



Dear Parents and Carers

We have all had a fabulous fortnight!

The representative from the Hedge End Food Centre, Alesdair Duncan, sent a lovely message of thanks to you all for the donations of food which were very gratefully received.

Our school librarian Marcia Cook was delighted with the turn out for our first family reading night for this school year with over 100 of you joining us for our evening of stories. Mrs Cook is currently organising a book swap event, which has been moved from Friday 20 October as stated in the diary dates to Friday 3 November. If your child wishes to participate please can you ensure they return their book swap form.

Last week, Years 3 and 4 had a superb time on their residential visit to Home Farm in Beaulieu. The children are still reminiscing about their adventures – particularly the adder! I am sure you would like me to thank the staff on your behalf for their care and energy over the three days.



On Monday we welcome teaching assistant Miss Becky George back to Durley School working this time in Yellow class. We are delighted that Miss George will be returning to our team.

A reminder that there will **NOT** be swimming lessons this week for Red and Green classes due to work being completed on the tiles in the pool. The children will be having a lesson next Friday 20 October and then staying in school on 10 November for our Remembrance service. The session missed this week will be added on following the last scheduled session.

A reminder to you all that the small playground is becoming very congested at drop off and collection due to parents collecting from Yellow and Blue classes and disregarding the one way system through the double green gates on the large playground. Please could you ensure that if you are collecting children from **Blue or Yellow classes** that you continue your journey around the school and exit from the double green gates.

Lunch Menu

HC3S has produced a new lunch menu which will start after the half term break. Details of the new menu can be found on their website.

<https://documents.hants.gov.uk/HC3S/PrimaryMenu-October2023.pdf>

Messy Church

Due to staffing issues tomorrow, Messy church at Botley Church has been postponed and will now be on **Friday 17 November** in Botley Church.

Bugs, Coughs and Colds

The NHS would like to remind you all to keep encouraging your children to regularly wash their hands particularly in this season of illnesses with the colder weather. This week the children in Blue and Yellow classes have watched a film presented by the NHS reminding them of the importance of hand washing.

Dress Up Day for Blue and Yellow Classes – Friday 20 October

Next Friday 20 October Blue and Yellow classes will be having a special superhero themed dress up day to mark the end of their class topic. This can be anything from a cape to full costume.

DSA

Many thanks to all of you who took part and have donated to our fancy dress **sponsored fun run**. The children had a wonderful afternoon and we have so far raised an incredible £1,818. If you have still not contributed and would like to do so, please either send cash/cheque into the school office or visit: <https://gofund.me/ac79a3b4>.



Next **Friday 20 October** we will be having a special '**Donut Friday**' on the school playground at the end of the day to celebrate the start of the half term break. Donuts will be £1.00 each.

The DSA met last week to start organising this years **Christmas Fayre** to held on **Saturday 9 December 3:00-5:00pm**. This year we will be holding the fayre in the late afternoon to enable us to finish the event with a festive bonfire on the school field. We have arranged non uniform days for **Wednesday 29 November** (for the bottle stall) and **Wednesday 6 December** (for the sweet stall). We will once again be asking for cakes for the Hungry Snowman competition to be brought into school on Friday 8 December.

Once again the DSA will be giving your child the opportunity to design their own Christmas card. Please see the details on the letter coming home with your child today. Designs need to be returned to the school office by **Friday 20 October** at the latest.

Shoe Box Appeal

Once again we will be taking part in the Rotary Shoe Box appeal. A leaflet giving details about how you can help to make a Christmas surprise for disadvantaged and displaced children in Moldova, Montenegro, Poland, Romania and Ukraine will be sent home tonight. You may use a shoe box or collect a box from the school office. Filled shoe boxes should be brought into school on Tuesday 31 October (immediately after the half term break) with £2.00 attached to the top of the box to assist with postage.

Poppy Appeal

In preparation for our special service of Remembrance on **Friday 10 November at 10:45am**, we will have poppies available in exchange for a voluntary contribution to the British Legion from **Monday 30 October**. Year 6 children will be selling them on the playground at drop off and collection. Everyone is welcome to join us for the service.

