



16: November 2023

It has been a challenging couple of weeks for us with a very high level of staff absence. We have had nine members of staff off in the last couple of weeks and I am very grateful to the remaining staff for pulling together and plugging all the gaps, even when they didn't feel great themselves. On top of managing the day to day, they all pitched in to support with the Christmas fair too, which I hope you all enjoyed. We hope to have the whole team back together and fighting fit for the new year!

As the weather gets wetter, another reminder that children can wear old trousers/joggers and bring a pair of wellies or old trainers to change into on their Forest School Days.



They **will** get muddy, so best to be prepared!

NEED A SPACE FOR SEPTEMBER 2024?

Following two very successful open mornings, from which we received a huge amount of positive feedback, we have already received a great many first choice applications for our 30 places next September. If you have a younger child who will need a place in Sept 2024, please don't miss the application deadline, as we don't want to have to turn our existing families away!

'Tis the Season to be Snotty!

It is definitely that time of year and we are going through a lot of tissues at the moment, so would be very grateful to any parents who could pop an extra box or two in their trolley this week to



donate to school! (not travel tissues please as the children can't get them out of the packet quickly enough and then...yuk! Please pass donations directly to the class or to the office. Thank you.

Attendance Counts

The government are now 'cracking down' on school attendance and have issued new guidance to schools designed to improve school attendance. Most appointments for doctors or dentists can be made outside of the school day and we would encourage you to schedule these after school or during holiday periods. For unavoidable appointments during the school day, we will now need to see **evidence** of the appointment – a text or letter from your consultant/surgery. For more information from the government about expectations for attendance, follow the links below:

<https://educationhub.blog.gov.uk/2022/09/02/back-to-school-week-everything-you-need-to-know-about-school-attendance/>
<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>



KEY STAGE 2 CAROL SERVICE

Tune up your vocal chords and come and join us for some **Christmas singing** in our KS2 Christmas service at **1.30pm on Friday 8th December**.

We are not intending to take KS1 children along on this occasion. However, if parents would like to **collect KS1 children to take with them** to the service, please let us know in advance and we will support with this. Please note that you would then be wholly responsible for your KS1 child.

The church has offered to serve refreshments after the service. Parents are then able to take their children **straight home from the church** by *signing them out* with the teacher. Any children still there with us at the end of the service will be walked back to school for collection in the usual way. Please ask if you require any clarification.

Multiply



THANK YOU to all those families who came along to our Maths games event! It was lovely to see you all having fun with your children. My apologies for the mix up in what the free gifts were, but I hope you found your stationery useful anyway! Watch out for more MULTIPLY Maths events here at school!



DANCE WORKSHOPS

We are delighted to have two dance degree students from Trinity Laban University coming to run some dance workshops for us during the week beginning 11th December! All of the children will have a workshop. They have also offered a **'Parent and Child' Dance experience** straight after school on the **Wednesday!** Please do support them by coming along to join in!

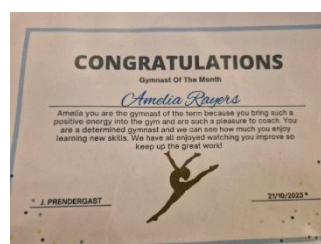


Our Year 5 and Year 4 children had a wonderful time in a series of workshops arranged to teach them how to play the ukulele! We hope some of them will continue to learn going forward!



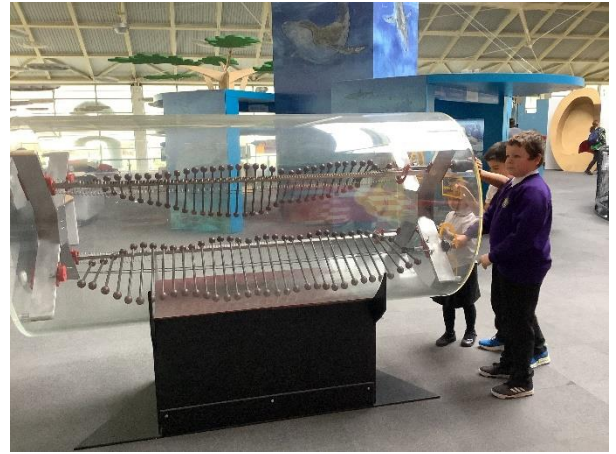
Letting her light shine!

Our congratulations to Amelia who achieved Gymnast of the Month last month with Aspire Gymnastics for the positive energy she brings to the gym and the determination she shows for learning new skills. How lovely! Amelia was quite rightly very proud of her gold medal and the recognition she received. Well done!





Year 5 School Trip to Winchester Science Centre



Year 5 enjoyed an amazing trip to Winchester Science Centre where they travelled around the Solar System, even visiting the Milky Way, in the planetarium and learned about light in space in a workshop. The class were so excited and had a wonderful time! They also had the opportunity to try out all the Science experiments at the centre, which were brilliant!



