

# Sparsholt C of E Primary School



## Weekly Newsletter

7<sup>th</sup> March 2025

Beech Class were delighted to receive delivery of their new rug this week!

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

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



Proud winners of the Winchester Inter-School football tournament at Nightingale Primary School!



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

- ✓ Monday 10<sup>th</sup> March – Willow and Beech Class Outdoor Learning sessions
- ✓ Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> March – Parents' Evening – 4pm – 7pm
- ✓ Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> March – NO LACROSSE CLUB
- ✓ Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> March – Parents' Evening – 4pm – 7pm
- ✓ Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> March – Skipping Workshop



WORLD  
**BOOK**  
DAY<sup>®</sup>







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**BOOK**  
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**BOOK**  
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Dear Parents and Carers,

What a fabulous week! We started the week with Chance to Shine Cricket coming into school to teach the children cricket skills. Every child I spoke to said how fantastic the sessions were and how much they had learned. What was also lovely was the cricket coach commented (without prompting) what amazing children we have and how much he had enjoyed coaching them.

Monday was of course also “Marvellous”. I very much hope that all of you who were able to come in after school to look through your children’s books enjoyed the experience. As I have said before, I feel that a child explaining what learning occurred to lead to the outcomes in their books is so much more meaningful than simply looking through with no explanation or background. It is also so lovely to see the children’s faces light up as they show pieces that they are particularly proud of.

World Book Day yesterday was also a roaring success. The children looked so wonderful in their costumes and it was evident the effort that had been made, so thank you to all of you for supporting your children. The day’s activities were ably led by Mrs Gwilliam who commented on how engaged the children were and how her highlight was seeing the older children reading to the younger ones. I unfortunately missed the morning’s activities as I was attending the Head Teacher’s conference where the key note speaker was Floella Benjamin. I have to say I remember watching Play School as a child and seeing her smiling face on the television. We as headteachers were all moved by her speech and her message was clear - “Childhood lasts a lifetime”. She really is a role model of what it is to advocate for children and put children’s needs first.

Yesterday was also an amazing day for our footballers who I am incredibly proud to announce were overall winners of a football tournament held at Nightingale Primary School. There were seven teams who competed and our team did so well that they didn’t concede a single goal in the whole tournament. Miss Bell who took the team said they were truly amazing not only with their football prowess but also in how they worked as a team.

Today our girls have taken part in the **‘Biggest Ever Football Session 2025’** as part of *International Women’s Day*. All the girls participated in a football session with Miss Bell and had a fantastic time honing their skills and having fun together.

Next week is jam packed with Willow and Beech having their Outdoor learning sessions with the Hampshire and IOW Wildlife Trust on Monday, Parent Evenings on Tuesday and Thursday and our whole school skipping workshop also taking place during the day on Thursday.

Finally, as you will know from the letter sent to you all on Tuesday from our Chair of Governors, I will be leaving Sparsholt at the end of this academic year. This was a very hard decision to make as I have absolutely loved being the Headteacher here and will very much miss being part of what is a wonderful community. I have no doubt however that whoever takes over my role will continue to develop the amazing legacy we have here and the children will continue to flourish and thrive.

I hope you all have a wonderful weekend and have time for some fun activities.

Kind regards,

Mrs Hanratty

## 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>	Monty	Afisemi	Leo
<b>Beech</b>	Tillie	Erin	Zachary
<b>Maple</b>	Skyla	Wilf	Liv
<b>Rowan</b>	Joshie	Henry	Pippa S
<b>Oak</b>	Jack	Alfie	Alexia



### 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:

- \* Maxi – gained his puffin swimming award

Well done to Cami for completing her first Shooting Stars Challenge booklet!

