



Dear Parents and Carers

It was a pleasure to be able to host our Remembrance Service last week and to be able to invite parents, grandparents and friends of the school to join us in reflecting on the tragedy of war and particularly think about the brave soldiers from Durley who died in the first and second world wars – many of which were in their late teens and early twenties. Please take time to look at the wonderful poppy wreaths in our Memorial garden opposite the school made by every child in the school. We all felt very proud of the children who were extremely respectful throughout the service. Our thanks to Commander Steve May for joining us and reading the Naval prayer, to one of our Year 5 pupils for playing the last post on the trombone and to Year 6 for leading us in worship. Photographs and clips from the service can be seen on ClassDojo.



## Staffing

I am writing to you with the sad news that Miss Baldwin will be leaving us at the end of this term to take up a new position with CAMHS (Children and Adult Mental Health Service). Miss Baldwin is extremely talented in many areas as she has been behind all of the school's wonderful art work, helps out with sports clubs and sporting competitions, is a higher level teaching assistant so has taught in many of our classes and is our school ELSA (Emotional Literacy Support Assistant) as well as helping out on all of our residential visits. Miss Baldwin has supported many of our children and families over the past 12 years, and whereas we are very proud of her for her new career move, she will be hugely missed by us all. If you wish to contribute to a leaving present or you would like to write a message for her card, please ensure this is with the office in a named envelope by no later than Friday 10 December.

## Covid-19

We currently have three children in the school with Covid from Blue, Yellow and Purple classes, as well as a lot of bugs going around the school with similar symptoms. We would recommend that if your child does have the symptoms of Covid – a high temperature, persistent cough, loss of taste or smell- then you take them for a PCR test. We have been finding that the lateral flow tests are less

reliable. If your child should test positive, please could you inform the school office by email as soon as possible.

### **Congratulations**

Congratulations to our Year 3/4 girls football team who played in their first tournament this week at Wyvern College, playing against other teams in the Wyvern cluster. We were extremely proud of them finishing in second place and scoring 15 goals across 6 matches only conceding one goal!



Congratulations and well done to one of our pupils in Year 5 for successfully being selected for Hampshire cricket – We are all very proud of you.

Congratulations to two of our Year R families who have recently become new parents again. We have enjoyed meeting the new babies.

### **School Carol Service**

Following many discussions, we have decided that as a church school it is very important to us to try to take the children up to Durley Holy Cross Church for our school Carol Service if weather and Covid permit, to end the school term. The children will be walking up to the church leaving at 1:00pm on Friday 17 December and return before the end of the school day.

Sadly, we have had to limit numbers, and will only be able to invite the parents and carers of pupils in years 5 and 6 to join us due to lack of space.

### **Shoe Box Appeal**



Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Shoe box appeal this year and for spending so much time putting together a beautiful selection of gifts for children who will not have very much this Christmas.

### **Children in Need**

This year with our lines of pennies from each classroom door and successful film night, the children raised an incredible **£434.57** for Children in Need. Thank you to everyone for your generous contributions.



### **DSA CHRISTMAS**

#### **Prize Draw**

Thank you to everyone who has already managed to sell prize draw tickets to family and friends and have asked for more books to sell from the school office. Please keep up the hard sell everyone! Ticket stubs with the money need to be returned as soon as possible, but by Wednesday 8 December at the latest in preparation for the draw on **Friday 10 December at 4:30pm** in school.

## Durley Lights

This **Saturday 20 November** is the start of the wonderful Durley Village lights. You don't have to wait until December to get involved with bringing festive joy to us all this season, you can make a start at lighting up the outside of your house from this weekend. If your family or friends comment on how lovely Durley is looking, please direct them to our Gofundme page to support the purchase of additional, much needed Chromebooks. <https://www.gofundme.com/f/durley-village-lights?qid=89797b61668f300c28c090cbe5629127>

## Come and see the Reindeer

Tickets to see Father Christmas and his reindeer went on sale last night and are selling fast! If you want to book your place to see him and his reindeer we suggest you do it as soon as possible.

Remember, tickets to see Father Christmas are for Durley School children and their siblings only and can be purchased online at:

<https://www.pta-events.co.uk/durleyschoolassociation/#.YZeKbtDP2Uk>. If you wish to just come along and feed the reindeer and have your photo taken, you can either book online or just turn up paying on the door, and bring along family and friends. Drinks and snacks will also be available to purchase during the event.



## Diary Dates

|                              |                                                                                                                                          |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Saturday 20 November</b>  | Durley Village Lights                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Sunday 21 November</b>    | 10:00am Cake making church service in school hall                                                                                        |
| <b>Tuesday 23 November</b>   | Whole school Flu immunisation (am)                                                                                                       |
| <b>Wednesday 24 November</b> | Year 6 Visit to D-Day Museum                                                                                                             |
| <b>Friday 26 November</b>    | Final swimming session for Years 3,4 & 5                                                                                                 |
| <b>Friday 3 December</b>     | <b>School Closure for staff training</b>                                                                                                 |
| <b>Monday 6 December</b>     | Xmas Post Box open for deliveries                                                                                                        |
| <b>Tuesday 7 December</b>    | KS1 Nativity for Ladybirds Pre-school & invited guests only                                                                              |
| <b>Wednesday 8 December</b>  | 9:20am KS1 Nativity parents invited                                                                                                      |
| <b>Thursday 9 December</b>   | 9:20am KS1 Nativity parents invited                                                                                                      |
| <b>Friday 10 December</b>    | Children's School Christmas Fayre ( <b>Children only</b> )<br>4:30-7:30 visit Santa's Grotto & his reindeer (please sign up)             |
| <b>Tuesday 14 December</b>   | pm Xmas parties                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Wednesday 15 December</b> | Xmas Lunch & Xmas Jumper Day (for Save the Children)                                                                                     |
| <b>Thursday 16 December</b>  | 11:00am Key Stage 2 singing to the Luncheon Club in Memorial Hall                                                                        |
| <b>Friday 17 December</b>    | 1:15pm Carol Service in Holy Cross Church, Durley. Sadly invitation is for parents of pupils in Years 5 and 6 only due to lack of space. |
| <b>16-20 May 2022</b>        | <b>Year 5/6 residential to Little Canada on the Isle of Wight</b>                                                                        |
| <b>27-29 June 2022</b>       | <b>Year 3/4 residential to Home Farm, Beaulieu (confirmed)</b>                                                                           |

## Church in School

We are very excited to see that a church service will be returning to school this term with 'Stir Up Sunday' on **Sunday 21 November at 10:00am** in the school hall. This is a lovely service where the children get involved in the tradition of Christmas cake making and everyone is welcome to join us.

*Kirstie Baines* - Headteacher