Parent's Meetings

A reminder that we have parent's meetings next week. Yesterday, your child should have brought home a slip with your appointment time. If you did not return the form stating a preference for date and time, you will have been given an appointment slot. If at any point you think you are not able to attend, please contact the school office by phone or email to ensure the class teacher is not waiting for you.

Kind Regards

Kirstie Baines

Kirstie Baines – Headteacher

DIARY DATES 2023

IN-SERVICE TRAINING DAYS (School Closures) for academic year 2023-2024

Friday 1 December 2023

Monday 3 June 2024

Monday 22 July 2024

Tuesday 23 July 2024

Diary Dates for the 2023-2024 school year – all dates can be subject to changes. All changes and new dates in the diary will appear in red.

Autumn Term 2023

Friday 13 October

Monday 16 October

Tuesday 17 October

Thursday 19 October

Friday 20 October

NO SWIMMING LESSON – pool out of action (moved to 8.12.2023)

4:00-6:00pm Parent's meeting YEAR 6 ONLY

3:00-6:00pm Parent's meeting with classteacher – Years R-5

4:00-7:00pm Parent's meeting with classteacher (all classes)

KS1 dress up day – superhero theme

Donut Friday

23-27 October HALF TERM

Tuesday 31 October

Friday 3 November

Tuesday 7 November

Thursday 9 November

Friday 10 November

Shoe Box Collection

Book Swap afternoon (Date change)

Year 6 visit to D-Day museum, Portsmouth

Red and Green class visit to Roman Palace at Fishbourne

10:45am Remembrance Service (No swimming). All welcome.

Monday 13 November	Photographer in school (portraits)
Friday 17 November	Children in Need
Sunday 26 November	9:30 for 10:00am start Church in School, stir up Sunday cake making service
Wednesday 29 November	Non uniform day in exchange for bottles
Friday 1 December	School closed for staff training
Monday 4 December	School Christmas Post Box open
Wednesday 6 December	9:20am Blue and Yellow Class Nativity
Wednesday 6 December	Non uniform Day in exchange for sweets for children's tombola
Thursday 7 December	9:20am Blue and Yellow Class Nativity
Friday 8 December	Final Year 3 and 4 swimming lesson (date change due to pool closure)
Friday 8 December	Hungry snowman competition – bring in a cake
Friday 8 December	KS2 church rehearsal
Saturday 9 December	3:00-5:00pm DSA Christmas Fayre (Date Change)
Tuesday 12 December	Whole School Flu immunisation
Tuesday 12 December	pm Class Christmas parties
Wednesday 13 December	Christmas lunch and Christmas Jumper Day
Friday 15 December	1:30pm Carol Service in Holy Cross Church School ends at 3:30pm. No after school child care or clubs.

SPRING TERM 2024

Tuesday 2 January	8:50 school opens for the Spring Term
Friday 2 February	2:45pm Christingle service – all welcome
12-16 February	HALF TERM
Tuesday 20 February	3:00-6:00pm Parents Meetings
Thursday 22 February	4:00-7:00pm Parents Meetings
18-22 March	Year 5 and 6 Residential visit to Isle of Wight
Thursday 28 March	1:30pm Easter service Holy Cross Church. All welcome 3:30pm school closes for Easter break. No after school club.

SUMMER TERM 2024

Monday 15 April	8:50am School re-opens for the summer term
13-16 May	Year 6 National SATs week
Monday 20 May	School photographer –class and whole school photos
27-31 May	HALF TERM
Thursday 13 June	7:30-8:30 new parents meeting
Saturday 15 June	Church Fete
Wednesday 19 June	1:30pm SPORTS DAY all welcome
Saturday 29 June	School Summer Fayre
Tuesday 2 July	Year 6 Wyvern Induction day
Tuesday 9 July	1:30pm KS2 school play
Wednesday 10 July	6:00pm KS2 school play
Thursday 11 July	6:00pm KS2 school play
Friday 19 July	1:30pm Leavers service Holy Cross Church School ends for the summer break. No after school club.