

Newsletter

Issue 13
5 December 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

This week has had many highlights and plenty of wonderful learning. This started on our INSET day this Monday. The staff came together for a day dedicated to improving teaching and learning. Vicky from the Hampshire team joined us to share ideas on making our English learning journeys even more engaging and exciting for children. We also agreed on a clear handwriting policy to ensure consistency and help every child achieve their very best. Safeguarding was another key focus, as we revisited our staff code of conduct – an essential part of keeping everyone safe and happy in school. It was a productive day, and we're excited to see these improvements in action.



Our Year 6 Kingfisher pupils had a fascinating trip to the Gurkha Museum this week, perfectly timed with their World War II topic. They listened intently during the talk and threw themselves into the workshop activities with enthusiasm. It was wonderful to see their curiosity and respect for history shining through!



This morning, Heron's in Year 5 took part in a truly historic event – a live lesson from Antarctica! The session was led by none other than Robert Swan, the legendary polar explorer and environmental campaigner. Rob is currently on an expedition powered entirely by renewable energy, raising awareness through his charity 2041, which works to protect Antarctica even after

the Antarctic Treaty expires in 2041. Our pupils were inspired by Rob's achievements – he's the first person in history to walk to both the North and South Poles! His message about caring for our planet really resonated with us all. What an amazing opportunity to meet a real-life hero and learn about the importance of sustainability.










The countdown to Christmas has begun! It's been heart-warming to see our Hedgehogs and Squirrels practising for their very first nativity at our school. They are working so hard, and we can't wait to share their performance with you – it promises to be magical!



And finally...an important **Elf and Safety** message from the North Pole:
Only school elves are allowed in school – home elves must stay at home! Thank you for helping us keep the festive magic alive.

Headteacher: Miss Sarah Vittle B.Ed (Hons)

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 5 December 2025
 Squirrels	Eliza, Bella, Orla and Vesper have been working really hard to be ready during all of our nativity rehearsals this week. They sit beautifully, deliver their lines well and sing every song with smiles on their faces. Keep it up girls!
 Ladybirds	Salmon Ali, Adam, Max and Kei for showing great independence when colour mixing. They listened carefully to instructions and created amazing colours using only the primary powder paints. Well done!
 Bumblebees	Everlyn and Oliver P have been showing fantastic school values across all aspects of their learning this week! We have been looking at vertical lines of symmetry this week and both have stretched themselves to achieve! Well done!
 Hares	Sam P-H for showing great enthusiasm and dedication with his home learning. It has been great to see Sam, well done.
 Foxes	Harlan has really stood out this week for his enthusiastic contributions to our class and group discussions. He shows great interest in our project work and is particularly enjoying our history unit on the Romans. Great work Harlan!
 Hérons	Orla has been recognised this week for being incredibly kind and patient when helping others to practise their sewing skills. She has given clear instructions, whilst praising and encouraging others to be successful. James had been recognised for his resilience this week. Every day he has approached his learning with a smile and he has shown great kindness and understanding towards others at lunch times.
 Kingfishers	Nina and Bella have been recognised for quietly being ready and respectful throughout the day. Both girls settle quickly and get on with their work independently. They are kind and respectful with working with friends, making sure everyone is included in the discussions.



Top Table

The children chosen for the top table this week are:

Kitty W – Ladybirds, Martha H-M – Bumblebees, Ema A – Foxes, James R – Herons

Housepoints – these are announced each week in assembly				
	 Oak	 Maple	 Birch	 Rowan
Points this week	221	222	242	172
Position this term	2nd	2nd	1st	4th

Pantomime

The children are really looking forward to going to the Theatre Royal next Thursday to see Puss in Boots. A reminder to provide your child with a packed lunch on this day as we will be back during the lunch break. If you would like your child to have a school packed lunch please could you let the school office know as soon as possible – **please note no food will be available to order on Thursday.** Please ensure that your child has a drink bottle with them (preferably one that will fit inside their coat pocket). They do not need a snack as we will be taking some packets of biscuits with us for the children to have in the interval.

PTA News



The Christmas Hampers are back! We would be very grateful if you could donate something for your child's class hamper. The colours allocated for each class are: Hedgehogs (Red), Squirrels (Green), Ladybirds (Purple), Bumblebees (White), Hares (Gold), Foxes (Blue), Herons (Pink), Kingfishers (Silver).

Please hand your donations to your child's teacher by Friday 12 December. If you are able to come in and assembly the hampers early next week please let the office know- thank you. Tickets will be on sale in the playground from 11 – 16 December. The draw will take place after the carol concert on Wednesday 17 December.

*****CHANGE OF DATE*** Christmas Jumper Swap: 11-16 December in the playground**

Please give any unwanted Christmas jumpers or tops to the school office

- Starting 11 December, children can choose a free Christmas jumper in the playground at pick-up
- No swap needed! The aim is simply to rehome preloved items

You can also support the school via the **Lottery and Easy fundraising:**

- **School lottery:** https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/olivers-battery-primary-school?utm_campaign=bolt-on-share-panel&utm_source=cause-admin&utm_medium=social&utm_content=hyperlink
- **Easy fundraising:** <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/oliversbatteryprimary/>
- Finally, thank you to everyone who came to the festive wreath-making this week! It was our second inaugural community event this term, along with the Bingo, and we'd welcome any feedback as we look to expand both events next year.

Sea Cadets

We had a very interesting assembly from the Sea Cadets last week which the children enjoyed. If your child is interested in joining please go to: <https://share.google/LOUOeHCivfirkiHfs>. The cost is £15.00 with no joining fee – this covers your uniform, cooking, trips etc.

Family Links

The Centre for Emotional Health are once again running a Nurturing Programme for parents and carers to help get the best out of family life. These are running every Thursday from 15 January 2026 through to 26 March (excluding half term) at the Winchester Salvation Army Centre, Parchment Street, Winchester. To book a place please email: nurturingprogramme@ccwinch.org.uk or phone 07942 284611 – free creche facilities available. Please feel free to pick up a leaflet from our school office.

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 😊

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