Bartholomew's CE	✓	✗	✓	✓
Whiteley Primary School	✗	✗	✓	✓



XMAS HOLIDAY CAMP - MONDAY 23rd & 30th DECEMBER - JANUARY 2ND & 3RD

Camps run from 8.30am-4.30pm
Lunch will NOT be provided, please BRING a packed lunch and snack.

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Daily price is £29.99, receive a 20% EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT when you book at least TWO WEEKS in advance, using code EARLYBIRDXTMAS20. Final booked date for early bird is 09/12/24

