



WEEKLY

Week 5 – 5th December

newsletter

Message from Miss Hughes

Normally this section of the newsletter is about all the exciting things that have happened in school this week, but today I want to recognise our brilliant staff team.

They are hugely dedicated, endlessly loving and caring, and they are working incredibly hard at a time when retaining staff in education is tougher than ever. Yet every day, they show up and give more than anyone could reasonably ask.

This is the team who spend their weekends writing the Christmas Play and Church Service so your children have those unforgettable moments on stage. The TAs who dip into their own pockets when they spot a fidget toy they know will help a child stay calm and focused. The colleagues who bring in plants or Christmas decorations because they want the school to feel welcoming and alive. The ones who stay late to help at the disco or step in to cover absence without hesitation. The staff who make breakfast for children who've run late or take home the sports kits and wash them after every event. And the many who always have a kind word ready to share with others.

They don't do these things for recognition. They do them because they care about your children and our community. But it's important that you know just how much they put in and how lucky we are to have them.

Have a lovely weekend, Amy (Headteacher)

Dojo Champions

Ducklings – Hoda

Kingfishers –

Robins – Ryan and Elsie

Swifts – Kyle and Naomi

Skylarks – Mia and Conor

Jays – Keeva and Bhupinderpal

Owls – Oluchi and Alina

Kestrels – Daniel and Honour



PTA Thanks!

A huge thank you to our PTA for organising another incredibly successful disco last week. The turnout of volunteer parents was fantastic, and it was genuinely great to see so many people giving their time and energy. Some of our PTA have been supporting the school for over 10 years! It's always great to have your help. A special welcome and thanks to our new helpers this year. Your support made a real difference.

None of this would be possible without all of you, but a special shout-out to **Zeynap**, our PTA Chair, whose drive, aspiration, and vision keep these events moving forward. Thank you all!

Christmas Carols

11th December:

- You are all invited to Christmas carols on the playground to celebrate this festive season. Bring along your singing voice and your Christmassy joy!
- 2:30 on the playground
- Please note, if it rains, we may need to cancel!
- Come along to the PTA Christmas Fair afterwards



15th December:

- Calling all grandparents! Please come along to our Carols, Cake and Coffee event on Monday in the school hall.
- All classes will be singing some lovely Christmas songs for you all.
- Sign up through the office

Golden Book

There are no Golden Book assemblies next week due to Christmas rehearsals





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New Parent Governor

We're pleased to welcome **Karen Lawrence**, mum of Lily in Robins, as our new parent governor. We're grateful to her for stepping into this important role, bringing another clear parent perspective to the table.

With Karen joining, our governing body is now full and in a strong position. It includes two ex-parents, three current parents, two staff governors and three non-linked governors. They have all been appointed through a mix of parent, staff, Trust, Local Authority and Co-opted routes. Some have education experience, some don't, but all are strongly committed to the school.

We're looking forward to working with Karen as part of this team.

Charity

We have taken part in a few fundraising events recently and wanted to update you about the **generous donations** that children have made. Thank you!



£180.46

Residentials

We are excited to announce that we are starting new residential trips for Year 4 and Year 5, both due to take place in the Summer term. This year, Year 4 will do one over night at **Fairthorne** and Year 5 will do two nights at **Tile Barn**. From September 2026, we will have summer trips for Year 4, Year 5 and our annual Year 6 (moved from the Autumn) to PGL. Leaflets coming home today!

PE Days

Mondays – Kestrels
Tuesday – Kingfishers
Wednesday – Jays / Robins
Thursdays – Owls / Swifts
Fridays – Skylarks



Upcoming Dates

- 1st December – Church Service for the start of Christmas
- 1st December – Y5/6 Group to Athletics @ Woodlands
- 3rd December – Y3/4 Group to Netball/Handball festival @ Solent Uni
- 4th December – Year 4 Trip to Living Rainforest
- 8th December – KS2 Sports Taster Day for group @ Woodlands
- 11th December – PTA Christmas Fair and Christmas Jumpers and Christmas Carols
- 15th December – Coffee, Cake and Christmas Carols for Grandparents
- 16th December – Christmas Performance: Dress Rehearsal for parents with young children
- 17th December - Christmas Performance 1:45 and 5:00
- 18th December – Christmas Lunch Day and Christmas Hamper drawer
- 19th December – Christmas Presents for Parents sold by PTA in school hall
- 5th January – all children return for Spring Term
- 5th January – Bikeability for Year 6
- 12th January – Year 5 swimming starts
- 22nd January – Parents invited in for a **See and Celebrate** to have a look at children's books

PTA Volunteers Needed

The PTA needs volunteers and is currently looking for a treasurer and a secretary. All volunteers welcome! pta@bitternemanor.net

