

Slindon CofE Primary School Newsletter



10th November 2023

Thankfulness!

Dear Parents/Carers,

School has continued to be a busy, hive of activity.

This week we have seen our new trim trail be installed, thanks to the amazing fundraising efforts of the PFA. The children have been delighted by the changes to the playground and this has been no exception.

We have also seen our school participate in Parliament Week. During this week the children have the opportunity to learn about democracy, the impact on our lives and how they can make a difference. It was wonderful to see the classes exploring these areas and putting forward candidates for the final vote.

The school has also spent time thinking about remembrance and each class took some time to remember those lost in war, those still fighting and what that means for us today. They made some beautiful memorials, which will be shared at St Mary's Church.

As always, thank you for your continued support.

All the best,
Laura Webb
Headteacher

Dates

13/11	Diwali afternoon across the school.
14 th and 15 th /11	Parents evenings
17/11	Children in Need Day
28/11	Messy Church
1/12	PFA Christmas Fayre
7/12	Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day
7/12	Chartwells Christmas Lunch
10/12	Christingle at St Mary's (4pm)
12/12	Christmas lunch and parties
12/12	Messy Church
13/12	Christmas Carol Service
14/12	KS1 Nativity
14/12	Christmas film night

Our collective worship theme is Peace.

We are looking at how we find peace and the link to prayer.

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.

What's happening in school?

Parliament Week

This week the children have been preparing their campaigns to be Headteacher for the day and have worked hard to be the chosen candidate for their political party (class).

Next week, the chosen candidate, voted for by their party, will give their speech to the whole school community. There will then be a democratic vote, with the chosen headteacher taking over the school on the 21st November.

We can't wait to see what we get!



Remembrance

Linked to our collective worship theme of peace, we have also been considering the impact of war. As we approach Armistice Day, the children have been creating poppy wreaths in their class, to commemorate all of those who have died in conflict. The children chose to use mixed media, with some classes sewing the wreaths, while others used glue and tissue paper.

We will be taking the wreaths to St Mary's Church on Monday afternoon.



Maths fact – Proper fractions

- Fractions where the numerator is less than the denominator.

SPAG fact- Apostrophes for contractions

When we put two words together like do not, becomes don't, we represent the letter we have omitted with an apostrophe.

Bread baking

On the 1st November, Catkin class had a wonderful time making bread rolls.

They worked with Mrs Merrett and Miss Potter to follow a recipe, measure out ingredients, knead the dough and bake it.

The children then got to take the bread rolls home, although many did not make it out of the playground!



Standard School Year 2023/2024

Recommended school term and holiday dates for the academic year 2023/2024 for West Sussex

The School Year





	2023			
	September	October	November	December
Monday	4 11 18 25	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25
Tuesday	5 12 19 26	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26
Wednesday	6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29	6 13 20 27
Thursday	7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30	7 14 21 28
Friday	1 8 15 22 29	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24	1 8 15 22 29
Saturday	2 9 16 23 30	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	2 9 16 23 30
Sunday	3 10 17 24	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	3 10 17 24 31
	2024			
	January	February	March	April
Monday	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29
Tuesday	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30
Wednesday	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24
Thursday	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25
Friday	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26
Saturday	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27
Sunday	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28
	May	June	July	August
Monday	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26
Tuesday	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27
Wednesday	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28
Thursday	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29
Friday	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30
Saturday	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24 31
Sunday	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25

Bank and Public Holidays 2023/2024

Christmas Holiday	25th December 2023	May Day	6th May 2024
Boxing Day	26th December 2023	Spring Bank Holiday	27th May 2024
New Year Day Holiday	1st January 2024	Summer Bank Holiday	26th August 2024
Good Friday	29th March 2024		
Easter Monday	1st April 2024		

Useful Information

Term Lengths (days)

School holidays		September to October half term	36 days
		October to December	35 days
Bank holidays and national holidays		January to February half term	29 days
		February to April	29 days
Start of Term		April to May half term	29 days
		June to July	37 days
End of Term		Total	195 days

Please note that the first day of the autumn term in September 2024 will not be determined until the 2024/25 timetable has been consulted upon and approved.

West Sussex SENDIAS Service

Is your child starting primary school or transferring to junior or secondary school in September 2024?

Do you think, for
● whatever reason, you
● may struggle with the
● Admissions process?

