

# HUISH EPISCOPI PRIMARY NEWS

Working with the church, parents/carers, PFA, RNAS & Tesco's community team!



## WISHING OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS!

### From the Head of School:

Our handsome Christmas tree in the hall heralded the start of our celebrations for the end of term. We are very much looking forward to our Nativity with Kingsmoor and Parrett and the whole school Carol Service next week. We hope as many parents, carers, grandparents and friends of the school can attend as possible showing support for the staff and children who have all worked so hard. Other events taking place next week include a whole school theatre visit, Christmas Lunch and the PFA Christmas Social and Santa's Grotto! We will Tweet as many photos as we are able as this is the last newsletter of this term.

We welcomed an important visitor to our school this week in the form of a Somerset County Council independent assessor. This was especially significant to us as it is the first external assessment of our school since Ofsted visited in February. I am very pleased to announce that the findings of the report were extremely positive and included the following comments:

- In the lessons seen, teachers and support staff conveyed high expectations of learning and behaviour. Pupils responded well to these high expectations.
- Pupils articulate what they are learning well.
- A feature of mathematics lessons is that activities are well matched to pupils' prior attainment.
- Interesting tasks are effectively organised as developing, secure and mastery.
- Pupils were engaged and highly productive.
- They took considerable care and pride in their presentation.
- Teachers have created a positive and welcoming climate for learning.
- Adults have established strong relationships with the pupils.

- Pupils show a keen interest in their learning and are very well engaged and focused on the activities provided.
- Pupils talk with enthusiasm about their learning and their experiences the school provides.
- The Head of School with her staff has made significant improvements to provision and the outcomes for pupils in the past eleven months.

As you can imagine, this is extremely good news for our community and reflects the highly skilled and tenacious staff team and supporters here in school as well as the commitment and support of parents and carers – thank you to you all.

Whilst we have a few more days before the end of term, I would like to wish you lots of family time over the break and to return to us safe and sound on Monday, 7 January 2019! (Mrs Doughty Davis)

**Governor News:** Due to increased commitments as a Trustee for the Levels Academy Trust, Mrs Lou Ward will be stepping down from the Huish Episcopi Primary School Local Governing Body (LGB). I am sure you will join me in thanking Lou for her commitment to our school as a governor and, since 2015, as Chair. Mr Colin Beesley will Chair the LGB from January 2019.

We will be sending out information to all parents and carers after Christmas as we are keen to recruit a Parent Governor to our LGB. Please speak to me either in person or by calling the school if you would like to ask any questions. It is really important that we have parents and carers on our LGB from our school to help shape the future for our children. (Mrs Doughty Davis)

**Staff News:** We are pleased to announce that **Mrs Alyssa Vogel-Lewis'** position as a Class Teacher is now permanent and we look forward to her continued contribution to our school community.

## School News

**After School Clubs:** Clubs will NOT run next week (w/c 17 December). However, **Breakfast Club** and **Busy Bees** will operate as normal.

**Nativity Play:** The Nativity Play takes place in the School Hall on **Wednesday, 19 December** starting at 6.00pm. The children need to be back in school at 5.30pm please.

**Carol Service:** As well as Christmas related activities in school, we will be holding our **Carol Service** in St Mary's Church, Huish Episcopi at 10.00am on **Friday, 21 December**. This will be a joyous event, involving all children, where we will be singing our hearts out. Everyone is welcome to this service. (Mrs Doughty Davis)

**'Book People' Book Fair:** Thank you so much for the fabulous support for the Book Fair. We are delighted to report that the school sold £503.00 worth of books meaning that we shall earn £125.00 commission (25%) to spend on additional books for the school library. (Miss Chadbourne)

**GingerFred Studios:** We are planning the theme for Isle and Northmoor's sessions with Lou Barrett, GingerFred Studios, in preparation for next term!

**Helicopter Visit:** Guess who came to see us last week? We were treated to a visit from some elf helpers from RNAS Yeovilton. They came to



collect our letters to Father Christmas. We hope they have a safe journey to the North Pole in their



**Christingle Service:** We had a fantastic start to Advent this year with a very successful Christingle Service plus workshops delivered across school by **Curate James Bell-Winfrow**. We would like to welcome Curate James to our school and we look forward to working with him and **Rev Jess Pitman** more frequently this academic



year. We would also like to thank the **Community Team at Tesco, Langport** in particular for providing the ingredients to make our Christingles - a fantastic example of the community working together!



