

St Michael & All Angels CE Infant School

DECEMBER NEWSLETTER 2021



In this Issue:

- ◇ Mr Bowen's Message
- ◇ Governors Message
- ◇ Lyndhurst Foodbank
- ◇ Diary Dates

Dear Parents / Carers,

The end of term has reached us again and, once again, I can't believe how fast the time has gone! So much has happened this term -building Bonfires, inter-federation Hockey competitions, Victorian day, cricket coaches, singing performances, church services, painting, writing and of course, lots of great books, to name a few things! The teachers have already plotted out the events of next term and have been working hard to make sure that everyone's next steps in learning are planned for and ready to start in the new Year.

Last Day

Our last day of term, this year, is Friday 17th December with our current end of day arrangements remaining the same. Please remember that Monday 3rd January is a bank holiday, so our first day back at school will be Tuesday 4th January 2022!

Parent Meetings

Next term, we are aiming for parent meetings to take place during the week beginning 28th March, more information on this, will follow nearer the time.

Website

Our hope is for you all to enjoy quality family time, rest, relax, reconnect and share in the excitement and magic of Christmas.

As the children return to school, and learning starts to accelerate again, I hope you will all continue to make best use of our online platforms, such as reading eggs and purple mash. Please remember there are lots of learning games and resources on our website also, which are used in the class during learning time.

For those parents who are seeking a few more resources to support with home learning. These can be found on the main Oaks Federation page, under curriculum:

<https://www.oakscelearningfederation.co.uk/curriculum-resources/>

Phonics

Due to the disruptions last year, the government have instructed for all Year Two pupils to take the Year One Phonics Screening Check, which is normally taken at the end of Year One. This is a simple check, consisting of 20 real and 20 pseudo words, which is aimed at identifying children who may benefit from additional phonic support. As a school we report our outcomes to the department for education and you will be (if not already) receiving a letter letting you know of your child's outcome before the end of the term. If you would like to talk to your child's teacher about any of the information in the letter, please do ask them when is best to meet in the new year.

Mr Bowen's Message Continued...

Facebook

Have you seen our facebook pages for Copythorne and Saint Michaels? We regularly post updates and photos of things happening at school. You can find these

<https://www.facebook.com/SMAA-Lyndhurst-104789861517103/>

<https://www.facebook.com/Copythorne1/>

Looking for a school place?

Do you know anyone looking to start school in September? Please let them know that we currently have virtual tours of our school sites, which allow you to virtually walk around all our schools and find out more information, on our school website. We are also happy to meet new families and talk them through how children learn in our setting. The closing date for application is 15th January.

Clubs

Please remember to have a look at Team Spirits website to see what clubs are running next term.

<https://teamspirit4sport.co.uk/team-spirit-4-sport/after-school-clubs/>

Lunchtime Supervisors

Would you be interested in becoming a lunch time supervisor, we are on the lookout for fulltime, part time and casual lunch time staff to come and support our children with their eating and play. Please contact the school office for more information.

Pupil Premium Funding

Your child may be eligible for pupil premium funding, which can offer a great benefits and support their learning in school. Find out more by clicking on the link below.

<https://www.oakscelearningfederation.co.uk/pupil-premium-funding/>

Covid

Firstly, can I thank everyone who has acted so quickly when your child has shown any symptom and sought out a PCR and to those who have continued to use Lateral Flow Tests as a precautionary measure. Across all our schools within the Federation, there has been a high number of cases and thanks to everyone's vigilance and cooperation, we have been able slow the spread in our schools, when there have been multiple cases. As many of you will know, the spread of Covid has also had a huge impact on our staff workforce, with a number of our team (including myself) having to isolate and recover when they have been ill, resulting at times in last minute changes of staff, combining classes and a huge amount of goodwill from all the team. My thanks to all the school staff, who have made sure the school can remain running - as much as possibly normal and ensure that all our children continue moving forward with their learning and continue to enjoy all which school has to offer.

Parent Volunteers

We are still really keen to have volunteers in school, to come in and work with our pupils. We ask for all regular volunteer helpers to come to a briefing session, to find out more about what volunteering involves and also to hear key safeguarding update information.

