



Wednesday 11th December 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have a busy final week and a half of term left so please do read through carefully. Thank you for all of your support over the term and I wish you all a happy, healthy and safe Christmas holiday.

Christmas Activities

All of the key dates and times are listed below however a few reminders are:

- **Christmas Jumper Day** - please come in wearing your Christmas/Winter jumper instead of a school jumper. We are collecting donations for Save the Children and recommend a donation of £1 or more. Rest of school uniform is to be worn as normal (PE/non-PE depending on class PE days)
- **Christmas Lunch** - everyone is invited to have a Christmas Lunch. There is no need to pre-order, children can choose on the day. The cost is £3.20 for anyone in Y3 and above unless in receipt of Free School Meals. Years R - 2 are free. If your child prefers to have a packed lunch, they will still join in with their Key Stage Christmas Lunch.
- **Christmas Shop** - please make sure your child comes in with a bag to put their chosen gifts into. Labels are provided by the Friends and gifts come pre-wrapped. The children who have purchased something from the Christmas Shop will take it in turns to visit and will be helped by staff members and members of the Friends to choose the correct number of gifts. These will then come home on Friday after school ready to be stashed away!
- **Year R-2 Nativity** - Both performances are held in the Church and are non-ticketed. Please leave the front pews free for staff to be able to support the children. For the Monday 16th performance, any parents/carers attending may collect their child after the performance but this will be from the school playground once the children have returned to school and got changed.
- **Christmas Fair** - for pupils only, please see the letter from Mrs Anglo and the School Council that came through earlier this week regarding costs and also asking for donations of items.
- **KS2 Christmas Carols** - held in the church and no ticket required. Please leave the front pews available for staff to support the children.
- **Friends Film Night** - order forms due back by Monday 16th December. Year R-2 film is The Wild and Year 3-6, Home Alone. Children will receive a small snack as part of this and will be dismissed off the back playground afterwards at 5.15pm.
- **Panto Trip** - we will be leaving promptly after the registers so please make sure your child is here on time! We return to school for a later lunch. There is a change to the hot dinner menu and the choices will be Fish Fingers and Chips or Tomato Pasta.

Before and After School - Astroturf

Please keep your children on the playground instead of the Astroturf. This area is sometimes used by our Breakfast Club and After School Club and needs to be kept free. If any equipment has been left on the playground, please support us in ensuring everyone is kept safe by ensuring your children do not play with it - it is too busy with parents and younger siblings. Equipment is always out at play and lunch so the children get plenty of opportunity to play.

Birthdays

A reminder that we celebrate birthdays by allowing the children to come in wearing home clothes on the day (or closest day if on a weekend or during a holiday) rather than sending in sweets. Although always a very generous

thought, we have children with various allergies and restricted diets which makes this too difficult. By wearing home clothes, children's birthdays are celebrated by all in the school which is lovely!

Attendance

As part of the Government's efforts to improve school attendance, schools are asked to provide Sickness Returns. This means providing the local authority with:

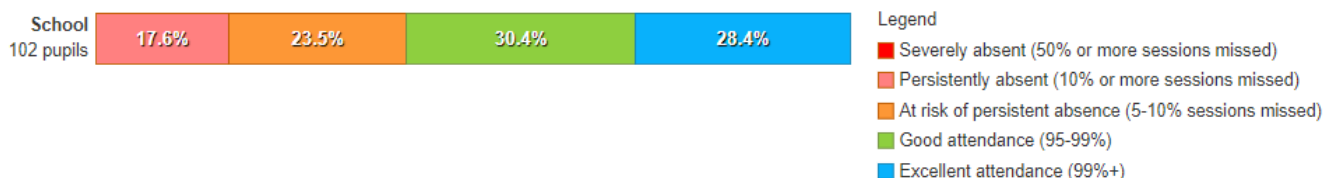
"the full name and address of all pupils of compulsory school age who have been recorded with code I (illness) and who the school has reasonable grounds to believe will **miss 15 days consecutively or cumulatively because of sickness**. Only one sickness return is required for a continuous period of sickness in a school year. This is to help the school and local authority to agree any provision needed to ensure continuity of education for pupils who cannot attend because of health needs, in line with the statutory guidance on arranging education for children who cannot attend school because of health needs (page 21, Working together to improve school attendance Statutory guidance for maintained schools, academies, independent schools and local authorities August 2024)

I will be writing to parents and carers to who this applies to and completing this return over the next few days. I know that we have had cases of chicken pox which accounts for more days off due to illness than other illnesses and will make the local authority aware of this where this has been the case. Even with chicken pox, 15 days equates to 3 school weeks and would allow for an illness such as this in the given time frame. If you have any questions about this, please contact me via the School Office.