Secondary School

Online applications open:

Monday 04 September 2023.

Deadline for applying for a secondary school place for your child is:

Tuesday 31 October 2023.

Primary School (inc. infant/junior)

Online applications open:

Monday 02 October 2023.

Deadline for applying for a school place for your child is:

Monday 15 January 2024.

For more information on the admissions process:

www.westsussex.gov.uk/admissions

If so, the West Sussex SENDIAS Service can:

- explain the admissions process to you
- help you to make an informed decision about your child's schools of preference
- help you to fill in the online application form.

Please contact the SENDIAS Service:

Helpline: 0330 222 8555

Email: send.ias@westsussex.gov.uk

www.westsussexsendias.org



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!

Christmas is coming!

It is nearly upon us and there is lots going on in the calendar dates linked to this important Christian event.

St Mary's Church would like to invite all of our school community to some of the services coming up at the Church:

- 10th December (4pm) – Christingle Service
- 13th December (1:30pm) – School Carol Service
- 24th December (4pm)- Blessing of the crib service.

Some Christmas information

Advent marks the beginning of the church year. It is a time for reflection in darkness, for renewal of hope and for a movement towards a beginning.

The season of Advent, as it first emerged in the Church in the fourth and fifth centuries, lasted, like Lent, for 40 days. Later tradition developed the Advent we know today, of four Sundays before Christmas Day.

It is a season of expectation and preparation as the Church prepares to celebrate the coming of Christ. Church decorations are simple and sparse, and purple is the traditional colour used. Advent falls at the darkest time of the year, and the natural symbols of darkness and light are powerfully at work throughout Advent and Christmas.

The Advent Wreath

The Advent wreath is usually a circle of greenery with five candles rising from it. There are four candles on the outside that are purple (sometimes one is pink) and the candle in the middle is white. The candles are lit in the same order each week so that by the fourth week, the candles have burnt down by different amounts. (The pink candle can be lit on the third Sunday, known as Gaudete or 'Rose Sunday'.)

The custom of Christingles comes from the Moravian church and since the latter part of the twentieth century has become a part of how many churches mark the season (though Christingle services may take place before or after Christmas).

Its success stems from The Children's Society who encourage and resource churches and schools around the country to hold Christingle services.

What the Christingle Means

- The lit candle represents Jesus being light in the world
- The orange represents the world

- The red ribbon represents the blood of Christ
- The sweets represent all of God's creations

Christmas is one of the highlights of the Christian year and a time of great celebration.

We celebrate the mystery of God coming to live among humanity as one of us in the person of Jesus, son of Mary, the saviour promised by the prophets of the Old Testament.

The great feast that marks the anniversary of Jesus' birth has inspired the many joyful customs and traditions that we use to mark Christmas. Many of these - carols, cribs, decorations, and special foods - are shared with and enjoyed by millions of people across the world. But there is more than tinsel, trees and reindeer. There is amazement, wonder and joy here.

The gospel accounts of the first Christmas provide so many ways for us to enter into the mystery of God becoming human. There are hosts of angels filling the night sky with singing; a group of astounded shepherds on a hillside who find their lives and expectations turned upside down; there is a shining star and the birth of a child, which, like many other births before and since, bring hope and possibility.

And the readings for Christmas day - including the prologue to John's gospel - invite us to look beyond the joy of Jesus' birth to the significance of his life, and the saving power of his future death and resurrection.

The season of Christmas lasts for twelve days, culminating in another feast - that of the Epiphany on 6th January, when we recall how Jesus was first revealed to the wider world in the visit of the Magi (or Wise Men).





**CHRISTMAS
HOLIDAYS**

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School

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Primary School

Arun

The
Angmering
School

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Chanctonbury
Leisure Centre

*18th Dec - 21st Dec, for children in Year 1 - Year 6

*Drop off from 8.30-4pm £24.53

*ALL HAF venues, please book via WSCC website

*ALL Ofsted registered, Childcare Vouchers accepted

*10% OFF if all dates booked

Barnham
Community
Hall

PLEASE BRING

A packed lunch
Plenty of water
Suitable clothing
Loads of energy!

With great value sports, performing arts, and games to enjoy each half term, we have plenty for your children to get stuck into in the school break.

Over the winter break, there will be lots of festive fun to enjoy too.

Our Holiday Camps keep children entertained, safe & on the move during the school holidays.

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