



# Witley C of E Infant School



Learn, love and flourish together

**Newsletter no. 13 Autumn Term  
Friday, 8<sup>th</sup> December 2023**

Our value this half term is respect

*An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people." Luke 2:8*

Dear Parents/Carers

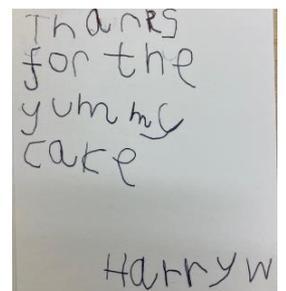
## A Gift at Christmas

Thank you to Simon and the team at Church Fields who so generously allowed Bear, Dilys and Zoe to choose our school Christmas tree last Friday. Mr Szczepanski helped Simon carry the tree back to school and it certainly looks splendid. Christmas is all about giving but not just the giving of wrapped presents. In assembly we talked about the innkeeper's gift of shelter to Mary and Joseph, the shepherds gave their gift of time and love and God gave his gift of Jesus.



## The Gift of Cakes!

Thank you to all the families who have gifted cakes for our weekly raffle this term. We've had an amazing array of delicious creations. Harry in Dolphins certainly enjoyed his snowman cake last week and what a lovely note he has written for the Frackiewicz family and such super writing! There will be more cakes to win next year so be sure to buy your weekly ticket!



## Andy's Magic Show



On Tuesday children were entertained by Andy the Magician. He was very funny and very entertaining and judging by the noise very enjoyable. Thank you to FWs for gifting a fun filled afternoon!

## The First Christmas

I was extremely proud of our Year 2 children, who joined Mrs Latham and I, during our visit to the Surrey Hills Care Home in Wormley.



Residents were treated to the retelling of the Nativity as well as singing some traditional carols with Charlotta, Ben, Lottie, Maki, Cameron and Sam.

See you all at the FWS Christmas Market!

Mrs Helen Szczepanski

## Cake Raffle

Our cake raffle takes place in our Celebration Assembly.

Thank you to the Dennis family for the delicious sweetie cupcakes.

Well done to Percy in Dolphins who won them all!



## Remembering Benjamin Zephaniah

This week saw the sad news of the passing of Benjamin Zephaniah. One of his many popular poems is called Nature Trail which reminds me how lucky we are to have our wonderful outdoors. Benjamin loved being close to nature and animals and in his poem he describes all the wildlife he sees in his garden.



### Nature Trail

At the bottom of my garden  
There's a hedgehog and a frog  
and a lot of creepy-crawlies  
Living underneath a log,  
There's a baby daddy long legs  
And an easy-going snail  
And a family of woodlice,  
All are on my nature trail.

There are caterpillars waiting  
For their time to come to fly,  
There are worms turning the earth over  
As ladybirds fly by,  
Birds will visit, cats will visit  
But they always chose their time  
And I've even seen a fox visit  
This wild garden of mine.

Squirrels come to nick my nuts  
And busy bees come buzzing  
And when the night time comes  
Sometimes some dragonflies come humming,  
My garden mice are very shy  
And I've seen bats that growl  
And in my garden I have seen  
A very wise old owl.

My garden is a lively place  
There's always something happening,  
There's this constant search for food  
And then there's all that flowering,  
When you have a garden  
You will never be alone  
And I believe we all deserve  
A garden of our own.

## Well done to the following children who are in our Gold Book this week:

Year R: Rex and Zoe

Year 1: Matilda and Max

Year 2: Cameron, Charlotta and Lark

Mrs Szczepanski's Headteacher Award in our Celebration Assembly goes to:

Year R: Lola

Year 1: Aiden and Henry

Year 2: Maki, Sam, Charlotta, Lottie, Ben and Cameron



Why not try and learn a Makaton sign for every day in December?

We hope you enjoy our Makaton calendar!

Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>1st</b>  <b>Snowman</b>	<b>2nd</b>  <b>Christmas Tree</b>	<b>3rd</b>  Move hands from wrists quickly <b>Sleigh</b>	<b>4th</b>  Finger spell 'F', circles clockwise in front of body <b>Family</b>	<b>5th</b>  <b>Stars</b>	<b>6th</b>  <b>Happy</b>	<b>7th</b>  <b>Bells</b>
<b>8th</b>  <b>Pudding</b>	<b>9th</b>  <b>Winter</b>	<b>10th</b>  Right middle finger touches centre of other palm, repeat with left hand <b>Jesus</b>	<b>11th</b>  Movement of hands show antler size <b>Reindeer</b>	<b>12th</b>  <b>Holiday</b>	<b>13th</b>  <b>Presents</b>	<b>14th</b>  Mime pulling bell rope <b>Church</b>
<b>15th</b>  Flat hands flap down (and up at wrists) <b>Donkey</b>	<b>16th</b>  Mime two movements on the spot Mime appropriate shape <b>Stable</b>	<b>17th</b>  <b>Candles</b>	<b>18th</b>  Hands make slight flutter movements <b>Angel</b>	<b>19th</b>  Stroke beard <b>King</b>	<b>20th</b>  <b>Cake</b>	<b>21st</b>  Touch chest <b>Robin</b>
<b>22nd</b>  Waggle thumb & 2 fingers under chin <b>Turkey</b>	<b>23rd</b>  Whole formation circles twice <b>Toys</b>	<b>24th</b>  <b>Sleep</b>	<b>25th Christmas Day</b>  		<b>Father Christmas</b>  Stroke long beard	

## Little Wandle Parent/Carer Workshop

We are planning a workshop for ALL parents/carers all about early reading and our Little Wandle phonics scheme on Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup> January starting at 2.30 pm until 3.05 pm.



Don't worry if you can't make the event we will put all of the information on Google Classroom and our website.

## TERM DATES 2023/24

Day	Date	AUTUMN TERM 2023
Sat	09.12	<b>FWS German Christmas Market and Grotto 3.30 – 6 pm</b>
Mon	11.12	Christmas at All Saints Church – 10.30 – 11 am – parents welcome
Mon	11.12	EYFS Nativity Dress Rehearsal at 2.30 pm in the Jubilee Hall – parents/toddlers/babies/family welcome
Tues	12.12	EYFS Nativity at 2.30 pm in the Jubilee Hall – parents welcome
Weds	13.12	KS1 Nativity Dress Rehearsal at 2.30 pm in the Jubilee Hall - Parents/toddlers/babies/family welcome
Th	14.12	KS1 Nativity at 2.30 pm in the Jubilee Hall - Parents welcome
Fri	15.12	1.05.pm LAST DAY OF TERM –PLEASE NOTE EARLIER FINISH
		<b>SPRING TERM 2024</b>
Tues	02.01	First day of term
Mon	08.01	Sleepy Story Time. Drop your child off at the Jubilee Hall at 4.30 pm (via the staff car park) and collect from their classroom doors in the playground at 5.30 pm. Year R will exit through the middle door in the playground.
Tues	16.01	Pied Piper Theatre Production in the school hall for pupils. Funded by FWS
Tues	16.01	Little Wandle Phonics Workshop for all parents starting at 2.30 – 3.05 pm
Fri	19.01	Safeguarding workshop for volunteers, 9 – 9.45 am. Contact the office for further info.
Fri	19.01	Wear something BLUE – Be Lovely and Understanding to Everyone! Celebrating friendship and understanding bullying. Children can wear something blue, either socks, a hair accessory, jumper, etc.
Tues	23.01	Poetry Slam performed by KS1 – Years 1 and 2 only at 2 pm in the Jubilee Hall. FOLLOWED by Open Classroom 2.45 – 3.30 pm for ALL year groups.
Wed	24.01	Year 1 Trip to Brooklands Museum
Tues	06.02	Parent Consultations 4 – 7.30 pm held in school
Th	08.02	Parents Consultations 3.30 – 6 pm held in school

