

Sparsholt C of E Primary School



Thank you for
your generosity.
We raised £305
for The Children's
Society last week.

Weekly Newsletter

13th December 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

What a beautiful
and heart-warming
KS1 Nativity!



REMINDERS FOR W/C MONDAY 16th December

- ✓ No clubs running this week
- ✓ Monday 16th December – KS2 Kaleidoscope , 2:15pm in the hall
 - FoSS Serving refreshments and raffle tickets beforehand
 - Doors open at 2:05pm
- ✓ Monday 16th December – Thursday 19th December – Christmas postbox is open!
- ✓ Monday 16th December – Thursday 19th December – Bring in items for reverse advent
- ✓ Tuesday 17th December – Mrs Leitzell music lessons on Tuesday instead of Thursday this week
- ✓ Thursday 19th December – Day of Festivities
 - Wear a bright or festive jumper for a "Save the Children" donation
 - Bring in Santa Fun Run sponsorship form and money
- ✓ Friday 20th December – Inform Office if you will be collecting your child at 2pm

Dear Parents and Carers,

Today has been truly wonderful. For those of you who were at this morning's Nativity, I am sure you would all agree it was a magical performance and so amazing to see such young children so confidently performing in front of such a large audience. Not only was their acting impeccable but their singing was beautiful. The children performed with such enthusiasm and heart that it really did bring a tear to eye. I can't thank everyone involved enough for all the hard work that went into it from the staff to the children and to you as parents and carers. I would also like to thank FoSS who provided such lovely refreshments for the audience and for organising the raffle. The funds they raise really do make a huge difference to what additional experiences and resources we can provide for the children.

This week has been another one full of enrichment with all of the children putting everything into rehearsals for today's and next week's performances. As I have already said, the KS1 Nativity was phenomenal and I have no doubt that the KS2 parents will be blown away by the talent and courage of all the children when they see the KS2 Christmas Kaleidoscope on Monday. The elements that I have seen and heard when passing the classrooms really are incredibly impressive and very moving.

Last Sunday, the Carol service took place at St Stephen's church and was truly lovely. Seb in Year 6 did one of the readings which he delivered with such poise and our children's acapella version of Away in a Manager was totally uplifting. Again, I feel such pride that we have so many children who are prepared to take part in these things and have the confidence to do it in front of others.

On Wednesday this week, the children were treated to a surprise visit from one of Southampton Football club's first team players, Nathan Wood. After some quick-fire questions, the children were able to take the "hot seat" and ask him their own questions about his life and experiences and what had made him want to be a football player. I have no doubt that it has inspired a number of our children to follow their dreams even if they possibly feel slightly out of reach. Much to the delight of the children, the session finished with a fist pump with a premiership footballer – what an incredible opportunity!

Next week, as you know, is a very full one with the KS2 Christmas Kaleidoscope taking place on Monday and our full day of Christmas festivities, including our Santa Fun run in aid of Naomi house, taking place on Thursday (please do check the School Christmas Comms that was sent to you a few weeks ago for the details of all the events).

Please don't forget that clubs will not be running next week.

I hope you all have a wonderful weekend and are able to start to enjoy the festivities to come.

Kind regards,



School Awards

Core Christian Value Awards

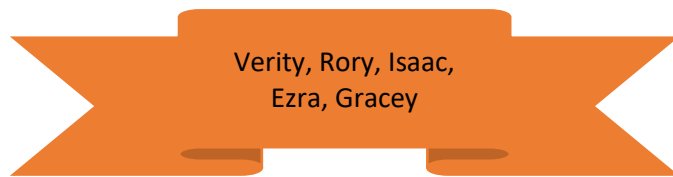
We were very proud to commend our Core Christian Value Award recipients in Celebration Worship today. Children from each class are nominated weekly for each of our Core Values: Courage, Compassion and Creativity.

	Courage	Compassion	Creativity
Willow	All children for their wonderful Nativity performance		
Beech	All children for their wonderful Nativity performance		
Maple	Henry R	Cami	Reuben
Rowan	Daisy L	Edi	George
Oak	Alfie & Hugh	Annabel & Megan	Cordelia & Rory



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:

- * Cara – won Overall Club Gymnast of the Year 2024 at Treasure Gymnastics!

