



St John the Baptist C of E (Aided) Primary School

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Newsletter No. 13 – Friday, 12th December 2025

Dear Families

What a week! We started our week on Sunday with our School Choir singing Christmas carols at the village 'Lights Switch On' and I don't think we have stopped since.

What a magical time of year. Our Reception and Key Stage 1 children did a brilliant job of performing their nativity – Lights, Camera, Action! Considering the ages of these children, they were amazing with their performances, dances and singing and they did all of this without a microphone.

On Thursday, our Elfridges event took place and this was extremely successful. We had great support from our PTA and parent volunteers. Our Year 6 children helped with buying, labelling and wrapping and they did a super job. It was lovely to see everyone working together as a team which really is what we are all about. Thank you to our PTA, volunteers, Year 6 children and Mrs Bush for helping to make this a successful Christmas event.

We are in for another busy week next week, so please do read through the newsletter to see what is going on.

This will be the final newsletter of the year and I would like to take this opportunity to thank my staff, parents and governors for all of your support and hard work this term to give our children the best opportunities and outcomes. It is, as always, a privilege to work alongside you all.

As we look ahead to Christmas and the New Year, let us think about the message of peace and goodwill that Jesus brings as his light shines as a beacon of hope in a world that often feels uncertain.

I wish every family all the best and may your holidays be filled with joy, rest and moments of togetherness.

Wishing you a blessed Christmas and a joyful New Year.

Jane Sharrock

CHRISTMAS SINGING

A big thank you to all the children and families who supported the Findon Christmas lights and walking nativity this week. What a well supported event by our children and families. The singing was amazing! There was so much energy, enthusiasm and big smiley faces. We have received some lovely comments from people within the village about how wonderful our children are.

IMPORTANT - KS2 CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Children will need a brightly coloured plain t-shirt to wear at their Christmas concerts next week. No pictures or big logos please. They will need their t-shirt for Wednesday and Thursday. Thank you.



CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

We thought you would like to see the message from the organisers of the Christmas Tree Festival! Didn't our children do well!

Firstly, thank you all so much for taking part in this year's Christmas Tree Festival. The Church looked wonderful and all your trees were amazing. The thought and creativity that went into them all really impressed us and the 1066 visitors we welcomed to the church over the course of the 2 days. The weather outside may have been frightful but thanks to you and all your trees, inside the church was delightful.

We had a record number of 26 trees and we were thrilled this year to have 6 trees from the younger members of the community - schools, church or youth groups. So hard for the public to choose a winner!! With this in mind the committee have decided that this year, as well as there being an overall winner receiving a £50 donation to the charity of their choice, there will also a £25 donation to a charity on behalf of the highest voted children's tree.

Drum roll please the winners of the 2025 St John the Baptist Christmas Tree Festival are as follows:

First place - Findon Wild Flower Group

Second place - St John the Baptist C of E Primary School, Findon (so highest place children's tree)

Third place - The Cinammon Trust

*Thank you again Gill, Adrian, Ian and Graham
Findon Church Christmas Tree Festival Committee*



CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE



We would love you to join us in celebrating this special time of year at our school Christmas Service on Tuesday, 16th December at 9am. Rowan and Redwood will be leading the service.

CLUBS – SPRING TERM

By the end of next week, we will have finalised afterschool clubs for the Spring term and will be sending out club letters when we return to school on Tuesday, 6th January.

REMINDER - ARUNDEL CATHEDRAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT – SATURDAY, 13TH DECEMBER

There will be a 1pm rehearsal in the afternoon which will finish at 2:30pm, with the Arundel Choral Society joining us at 2pm to rehearse the joint carol and the congregational carols. The children have been asked to arrive at the Cathedral **by 12:45pm** to ensure a prompt start. The children should then arrive back at the Cathedral by 4:45pm dressed in their school uniform. The Service will then start at 5pm and will finish at 6pm. **Please note that children are not required to wear their school uniform during the rehearsal.**

REMINDER - CHRISTMAS PARTY DONATION

Next Friday, 19th December, you will not need to provide your child with a packed lunch or order a school meal. Instead, **please send in a £2.50 donation** as soon as possible, so we can buy the party food, which will be shared with everyone. We are aware of identified children who have a Health Care Plan for dietary needs and we will facilitate this accordingly. The PTA have kindly agreed to providing our paper plates, table cloths and crackers.



RECENT CORRESPONDENCE – Please speak to the office if you require copies of recent correspondence.

- REDWOOD – Cooking contribution for Spring term

DIARY DATES FOR 2025-2026

Over the weeks, we will add **new dates/events in red**, so please make sure that you regularly check this list and update your diaries.

DECEMBER

Sat 13 December	Christmas Carol Concert Arundel Cathedral
Tues 16 December	School Carol Service (9am) – all welcome
Wed 17 December	Rowan and Redwood Christmas Concert (9.15am) Last Makers Club
Thurs 18 December	Rowan and Redwood Christmas Concert (2.15pm)
Fri 19 December	Whole school Christmas party lunch – Chartwells meals cancelled Last day of term

JANUARY 2026 - SPRING TERM

Mon 5 January	INSET day
Tues 6 January	Back to school
Fri 9 January	Chelsea FC Club starts
Mon 12 January	Choir Club starts Y2-Y6 Wannado Streetdance Club starts
Tues 13 January	Residential meeting for Redwood parents (2.30pm) Boys' Vocal Club Y2 – Y6 starts
Wed 14 January	Rowan and Redwood Stone Age day

FEBRUARY

Mon 9 February	Y1 & Y2 Rainbow Theatre (pm) – details to follow
Fri 13 February	End of half term
w/c 16 February	Half-term holiday
Sun 22 February	World Thinking Day
Mon 23 February	Back to school

MARCH

Tues 3 March

Parent consultations (3.30 – 6.30pm)

Wed 4 March

Parent consultations (3.30 – 5.30pm)

Thurs 5 March

World Book Day

Mon 16 March

Last Choir Club for Spring term

Tues 17 March

Last Boys' Vocal for Spring term

Thurs 19 March

Easter Service – Rowan leading (9am)

Fri 20 March

Easter Bonnet Parade (9am) – details to follow

Last Chelsea Football Club for Spring term

w/c 23 March

Y5 & Y6 Residential Trip

Fri 27 March

End of term

APRIL – SUMMER TERM

Mon 13 April

INSET day

Tues 14 April

Back to school

Wed 29 April

Redwood class assembly (2.45pm)

MAY

Mon 4 May

BANK HOLIDAY – school closed

Tues 5 May

Back to school

Thurs 7 May

Reception assembly – families welcome (2.45pm)

Sat 16 May

Fri 22 May

End of half-term

w/c 25 May

Half-term holiday

JUNE

Mon 1 June

INSET day

Tues 2 June

Back to school

Wed 17 June

Y1 & Y2 assembly – families welcome (2.45pm)

Wed 24 June

Y6 Leavers' Service at Chichester Cathedral (1.30pm) – details to follow

Fri 26 June

Astracolour class photos

JULY

Tues 21 July

Last day of summer term

Wed 22 July

INSET day