



Weekly News

1st December 2023



'Live a Life of Love Just as Jesus Loved Us' Ephesians 5

Dear Parents/ Carers,

We have enjoyed another busy week at Witchampton and I can't believe that we are now at the start of Advent and we begin the countdown to Christmas. Hedgehogs visited the Christmas Tree Farm yesterday and chose TWO beautiful Christmas trees thanks to Farmer Vernon - one for the hall and one for the marquee. The whole school enjoyed working together this afternoon to make our own decorations for the trees which you will be able to admire at our Nativity next week. If you would like to choose your own Christmas Tree, Farmer Vernon would love to see you at **Rosemore Farm, Gaunt's Common. You can contact Vernon on 07748 710969.**

Our Year 2 class really enjoyed joining our Year one children and Hedgehogs this week to learn the art of (safe) fire making during outdoor explorers. It was wonderful to see their gasps of joy when they were successful and created fire using their special 'dragon sneezes' Badgers have also enjoyed a visit from Maddie who helped them to imagine what it was like to have lived during the Great Fire of London through a storytelling and drama workshop.

The Foxes were finally able to visit Stonehenge this week and I really enjoyed reading all about it in their recounts yesterday. I know that, despite the cold, the children really enjoyed being able to apply and consolidate what they have learned this term and they returned to school buzzing with enthusiasm and even more information.

I Would like to thank the Friends for all they do to fundraise so that we can offer these wonderful opportunities to our children and thank you to everyone who has supported our fundraising efforts. These opportunities really do make a difference!

We are looking forward to seeing you at our Nativity next week. The children have been working hard and can't wait to perform in front of a live audience! The finer details regarding the Nativity arrangements will be sent by Parent Mail on Monday.

I hope you have a lovely weekend!

I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

With warmest wishes

J Hancock

Mrs Hancock

Half Term Value



Is your child eligible for Pupil Premium/ Free School Meal funding?

You may be entitled to financial support towards uniform, trips, an extracurricular activity, milk and school meals. Use the link [here](#) to check.

School Holiday Vouchers

The Household Support Fund will fund Free School Meal (FSM) holiday vouchers this Christmas.

Parents do not need to apply and we will issue vouchers for eligible children automatically.

We can also provide vouchers for families in significant financial hardship including a drop in household income or loss of a job who do not qualify for FSM (Pupil Premium). If you would like to be considered for a voucher please do let us know by the beginning of next week. Your request will be treated in complete confidence.

Friends Grand Christmas Raffle

Our Grand Christmas Raffle tickets are on sale now with many fantastic prizes to be won! Tickets available from the school office and Witchampton Club. £1 per ticket or £5 for a book of 5. The draw will take place at the school on **Friday 8 December**.

All funds raised will be put towards extra resources such as “reading for pleasure” books for our library as well as allowing the children to visit local landmarks.

Thank you for your support! 😊

Attendance

Initio Learning Trust now has a new attendance page which provides useful information regarding attendance. The link can be found [here](#). Additional information can also be found in our attendance policy.

This week's attendance figures look like this - well done everyone!!

Reception: 100%

Year 1: 96%

Year 2: 100%

Year 3: 100%

Year 4: 100%

E-Safety

The children watched the *Speak out. Stay safe*. Assembly online and delivered by the NSPCC yesterday. More information can be found at www.nspcc.org.uk/speakout.

The children in Badgers and Foxes are also learning about keeping safe online as part of their computing curriculum this term. Information for parents in all year groups to learn more about keeping safe online can be found at: <https://www.childnet.com/help-and-advice/parents-and-carers>

Dates W/C 04/12/23

Monday 4th December- Nativity Dress Rehearsal
No Outdoor Explorers (YR/1 in normal school uniform)
Cooking at Dragonflies

Tuesday 5th December - No Music Lessons
Nativity (Lights, Camel Action) at 9.30 a.m
Art at Dragonflies

Wednesday 6th December - Nativity (Lights, Camel Action) at 1.45 p.m
Football Club
Christmas Craft at Dragonflies

Thursday 30th November - Christmas Jumper Day (Donations welcome for Save the Children but not expected)
Singing Lessons
Christmas Craft at Dragonflies

Friday 1st December - Foxes sewing morning

Safeguarding and Online Safety

Mrs Hancock is the Designated Safeguarding Lead and Miss Hancock is the Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead in School.

If you have any serious concerns about a child, particularly if you think they may be suffering or at risk of suffering harm, please share this information promptly with the Designated Safeguarding Lead Team. If you have a concern about a child outside of school hours please contact the following Local Authority out of hours services: Dorset ChAD - 01305 228866 Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole (BCP) - 01202 738256 We are an Operation Encompass school. To find out more, please follow the link [here](#)

The NSPCC provides online safety advice for parents and for children. Please click [here](#) for more information.

Data Protection

We are committed to protecting the privacy and security of personal information. Our Privacy Notice for parents and pupils can be found in the [Policies and Documents](#) area of our website. This privacy notice describes how we collect and use personal information about pupils, in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), section 537A of the Education Act 1996 and section 83 of

the Children Act 1989.