Well done to Hemming for completing his first shooting stars card and earning his bronze shooting star badge.



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Dates for your diary - 2024/25

Term: Autumn 2

Date	Event	Location	Time	Parents Invited?	Notes
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	



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

1. Sparsholt School Santa Fun Run

We are excited that we will be hosting our very own Santa Fun Run in aid of Naomi House & Jackspace on Thursday 19th December, as part of our Christmas Festivities Day!

The Santa Fun Run will involve pupils and their teachers dashing around the school grounds, donning Santa Costumes and/or hats and having a jolly good time!

We kindly ask that those of you who can, raise as much as possible in sponsorship to support Naomi House & Jackspace. Sponsorship forms have been sent home with your child, and we encourage you to spread the word to friends and family. Every penny raised will go directly to Naomi House & Jackspace to help them continue their amazing work.

We believe this is a wonderful opportunity to encourage our pupils to stay active in line with our school "Shooting Stars Sports Challenge", spread festive spirit, and fundraise for a worthy cause.

Please can your child bring any sponsorship money raised along with their sponsorship form in a sealed, named envelope into school on Thursday 19th December. Thank you as ever for your support.



2. Clubs – Autumn Term 2024

Please note that there will be no clubs running w/c Monday 16th December.

3. Clubs Timetable for Spring Term 2025

Please see the clubs timetable for Spring Term 2025 below. Please refer to the separate email sent out on Friday 6th December for further information about how to book children on to clubs.

Day	After-School Clubs	Timings	Notes
Monday	Upbeat Pop & Rock (Years 1 – 6)	3:30pm – 4:30pm	Run by Upbeat Pop & Rock. Please book and pay directly at upbeatmusiccourses@gmail.com / 07816901936
Tuesday	Lacrosse (Years 3 – 6)	3:30pm – 4:30pm	Run by the school. Payable termly in advance. £35 per full term.
Wednesday	Fencing Club (Years 3 – 6)	3:30pm – 4:30pm	Please book and pay directly with Jon Mann – idsportscoaching@gmail.com / 07554 442320
	Netball Club (Years 4 – 6)	3:30pm – 4:30pm	Run by the school. Payable termly in advance. £35 per full term.
	Junior Football Club (Years 1 – 3)	3:30pm – 4:30pm	Run by Southampton FC. Please book and pay directly at SFC Coaching
Thursday	Artiology Club (Years 2 – 6)	3:30pm – 4:30pm	Run by Halli Ormerod. For further info, e-mail hallimarie@googlemail.com
	Senior Football Club (Years 4 – 6)	3:30pm – 4:30pm	Run by Southampton FC. Please book and pay directly at SFC coaching
Friday	Integr8 Dance – Sparsholt Minis (Year R – 2)	3:30pm – 4:30pm	Please book and pay directly with Integr8Dance – info@integr8dance.com / 01962 808398
	Integr8 Dance – Sparsholt Squad (Year 3 – 6)	4:30pm – 5:30pm Children cannot stay at school until 4:30pm.	Please book and pay directly with Integr8Dance – info@integr8dance.com / 01962 808398

4. Payment for keyboard, recorder and brass music tuition for Spring Term 2025

As per the school charging policy, music tuition for keyboard, recorder and brass must be paid for termly in advance, and commitment to music tuition is for a whole year. For those who are signed up for music tuition this year, payments for the Spring Term have now been added to your child's Arbor account, under "clubs". Please can I ask that payment is made as soon as possible and in advance of your child's first lesson next term. Thank you.

5. Payment for School Christmas Lunch – Thursday 19th December

If your child is in KS2 and has ordered a Christmas Lunch for Thursday 19th December, please ensure that there is at least £3.20 on their lunch account on SCOPAY prior to Thursday. Thank you very much.

6. School Christmas Postbox – Monday 16th December to Thursday 19th December

If your child would like to send any Christmas cards to their friends, the school Christmas Post Box will be available from Monday 16th December through to the morning of Thursday 19th December. Please remember to put the recipient's full name and class on the envelope so that the Christmas Elves can make sure the cards get to the right children.