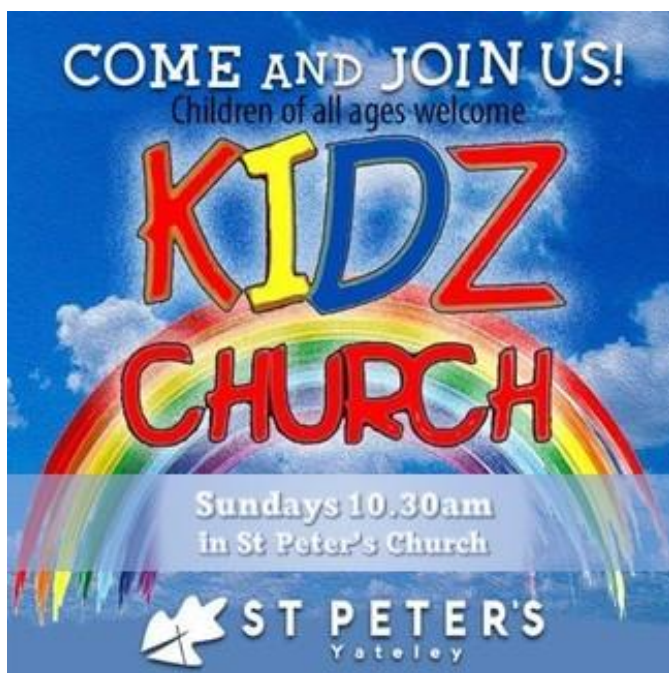
It was lovely to see Thomas and Daniel representing our school at the recent Christingle Service at Yateley Manor School. Thank you to all those families who attended.

Christmas Fair Triumph!



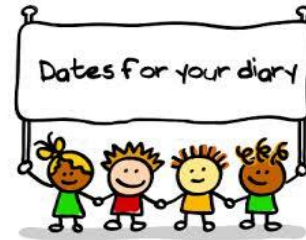
Our first Christmas Fair was an absolute triumph thanks to all the hard work of the volunteers who pulled it all together. My **sincere thanks to all**

those who pitched in throughout the day, or by manning a stall in the afternoon. We couldn't have done it without you! A particular **thank you to Annie Cooper** who co-ordinated it all. What a lot of hard work went into such a lovely event! Thank you all!



New Caterers!

We are very excited to be welcoming Cleverchefs as our new school caterer. Not only will this save you money, but we hope the quality of the food will entice more children to have a school meal! Cleverchefs have invited you to meet with them to discuss the changes straight after school on Tuesday 16th January.



New and changed dates will be given in bold

- Mon 4th Dec: PTA 'Elfridges' gift sale
- Friday 8th Dec: KS2 Christmas service at church **1.30pm**
- Mon 11th Dec: KS1 Production 'Born in a Barn' 2.00pm
- Tues 12th Dec: KS1 Production 'Born in a Barn' 9.15am
- Tues-Thurs 14th: Dance Workshops with Trinity Laban**
- Wed 13th Dec: Parent & Child Dance Workshop 3.30pm**
- Wed 13th Dec: Christmas Jumper Day
- Wed 13th Dec: Christmas Dinner Day
- Thurs 14th Dec: Panto in school! Cinderella **1.45pm**
- Friday 15th Dec: Break up for Christmas holiday 1.15pm 2024
- Tues 2nd Jan: INSET Day
- Fri 5th Jan: Y3 Trip to Buster Farm**
- Tues 16th Jan: Meet the new caterers 3.15pm**
- Mon 29th Jan: NSPCC SOSS Assemblies
- Friday 2nd Feb: NSPCC Number Day – coin of their own
- Mon 5th Feb: NSPCC SOSS Workshops Y2, Y5, Y6
- Tues 6th Feb: Online Safety Day
- Friday 9th Feb: Break up for half term
- Monday 19th Feb: Children return to school
- Tues 20th Feb: Parents' Consultation Evening
- Thurs 22nd Feb: Parents' Consultation Evening
- Fri 1st March: Y2 'Nightwalk' 5 – 8pm
- w/b 4th March: Book Week
- Wed 6th March: Bounce for Books event
- Thurs 7th March: World Book Day – dress as character
- Fri 15th March: PTA Mufti for Chocolate Eggs
- Mon 25th March: Class photographs
- Wed 27th March: Easter Fun Day with Easter tea
- Thurs 28th March: Wear a hat day (Brain tumour research)
- Thurs 28th March: Break up for Easter Holidays 1.15pm
- Mon 15th April: Children return to school
- Mon 6th May: May Bank Holiday
- w/b 13th May: Year 6 SATs Testing week
- 13th to 15th May: Y5 Residential to Runways End
- Friday 24th May: Break up for half term
- Monday 3rd June: INSET Day
- Tues 4th June: Children return to school
- Fri 7th June: Y3 Residential Sleepover
- Wed 19th June: Y6 to Winchester Cathedral Y6 Leavers' Service
- 8th-9th July: Y4 Residential Bushcraft Experience
- w/b 15th July: Y6 Residential Week
- Tues 23rd July: Break up for summer holiday 1.15pm