

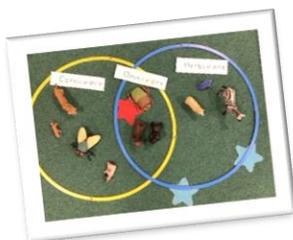
Newsletter

Issue 12
21 November 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

As usual we have been busy learning and exploring here at Oliver's Battery throughout the week.

Foxes had a wonderful adventure on Wednesday as they walked through the beautiful water meadows and along the river to **Winchester College**. Their destination? A fascinating talk on birds of prey, delivered by experts from The **Hawk Conservancy Trust**. Along the way, the children were thrilled to spot a variety of wildlife, making the journey as exciting as the destination. Mrs Davies shared how much of a pleasure it was to spend time with the children and praised their fantastic engagement with the natural world around them. The group walked for over an hour with ease, embracing every moment of this enriching experience. Well done, Foxes!



Keeping with animals and **science**, Ladybirds have been enthusiastically sorting animals into omnivores, carnivores, and herbivores. It's wonderful to see such excitement for scientific thinking and classification. Our Herons have embarked on an exciting **design project**, learning new sewing skills as part of their creative curriculum - watch this space for their finished masterpieces!

Our Hedgehogs, Squirrels, and Kingfishers enjoyed their **Forest School** sessions. From exploring textures and sounds to building dens and discovering seasonal changes, the children immersed themselves in outdoor learning. These sessions continue to spark curiosity and confidence in our learners.

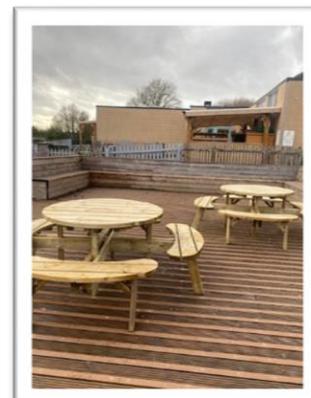


Physical activity has been thriving this week: Hares have been making a splash in **swimming lessons**, Foxes continue to enjoy their **lacrosse** session and Bumblebees and Hares honed their **hockey skills** all thanks to the fantastic support from St Swithun's. Thanks also go to St Swithun's from Ladybirds, who loved spending time **reading** to the girls. These shared experiences are invaluable in fostering a love of books and building confidence in reading. A huge thank you to St Swithun's for providing these wonderful opportunities for our children. We also welcome some visitors from the

Sea Cadets today. They told us all about their group and how we can enjoy adventure too by joining the Sea Cadets. It looks great fun!



We are so grateful to our **PTA** for funding the new **benches** in our playground. They look fantastic and are already being put to great use by the children. Looking ahead, we are exploring the idea of installing a **traversing wall or traversing poles** as our next fundraising project. This will be something the children will absolutely love—a brilliant target for us all to work towards! Grateful thanks to Mr Sturgess and Mr Webb for assisting Mr King with assembling the benches and making the decking safe with grip strips.



As always to it was fabulous to celebrate children who have been recognised for being great role models this week in our Celebration Assembly.

Date	Friday 28 November 2025
 Squirrels	All of the Squirrels have been amazing with all the changes that have happened in their class! They have dealt beautifully with new adults coming into their room and coped well with changes in their routines. They have shown real adaptability and resilience! They should all be proud of themselves for continuing to be ready, respectful and safe!
 Ladybirds	Caelan, Frankie, Laurie, Gael and Wren worked cooperatively with a partner in science to sort the animals into carnivore, herbivore and omnivores. They listened carefully to each other ideas and showed great independent skills.
 Bumblebees	Herbie for being so helpful this week. He has been polite, respectful and very thoughtful to both adults and children this week. James G for his fantastic reading and writing. James, you are applying your phonics to your learning and it is having a positive impact on your progress. Keep it up.
 Hares	Matilda and Frances. These two have been a dynamic duo this week. They have both shown sheer determination in their attitude to learning. They have been ready and focused when expected as well as showing resilience and great organisation skills during independent working time.
 Foxes	Everyone in foxes. This is for our walk to Winchester college on Wednesday. All of the children showed how to be safe on our walk, walking together, near rivers and crossing roads. Beautiful listening and focusing on keeping safe and showing respect to our surroundings and members of the public. At the college they were focused on the talk and joining in and answering questions, really engaged in the talk. They were all just amazing. Showing how to be ready, respectful and safe at all times. Well done foxes.
 Hérons	Noah has been showing excellent focus and determination in his learning across the curriculum. It is wonderful to see him actively participating in lessons. Alma has shown her excitement for our sewing project, by bringing in some examples of sewing which she has done at home. I am looking forward to seeing the tote bag she creates over the next couple of weeks.
 Kingfishers	Eloise and Keira have been recognised for their writing this week. We have been writing narrative with dialogue and both girls have been really thinking about the punctuation needed and the use of interesting vocabulary.