Our current school attendance is as follows:

Attendance percentage

School	94.5%
National	95.3%
Local Authority	95.8%



Please remember that pupils can come to school with coughs and colds and other general illnesses as advised by the NHS here <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/> Improving our school attendance is part of our school improvement plan as last year we were below local authority and national averages and, more importantly, we know how strong attendance ensures our children are best set up for the future in terms of academics, learning/work behaviours and socially.

Well done to Robins Class who have the highest attendance for the school year so far!

Advice for EYFS parents

Here is a link to an article and video with ideas for parents to do at home: [27 things to spot on an autumn or winter sensory walk with your child - BBC Tiny Happy People](#) and [Phonics play: How rhymes can help children's understanding of language - BBC Tiny Happy People](#) and [Tiny Happy People & Asda: Ideas for festive fun](#)

Online Safety

Please find attached a poster for the report/remove tool from Childline and the Internet Watch Foundation. It allows young people (or their parents/carers) to report sexual images and videos of themselves confidentially and then get it removed from the internet. You will find more details of the tool here [Report Remove | Childline](#)

Ospreys Residential - July 2025

A reminder that we have booked for Year 5/6 to visit Runways End in July 2025. The anticipated costs are approximately £350 and we will be asking for a deposit as soon as we have confirmed the transport costs. A reminder that, if finances provide the only barrier to your child attending, please do let us know as there are support funds that we can apply for on your behalf. Mrs Styles will hold an information session in the new year but further information on the centre and types of activities can be found at <https://www.hants.gov.uk/thingstodo/outdoorcentres/ourcentres/runwaysend>.

We have chosen the Challenge package and there are examples of the types of activities that fall into this package on the website. Our accommodation is the wooden pods. If you have any questions, please do contact myself or Mrs Styles.

Owls Ukulele concert

Owls performed a range of songs at their concert yesterday afternoon as a culmination to their term of ukulele lessons. They did extremely well and Mrs Godber, Mrs Turner and Mrs Angio all said how proud they were of their learning and how they conducted themselves during their performance. I know that ukuleles have featured of a few Christmas lists so hope that some of the children will take their learning on further.

Uniform

Please remember that there is second hand uniform available for 50p an item from the Friends if anyone is needing the next size up. The school also has some spare should this be difficult financially - please just let us know and we can look to see what sizes we have.

Year R 2025

Applications for children starting in Year R in September 2025 are now open and close on 15th January 2025. We have a series of open morning tours and bookings for these can be made via the School Office.

A. Corr

Ms Adrienne Corr
Headteacher

Key Dates Spring 1 2024-2025

These will be added to so please check the bottom of the newsletter regularly!

Thursday 12th December - Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day

Friday 13th December - Christmas Shop

Monday 16th December - Nativity (Yr R-2) @2:00pm

Tuesday 17th December - Christmas Fair (in houses - this is a pupil only event) 2pm-3pm

Wednesday 18th December - Nativity (YrR-2) @ 9:15am

Thursday 19th December - Christmas Carols (Yr3-6) @9:15am

Thursday 19th December - Friends Film Night

Friday 20th December - Whole School trip to the Pantomime

Friday 20th December - term ends at 3:15pm

Monday 6th January - Spring Term starts

Wednesday 5th February - School nurses in to measure Y6 height and weight, Year R autumn birthdays vision, height and weight. More information to follow.

Friday 14th February - Inset Day

Monday 17th February - Friday 21st February - Half Term

Monday 24th February - Inset Day

School Holidays dates can be found here: <https://www.hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning/schoolholidays>

INSET Days for 2025

Friday 14th February

Monday 24th February

Monday 30th June