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





Date	Event	Location	Time	Parents Invited?	Notes
Tues 11th Mar 2025	In-person parents' evening	School	3:45pm - 7:00pm	Yes	Booking will open 2 weeks before
Thurs 13th Mar 2025	In-person parents' evening	School	3:45pm - 7:00pm	Yes	Booking will open 2 weeks before
Fri 4th April 2025	Whole School Easter Presentation	Playground / Hall	2:15pm	Yes	Weather dependent.
Fri 4th April 2025	Last day of Spring Term	School	3:30pm	n/o	

## Important Notices

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### 1. Outdoor Learning Day – Willow and Beech Classes

We have the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust coming into school on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> March to work with Willow Class and Beech Class as part of the development of our outdoor learning provision. The children will be outside for lessons for a large part of the day, and so please can we ask that they come into school in suitable clothing for the weather:

- PE kit which MUST include long trousers (joggers or leggings)
  - PE hoodie or school jumper
  - Suitable footwear (trainers, wellies, walking boots) - if bringing wellies / walking boots, please bring into school in a separate bag
  - Warm, waterproof coat
  - Gloves / hats etc - optional depending on weather
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### 2. Lacrosse Club cancelled – Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2025

Due to our parent's evening, there will be **no Lacrosse club this Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> March**. We will be putting on an additional session on **Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2025**.

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### 3. Skipping Workshop – Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2025

As all children will be taking part in a skipping workshop during the school day on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> March, please can all children come into school on that day wearing their school PE kit and trainers.

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#### 4. Easter Holiday Lunch Scheme

We have been asked by Winchester Basics Bank to send the below message onto our families:

*For the kind attention of the schools in the Winchester and Alresford District.*

*We have placed a form on our website for those parents who might need some help with lunches over the Easter Holiday period.*

The link to the informative page is here <https://winchesterbasicsbank.co.uk/easter-holiday-lunch-scheme/> and the form (at the bottom of the informative page) is here: <https://forms.gle/TYwSN8bcRckcCdkw5>

*Unfortunately, due to current financial restrictions, **WE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO OFFER ALDI/TESCO SHOPPING VOUCHERS ALONG WITH THE FOOD BAGS.***

*This does not necessarily mean only families who receive free school meals can access the above support and so if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.*

Website : [WinchesterBasicsBank.co.uk](http://WinchesterBasicsBank.co.uk)

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#### Governor Update

**By Howard Firth**

Time flies when you have the perfect role as school governor at Sparsholt; not forgetting my varying positions as supply teacher, counsellor and TA.

What has always been the key strength of the school is that pupils and parents have always been at the heart of school policy. Indeed, a lot of innovation was originated through pupils' ideas.

The community are so lucky to have such creative leadership and a teaching team that hold excellence as their core value.

So, what is the mysterious, but essential Governor role?

It's being a close and honest friend, observing practice, ensuring children's safety and making sure the school grows and thrives. At times you have to be bold enough to question decisions, empathic and supportive when needed; but above all have the welfare of the whole community as your focal point.




## FoSS Update

### 1) UPCOMING EVENTS FOR THIS TERM

Event	When / Where	Details
<p><b>Total Body Workout</b></p> <p><b>For Parents and Carers</b></p> 	<p>Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April</p> <p>19:30 – 20:15</p> <p>Memorial Hall</p>	<p>Back by popular demand!</p> <p>A fun workout with adaptations for all level of fitness. This workout will have you strengthening your lower and upper body with a little sprinkling of cardio in there to make sure you leave feeling sweaty and energised.</p> <p>Open to all friends and families of Sparsholt School - no exercise experience necessary! Please bring a yoga mat with you and a bottle of water.</p> <p>This session will be 45 minutes long and will be run by Stef (mum of Ezra in Beech). Please use below link to purchase tickets- cost £10</p> <p><a href="https://www.pta-events.co.uk/sparsholt/index.cfm?event=event&amp;eventId=95742">https://www.pta-events.co.uk/sparsholt/index.cfm?event=event&amp;eventId=95742</a></p>
<p><b>The FoSS Easter Eggstravaganza</b></p> 	<p>Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April</p> <p>This will follow straight on from the school's Easter presentation.</p> <p>Memorial Hall / School Field</p>	<p>More information to follow.</p>