Top Table

The children chosen for the top table this week are:

Ilana H – Ladybirds, Arthur M – Bumblebees, Elsie B – Herons, Kylan H - Kingfishers

Housepoints – these are announced each week in assembly				
	 Oak	 Maple	 Birch	 Rowan
Points this week	282	383	305	382
Position this term	1st	3rd	1st	4th

Bike Bus



On Friday 5 December after school the bike bus will be welcoming a special guest for a short ride around Oliver's Battery to look at the Christmas lights! We are really excited that Santa can make it with his special bike sleigh. The ride is open to everyone – you do not need to be a regular bike busser to take part but you and your parents will need bike lights. Everyone is invited to decorate their bike for a chance to win some prizes. There will be music, lights and some treats to get everyone really in the mood for Christmas! We hope to see you there.

This week our **Eco Ambassadors** led a whole-school assembly to share the work we're doing towards the Eco-Schools Green Flag award. The children who chose to speak did brilliantly and they should all be very proud of themselves. We're excited to continue our Eco-Schools journey this year as we explore topics including Healthy Living, Marine, Global Citizenship and School Grounds.



PTA News

Did you know you can raise money for the school at absolutely no extra cost to you? Many retailers, including Sainsbury's, Tescos, and other major supermarkets, have signed up to 'easy fundraising', which means they donate a small amount for every online shop you make.

And if you sign up in the next week the school gets an extra £2 donation per person!

Sign up here:

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/easyfundraising-app/?causeId=74681&utm_term=SE876

Next Wednesday

WREATH MAKING 03 December: 7:00-9:00pm in the school hall

- Sign up at this link: <https://pay.collctiv.com/wreath-making-workshop-oli-b-88069>
- All materials provided, and at a fraction of the cost of similar workshops locally!
- Festive refreshments available

Christmas Jumper Swap 08-12 December in the playground

- Please give any unwanted Christmas jumpers or tops to the school office
- The week starting 08 December, children can choose a free Christmas jumper by the PTA shed at pick-up
- No swap needed! The aim is simply to rehome preloved items

Oliver's Battery Tree Lighting

You are invited to the tree lighting ceremony on Saturday 6 December outside. St Marks Church 5.30 – 7.30pm. There will be Christmas carols, mulled wine and mince pies. Our school choir will also be taking part.



Christmas Lunch

A reminder that if your child would like a school Christmas Lunch to let us know by **Wednesday 3 December** at the latest – this is the final day for the kitchen to order supplies. Please note that due to a lack of turkey the kitchen will be serving chicken instead. The rest of the menu and vegetarian option will remain the same. **No other food** will be available on that day.

Please also note that the kitchen will no longer be serving Jacket Potatoes with Tuna – the only options will be cheese or baked beans.

There will be a slight change of menu for **Thursday 4 December** – the red choice will be Roast Beef not Roast Pork.

There will be **NO** Breakfast Club on the last day of term – **Friday 19 December**.

A reminder that we have an **Inset Day on Monday** – the School and Nursery will be closed for staff training.

Christmas Clubs

Active Holidays are running holiday clubs at Stanmore Primary School on 22 and 23 and 29 and 30 December. The camps will cover a range of different sports, games and wellbeing sessions to keep everyone active. These are open for children aged 5 -11. The cost is £26.25 per day and there are free childcare spots for children who receive benefit-related free school meals. For more information and to book visit www.activeme.360.com.

Thank you for your continued support and have a lovely weekend.

Yours faithfully



Miss Vittle
Headteacher

Dates for your diary - [new events in Blue](#)

ALL DATES CAN BE FOUND ON OUR SCHOOL WEBSITE TOO 😊

Inset Day	Monday 1 December
Nursery and Year R Nativity 2pm	Tuesday 9 December
Whole School Pantomime	Thursday 11 December
Rock Steady Concert 2.30pm	Monday 15 December
Christmas Jumper Day	Wednesday 17 December
Christmas Lunch	Wednesday 17 December
Carols on the Decking	Wednesday 17 at 3:00pm
Listen to Me Concerts –	Thursday 18 December 1.30 pm Year 6 2:00 pm Year 5
No Breakfast Club	Friday 19 December
Hares Autumn Show Case 3pm	Friday 19 December
End of Term	Friday 19 December
Start of Spring Term	Monday 5 th January