**TESCO**

**The Children's Society:** After our Christingle Service, Curate James handed out some coin candle boxes for a collection in aid of the Children's Society. Please would you be able donate something towards such a great cause? The boxes will be collected on behalf of our church—all of your donations can be brought to the School Office after the Christmas break where Curate James will collect them in the second week of term (w/c 14 Jan). Your donations will help support children who are facing poverty, abuse and neglect. Thank you.

<https://www.childrensociety.org.uk/>

(Miss Walker)

**Thank You:** The school would like to thank Mrs Shipham (Freddie and Maisie's grandmother) for donating the Christmas tree in the School Hall to us. We should also like to thank the PFA for buying lovely wooden blank decorations for each child and member of staff to personalise before putting on the tree. (Mrs Doughty Davis)

## School Meals—Spring Term:

The deadline for returning your menu option sheets was yesterday. If your child is entitled to either Universal Free School Meals (KS1) or Free School Meals (all years) and you have not returned your form or the opt out slip, then option 1A will automatically be ordered for your child. Please contact the School Office as soon as possible with any amendments so we can reduce wasted food. All menu sheets are available on the school website under the Parents Tab/School Meals. Thank you.

## Class News

**Parrett Class News:** A big thank you to those parents who attended the Maths and Tapestry 'Learn with Us' session in Parrett Class - we love having you in to share our learning! Also thank you to those parents who have uploaded information about your child to add into their Learning Journal. In Parrett, we have started to add numbers together by grouping, drawing and, for some of us, writing number sentences! Our woodland topic is creating many questions about



what lives and survives in the woods as well as learning about different animals and their habitats. (Miss Walker)

Parrett Class learned a poem by heart and performed it beautifully to the rest of the school.



**Aller Class News:** Thank you to all the parents and carers who were able to make it to our Celebration Assembly and our 'Learn with Us' Maths session. We were so excited and proud to share all the work we have been learning with you. A big well done to the children who have increased their home learning especially their reading. It is really showing in your phonics and writing. (Mrs Vogel-Lewis)



**Sedgemoor Class News:** Thank you to all the parents who have been working with their children at home on reading, spelling and Maths. The Spelling Challenge testing on Friday was the best yet! So many children made a level or more, I cannot list them all here. However, a special mention to **Millie B**, who was successful in all Year 2 Levels in one go! Fantastic Millie. Please keep up with the practise at home over Christmas. Thank you very much. (Mrs Morgan)

**Northmoor Class News:** Northmoor have continued to work with mirrors this week, looking at how they reflect light and using them to solve tasks such as finding a toy and writing messages.

We have been learning to write diary entries and have each written an entry based around our focus book, "Mrs Noah's Pockets". This was quite tricky as we all wanted to write the whole story and we had to pick one day! However, it was fun to step into the shoes of Mr Noah or Mrs Noah!

Northmoor children were awarded so many Accelerated Reading certificates—they have been enjoying their reading so much this term. Well done!



In Maths, we have been learning methods to solve problems using multiplication and division. We are getting better at working out what the question is asking us to do but we have to read carefully to make sure we are using the correct operation.

The children have also been making model Earths. We have made two halves so that we can show the different layers of the Earth in 3D form. None of us really realised exactly what the Earth was made from but we have learnt what each of these layers are for and the purpose they serve. (Mrs Perry)

**Isle Class News:** On 10 December, Isle Class sung at the Carol Service Gathering for the Dementia Action Alliance Group in St Mary's Church. It was such a joy for some of the residents of Ashley and Portcullis Houses to be out and about amongst children. The Rev Jess Pitman sent the class the following message: "Just to say a HUGE THANK YOU to you and your class and staff. You may never know what a blessing that was for some of those residents, just to see your beautiful shining children and the gift of music you draw from them and to have that in church was perfect. Rather beautifully it will be long remembered by those whose lives are now marked by forgetting.....Bless you all, I know these things take time and effort to make come to pass



and appreciate that so very much on behalf of the Dementia Action Alliance."

(Mr Clements)



**Kingsmoor Class News:** This week we have been finishing all our topics: fractions in Maths and forces (air resistance) in Science. We have been copying up our instructions in Literacy and presenting them for display. In DT we designed, made and evaluated Christmas cookies and we have been practising for our Nativity Play! We





are so excited to perform next Wednesday with Parrett Class.

