

Reminder: Have a very Merry Christmas and we will see you back in school on Wednesday 4th January

What's on Week beginning 2nd January

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Public Holiday	Staff Development Day	Spring Term Starts		Celebration Assembly 2.40

Christmas Wishes

This term has been a very successful one for our schools and our academy, with good progress being made towards achieving many of our school targets, such as consolidating new national assessment arrangements, extending the development of our 'E-Schools' 'Virtual Learning Environment', as well as the development of common policies across the trust which will result in us increasingly being able to work and support each other to an even greater extent.

Our pupils continue to make us proud for not only their 'outstanding' behaviour, but their hard work and incredible enthusiasm, which was so evident in our recent Christmas performances. The children's acting and singing were a delight to see and the children were so pleased to see record numbers of parents attending.

This term has also seen us reaching out to our communities across our trust. Our children have visited all manner of exciting places, have sung to the elderly, invited in Grandparents for lunch and taken part in 'enterprise projects' and worked with their 'adopted charity of the year'. We have been hugely impressed by our children's enthusiasm to welcome visitors, participate and 'get involved'.

Our teachers and teaching assistants deserve our recognition and our gratitude this term. The new 'national expectations' of what children in primary schools 'must achieve' places them under significant pressure to ensure children achieve the new standards. Simply 'changing the goal posts' has not instantly raised levels of attainment, and our staff at all levels, who already give their all, have worked hard to meet new standards, whilst also doing their best not to place unacceptable pressures on our children. My incredibly dedicated colleagues make me proud on a daily basis, and I remain eternally grateful for their amazing professionalism and hard work.

I also wish to recognise and thank the contribution of our Governors, Midday Supervisors, office, catering and volunteer teams, all of whom have ensured our schools have operated efficiently and to the highest of standards.

In this our last newsletter of the calendar year, may I wish you, on behalf of the children, staff and Governors, a very Happy Christmas and relaxing and prosperous New Year.

Mr May
Director of Education



Straw and Order

All photographs can be purchased for £3 per A4 colour copy. Please see the school office for one.

Spot Light on Excellence...

What a performance!

This weeks spotlight has well and truly been shining on the children of Dordon.

The Christmas performance of 'Straw and Order' was amazing. The children spoke clearly and the singing was beautiful! The stars of the future have been born. A huge thank you to Miss Griffiths and all the staff for working tirelessly to ensure its success.

On Monday, the Christmas choir performed for the residents of Linden Lodge. They sang a repertoire of festive tunes beautifully.

On Thursday, the whole school went to church. The singing sounded beautiful as it resonated in St Leonards Church. It is always feels special hearing children singing in church at Christmas.

The children have made me proud so many times this term and I know this will continue into 2017. May you all have a peaceful Christmas and we look forward to seeing you in the new year.

Mrs Cross



IPad App of the week

A Wiggly Nativity by
ThirstyWork (£2.99)



This unique app is based on one of the UK's favourite nativity shows, 'A Wiggly Nativity', by Peter Fardell. The Christmas story is told by children, with lots of songs to sing along to, cute illustrations by Matilda Tristram, games to play and much more.

Charity Update

The School Council have chosen Cancer Research UK as this years sponsored charity.



Online School Uniform Shop



Our online Uniform Shop is open for business! To purchase; Jumpers, Cardigans, Book bags and PE bags go onto the school website and click on the link 'Parent Pay Uniform Shop'.

What do our school's mean when we talk about British Values?

The definition of 'British values' is set out in the Government 'Prevent' strategy, and we reinforce these regularly.

What does this look like in school?

The values are reflected throughout our school, including in our ethos, policies and assemblies.

Children also engage with the values through the curriculum, in ways that are suitable for their age and context. For example, in some subjects there are opportunities to think about traditions from different cultures and religions.

Extra-curricular activities such as games teach children about the importance of rules. Pupil votes, questionnaires and councils are other ways that children can have their voices heard and learn about democracy.

Our duty to actively promote fundamental British values means that we always present political views to children in a balanced way. We are also responsible for challenging prejudiced or extreme opinions and behaviour. As part of this responsibility, we have put measures in place to protect children from exposure to extremist views. Please feel free to contact the school if you would like more information about this.

