

# Sparsholt C of E Primary School



## Weekly Newsletter

7<sup>th</sup> February 2025



Here's what's in the newsletter this week!

- ❖ Key Reminders
- ❖ Headteacher weekly update
- ❖ School Awards
- ❖ Dates for your diary
- ❖ Important Notices
- ❖ FoSS Update
- ❖ Governor Update
- ❖ Other Information



### Morning Walk

Distance	Steps	Time
1.45 mi	3,056	26m 5s



A 'love-ly' Wednesday well-being walk with Oak Class

REMINDERS FOR W/C MONDAY 10<sup>th</sup> February 2025

✓ Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February – SCHOOL CLOSED FOR INSET DAY

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been so amazing to see the children fully involved in all the activities that have been going on this week for Children's mental health and wellbeing week and also learning strategies and approaches that they can use to support themselves going forward.

It was so lovely to start the week with the children bringing in their favourite soft toys for Mindful Monday. The children undertook some wonderful activities from breathing and mediation to mindful colouring. On Take Notice Tuesday, Mrs Glass talked to the children about the concept of fear and provided strategies around what to do when we feel afraid or anxious. As Nelson Mandela said: "The brave man is not he who does not feel afraid, but he who conquers that fear."

On Wellbeing Wednesday, the focus was on the importance of physical exercise and connecting with others. The children had the opportunity to undertake a wellbeing walk with their teachers. The most amazing thing was when tracking the walk, the walk itself created a heart shape and the children have named our new route around the school grounds as the "Heartbeat walk". It was so wonderful to see the children enjoying a walk whilst immersed in conversation with friends and appreciating the beauty of the countryside on our doorstep. On Thoughtful Thursday, the children undertook a scavenger hunt around the churchyard appreciating the history and the architecture of the beautiful St Stephen's Church. The children thoroughly enjoyed the challenge of finding answers to photo clues whilst working collaboratively.

As you know, today has been 'Dress to Express' with the children coming into school in outfits that they feel represent them. The variety of outfits was amazing and thank you so much to everyone who has so generously given donations towards the purchase of a new therapeutic light tube for the Submarine Room. So far we have raised over £130.00. If you still wish to donate please do feel free to bring you donation in next week.

We were incredibly lucky to welcome our celebrity visitor into the building this morning who arrived and immediately worked his magic, improving everybody's wellbeing simply by being there. As the Headteacher, I did feel that I should have been able to have an extended 1:1 session with this guru but apparently Dino the Dog does not agree to such hierarchical privileges and therefore insisted that he would only appear if his time was shared equally between all!

This afternoon our amazing Year 6 Worship Team brought our week to a close with an excellent Celebration Worship all about our Sparsholt Wheel of Wellbeing. Their big message was that looking after ones' mental health and wellbeing isn't just for this week but is for life.

Next week, we will be celebrating Safer Internet Day on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February. This year's focus is around teaching children to be able to identify online scams, something that is so easy to get caught by. As part of this day, and as a follow on from Children's mental health and wellbeing week, we will be asking all the children (and you) to participate in 'Tech Free Tuesday'. Please do look out for the separate email about this event. It really is important for children, and us as adults, to take some time away from devices and try to do something different.

I really hope you all have a wonderful weekend, and I have to say I can't quite believe we are already nearly half way through this academic year.

Kind regards,

Mrs Hanratty

**Mindful Me Monday**  
Soft toy buddies take over the school!

**Take Notice Tuesday**  
Bubble breathing with Mrs Glass!

**Wellbeing Wednesday**  
Wellbeing walk around the grounds!

**Thoughtful Thursday**  
Whole school scavenger hunt!

**Fido Friday**  
V.I.P. Dino, visits school



## School Awards

### Core Christian Value Awards

We were very proud to commend our Core Christian Value Award recipients in Celebration Worship today. Children from each class are nominated weekly for each of our Core Values: Courage, Compassion and Creativity.