Fri	09.02	<b>INSET DAY No. 3 – SCHOOL CLOSED FOR STAFF TRAINING</b>
		<b>FEBRUARY HALF TERM 12.02 to 16.02</b>
Mon	19.02	First day of term
Th	29.02	Safeguarding workshop for volunteers. Contact the office for further info.
Th	07.03	World Book Day – come dressed as your favourite book character!
Wed	13.03	Year 2 Trip to Marwell Zoo
Tues	19.03	Year 2 Class Assembly in the Jubilee Hall 9.05 – 9.30 am Parents welcome
Th	28.03	1.05.pm LAST DAY OF TERM –PLEASE NOTE EARLIER FINISH
		<b>SUMMER TERM 2024</b>
Mon	15.04	<b>INSET DAY No. 4 – SCHOOL CLOSED FOR STAFF TRAINING</b>
Tues	16.04	First day of term
Mon	06.05	<b>BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY</b>
Fri	24.05	<b>INSET DAY No. 5 – SCHOOL CLOSED FOR STAFF TRAINING</b>
		<b>MAY HALF TERM 27.05 to 31.05</b>
Weds	19.06	Year 1 Team Building Games at Rodborough School - am
Th	20.06	Whole Class group photographs
Weds	26.06	Year 2 Team Building Games at Rodborough School - am
Wed	03.07	Year 1 Trip to Chichester Harbour
Th	18.07	Year 2 Trip to Sayers Croft
Tues	23.07	1.05 pm LAST DAY OF TERM. PLEASE NOTE EARLIER FINISH.



# WINTER EVENTS AT GODALMING LIBRARY

The Staff at Godalming Library would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and tell everyone about some events happening over the festive period



## THE WINTER MINI CHALLENGE

It's back!

Spark a love of reading even in the most reluctant readers with the free **online** Winter Mini Challenge. Unlock rewards for reading and find fun activities on the dedicated children's website.

The Winter Mini Challenge is an **online**, bitesize version of the annual Summer Reading Challenge. This summer, The Reading Agency teamed up with the Youth Sport Trust to bring you Ready, Set, Read!

We are now delighted to extend the theme into the Winter Mini Challenge. With December approaching, now is the time to encourage children to discover the joy of reading or to build on good reading habits!

Tackle the holiday reading 'dip' and join in at [www.wintermini.org.uk](http://www.wintermini.org.uk) from 1 December 2023!

Simply read 3 (or more) books and add them to your profile on the website. This will unlock a limited-edition virtual badge and a special Winter Mini Challenge certificate to print off and keep!



If you can't access a computer at home there are still ways to take part in the winter mini challenge...

The library has public computers that are free to use, but if you would rather have a printed record then you can collect one at the library!

If you are able to read 3 books between 1st December and 19th February show us your certificate at the library (either printed or digitally) to collect an extra prize!



## GODALMING LIBRARY ADVENT CALENDAR

The Children from Farncombe Infant School have created Godalming Library's advent calendar this year. Each day a new Christmas picture will be revealed from the display in the Children's library.

Why not come and have a look or follow Godalming Library on social media to see our advent calendar open each day!



## HOT CHOCOLATE MORNINGS

Come and visit us from Monday 18th - Saturday 23rd December for our hot chocolate mornings!

From 10am - 12noon each day we will have hot chocolate available in the library as well as tea, coffee and squash. There will be activities happening at 11am each day - crafts on Monday and Friday, Rhymetime on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday and Storytime on Wednesday.

Donations Welcomed.

## CHRISTMAS CRAFTS

Drop in to Godalming Library on Monday 18th December from 11am - 12noon where we will be making Santa and reindeer finger puppets. Which will you choose?

On Friday 22nd December from 11am - 12noon we will be making Christmas mice decorations from coloured paper.

Donations Welcomed



## BOARD GAME & PUZZLE AFTERNOONS

If you are looking for something to do in the run up to Christmas then drop into Godalming Library from Monday 18th - Saturday 23rd December between 2 and 4pm for our board game and puzzle afternoons!

We will have a range of board games available including Scrabble, monopoly, chess and many more. We will also have some jigsaw puzzles that you can help to complete!



## Private Swimming Tuition for Children and Adults

1:1

BESPOKE

2:1

Term time/weekly lessons, intensive holiday hubs, adult lessons.

@ voco- Lythe Hill Hotel and Spa in Haslemere.

1:1 or 2:1 swimming tuition for children and adults.

Friendly and welcoming classes, designed for ages 3+ and all abilities; providing a focused, encouraging, fun and supportive environment.

Next dates for Intensive Holiday Hubs :

December: 18<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>  
10am-midday

January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>  
10am-midday

Contact [becks@rocketfishswimming.co.uk](mailto:becks@rocketfishswimming.co.uk) for more Information.

Insta: @rocketfishswimming2023

[rocketfishswimming.co.uk](http://rocketfishswimming.co.uk)



# All Saints Church

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December

Christmas Tree Carols



After school - 2pm

*Come and sing your favourite carols!*

*Hot chocolate, tea or coffee*

