

Sparsholt C of E Primary School



Weekly Newsletter

29th November 2024

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

Year 2 and 3 Trip to Butser Farm on a glorious winter's day!



REMINDERS FOR W/C MONDAY 2nd December

- ✓ Thursday 5th December
 - Non-school uniform day in exchange for raffle prizes for FoSS
- ✓ Friday 6th December
 - Bring "Christingle Candle" donations into school

Dear Parents and Carers,

This has been another amazing week with the children continuing to have some fantastic learning opportunities and taking every advantage of all on offer.

On Monday, Year 2 and Year 3 had a fantastic experience at Buster Farm learning all about life in the Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age. The visit was full of some excellent first hand experiences including making copper jewellery, chalk carving and cordage. They even learnt how to make fire with sticks and flint and then metal fire rods! One of the highlights was an extra visit to the Roman villa which is a replica of the one at Sparsholt/Farley Mount where the children saw the mosaic that is also on our logo!

Whilst Year 2 and Year 3 were away, Willow class took full advantage of the cooking facilities in the staff room (funded by the wonderful FoSS) and baked and decorated some delicious looking cupcakes in preparation for the 'birthday party' they had decided they wanted to hold for Fred Frog who helps them learn their phonics. The children wrote invitations, made decorations and brought their favourite soft toys from home to join the celebration. They also made the obligatory jam sandwiches and had a fabulous afternoon tucking into a party tea.

Sparsholt Agricultural College students have been back on site this week and have started to build the new extended deck, with the frame nearly completed. Thank you again to Mr Bowry, Mr Stass and Mr Patel who at very short notice last Friday answered our plea for assistance to get the materials from the car park (where they had been delivered) to the pond area.

Today, Oak Class are at the Spike Heritage Centre learning all about life in the work house for children in Victorian times. They have been learning about punishment during this time especially in relation to the workhouse and reformatory schools and the very harsh way these children were treated for their crimes. They have also been given a clear understanding of the type of person that would have found themselves in the Workhouse or associated Casuals Ward and understand the welfare system of the day and the opportunities (or lack of them) that the poor had in the Victorian/Edwardian era.

Preparations for our wonderful array of Christmas festivities are in full flow now with the children busily practising for both the KS1 Nativity and the KS2 Christmas Kaleidoscope. From what I have seen and heard so far, I know already that you will be blown away by their performances. Our amazing Admin Team have put together a separate overview of all the Christmas events that are going on during the last 3 weeks of term so please do look carefully at all that is happening so that the children can come into school with anything that they need for those special days.

Please look out for the collection boxes in aid of the Children's Society that the children will be bringing home today. This is a wonderful charity that helps support children and young people who in the charity's own words "have it toughest", so if you are able to donate even just a few pounds that would be amazing.

I hope you all have a wonderful weekend and hopefully the sunny weather and blues skies we are seeing today will continue.

Kind regards,

Mrs Hanratty

School Awards

Core Christian Value Awards

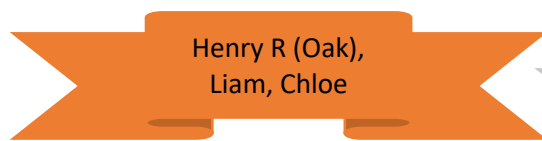
We were very proud to commend our Core Christian Value Award recipients in Celebration Worship today. Children from each class are nominated weekly for each of our Core Values: Courage, Compassion and Creativity.

	Courage	Compassion	Creativity
Willow	James	Afisemi	Gracey
Beech	Jack	Florrie	Finbar
Maple	Allana	Jemima	Harry
Rowan	Pippa & Lori	Scarlett	Daisy R
Oak	Jack	Fallon	Verity



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:

- * Rory – awarded the man of the match trophy for his football match

Well done to the following children for completing their first shooting stars card and earning their bronze shooting star badge:

- George M
- Henry R (Oak)
- Seb
- Tom M



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



Date	Event	Location	Time	Parents Invited?	Notes
Sun 8th Dec 2024	Church Carol Service	St Stephen's Church	6pm	Yes	
Fri 13th Dec 2024	KS1 Nativity	Hall	09:30am	Yes	For KS1 only. FoSS refreshments.
Mon 16th Dec 2024	KS2 Christmas Kaleidoscope	Hall	2:15pm	Yes	For KS2 only. FoSS refreshments.
Thurs 19th Dec 2024	School Christmas lunch & festivities	Hall	12:00pm - 3:30pm	No	Meal choices requested in advance.
Fri 20th Dec 2024	Last day of Autumn Term	School	TBC	n/a	

Important Notice

1. Sparsholt School Christmas Comms

Please see the separate attachment sent out detailing all the Christmas events we have planned before the end of term. Please read these carefully as it contains lots of useful and important information!

2. Non-school uniform day – Thursday 5th December

We want to invite your child to come into school on Thursday 5th December in non-school uniform, in exchange for a raffle prize for FoSS for the KS1 Nativity and the KS2 Christmas Kaleidoscope.




3. Christingle Donations – Friday 6th December

Your child will be bringing home a candle donation money box for the Children's Society today. This is in support of the Annual Children's Society Christingle Appeal. This charity is dedicated to helping vulnerable children in the UK. Please donate whatever you can and return the money box candle to school on Friday 6th December. Thank you for your support.