	Courage	Compassion	Creativity
<b>Willow</b>	Grace	Grayson	Gracey
<b>Beech</b>	Florrie	Phoebe	Jonathan
<b>Maple</b>	Henri	Jemima	Henry
<b>Rowan</b>	Daisy L	Hemming	Sophia
<b>Oak</b>	Sofia	Annabel	Tom



### House Point "Rosette" Awards

Following on from last year's scolosaurus awards, this year the children who achieve the required number of house points (see below), will come home with a lovely rosette badge.



### Sparsholt Shooting Stars Sports Challenge

Some sporting achievements from home to highlight this week:

- \* Alexia – voted parents player of the match for her football game
- \* Allana – moved up a level in her gymnastics class



***Well done everyone! Please do keep sending your achievements into us!***



Date	Event	Location	Time	Parents Invited?	Notes
Mon 6th Jan 2025	First day of term	School	08:40am	n/a	
Thurs 13th Feb 2025	Last day of half-term	School	3:30pm	n/a	INSET on Friday
Fri 14th Feb 2025	INSET Day	Home	All day	n/a	

## Important Notices

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### 1. Car Park Guidelines

We would like to remind you of our car parking guidelines:

- Please do **not** move your cars when the children walk to or from the bus. We would request that you remain stationary for a few minutes longer and allow the children to safely make their way across the car park
  - Please do not park over the marked pedestrian walk-ways in the car-park
  - Post Office staff, Sparsholt Parish Council and Sparsholt residents kindly request that you do not park in Woodman Lane, especially outside the Post Office. Parking directly outside the Post Office (where the white lines are painted) impedes our school coach which then blocks the road completely. Be aware that the service bus also needs to get through each hour.
  - There are 3 parking bays closest to the shop which are for the use of Post Office/Shop staff.
  - For safety reasons, please refrain from parking in the entrance to the car park
  - If you double-park in the car-park please drop off or pick up your child/children promptly so allowing others to get away as quickly as possible.
  - An alternative to the car park would be to park in Woodman Close and walk up to school through the pathway at the back of the playground – we recommend this option. Please be careful not to impede disabled bays or private driveways in front of some of the houses in the Close.
  - Please make full use of the bus if your child has a pass.
  - Finally we ask you to be courteous at all times to other users of the car park.
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## FoSS Update

Event	When / Where	Details
<b>FOSS Movie Night</b> 	*Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> February  *18:00 – 19:45  *Memorial Hall	See you there tonight!
<b>Valentines Day Themed Bake Sale</b> 	*Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> February  *After school  *Outside the front gate	All baked goods to be sold at £1 each.

## Governor Update

I hope this fifth governor's update finds you well and excited for the weekend ahead. Two days without having to make packed lunches or chivvy children out of bed, although my two boys seem to wake up earlier on the weekends than on school days for some strange reason.

My name is Ian, and I am the vice-chair of the governors alongside sitting on the curriculum committee. I am both a vicar in the Church of England and a serving army officer, currently posted to ATR Winchester, where I work as the chaplain. Due to my job, I have missed numerous birthdays and special events, especially school functions like many parents must do due to work commitments. As a parent governor, and especially serving on the curriculum committee, it allows me to give a little bit back to the school and be more involved in a way that I can.

I don't have a teaching educational background as some of the other governors do. Yet as a parent, we bring that alternative insight to both help set the strategic direction of the school and help monitor the school's progress. Sparsholt is a fantastic primary school, with wonderful teachers and an especially great head teacher. This means being a parent governor is such a positive experience where everyone is pulling in the same direction to continue the excellence of the school. In my mind, one of the wonderful things about Sparsholt is beyond its key educational outputs (our English, maths and science results are brilliant), is the focus on enabling our children to develop holistically into the best version of themselves. This goes beyond giving the children head knowledge of how to solve a mathematical formula or to read, but rather to mould wonderful people who will go out into the world and change it for the better.

Being a parent governor is a massive privilege to be part of this process, and getting to journey alongside the school as it travels down each academic year. I get to see the fantastic work the teachers do, how much effort Mrs Gwiliam and Mrs Hanratty put into the school and how children respond so well.

Please do consider becoming a parent governor, or just getting involved more with the school and your children's education. It is well worth the effort.

