



Witley C of E Infant School



Learn, love and flourish together

**Newsletter no. 13 Autumn Term
Friday, 8th 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

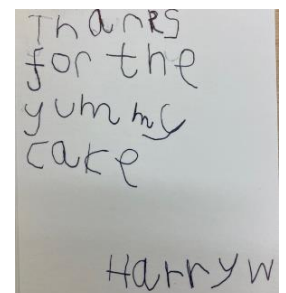
A Gift at Christmas

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 |
|----------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1st Snowman | 2nd Christmas Tree | 3rd Sleigh | 4th Family | 5th Stars | 6th Happy | 7th Bells |
| 8th Pudding | 9th Winter | 10th Jesus | 11th Reindeer | 12h Holiday | 13th Presents | 14th Church |
| 15th Donkey | 16th Stable | 17th Candles | 18th Angel | 19th King | 20th Cake | 21st Robin |
| 22nd Turkey | 23rd Toys | 24th Sleep | 25th Christmas Day | | Father Christmas | |

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, 16th 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 | FWS German Christmas Market and Grotto 3.30 – 6 pm |
| 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 |
| | | SPRING TERM 2024 |
| 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 | INSET DAY No. 3 – SCHOOL CLOSED FOR STAFF TRAINING |
| | | FEBRUARY HALF TERM 12.02 to 16.02 |
| 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 |
| | | SUMMER TERM 2024 |
| Mon | 15.04 | INSET DAY No. 4 – SCHOOL CLOSED FOR STAFF TRAINING |
| Tues | 16.04 | First day of term |
| Mon | 06.05 | BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY |
| Fri | 24.05 | INSET DAY No. 5 – SCHOOL CLOSED FOR STAFF TRAINING |
| | | MAY HALF TERM 27.05 to 31.05 |
| 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 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: 18th, 19th and 20th
10am-midday

January 3rd, 4th and 5th
10am-midday

Contact becks@rocketfishswimming.co.uk for more Information.

Insta: @rocketfishswimming2023

rocketfishswimming.co.uk



All Saints Church

Friday 15th December

Christmas Tree Carols



After school-2pm

Come and sing your favourite carols!

Hot chocolate, tea or coffee

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about DISNEY+

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

The Walt Disney Company's streaming service, Disney+ combines entertainment from the famous animation studio itself with Pixar, Star and National Geographic, plus the Marvel and Star Wars franchises. With access to the latest releases, Disney classics and original series, there's plenty of content to explore. While parents may have noted that adverts have now been introduced on some versions of the service, the platform is – unsurprisingly for a Disney product – designed to be appropriate for the whole family.

LESS SUITABLE CONTENT

While Disney+ is predominantly family friendly, there are some movies and shows in its library which are aimed at an older audience: these may scare younger ones or contain themes or language that you'd rather your child wasn't exposed to. You could avoid such situations by enabling Junior Mode (see 'Adjust content settings', below) or specifying a content age rating for your child's profile.

BINGE WATCHING

With the option to view content on any internet-enabled device and a growing catalogue of movies, cartoons and documentaries, Disney+ can make managing screen time difficult. This could result in children binge watching content, distracting them from activities like homework or socialising. Too much screen time has also been shown to negatively impact mood, sleep patterns and weight.

PHISHING EMAILS

Be especially cautious if you receive emails or text messages purporting to be from Disney+. There have been numerous reports of online scammers impersonating Disney+ staff in an attempt to gain access to subscribers' personal information. Disney+ states it will never email or call customers asking for their payment details, their private information or their password.

ENCROACHING ADVERTS

Disney+ has introduced a new subscription package – Disney+ Standard with Ads – which plays commercials before movies and during shows (like many TV channels). There are no adverts in Junior Mode, but profiles with a content rating of 6+ years will see ads appropriate for that age category. Adults who give consent will see personalised adverts based on their location and viewing history.

ACCESSING ADULTS' PROFILES

If adults don't set a PIN for their profile, children could access it and encounter content which isn't age appropriate. In the settings, Junior Mode has a toggle titled 'Kid-Proof Exit' which requires the user to read four words (numbers, spelled out) and enter them to switch profiles. For older children who can read, though, this isn't secure enough – so using a PIN for adult profiles is recommended.

Advice for Parents & Carers

ADJUST CONTENT SETTINGS

When setting up an account, there's an option to create profiles in what's called Junior Mode. This generally covers material that's suitable for children up to age 6 and is therefore fairly limited. You can give older children a wider choice of viewing by building a standard profile, then going into the settings and choosing a content rating from one of the pre-set alternatives: 6+, 9+, 12+ or 14+.

TURN OFF AUTO-PLAY

When a cartoon, show or movie finishes, Disney+ uses algorithms to identify content with similar themes, which it thinks your child will also enjoy. This suggestion will then automatically begin to play by default. There's an option to turn off this auto-play function in the profile settings, which will encourage your child to take a break from the screen and move on to a different activity.

ADD PIN PROTECTION

Disney+ enables you to effectively lock profiles behind a four-digit PIN. In particular, some of the shows on the platform's Star content hub are far more oriented to adults (including several hard-hitting dramas from US networks), so protecting parents' or older siblings' profiles with a PIN will help to prevent younger children stumbling across material which isn't intended for them.

ENJOY AS A FAMILY

When your child watches a movie or show on Disney+ for the first time, you may want to sit with them to ensure it's suitable. You could do the same when introducing them to older films that you haven't seen for years: your perception of what's appropriate has very probably changed, and some of the language and attitudes in movies from your own childhood may seem quite shocking today.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



NOS National Online Safety®
#WakeUpWednesday

Source: <https://www.disneyplus.com/help/article/adjust-content-settings>, <https://www.disneyplus.com/help/article/turn-off-auto-play>, <https://www.disneyplus.com/help/article/add-pin-protection>, <https://www.disneyplus.com/help/article/enjoy-as-a-family>



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