7. Reverse Advent Donations

We are asking families who can, to bring a Christmas food item into school, and the children can leave their items by our school Christmas Tree to support the Winchester Basics Bank and families in need this Christmas. Donations can be brought into school from **Monday 16th December to Thursday 19th December**.

If you would like to help the Winchester Basics Bank make Christmas a little brighter for those in need in our city, please support Sparsholt C of E Primary School's Reverse Advent Calendar Campaign.

8. Last day of term – leaving early

As stated in the Christmas Communications, children are able to be collected at 2pm on Friday 20th December if you would like. Otherwise, they can be collected as normal at 3:30pm. **If you would like to collect your child / children early, at 2pm, please email the office at goinghome@sparsholt.hants.sch.uk to let us know in advance.**

9. Payment for school meals for KS2

The school requires that school lunches (for KS2) are paid in advance, on a half-termly basis. The current price for a school lunch is £3.20. For administrative purposes, wherever possible, the school would prefer payment to be made online using the Arbor website or app. The school's charging policy is on the school website for reference. If you need support in setting up or using the online system, please ask the office. **To help you calculate the correct payment for next half-term on Arbor, please see below:**

Number meals taken per week	1	2	3	4	5
Cost for Spring 1 half-term	£19.20	£38.40	£57.60	£76.80	£92.80

10. PE Timetable for Spring Term – starting Monday 6th January 2025

PE days for each class are as follows for the Spring Term 2025:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Willow					
Beech					
Maple					
Rowan					
Oak					

Children should wear their PE kits into school on the days they have PE. If children have a club after school on a day that is not their PE day, children should bring their kit in a small bag, and will be able to get changed at the end of the school day before the club.


FoSS Update

A big thank you again to everyone who contributed baked goods and helped to man the stall (including the children) for the Sparsholt Christmas Market on Sunday.

We raised a **total of £126** from this event and Monday's after school bake sale using the left overs!

There are lots of exciting events happening next week including the **FoSS School Disco**. If you haven't bought tickets yet, there are still plenty left.

Autumn Term Upcoming Events:

	Event	Details
Wednesday 18th December Sparsholt Memorial Hall	*Disco* 	This will be held in two sittings... Yr R- 3 @ 16:30 – 17:30 Yr 4-6 @ 17:45 – 18:45 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! Buy your tickets here... https://www.pta-events.co.uk/sparsholt/index.cfm?event=event&eventId=91256 If you're able to help out on the night please sign up via link above as well! <u>We are needing some more people to help out with the KS2 disco.</u>

Governor Update

Julie Milburn (LEA Governor)

Whilst many of you will know me as Seb's mum (Year 6 pupil), I'm also the Local Education Authority (LEA) governor on the school's governing body.

There is a place for one Local Authority governor on the governing body of every school maintained by local authorities and we share all the legal responsibilities with the other members of the governing body. In Hampshire LEA governor nominations are made by County Councillors for schools in their division, who will seek to find a suitable nominee with the skills and attributes that the governing body feel will support and strengthen their work. In my case I'm part of the leadership team at your local further education college (Sparsholt College Group) and have a good understanding of the education landscape both locally and nationally.

As a qualified teacher the governing body appointed me to the Quality and Curriculum Committee (which I now chair). This committee advises the governing body on matters related to the curriculum, specifically looking at evidence of pupil progress and the quality of teaching. Monitoring of progress towards actions set out in the School Improvement Plan (SIP) [Sparsholt Primary School - School Improvement Plan](#) is also a key focus of this committee's work; this year we're focussing on further developing maths fluency, outdoor learning opportunities, improving whole school health and fitness and continuing to embed the children's understanding of global citizenship initiatives. You will be pleased to hear that we've made great progress already this year and are on track to complete all the milestone activities which were set for the Autumn term!

If you'd like to understand more about specific curriculum subjects [Sparsholt Primary School - Our School Curriculum](#) or the progress which Sparsholt pupils make [Sparsholt Primary School - SATs Results & DfE Performance Data](#) please following the links to the relevant pages on the school's website.

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 in 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!

