



Weekly News

15th December 2023



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

Dear Parents/ Carers,

I can't believe I am already writing the final newsletter of the Autumn term. What a wonderful term it has been and this week has been no exception.

The Christmas party has been one of the highlights this week with a special visit from Santa! He left us lots of class presents and was very sorry he could not be at our party in person. However, we were delighted to have the opportunity to say thank you as he passed by on his sleigh with his reindeer just before the Christingle Service. Thank you to everyone who came to our Christingle service yesterday, it was lovely to see so many of you there.

We also had some very exciting news this week from the BBC 500 words competition. Three of our children Mia, Lyla and Wilbur have got through to the second round. Well done to everyone who took part, you can be very proud of yourselves, and congratulations to Mia, Lyla and Wilbur.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our Friends of Witchampton for their relentless fundraising for the children of our school - it really does make a difference and enhances the opportunities we are able to offer our children and other families in our local community. The pocket money sale was very well attended on Thursday and thank you to everyone who bought and sold raffle tickets and also to those who donated/ sought the prizes. I would also like to thank you all for your amazing generosity to our other charities this term. These have included, The Wimborne Food Bank, The Poppy Appeal, Children in Need, Save the Children and the Shoe Box Appeal. We may be a small school but our Big Heart continues to shine through.

A final thank you goes to all of the caring, dedicated and committed staff who work tirelessly to facilitate and lead so many wonderful opportunities over the year for the children of our very special school.

On behalf of the staff, may I thank you for all of the warm wishes which you have passed on to us as well as for the beautiful and very thoughtful cards and gifts which we have received. It means a great deal to us when people take the time to say thank you and it is very sincerely appreciated.

We wish you all a happy, peaceful Christmas and all of the very best for 2024 and we look forward to seeing you all on **Wednesday 3rd** January!

Season's greetings,

With warmest wishes

Mrs Hancock



Attendance

A big well done and thank you to everyone for your attendance this term. We really appreciate your support in valuing the importance of good attendance and this is reflected in the excellent percentage at the end of this term!

Our overall attendance for the term is 97.7%

Save the Children Parade



We had a very uplifting afternoon taking part in the Save the Children Parade in Wimborne last Saturday. In total the parade raised £1,800 for charity and it is great that we have contributed to this as a 'Small School, Big Heart - making a difference'. Thank you to everyone who joined us - I know plans are already afoot for next year!

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 11/12/23

Tuesday 2nd January - Staff Training Day (no children in school)

Wednesday 3rd January - Children are back

Monday 12th February - Half Term Starts

Monday 19th February - Staff Training Day (no children in school)

Wednesday 27th March - Last day of term

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.