(Miss Chadbourne)



## Safeguarding News—Guide to Video Games:

With Christmas fast approaching, parents may be considering video games as gifts for their children. Making a decision about which games are most suitable can be difficult. To help, [www.askaboutgames.com](http://www.askaboutgames.com) have released a guide to the best family video games, organised by PEGI rating which can be found at: <http://www.askaboutgames.com/discover-2018s-amazing-video-games-for-your-family>

**Music Tuition:** **Champion Music** is thrilled to introduce their new music tutor, **Christopher Hutchings**, a talented musician and composer with 12 years' experience, who will be offering private instrumental tuition in the following instruments from January 2019: **violin, viola, piano, cello, oboe, saxophone, trumpet and cornet.** If you would like your child to have lessons, then please collect a registration form from the School Office and send back to Champion Music Group or alternatively you can apply online: [www.championmusicgroup.co.uk](http://www.championmusicgroup.co.uk). If you have any questions please email [championmusicgroup@hotmail.com](mailto:championmusicgroup@hotmail.com) or call 01458 762182. Thank you!

### SAFEGUARDING

Don't think  
"What if I'm wrong"  
Think...  
"What if I am right"

If you have any concerns about a pupil you should report this to a member of staff immediately.

If you feel a pupil is at risk or a subject of abuse you must contact the Designated Safeguarding Leads immediately.



**Designated Safeguarding Lead:**  
Mrs Tiffany Doughty Davis (photo R)

**Deputy DSL:**  
Mrs Joan Meredith (photo L)



**Safeguarding & Child Protection Governor:**  
Mrs Lou Ward

**School Admissions—For the attention of all parents/carers with a child due to start school in September 2019:** If your child is due to start school for the first time (born between 01/09/2014 and 31/08/2015), then it is very important you make a school place application on time. **Deadline for primary admissions: 15 January 2019.** To download the primary booklet for parents, to make an online application and for further information please visit our website [www.somerset.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.somerset.gov.uk/admissions) and choose the page 'Apply to Start School'. Please do not hesitate to contact School Admissions on **01823 355742** if you require any further information or would like to check whether an application for a particular child or children has been received. (School Admissions, County Hall)

**PFA News:** Rachel Jones (Chair), Marilyn Selwood (Vice-Chair), Lyndsay Hardwick (Treasurer) & Kirsty Lock (Secretary).

**Santa's Grotto:** In conjunction with Tesco, Langport all pupils will visit the Grotto during the afternoon of Thursday, 20 December.

**PFA Christmas Social:** Friday, 21 December; from **3.00pm** (not 2.30pm as previously advertised!); School Hall (please enter via top gate); Christmas Raffle & lots more!

**Bags 4 Help Collection:** We are having a Bags 4 Help clothing collection on **Tuesday, 15 January 2019.** Collection bags will go out in book bags the first week back after the Christmas Holidays.

**easyfundraising:** Raise free funds for the PFA with *easyfundraising* when buying your Christmas gifts online. Every time you shop, the PFA receive a small donation so please sign up and at <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/hepspf/>

**To join the PFA visit their FB page:** <https://www.facebook.com/groups/884897964932912/>

## Community Notices

**Early Years Community Hub:** We have been asked to ensure that all of our childminders are on a list for a newly formed Early Years Community Hub. **If you are a childminder for our children, please check with the School Office that you are on this list.**



Our new  
'keep fit'  
equipment  
on the  
playground  
is getting  
lots of use!



## Diary Dates: (Updates in red)

### Autumn Term 2018:

**Tuesday, 18 December:** 'The Selfish Giant'; Image Theatre; 8.30am.

**Wednesday, 19 December:** Nativity Play; Parrett & Kingsmoor Class pupils; 6.00pm; **ticket required.**

**Thursday, 20 December:** Christmas Lunch for all pupils; **PFA's Santa's Grotto; Mufti Day; PFA Social from 3.00pm.**

**Friday, 21 December:** Carol Service; St Mary's Church, Huish Episcopi; start 10.00am. Term Ends at 3.30pm.

### Spring Term 2019:

**Monday, 7 January 2019:** Term Starts.

**Thursday, 17 January:** Carymoor Environmental Trust visiting Aller & Northmoor; followed by 'reduce, reuse, recycle' assembly.

**Thursday, 24 January:** SATs Information Evening; Year 6 pupils & parents/carers; 5.00pm (tbc).

**Tuesday, 5 February:** Safer Internet Day

**Friday, 15 February:** INSET Day (no children in school)

**w/c 18 February:** Half Term.

**Thursday, 7 March:** World Book Day; dress up using the theme of 'Books Around the World'.

**Thursday, 4 April:** 'Together in Music & Song' Concert; Levels Academy Trust (Isle Class); McMillan Theatre, Bridgwater; 12.30pm-6.15pm.

