



Chilton Foliat Primary School Newsletter

Monday 27th November 2023

<http://www.chiltonfoliatprimary.org.uk/welcome-to-chilton-foliat-primary-school/achievements>

www.chiltonfoliatprimary.org.uk
01488 682630

'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

When you hear the words, "if you are an angel stand on that side of the hall, if you are a donkey stand on the other side..." you know the time has come! Welcome to the Christmas season at Chilton Foliat Primary School 2023. To start the season off we have enjoyed the Pantomime, Jack and the Beanstalk. The hall was transformed into a magical world that transported the children into a countryside realm of laughter and wonder. Thank you to the Friends for supporting such an atmospheric, creative and immersive experience for our children. We are looking forward to the Christmas Fair on Friday and then more fun and sparkle to take us to the end of term and our Christmas Service on Wednesday 20th December.



The Christian Advent calendar also begins to count down from next Sunday, 3rd December and we will be sharing the significance of the four values, hope, peace, joy and love with the children. Advent is always a special time that Christians around the world celebrate in the weeks leading up to Christmas in preparation for the birth of Jesus. At this time when there is so much conflict around the world, Advent will enable us to pray for the values of hope, peace, joy and love which seem to be in such short supply.



The Friends

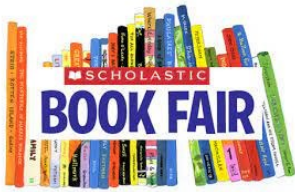
Christmas Fair – Friday 1st December 2023 – Doors open at 3.20pm

The Friends have been busy planning for the Christmas Fair which is taking place on Friday 1st December 2023. The plan is to keep as much of the Fair in the school buildings as possible and access to the Fair will be through our main entrance by the green gate. We hope that lots of volunteers have signed up to help and it isn't too late if you haven't. The door will be open at 3.20pm, straight after school and there will be lots to look forward to – please see poster attached.

Tea towels

Due to demand, we will be printing 50 more school tea towels which will be available to buy at the Christmas Fair on Friday 1st December.

Book Fair coming to Chilton Foliat – Tuesday 28th November to Monday 4th December 2023 – School Hall



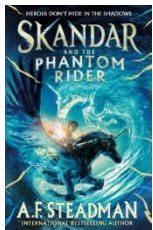
Get ready, our annual Book Fair is just around the corner, and it's going to be a celebration of stories, imagination, and knowledge. As part of our overall school reading offer we are delighted to bring the Scholastic Book Fair to school from Tuesday 28th November to Monday 4th December 2023.

Mrs Pinnegar and other members of staff will be supervising the Book Fair from 3.30pm until 4.00pm on each day and of course on Friday 1st December, the Book Fair will be open as part of the Christmas Fair.

Come along to find a diverse range of reading genres and topics and explore different types of literature to expand your reading skills. As well as increasing your own home library, your purchases will enable the school to obtain some free books for our library too!

See you there, bookworms! 📖👉

Book review by George Harrison - for ages 9years+



5-star award

I have enjoyed this book because it has a thrilling story line and the characters have very different perspectives. For example, one of the characters believes the reason the wild unicorns were killed was caused by the spirit element that has not been seen for a decade, whilst other characters believe an old enemy, has come to exact revenge. I have enjoyed the style this story was written in because it is told through two main characters, Skandar and his sister Kenna. A great recommendation to those of you who enjoy Harry Potter!

Mental Health and Well Being

As parents and carers, there are ways we can support our children to give them the best chance to stay mentally healthy. Encouraging and guiding a child to think about their own mental health and wellbeing are vital skills you can teach them from a young age. Find out how you can help a child to have good mental health, including knowing how to talk to a child about their mental health, and when to spot signs they might be struggling. Plus get self-care tips for you, to help you look after your mental health while caring for others, and find out how to get more support if you, your child or your family need it. Here is a website from our wonderful NHS to support us all:

<https://www.nhs.uk/every-mind-matters/supporting-others/childrens-mental-health/>



[Children's mental health - Every Mind Matters](https://www.nhs.uk/every-mind-matters/supporting-others/childrens-mental-health/)

See tips and advice for parents and carers on how to support children and young people's mental wellbeing, and give them the best chance to stay healthy.

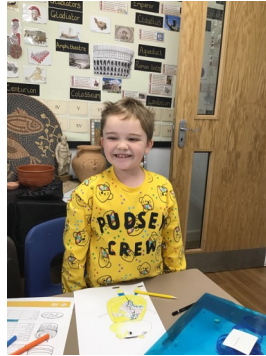
www.nhs.uk

Ruby's worry depicts a 'worry' with a yellow orb that appears next to Ruby one day and continues to grow when she ignores the shadow-like entity, simply hoping that the worry will disappear of its own accord. When she meets another child with their own 'worry' and asks them about their feelings, she realises how to rid herself of worries – she needs to talk about them. This book sparks meaningful discussions, supporting pupils to understand that 'it's okay to not be okay'. It teaches them about sharing their troubles rather than letting them spiral out of control.