### 2) SUMMER TERM (SO FAR):

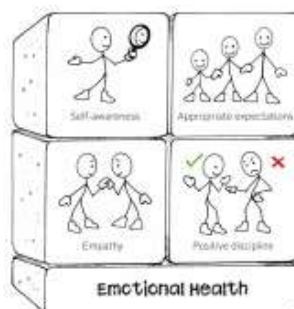
Event	When / Where	Details
<p><b>Yoga</b></p> <p><b>For Parents and Carers</b></p> 	<p>Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> May</p> <p>19:30 – 20:30</p> <p>Sparsholt Memorial Hall</p>	<p>Another session run by an experienced and qualified Iyengar Yoga Instructor. Open to all abilities.</p> <p>Cost £10</p> <p>Link to follow...</p>

## General Information

### Invitation to the Nurturing Programme

Children are rewarding, stimulating and fun, but looking after them can be stressful and challenging. Christ Church Winchester warmly invite you to attend the free, tried and tested, 10 week Nurturing Programme which helps address those challenges so that parents can have a calmer, happier life.

The Programme is for parents of children aged 2-12 years. Free creche places available.



### Summer Term Programmes will be running at:

**St Stephen's Church** Oliver's Battery Rd North

30th April - 9th July (Wednesdays), 9.05 AM - 11.05 AM excluding half term and

**Holy Trinity Church Hall** Upper Brook Street

1st May - 10th July (Thursdays), 9.30 AM - 11.30 AM excluding half term

To find out more or to book a place, please email [nurturingprogramme@ccwinch.org.uk](mailto:nurturingprogramme@ccwinch.org.uk)  
or phone: 07942 284611.



**Rock2theBeat  
Easter Enrichment  
Days**

**£75**  
per 2 days

**Sign Up Today!**

Limited places for each instrument, places will be allocated on a first come first served basis.  
For queries please contact [rock2thebeat@hants.hants.gov.uk](mailto:rock2thebeat@hants.hants.gov.uk)



7th & 8th April 2025  
Monday 9:00am - 14:00pm & Tuesday 9:00am - 4:00pm  
Concert to parents at 1.30 on Tuesday  
The Kings' School, Fair Oak, Eastleigh, SO50 1DS

If you would like to come along, please sign up using the following link:

[Rock 2 the Beat Enrichment Days – 7 and 8 April 2025](#)

Cost: £75

### **Rock 2 the Beat**

Join a band and further your instrumental skills as you learn to perform songs as an ensemble whilst taking part in specialist workshops from our experienced Rock & Pop teachers

Suitable for children in Years 3 – 10 who currently participate in Rock 2 the Beat lessons in school, or for children who currently learn voice, electric guitar, bass guitar, keyboard, or drums at Grade 1 (or above) and are able to read basic notation.

### **Music Production**



**Music Production**  
7th & 8th April 2025

DJ & iPad Production Workshops  
8.45 - 3.15

**£75**

Suitable for children in years 5, 6, 7 and 8.  
The Kings School, Fair Oak

Learn how to create songs from scratch! Learn how to record, mix, and edit music, using iPads and how to perform live music with DJ and keyboard controllers. All equipment provided.

**Register Today!**

Learn how to create songs from scratch! Learn how to record, mix, and edit music, using iPads and how to perform live music with DJ and keyboard controllers. All equipment provided.

The workshop is suitable for children in years 5, 6, 7 and 8, with sessions for those who currently participate in HMS Music Production lessons, and for those with no previous experience.

Below is a video about Music Production.

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

If you would like to come along, please sign up using the following link:

[Music Production Enrichment Days – 7 and 8 April 2025](#)

For more information: [Holiday Activities - Hampshire Music Education Hub](#)  
([hantsmusicshub.org.uk](http://hantsmusicshub.org.uk))

Cost: £75