FoSS Update

Autumn Term Upcoming Events:

	Event	Details
<u>Sunday 8th</u> <u>December</u> 10-2PM Sparsholt Memorial Hall	*Sparsholt Village Christmas Fete*  *Christmas Tree Collection* 	<p>Thank you to the baking volunteers that we have so far – much appreciated!</p> <p>We will also be sniffing around for anyone who would like to volunteer for a slot on the stall</p> <p>Christmas trees can be collected in the morning of this day</p>
<u>Wednesday</u> <u>18th December</u> Sparsholt Memorial Hall	*Disco* 	<p>This will be held in two sittings... <u>Yr R- 3</u> @ 16:30 – 17:30 <u>Yr 4-6</u> @ 17:45 – 18:45</p> <p>We have a party professional taking control of the turntables; the one, the only (?)... DJ Dean, who will be sure to get the kids dancing!</p> <p>Buy your tickets here...</p> <p>https://www.pta-events.co.uk/sparsholt/index.cfm?event=event&eventId=91256</p> <p>If you're able to help out on the night please sign up via link above as well!</p>

Governor Update

Welcome to another of the regular Governor updates. My name is Sally Wesley and I have been a Governor at Sparsholt C of E Primary School for 7 years, this time around. I was also a Governor at the school for 3 years when Mr Young was Head Teacher. I am one of the two Foundation Governors, appointed by the Winchester Diocese.

I have lived in Sparsholt for 38 years and both my children grew up in the village. They are now in their early 30s, married, both with a child of their own, one aged 2 years 4 months and the other aged nearly 1 year. I am now retired but, whilst working, had a variety of careers. I started my working life at the Bank of England, then moved into international banking IT, which enabled me to travel to many different countries to visit clients. In my 50s, I made a complete career change and trained to be a Maths teacher. I worked in a state secondary school in Winchester, then an independent boarding school that catered for pupils aged 11 to 16 with learning difficulties. My daughter has followed in my footsteps and is now a Maths teacher, having spent 3 years as an accountant. My son is an Army Officer and so was my father. I met my husband whilst we were both serving Officers in the Royal Naval Reserve. Many other members of my family served in either the Royal Navy or the Army so I know how disruptive military life can be for children and their schooling.

Though retired, I am Treasurer for several charities, sing in a Community Choir and am heavily involved in the life of the Church here in Sparsholt and the other parishes in the Benefice: Crawley, Littleton, Chilbolton and Wherwell. I lead Services in these Churches and am involved in the school services in Sparsholt Church so many of the children know me, as Mrs Wesley.

I am currently the Chair of the Finance & Staffing Committee of Governors and was previously Chair of the Curriculum Committee. I am also the Safeguarding Governor and have been responsible for monitoring Collective Worship, Maths, Science and Religious Education.

I look forward to meeting you either in Church or at one of the future school events.

Sally Wesley

Email: sally.wesley@sparsholt.hants.sch.uk

General Information

Sparsholt Crib Service: 4pm on Christmas Eve

The annual Crib Service will be held in St. Stephen's Church, Sparsholt at 4 p.m. on Christmas Eve (Tuesday 24th December). Do come and join us with Christmas songs and stories, and the blessing of the Crib. Mums and Dads, Grannies and Grandpas, children of all ages are welcome at this short service to get you in the mood for Christmas!








Volunteer Training with Home-Start Winchester and Districts

Looking for a rewarding way to give back to your community?


Join Home-Start Winchester and Districts for our upcoming Volunteer Training and help make a positive impact on local families!

 Start Date: 30th January 2025 for 5 consecutive weeks excluding half term

 Time: 9:30 AM - 2:30 PM

 Location: The Carroll Centre, Somers Close, Stanmore, SO22 4EJ

Our comprehensive training course will prepare you to support families with young children who are going through challenging times.

 What You'll Learn:

- Supporting families through challenges
- Understanding the importance of play
- Building resilience in families
- Confidentiality and safeguarding

To register or for more information, please email info@home-startwinchester.org.uk or visit our website www.home-startwinchester.org.uk

Make a difference to the lives of local families – volunteer with Home-Start today!

'Introduction to the Harp'

21 December 2024

Workshop for Winchester primary schoolchildren

with Alis Huws – former Official Royal Harpist



Chapel of St.Cross, Winchester

Saturday 21st December 2024, at 4.30pm

World-renowned harpist Alis Huws is the former Official Royal Harpist, and last year performed at His Majesty King Charles III's Coronation at Westminster Abbey. Still in her twenties, Alis was named on Classic FM's '30 under 30 Rising Stars' list for 2024.

Alis is passionate about outreach and bringing music into communities, regularly giving workshops and recitals in schools. Her belief in reaching the wider community is central to her ethos as a performing musician. She recently embarked on a tour of 30 primary schools across Wales, and currently holds a weekly residency at a SEND school.

She will be putting on a 45-minute free workshop for the primary schoolchildren of Winchester, to introduce youngsters to the beauty of the harp.

This event is organised by Southern Voices, to sit alongside their Christmas Concert at 7.30pm the same day, also in the Chapel of St.Cross, at which Alis will also be performing.

SOUTHERN
VOICES

Book your free ticket now, using the QR code