**Friday, 5 April:** Easter Church Service; 2.00pm-3.00pm and Term Ends at 3.30pm.

### Summer Term 2019:

**Tuesday, 23 April:** Term Starts.

**Thursday, 2 May:** Tempest Photography; Class Photos; 9.00am.

**Monday, 6 May:** Bank Holiday

**Monday, 13 May:** SATs Week; Year 6 pupils.

**w/c 27 May:** Half Term.

**Friday, 21 June:** Levels Academy Trust Olympic Sports Day; Yeovil Athletics Arena.

**Monday, 8 July:** Bridgwater Singing Festival; McMillan Theatre; pm/evening.

**Thursday, 18 July:** School Sports Day; Huish Episcopi Primary Sports Field; time tbc.

**Friday, 19 July:** Year 6 Assembly (time tbc) and Term Ends.

### KS2 Swimming (Wednesdays) 2019:

**Spring Term 2019: Kingsmoor:** 16, 23, 30 Jan; 6, 13, 20, 27 Feb; 6, 13, 20, 27 Mar.

**Summer Term 2019: Isle:** 24 Apr; 1, 8, 15, 22 May; 5, 12, 19 26 Jun; 3 Jul.

**Next Issues of this Newsletter:** 18 Jan; 1 Feb; Thurs 14 Feb (as the Friday is an INSET); 8 Mar; 22 Mar; 5 Apr; 3 May; 17 May; 7 June; 20 June; w/c 24 June - special photographic edition of Olympic Sports Day; 5 July; 19 July.

### 'Learn with Us' Sessions:

All sessions will run from 9.00am-10.00am.

**Tues 15 Jan:** Isle; **Wed 30 Jan:** Northmoor;

**Tues 12 Feb:** Aller; **Tues 5 Mar:** Sedgemoor;

**Tues 19 Mar:** Parrett; **Tues 2 Apr:** Kingsmoor Year 6s.

## Sports Match Dates 2019:

### Spring Term 2019:

**Thursday, 17 January:** Cross Country Race; Huish Academy; 2.00pm-3.00pm.

**Tuesday, 5 February:** CPL Basketball Tournament; Huish Academy; 4.00pm-5.30pm.

**Tuesday, 26 February:** CLP Hockey Tournament; Huish Academy; 4.00pm-5.30pm.

**Thursday, 28 February:** Cross Country Race; Somerton Playing Fields; 4.00pm-5.30pm.

**Tuesday, 12 March:** CLP Tag Rugby Tournament; Years 5 & 6; Somerton RFC; 4.00pm-5.30pm.

**Thursday, 14 March:** Cross Country Race: Curry Mallet; 4.00pm-5.00pm.

**Tuesday, 19 March:** CLP Football/Netball Tournaments; Huish Academy; 2.00pm-3.00pm.

**Tuesday, 26 March:** CLP Tag Rugby Tournament; Years 3 & 4; Somerton RFC; 4.00pm-5.30pm.

## After School Clubs

Please note that clubs will **NOT** run next week (w/c 17 December). Only Breakfast Club and Busy Bees will operate as normal.

### Spring Term 2019

This is our draft timetable for next term and may change due to staffing arrangements. Letters will be sent out on the first day of next term. Clubs will be allocated on a first come, first served basis unless otherwise stated below.

**Mondays: Science Solution Squad (KS2); Book Worms (KS1); Kickboxing (KS2)** (please note small charge for belts, all other equipment provided) with Mr Odierno. (Those currently attending who would like to continue, will need to sign up again as well as those wishing to join.)

**Tuesday: Invasion Games/Multiskills (KS1); Booster Club** (by invitation only).

**Wednesdays: Hockey (KS2); Football (KS2).**

**Thursdays: Dramarama (KS2); Persistent Puzzlers (KS1); Tag Rugby (KS2)**

**Fridays: Code Breakers (KS2); Running (KS2)**

### Celebration Assemblies 2019:

(Fridays at 3.00pm; top gate opens at 2.50pm; parents/carers welcome.)

**11 Jan & 26 Apr:** Isle; **25 Jan & 10 May:** Sedgemoor;

**8 Feb & 24 May:** Parrett; **1 Mar & 7 June:** Kingsmoor;

**15 Mar & 28 June:** Northmoor; **29 Mar & 12 July:** Aller;

**19 July:** Yr 6 (time tbc).

### School Meals Menu

#### Weeks:

**Week 1:** w/c 7 Jan; 28 Jan; 25 Feb; 18 Mar. **Week 2:** w/c 14 Jan; 4 Feb; 4 Mar; 25 Mar. **Week 3:** w/c 17 Dec 2018; 21 Jan; 11 Feb; 11 Mar; 1 Apr.

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