



# Chilton Foliat Primary School Newsletter

January 29th 2020

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*'With thankfulness, courage and love, we strive to improve heart and mind'*

Jesus said, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst". John 4:13

Dear Parents and Carers

Brrrrr! Waking up this morning to a dusting of snow, or more, depending on where you live, suggests that a cold snap might be on its way. Even though the temperatures have dropped, the children wrapped up warmly, are still getting out to play. In preparation for any "snow" days, please see below the information you will need if we have to close the school in the event of adverse weather. We are hoping that if any snow does arrive, it will wait until the half-term break, and then we can all enjoy making snow sculptures and snow angels, without the worry of having to weigh up the health and safety pros and cons of closing the school (never an easy decision) and for all our families, having to make alternative child-care/work arrangements.

## **School Closure in event of adverse weather**

In the event of snow or treacherous driving conditions, the school may be forced to close or alter the daily routine, in which case the following communication arrangements will be put in place.

### **Full Day Closure**

The decision whether we will be able to keep the school open will be taken by **7.15am** and communicated:

- Via the school's website
- Via Parent Mail
- Via Heart FM Radio Station

Weather conditions will continue to be tracked throughout the day and further advice will be communicated via the school's website and Parent Mail.

### **Late Start**

Based on the ability of school staff to make a slightly later journey into work, a late start of **10.30 am** will be communicated as above by **7.15am**.

### **Closure during the school day**

In the event of snow or treacherous driving conditions forecast during the day to affect school pick up and early evening travel, the decision to close the school early will be taken by **1.30pm** and communicated as described above.

Understandably, it might not be possible to get back to school in time to collect your children early. We will enable parents and carers to collect other's children although the school **must** be notified in advance either by phone or email that these arrangements are being made.

Of course, the school will go to every effort to keep operating as normal in the event of snow or treacherous driving conditions, however for the health and safety of pupils, their parents and carers and all members of staff, a variety of factors need to be taken into account such as appropriate adult to children ratios, distance of travel for all members of staff and local conditions for all.



### Christingle Service

**Friday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2020, St Mary's Church, Chilton Foliat at 2.00pm**

Our annual Christingle Service will be taking place this Friday, 31<sup>st</sup> January 2020 at St Mary's Church, Chilton Foliat at 2.00pm. It will be a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the gift of Jesus to us as the light of the world and importantly to come together to pray for those who are less fortunate than we are. Whilst the roots of this celebration go back to 1747, when a German priest from Moravia introduced the practice to children using a candle and a red ribbon to encourage them to think about Jesus, it has evolved since then. The service became more popular in the UK, when in 1968, John Pensom of The Children's Society, adapted Christingle and introduced it to the Church of England. This involved children decorating an orange with a red ribbon, dried fruits, sweets and a candle to create a new visual representation of Christ, the light of the world, celebrated by the lighting of the Christingle candles. Children would bring a small donation and receive the Christingle candle in return.

Whilst taking the children down to church for this year's Christingle involves a little more organising, the significance of the service and the magical, spiritual and atmospheric impact of seeing all the candles lit in church will be worth the effort. **All are welcome to attend the service and if any parents are able to volunteer with escorting the children to church we would be very grateful.** Children can be collected from the church after the service or alternatively brought back to school when normal home-time arrangements will take place.



### HEADLICE!

Unfortunately we have had several reports of head lice. Could you all please check your child's hair regularly for head lice and treat immediately.

### Messy Church

**Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2020, Chilton Foliat Club House at 2.00pm**

We are delighted to confirm that the first Chilton Foliat Messy Church will take place on Saturday, Feb 8<sup>th</sup> at Chilton Foliat Community Clubhouse. The theme will be **LOVE** and we will be learning about 'Living Water' and the woman at the well. There are some brilliant activities planned for the children, including 'slime' and a food craft. The poster advertising the event is also attached. All are welcome, from the whole school community and beyond. Please spread the word.

### The Friends

With thanks to the Friends, the children enjoyed a private viewing of Peter Rabbit on Friday, hugely entertaining and a good refresher for when Peter Rabbit 2 comes out in March. We are also looking forward to our next Friends event: the school Valentines Disco on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2020 taking place between 5.30pm and 7.00pm. A poster is attached with all the details.

We are thrilled to announce that The Friends have been awarded £500 by West Berkshire Community Fund which will be used to transform and extend the Early Years garden and play area (outside Roe class) to provide a fun, safe and interactive learning environment. If you know of any talented green-fingered people who might be willing to volunteer to help with this project, please get in touch!

**Celebration Assembly – SIKA Class to lead  
Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2020, School Hall, at 2.40pm**

In keeping with the one of our dearly held school values, **LOVE**, there will be a special Celebration Assembly taking place on the last Friday of term, Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2020 and it will start at the slightly earlier time of 2.40pm. Revd. Sue will be working with members of SIKA class on the theme of Love and together they will be presenting a class Collective Worship.

**TD Dates for 2020/2021- Coming Soon**

Just to let you know we are looking TD dates for our next academic year. As always, the school upholds its Attendance Policy and has high expectations for attendance throughout the school year. Our whole school attendance for the year is currently **96%** and we would like to maintain and improve on this figure as the year progresses. Many thanks for your support.

**And finally...**

Thank you to all our children who represented to school so well at the Chilton Foliat Community Club House Service of Thanksgiving and Dedication. You sang beautifully, listened attentively in church and the Bishop was very impressed.



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

### **January 2020**

- 29th KS1 Swimming 2-3pm  
30th Mobile Library  
31st Christingle Service, St Mary's Church

### **February 2020**

- 4th Year 5/6 Netball Festival  
5th KS1 Swimming 2-3pm  
7th Year 5 Maths Challenge St Gabriel's  
7th Year 5/6 Tag Rugby  
8th Messy Church 2pm  
11th Year 5/6 Hockey Festival  
12th KS1 Swimming 2-3pm  
14th Sika Lead Celebration Assembly  
14th Valentine Disco and last day of term  
24th Return to school  
25th Pancake Lunch  
26th KS1 Swimming 2-3pm  
27th Mobile Library

### **March 2020**

- 1st Education Sunday at School  
10th School visit from the Dorset and Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service  
10th Scholastic Travelling Book Fair  
13th Marlborough Dance Festival Dress Rehearsal 1pm  
14th Marlborough Dance Festival Performance 12.00  
17th Inter-house KS2 Netball Tournament  
20th Roe Class Lead Celebration Assembly  
26th Mobile Library  
28th Messy Church

This term's Christian value is:

# **Courage**