Children in Need

What a brilliant day we had on Children in Need Day. As a result of all the fundraising activities organised by our School Council members, we raised £196.31 – a fantastic total. As well as wearing spots, creating posters and covering Pudsey with coins, we also shared information about the purpose of Children in Need Day and the reasons why money, across the United Kingdom is raised for such a worthy concern. Well done School Council for making the day so successful!



Fallow Class – Temporary Changes in Teaching and Learning Provision

I have some exciting news to share about a temporary change of staffing arrangements in Fallow Class. From the beginning of January to the end of March 2024, Mrs Jepson is taking a career break or to use another term, a sabbatical. A "once in a lifetime opportunity" has presented itself to Mrs Jepson to go travelling, her destination, Asia, and New Zealand. Whilst career breaks of this nature are not common, there is a process and policy that any Local Authority Maintained School can follow and both the school Board of Governors and I are fully supportive of Mrs Jepson's sabbatical request. Workplace well-being and flexible working are by now familiar terms in the workplace and a sabbatical is one way of offering such a staff benefit. In Mrs Jepson's temporary absence, the following teaching arrangements have been made. Mrs Lambert, who has been working with us since September, will teach in Fallow Class on a Thursday and Friday. She will be joined by Mrs Marchment who will teach on a Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Both Mrs Lambert and Mrs Marchment are extremely well regarded in the teaching profession and better still, they have worked together in a previous job-share arrangement in another school. When Mrs Jepson returns, refreshed and full of stories to tell, Mrs Lambert will continue to teach on the Thursday and Friday and Mrs Jepson, Monday to Wednesday. When the time comes, I hope you will all join me in wishing Mrs Jepson, Bon Voyage, welcome Mrs Marchment to Chilton Foliat Primary School and support Mrs Lambert who will be the teacher linchpin between the two sets of teaching arrangements.

Attendance and winter illness

It is the time for coughs and colds, and we understand our parents concerns as to whether to send their children into school. The DfE advice remains the same and they say: *"It is usually appropriate for parents and carers to send their children to school with mild respiratory illnesses. This would include general cold symptoms: a minor cough, runny nose or sore throat. However, children should not be sent to school if they have a temperature of 38°C or above."*

They also make available a useful link with further information:

[NHS 'Is my child too ill for school?' guidance](#)

Fortunately, the nurses have visited the school and carried out immunisation sessions and we thank all our parents who have facilitated this. These sorts of programmes will help to reduce absences and the learning disruption they cause. Whilst we understand the need for children to stay at home if they are unwell, it is also extremely important that we maintain as high as possible attendance rates across the school.

Online Safety



While many games and social media apps are designed for children 13+, primary school-aged children are still active online. That's why it's important to give them the skills they need to make safe choices with quality primary school resources.

From cyberbullying to thinking critically about the online information they read, there are a number of websites which have a variety of primary school resources to help teach children about safe online use. Here are just three:

www.internetmatters.org.uk

www.swiggle.org.uk

www.childnet.com

Using our Car Park Responsibly and Parking on the Road

As we head into the winter months when oftentimes visibility for car drivers is limited, I would like to remind you of what the school's expectations are for using our valuable car park. Please make sure you enter the car park at a "dead slow" speed of no more than 5 miles per hour, whatever time you come to school. Whether you are dropping off at Breakfast Club or picking up from After School Club, or coming to school at any other time, you must modify your speed and be aware that at any time a child or adult may be walking to or from their car.

Please do not park on the side of the road. Parking on the road causes an increased level of hazard, not only for car users on Stag Hill but pedestrians walking along the pavement. We are very lucky to be gifted the use of our car park and I am sure we can count on your continued and careful support.

Sharing personal data

We have been approached by some parents asking for names of children in classes so that Christmas cards can be written. Whilst this is a thoughtful and kind activity for all our children to wish their friends a very Happy Christmas, the school is not able to share any personal data due to Data Protection Regulations. We are also not able to share personal data for birthday invites or similar purposes. We fully understand that for our younger children, this will make the writing of cards more difficult, and we hope that parents of those children will be able to obtain the information perhaps directly from other parents. We are sorry not to be able to be of any more help with this matter.

Our Christmas postbox will be open from Monday 4th December.



Dates for the Diary 2023

28th November - 1st December

Friday 1st December

7th - 9th December

Friday 8th December

Wednesday 13th December

Thursday 14th December

Monday 18th December

Wednesday 20th December

Thursday 4th January

Scholastic book Fair in School

Christmas Fair 3.30pm - 5.30pm

Chilton Foliat Village Pantomime

Friends Coffee Morning 09.00am - 10.30am

KS1 Nativity Matinee 2.00pm

KS1 Nativity Evening Production 6.00pm

Christmas Lunch - non uniform Christmas jumper

Donations for Christmas Surprises Room

Christmas Surprises Room

Church Service 2.00pm St Marys and Term 2 ends

NO After School Club

Term 3 begins

Sika Trip to see The Nutcracker

This terms Christian Value is:

Thankfulness