



Dear Parents and Carers

Thank you to everyone who responded to the Ofsted Parent view questionnaire yesterday at very short notice. The high response rate was quite overwhelming! We are not allowed to report the findings of the inspection until it has been checked and verified by Ofsted which will be in the next 18 days and then reported to parents within 30 days from the inspection date, so you will receive the outcome before the Christmas break. We are looking forward to sharing the short report with you from the one day inspection.



Thank you to those of you who joined us on Monday for our Service of Remembrance for the fallen from Durley in World War I and II and 2 minute silence. I was very impressed with how respectfully our children listened and took part. Thank you also to our Year 6 children who led the service, the musicians, Commander May for reading the Naval Prayer and to Chris Davidson who added atmosphere to the occasions on the bagpipes. Please take a few moments to look at the wonderful display of poppies in the Memorial garden opposite the school.

Children in Need

Many thanks to all of you for sending in coins for our line of coins around the school. We are always amazed at how many of you are so generous and still have coins in these contactless times!



School Council

We are very grateful to all of the children across the school who put themselves forward to stand on the school council this year. Their focus is to be working towards the Eco-Schools Green Flag Award by the end of the school year. The new team have already met and shared their many ideas with their classes. Each class now has light monitors to ensure the lights are switched off when they leave the room, they have set up a poster competition promoting being more eco-friendly within the school, and they want to plant spring bulbs and start a compost bin.

They would like to hold a cake sale on **Thursday 21 November at 3:30pm** on the school playground or in the hall (weather dependent) to **buy spring bulbs** for planting around the school. I know the team would be very grateful to be supported with cakes to sell and please come along and spend.

Christmas Fayre 7 December 3:00pm-5:00pm

A reminder that the DSA are hard at work behind the scenes in preparation for the School Christmas Fayre. They have collected some amazing prizes for the prize draw. Tickets will be coming to you very soon. We also have 2 non-uniform days on the **29 November and 4 December**.

Kind Regards

Kirstie Baines

Kirstie Baines – Headteacher

IN-SERVICE TRAINING DAYS (School Closures) for academic year 2024-2025

Friday 20 December 2024

Monday 2 June 2025

Monday 21 July 2025

Tuesday 22 July 2025

Diary Dates for the 2024-2025 school year – all dates can be subject to change. All changes and new dates in the diary will appear in red.

Autumn Term 2024

28 October – 1 November

Thursday 14 November

Friday 15 November

Saturday 16 November

Sunday 17 November

Monday 18 November

Thursday 21 November

Thursday 21 November

Sunday 24 November

Friday 29 November

Monday 2 December

Wednesday 4 December

Saturday 7 December

Wednesday 11 December

Thursday 12 December

Thursday 12 December

Friday 13 December

16-19 December

13-15 December

Autumn HALF TERM

Children in Need Line of coins and 3:30pm-5:30pm Film night

Year 3&4 Final swimming session

9:30 Y6 Height and Weight check

Basketball club and Year 6 visit Kestrals match in Southampton

4:30pm meet at school. 8:30pm return

3:00pm Music Concert in Botley Church

Blue & Yellow class mobile planetarium in the school hall

Photographer in school (portraits)

3:30pm School Council Cake Sale for purchase of bulbs to plant.

9:30am Stir up Sunday cake making. Church in school

Non uniform day for sweet tombola for DSA Christmas Fayre

School Christmas Post Box open

Non uniform day – bottle tombola

3:00pm-5:00pm DSA Christmas Fayre

9:20am Blue and Yellow Class Nativity

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3:00pm Year 1 and 2 Ukulele Music concert – parents/carers invited

am KS2 church rehearsal

NO after school activity clubs this week.

Church Crib Festival – all invited to visit the church over the

Tuesday 17 December	weekend pm Class Christmas parties
Wednesday 18 December	Christmas lunch and Christmas Jumper Day for a charitable donation to Save the Children UK
Thursday 19 December	1:30pm Carol Service in Holy Cross Church School ends at 3:30pm. No after school child care club.

Spring Term 2025

Monday 6 January	8:45am start of the Spring Term
Thursday 9 January	3:35pm SAT's meeting for Year 6 parents and their children in Green class.
Monday 13 January	pm NSPCC workshops for children in Years 2, 5 and 6
Monday 20 January	Visit from Fire Brigade for children in Years 1 and 5
Thursday 30 January	pm Red and Green class visit to children's concert in Central Hall, Southampton
Friday 31 January	1:30pm Whole school Christingle Service in Durley Church. Parents welcome to join us.
Tuesday 11 February	Safer Internet Day

17-21 February

Spring HALF TERM

Tuesday 25 February	3:00pm-6:00pm Parent's Evening
Thursday 27 February	4:00pm-7:00pm Parent's Evening
Thursday 6 March	World Book Day
Thursday 6 March	5:30-6:30 Family Reading Night
Thursday 13 March	Y5/6 vocal festival in Thornden Hall
Friday 14 March	6:30-8:00pm KS2 outside disco
Thursday 20 March	5:00pm-6:15pm EYFS/KS1 Disco
Monday 24 March	2:30pm Music concert for KS2 pupils who have peripatetic music lessons
Friday 4 April	1:30pm Easter service in Holy Cross Church School ends at 3:30pm. No after school child care or clubs

7 April – 21 April

Easter Holiday

Summer Term 2025

Tuesday 22 April	8:45am start of the Summer Term
22nd April - 9th May	Please complete the form to let us know you want to enter a bear into the Bear Hunt
Monday 5 May	School closed for Bank Holiday
12-15 May	Y6 SAT's testing week
Thursday 15 May	Y6 end of SAT's picnic and rounders
Monday 19 May	Whole school class photos
Friday 23 May	School Grounds morning
24th May - 21st June	The Bear Hunt is open! Best of luck finding all of the bears.

26-30 May

Summer HALF TERM

Monday 2 June	In-Service training day for staff. SCHOOL CLOSED
Thursday 12 June	7:30-8:30 New Parents meeting
Wednesday 18 June	1:30pm Whole School Sports Day (parents and carers welcome)
Saturday 22 June	Holy Cross Church Summer Fete
Friday 27 June	Non uniform day – sweets for sweet tombola
Monday 30 June	2:30pm - Music concert for KS2 pupils who have peripatetic music lessons
Tuesday 1 July	Wyvern Transition Day for new intake – Children make their own way to Wyvern.
Wednesday 2 July	Non Uniform day – bottles for bottle stall
Thursday 3 July	Family Reading Night
Saturday 5 July	3:00-5:00pm School Summer Fayre
Tuesday 8 July	1:30pm KS2 School Play
9 and 10 July	6:00pm KS2 School Play
Thursday 10 July	Annual Reports to parents
Friday 11 July	Y6 to Portsmouth cathedral for morning workshops and afternoon leavers service.
Friday 18 July	Final day of term. 1:30pm Leavers' service in Holy Cross Church (no after school childcare club)

Monday 21 July and Tuesday 22 July School closed for staff training