Keeping our parents up to date with 'Social Networking'

Emotional implications

It's worth considering how your child may be impacted emotionally by frequent usage of social networking sites. Some experts have warned that sites such as Facebook can have a negative effect on children who are less confident and self-assured, as they can equate their happiness and success as individuals with how many friends they have on Facebook. Even if a child isn't being bullied as such, they can experience self-esteem issues if their online network isn't as big as their friends, or they have been excluded from a certain online group.

There are also concerns that young people are substituting their online relationships for physical ones, by spending more time in front of the computer than they do in the real world. And by not having to work at friendships, ironing out problems together when they arise - as is the case in the real world (on social networking sites you simply delete someone from your list of friends) - there is a worry that young people are losing their empathy and not developing the social and emotional skills necessary they'll need as adults.

Our vision is to provide children with Rich Opportunities, Memorable Experiences'

Dates for your Diary

Academic Year 2016-2017

03/01/17 - Staff Development Day
04/01/17 - Spring Term Starts
30/01/17 - Young Voices Concert
20/02/17 - 24/02/17 - Half Term
15/03/17 - Parents Evening
16/03/17 - Parents Evening
07/04/17 - Spring Term ends

24/04/17 - Staff Development Day
25/04/17 - Summer Term starts
08/05/17 - SAT's Week
29/05/17 - 02/06/17 - Half Term
09/06/17 - 12/06/17 - Manor Adventure
21/07/17 - Term ends school finishes at 1pm

These dates may be subject to change if necessary. Details and times to be confirmed nearer each event.

Last weeks Postcards Home

Peacock = Elliott A

Kingfisher = Ethan

Swan = Billy

Owl = Gemma

Swift = Ria

Hawk = Molly

Falcon = Owen

Attendance

	Last Week	Year
Peacock	97.6%	97.1%
Kingfisher	92%	96.3%
Swan	97%	95.8%
Owl	92.6%	97.3%
Swift	94.3%	95.7%
Hawk	98.5%	96.6%
Falcon	96.3%	96.6%

Peacock

On Friday Peacock class visited St Leonard's Church in Dordon.

"We took a Christmas Tree to the church." Elliott A

"We put decorations on our tree. All of Peacock class were the angels on the tree." William

"There were lots of crosses at the church." Amelia

"We saw the advent candles. The white candle is for Baby Jesus." Elliot L

"Baby Jesus was in the stable." Amanda

"There was a chicken, a donkey and a camel in the stable." Rosie



This Term's 100% Attendance Stars

Peacock - Elliott A, Amelia, Mollie, Edward, Michael, Elliot L, Amanda and Charlie.

Kingfisher - Alfie, Summer, Tyler C, Katrina, Joseph, Maisy, Lucy-Mae, Mason, Tallulah-Boo, Jack and Oliver.

Swan - Miya, Sophie F, Sophie H, Minnie, Harvey, Luke, Reese, Kenzie, Billy and Ryan.

Owl - Olly, Iris, Kristina, Bethany, Honey, Finley, Caitlin, Kaiden, Thomas, Jade, Maisie, Joshua, Ethan and Roshan

Swift - Daniel, Ruby, Clark, Natalia, Ella, Monica, Oliver, Holly, Jacob, Kacper, Emily, Elliott, Kyle and Rani

Hawk - Emily, Dylan, Thomas, Alex, Isabel, Nevaeh, Ellie, Matthew, Ellis, Oliver and Jake.

Falcon - Phoebe, Jessica, Isabelle M, Jay, Isabel N, Lori, Preston, Owen, Kai, Caelan, Thomas and Harley



@Dordon Primary

Weekly Safety Question

Each week we ask the children a quick 'outside of school' safety question in assembly on Friday. We would be grateful if parents could help us at home by giving the same message. This week:

'When you go shopping for presents, how do you keep your money and phone safe?'



www.ocado.com/careers



Making business flow

CEVA Logistics, Volkswagen Distribution Centre
Birch Coppice Business Park, Dordon, Tamworth, B78 1SZ
Tel: 01827 891100

www.cevalogistics.com



Jack & Jill Preschool Before and After School Club

Breakfast Club 7.45-8.35am.

After School Club 3.00-5.30pm.

Monday - Friday, term time only.

For more information please

contact Jack & Jill Preschool on

01827 899551

(Please note that once a session has been booked you will be charged even if your child does not arrive.)