You are welcome to attend any of our talks at any school. The dates of our next talks are:

Thursday 6th 9.00am @ Netley Marsh

Monday 10th 9.00am @ Copythorne

Thursday 13th @ St Michaels, Lyndhurst.

Mr Bowen's Message Continued...

Welcome!

Although not new to the Federation, I would like to extend a huge welcome to Mrs Flynn and Mrs Thomas. In their new roles they will be working across all our schools. Both Mrs Flynn and Mrs Thomas will be working with children, staff and parents across the federation. Mrs Flynn will be working as Deputy across all three schools and Mrs Thomas will be working as Inclusion Lead.

We are also really pleased to welcome Mrs Khatun, who will be teaching in reception alongside Mrs Day. Mrs Khatun comes with a wealth of experience, having previously lead early years' provision in previous schools. She has already visited the children and I know many of you will have already met her on the door this term. We will also be welcoming Mr McDowell, who is a final year placement student from Winchester University. Mr McDowell is in his 4th year of training and will be working alongside Mr Noble in Year Two until the end of April. We are really excited about Mr McDowell starting, as this will enable the children in Year Two to have the expertise of two teachers for the Spring term! We would also like to congratulate Mrs Hardy who has now taken on the role of Administration Officer at our sister school at Netley Marsh and will be working across all three schools. Although she won't be leaving the Federation, she will be greatly missed here at St Michael & All Angels.

Finally, I would like to wish each and everyone of our school families a Merry Christmas. I hope you all get a chance to make some wonderful memories and hopefully get *some* sleep on Christmas Eve!



Yours sincerely

Mr M Bowen

Executive Headteacher

Important dates

Family Worship – 2.30pm, 6th January at St Michael & All Angels Church

Easter Service - 2.00pm, 6th April Saint Michael & All Angels Church

Parent Meetings – Tuesday 29th and Wednesday 30th March

Message From The Governors

At the end of another challenging term the Governors would like to express their appreciation to all the staff for their hard work and dedication to enable their pupils to make progress in their learning despite the continuing difficult conditions.

Thanks to their efforts the children will also have been able to take part in and enjoy the traditional Christian Christmas events, in particular the nativity story. Although it has not been possible for families to be present, the video performances will be there to be watched - on more than one occasion.

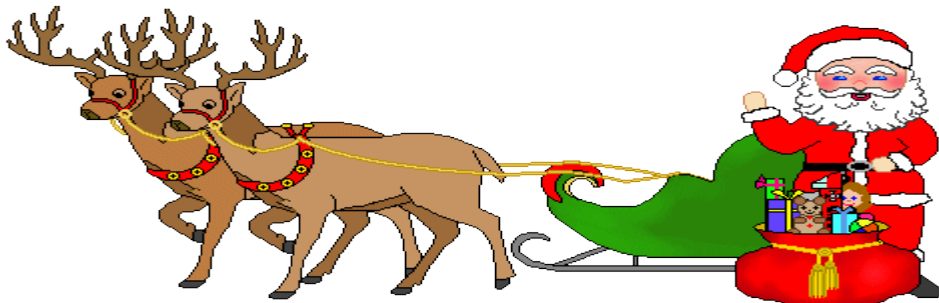
I do hope as many of you as possible will be able to join in the outdoor carol singing next week as the term draws to a close.

May staff and families have a happy healthy and peaceful Christmas

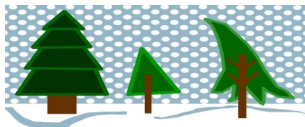
Lyndhurst Food Bank

If anybody in Lyndhurst, Emery Down or Bank is in need of a little bit of help before Christmas, please call this number in confidence:

07485 489 275.



Diary Dates



Tuesday 4th January	First day back to school
Thursday 6th January	2.30pm Family Worship at St Michael & All Angels Church
Thursday 13th January	2.30pm Parent Volunteer Talks at the school
Wednesday 16th January	Year 2 Inter-Federation dodgeball competition, more information to follow
Friday 18th February	Year 1 Inter-Federation dodgeball competition, more information to follow Last Day of Term
Monday 28th February	First day back to school



Christmas Holiday Dates

Break up Friday 17th December

Back to School Tuesday 4th January

