

## Dear Parents and Carers

To kick start the Christmas fun and celebrations at Chilton Foliat a fabulous Christmas Fair was held at school on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December. The school choir sang some cheery Christmas songs and the hall and classrooms were packed with a variety of stalls, and fund-raising activities. We even had Tanni, the miniature Shetland pony making an appearance! A highlight of the Fair was the contribution made by our Santrapraneurs. This group of budding business minded children used a small investment (£5) to make items to sell at the fair and turn their initial investment into a profit. Together they raised an outstanding total of...£204! At Celebration Assembly the children's efforts were recognised and special certificates awarded. The school is grateful to our

[www.chiltonfoliatprimary.org.uk](http://www.chiltonfoliatprimary.org.uk)

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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

parent fund raising body, The Friends, for organising such a successful Christmas Fair and encouraging entrepreneurial skills for our children.

The Christmas festivities continued with our star performers in Roe and Fallow Class as they presented their nativity "Higgledy Piggledy". What a confident and polished performance and a lot of fun too!

Christmas at Chilton Foliat wouldn't be Christmas without our very special Christmas lunch. Throughout the year, Mrs Dobson and Mrs Ody have been raising money so that the lunch can be made extra special and the children enjoy not only a delicious meal with all the trimmings but a decked-out hall complete with poppers, bunting and party blowers. The food festivities would not be complete without a cracker and with thanks this year to **Kerridge Commercial Systems** for kindly sponsoring the Christmas crackers for all the children to enjoy.

As we entered the final week before the Christmas break, The Friends came back to school to organise Christmas Surprises for the children, so Mums, Dads, Aunties, Uncles or any other special person in your family, can expect an additional Chilton Foliat Father Christmas present on the special day. Finally and traditionally, we are looking forward to our Christmas church service at St Mary's, always an uplifting and joyful end to our term.

With thanks to the whole staff team for supporting all of these additional activities, whilst maintaining high standards of teaching and learning throughout the school.

On behalf of everybody at Chilton Foliat Primary School, we wish you a very happy and peaceful Christmas and a bright start to 2024.







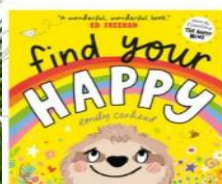
### Left over candles needed after Christmas – Help Ukraine Group Support

The timing couldn't be better. Help Ukraine Group Support (HUGS), in association with the Humanitarian Aid Partnership (SHAP), are organising a lorry delivery to Ukraine shortly after the Christmas holidays. If you have any leftover candles, whether Christmassy or not, please bring them into school at the beginning of term. A collection box will be found just outside the office door.

### Mental Health and Wellbeing

Christmas is a wonderful time of year for most people. It is a time to celebrate and spend time with family and friends. However, some people find Christmas a difficult time of year, especially if they have suffered bereavement. Here is a website to support adults and children alike: <https://www.mind.org.uk/information-support/tips-for-everyday-living/christmas-and-mental-health/christmas-and-mental-health/>

This week's book about Mental Health to share with your child:



#### Find Your Happy

Emily Coxhead  
Picturebook

Find Your Happy is a bright, welcoming book that is bound to get children talking about emotions. Despite being called 'find your happy', the book recognises that it is sometimes hard to feel happy all of the time and that every day can be different. It gives honest advice and easy ways to cheer yourself up that do not involve the more common methods that can sometimes be suggested (for example playing on electronics and playing games).

A variety of emotions are mentioned in this book, including anger, worry and shyness. Each emotion comes with small tips and tricks that any individual child could easily use in real life to help make themselves feel better and to also help them to embrace the emotion. In particular, the page about feeling sad and the encouragement given to talk to someone trusted is a particularly important one that could strike up many conversations and support children's emotional literacy.

The wording and designs of each page are colourful, engaging and fun, making the book easy to follow. The motif of a sloth animal running throughout each page is also a nice addition, adding subtle humour and sure to be a hit with children. It will no doubt leave readers with a heart-warming feeling inside and lots of great advice that they can use when understanding and dealing with different emotions.

### Book review Mila - Year 5

I chose this book because it is a really great story, one which will take you on a wild adventure across New York City. I discovered that instead of the thieves being bad, they were nice. I won't tell you why and spoil it for you. You will have to read the book to find out more! My favourite part was when a not so good person was stealing money and the "good" thieves caught him after a long and exhausting chase into a river. Of course, they all got very wet! I recommend this book to anyone who is interested in a story that makes you really think and encourages you to try and work out what is going to happen next. There are lots of different plot twists and surprises, especially the main character, who is not who he seems to be....!

5-star recommendation





### Clubs for next term

The clubs list has been circulated for next term and if you haven't already signed up to a club of your choice, there is still time. Lego club on a Friday afternoon has proved very popular and the children have used their time in a creative and values-based way, making models which represent thankfulness, courage and love.

And finally.....

As you know Mrs Cynthia Ody is hanging up her apron in the Chilton Foliat school kitchen for the final time at the end of term. This significant occasion was marked by an afternoon tea party on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December to which family, old friends, governors, parents and members of staff were invited. The children also made an appearance, coming to see Mrs Ody, class by class, to say a very special goodbye and leave her with hand made cards, and other gifts. As Mrs Ody leaves us after an incredible 31 years of dedicated service in the school kitchen, we want to express our deepest gratitude for the warmth, care and delicious meals she has provided to generations of pupils and staff. Mrs Ody's commitment and tireless efforts have made a lasting impact on so many and are a key and secret ingredient to the success of our school community. As Mrs Ody embarks on this new life chapter, we extend our heartfelt appreciation for the countless hours, creativity and love that have been poured into her work. Mrs Ody's legacy in the school kitchen will continue to be felt and the many fond memories cherished.

