



PAMPHILL FIRST SCHOOL CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTER 2025



Dear families,

This half term, and especially the past couple of weeks, have been a wonderful reminder of the boundless energy, resilience, and love our children bring to everything they do. Their hard work and positivity never fail to amaze us, and we feel incredibly proud of all their achievements this half term.

It has been a busy term of learning indoors and out and we have had plenty to celebrate not least the magical Christmas performances. Each year, it feels like a Christmas miracle how these productions come together, but seeing the children perform is truly something special. My heartfelt thanks go to the staff who dedicate themselves so completely, often singing the songs in their sleep throughout December. Balancing this with teaching the essential curriculum is no small feat!

Autumn Term Two has been filled with celebrations of learning, and the children have shone in their attitudes toward our values of Love, Courage and Inspiration. It has been particularly great to see the children recognising each other's achievements. Fridays are a time for celebration each week and we pack so much in as the children have so many achievements each week. Recently, I've noticed children congratulating each other as well. This display of kindness and friendship is a joy to witness.

Our School Council visit to the Wimborne Council meeting was another highlight, demonstrating just how mature and capable our children are.

We've also been working on reviewing our Church School offer this half term, ensuring it focuses on spirituality across the curriculum and offers the children a way of reflecting on themselves. Initio Learning Trust support us in bringing this to life in our schools, but you may have also noticed more visits to church and visitors from the church in school. We are lucky to have such a dedicated team around our church school.

This term also saw our incredible community come together for the Christmas celebrations in and around school. It never ceases to amaze me how our dedicated team of parents pull off such events with ease. Thank you for supporting us with these enrichment activities.

As we head into the holidays, I hope you all get a chance to unwind and enjoy the festive season. The children have worked so hard this term and deserve a well-earned break. I wish you and your families a peaceful and enjoyable Christmas.

The Spring Term for the children begins on Tuesday, 6th January, but let's not think about that just yet! For now, have a fabulous Christmas and enjoy the festivities!

Sarah Fairman



Witchampton First School

Curriculum update - English

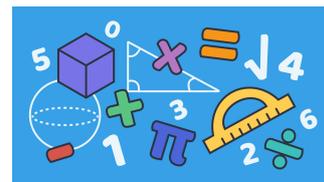
The children have enjoyed many different types of text across the school this half term, including the wonderful story of Paddington Bear in Foxes' class. I have been impressed by the handwriting and imaginative ideas, and I know the teachers are proud of the progress made.

The class reading challenge of totalling up the amount of reads a class achieves per week is in full swing, with some children reading daily. The research shows that a child who reads daily has a better vocabulary and builds more empathy, learning how to handle challenging feelings.

Read more [here](#) from the Child Mind Institute

Curriculum update - Maths

Our maths curriculum is taught through White Rose Maths, and we are delighted with the children's progress this term. We have started the school year with a focus on Fluency and ensuring the children know the key maths facts at speed to support their learning in wider Maths. Any opportunity you get to complete some quick-fire multiplication, addition and subtraction and counting in 2's, 5's and 10's - go for it!



Class spotlight - Owls

Owls have been enjoying our Tuesday morning PE with Mrs Hurlstone. We are learning the basic moves and rules of PE and this week had a fabulous time exploring small equipment. Mrs Hurlstone was very impressed with our listening and travelling in many different ways around the trail that we created.

Outdoors, we have been exploring and looking for signs of the changing seasons. Playing with the fallen leaves has been a real favourite and we have even made leaf angels at playtime! In the forest, we made homes for the animals as winter will soon be upon us. We have been building obstacle courses in the garden.



Miss Cook is our performance expert and has done a wonderful job of putting the Christmas concert together alongside the other staff. She came up with actions overnight, and in her quiet but very able way, she has brought the ideas to life.

Mrs Lloyd, Mrs Hurley and Mr Farnfield work so hard behind the scenes to support so many of our children; they hardly ever finish a whole cup of tea before being called away, but they would do anything to help our children. Thank you.

PE in school

Mrs Hurlstone has been taking our PE lessons this half term and has enjoyed dusting off the wall bars and teaching the children to move their bodies with controlled posture.



Safe-guarding

As a school, we receive information and updates from Dorset Police related to Safeguarding. Children are frequently targeted through social media platforms such as Roblox by abusers. If your child uses Roblox, I urge you to monitor their use of the platform alongside putting into place measures to safeguard them against harm. Click [here](#) for more support.



You can check your child's attendance on Arbor. Our school target is to reach 98% attendance across school. This term is always a challenge with all the bugs around but we have reached 95.5%.

Please support us in reaching our target by being on time to school as any attendance after the registers have closed at 9:05am is considered absent.

Being late for school reduces learning time. If your child is 5 minutes late every day they will miss three days of learning each year.

Community Shout-outs

Thank you to Rev Robin, who took our Christingle Service. The service was lovely and a moment among the madness to be thankful for the joy of Christmas.

I have been working with the National Trust to ensure the Car park is well-maintained. Thank you to Graham for engaging and supporting the school. Thank you to the dairy also for gifting us a Christmas tree

Perspective students

We held a very successful set of open mornings for prospective parents. We are so proud to share what happens at school. If you know anyone looking for a school place in any of our classes, please encourage them to give us a call. We would be happy to show them the joy of Pamphill First School.

Closing date for reception 2026 is 15th January.

PTA

Thank you also to the wonderful team of helpers who organised, ran and helped out at the Christmas Craft event. What a lovely afternoon. The school was calm and relaxed and the children had a wonderful time. There is a core group of ladies who give up so much time to school events and we are very grateful.



Christmas in school

What a joy it is to be in school at this time of year. Thank you for your contributions with Christmas boxes, hunting out the Christmas Jumpers in November and for staying on the ball with all our events. We know it can be a little overwhelming, but the children get so much from these events, so thank you

