

Sparsholt C of E Primary School



15th October 2021

Dates for your diaries

Inset Days from September 2021
Secondary School Transfer Dates
Parents' Evenings
Outdoor Harvest Festival
Apple Fest (see separate letter)
Bags2School Collection

Monday 31st January 2022, Monday 27th June 2022
Monday 13th September - **31st October 2021**
Wednesday 20th & Thursday 21st October
Friday 22nd October 9.15am
Friday 22nd October
Monday 8th November

Dear Parents and Carers,

It's been another amazing week with the children astounding us with their kindness, understanding and empathy to others. In Worship and in classes, the children have been discussing bullying. They have been learning about what bullying is and what they need to do if they feel they are being bullied or see others being bullied, including talking to a trusted adult. It was really pleasing when a parent fed back that whilst at the park, one of our younger children had come over and she overheard them very excitedly telling other parents all about what they had been learning and how important it was to always be kind.

Our Year 6 prefects have been working hard to support our younger children by spending lunchtime with them, both in the dinner hall and on the playground. During the Prefect interviews, the Year 6s felt building relationships and trust with the younger children was an essential part of their role.

Our Eco team warriors have been very busy this week finalising their school vision for a sustainable school and developing their sustainable schools pledge which they have shared with the other children. Their recognition of how we as a school can directly have an impact has inspired the other children to think about how to care for each other and the environment.

With the environment in mind, the children are very excited about our recycled plastic bottle poppy challenge. We hope as many families as possible will get involved and that by Remembrance Day, the green next to St Stephens Church will be teeming with these poppies.

We are very much looking forward to our outdoor Harvest Festival (weather permitting) next Friday. The Pupil Worship team spoke to the whole school about showing courageous advocacy by supporting the Winchester Night shelter with donations of food and toiletries.

Please do ensure that you have booked an appointment for our virtual parent evenings next Wednesday and Thursday. If you have not managed to, please do contact the office.

Finally, I wanted to let you know that we will be welcoming Mrs Kate Morey onto the staff as our new Senior Admin and Finance Officer. She will be starting in role after the half term break and will be working in collaboration with Mrs Richens to ensure the smooth running of the school office, administration and finance.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Kind regards,

Mrs Hanratty

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

	Willow	Beech	Maple	Rowan	Oak
Courage	Henry R	Mia	Alexia	Henry	Sophia
Compassion	Pippa, Gus	Diya	Hugh	Isabella	Maddie
Creativity	Wilf	Tom Mo	Gregory	Inigo	Seth

Parents' Evenings

The parent-teacher meetings are on Wednesday 20th October and Thursday 21st October for all year groups. We would like you to use the online parent evening meeting system to book a virtual appointment with your child's teacher. **Appointments are available to book from 7am on Monday 11th October until midday (12pm) on Tuesday 19th October.** Please visit the school website and follow the links from the parent's section. A telephone consultation can be offered as an alternative and will take place at a mutually convenient time.

Year 7 Applications – Deadline Fast Approaching!

The national deadline for applications to Year 7 in September 2022 is almost upon us - Sunday 31 October 2021 - at the end of the half-term. More information from Hampshire can be found on their website;

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning/admissions/applicationprocess/year7>

Brass tuition

We have space for year 3, 4, 5 + 6 children to start brass tuition with Hampshire Music Service each Wednesday. Cost for the tuition is £68 per term. You can rent an instrument from Hampshire Music Service. Please contact the school reception for more information.

Beat that Louse

We have recently had a few cases of head lice reported. Please can you be extra vigilant over the weekend and check your children's hair. Although lice can be seen in dry hair, the best way to check is by the combing of wet hair with a fine toothed "detector" comb and treating if necessary, every three or four days for two weeks or until you cannot see any eggs. Treatment can either be by using over the counter treatments from the chemist, or the wet comb method and using lots of hair conditioner. Thank-you.

Threadworm

We have had a couple of cases of threadworm reported to us recently. They are very common and easily treated but also very contagious. Please check the NHS website. [Please click here to access the page on Threadworm](#). As this advice tells us, simple hygiene steps are the needed to keep this at bay and it is not a reason for pupils to stay off school. The most common sign is scratching around the bottom, particularly at night. This may be associated with disturbed sleep and irritability. The threadworms may be seen in the stools and around the bottom. Some children show no symptoms at all. There is no reason to keep a child off school as long as the child is treated and the general hygiene measures are followed. Effective treatment is available from the pharmacist. It is important to treat the whole family if one person develops symptoms.

Covid Symptoms

Can we please ask parents to continue to be really vigilant for the signs of Covid. If your child or a family member are exhibiting symptoms of Covid please (as per Government guidance) arrange to have a PCR test. Whilst close contacts who are under 18 or anyone who is double vaccinated no longer need to self-isolate, it is important that we remain vigilant to protect all members of our school community.

FoSS events

Plans for Autumn Term

1. School Cookbook. Favourite family recipes featuring drawings and notes from our children. Content to be submitted to FoSS by end of half term (31/10/2021). More information to follow. Books will be available to buy for Christmas!
2. Rowan Class cake sale Friday 5th November after school.
3. Christmas cards and other gifts featuring your child's art will be available to buy online after half term. Watch out for a flyer with instructions on how to order!
4. Friday 17th December 4-6pm, Ham Green: Enjoy a festive woodland walk and be delighted by twinkling Christmas scenes through Ham Green. Warm up with mulled wine or hot chocolate and enjoy some Christmas carols from the school children after school on the last day of term.

Plans for Spring Term

1. January kids movie night.
2. Dinner and auction of promises. 11th/12th February. Auction lots needed please! Any businesses you have links with? Any special skills you could offer? Please let FoSS know