## General Information



**February  
Half Term Workshops  
At Unit 12**

Winnall Valley Road, Winchester, SO23 0LD  
17-21 February | 10-4pm

Monday - Wicked Musical Theatre  
Tuesday - Wicked Musical Theatre & Show  
• • •  
Wednesday - Street Dance Day  
Thursday - Day at the Movies  
Friday - Team Extreme Sports Day

[Email to Register](#) >>

**£30** or **£150**  
per child per day per child for 5 days

BREAKFAST & LATE CLUBS AVAILABLE  
(Extra £6 per session)

 FOR MORE INFO  
EMAIL: [INFO@INTEGR8DANCE.COM](mailto:INFO@INTEGR8DANCE.COM)  
CALL: 01962 808398



**February Half Term  
Workshops  
At Weeke Primary**

Stoney Ln, Weeke, Winchester SO22 6DR  
17-21 February | 10-4pm

Monday - Wicked Musical Theatre  
Tuesday - Taylor Swift Camp  
Wednesday - Team Extreme Day  
Thursday - Day at the Movies  
Friday - Street Dance Day

[Email to Register](#) >>

**£30** or **£150**  
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 **UNDER-6  
SHOWCASE TALENT ID EVENT**

AFC Bournemouth Pre-Academy are hosting an Under-6 Talent Identification event on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2025, 17:15-18:45, for talented players born between 1<sup>st</sup> Sept 2018 – 31<sup>st</sup> Aug 2019.

To register your son's place, please complete the form using the link below. Successful applicants will be notified via email by **Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2025**.

**REGISTER NOW:** <https://forms.office.com/e/aUqrjvRFHW>

For further info, please email [jamie.wise@afcb.co.uk](mailto:jamie.wise@afcb.co.uk)

**TOGETHER ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE**



NILOS  
KERKEZ



## February 2025 Newsletter

FACE delivers online support via zoom for parents across the UK  
Talks are 90 minutes long, £24 each - Book Online at [facefamilyadvice.co.uk](http://facefamilyadvice.co.uk)

Thursday  
20th Feb  
19:00 - 20:00  
FREE



### FREE SESSION Supporting Healthy Screen Use

A range of steps that can help minimise the harms from screens

Monday  
3rd Feb  
10:00 - 11:30  
£24



### Supporting a Child with ADHD

Challenging the stereotypes and giving practical interventions. Clear explanation of the condition in all its forms and extremely useful advice.

Tuesday  
11th Feb  
19:00 - 20:30  
£24



### Facing Defiance

Specific strategy to help parents manage defiant and challenging behaviour, especially aimed at ADHD, ODD and PDA conditions, 5 to 12 years old.

Tuesday  
18th Feb  
19:00 - 20:30  
£24



### Cannabis & Ketamine Awareness

Get the facts and know the harms about these two drugs so you can hold an informed conversation with your teens.

Tuesday  
25th Feb  
19:00 - 20:30  
£24



### Understanding the Teenage Brain

A 'must see' for all parents and teachers of teens and pre-teens. Explains why teens think, feel and behave very differently from adults and how we can support them.

[facefamilyadvice.co.uk](http://facefamilyadvice.co.uk)

[info@facefamilyadvice.co.uk](mailto:info@facefamilyadvice.co.uk)



### Welcome to Bubble Church

Bubble Church is a free, puppet-packed, Jesus-centred, coffee-and-food-fuelled, 30 minute kids and families adventure.

Here's the deal: you turn up at St Mary the Less Chilbolton 15 minutes early for a snack and a coffee, then you'll be guided to a 'bubble', and you and your little ones will share in 30 mins of song, story, puppets, and prayer.

**Bubble Church at St Mary the Less Chilbolton will be at 4pm every Sunday, starting Sunday 23rd February.**

Book if you can at [www.bubblechurch.org](http://www.bubblechurch.org)



Book online at  
[www.bubblechurch.org](http://www.bubblechurch.org)



St Mary the Less  
Chilbolton

Chilbolton Village Street,  
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