



FRIDAY 5 DECEMBER 2025

The school is looking very festive now but learning is still continuing. We welcomed Mr Pope and Miss Shale from Mudeford Infant School for a learning review and they were so impressed with the learning behaviours of our children!

Mrs Frampton

Christmas holiday club

We are really pleased to announce that Premier Education will be running a holiday club over the Christmas holidays in our school hall.

Letters for booking will be sent home after the half term break and this club will be free for children in receipt of free school meals.

The club will be open Monday 22 Tuesday 23 Wednesday 24 December and Monday 29 Tuesday 30 Wednesday 31 December.

Events in school over the last two weeks....

- Year 4 finished their swimming lessons
- Y6 have engaged in a leadership programme with Mr Moody and demonstrated impressive skills
- We welcomed a local dentist to talk to KS2 about the importance of brushing their teeth. They learnt lots of amazing tooth facts!
- Year 5 and 6 represented the school well at an indoor athletics tournament at The Grange
 - Y6 continued their Books and Stories programme with BU
- Y3 enjoyed a great trip to Hengistbury Head and even managed to stay dry!
 - The School Choir performed at Avon Reach care home
 - We all got crafty with a decorate the school afternoon
- Our school elves arrived back to school to keep an eye on us in our classes
- Y4 had an interesting trip to the Water Treatment Centre and got used to the smell quite quickly!
- Our Young Carers celebrated Christmas and had a fun afternoon with their Champion, Mrs Macmillan
 - Year 3 did brilliantly at a handball festival
 - Our older classes enjoyed a webinar with Michael Morpurgo
 - Y5 and 6 Bronze Ambassadors had their training at The Grange
 - The School Council visited Avon Reach for a Christmas Party

Coming up...

- Christmas service at High Cross Church—Tuesday
- Nativity performances—Wednesday and Thursday
- School choir performing at Somerford Arc—Wednesday
 - Christmas jumper day—Friday—£1

Address:

Draper Road, Christchurch, Dorset BH23 3AS

Tel: (01202) 485436

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Facebook: Somerford Primary School

Twitter: @mrsfsomerford

Headteacher : Helen Frampton



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Attendance

Our expectation for attendance is 96% or above.

The school will not authorise leave in term time unless there are exceptional circumstances.

Holidays are not considered exceptional circumstances and are likely to result in a Fixed Penalty Notice being issued to each parent for each child. **This is £80 per parent, per child.**

Attendance over the last two weeks

	Year group	Attendance	Met expectation?	
				In Y5.....
	Whole school	93.02%	Below	18/30 children have attendance over 96%.
Year 6 are below 90% and therefore considered to be persistently absent over the last 2 weeks.	1	94.58%	Below	9/30 have 99% or 100%
	2	92.12%	Below	
	3	94.08%	Below	In Y6.....
	4	94.49%	Below	21/29 have attendance over 96%
	5	90.3%	Below	13/29 have 99% or 100%
Year 5 are only just at 90%.	6	88.15%	Below	

Swimming costs

The school heavily subsidised swimming lessons this term to keep them at £6 per lesson.

We have received two thirds of the donations so far from parents—thank you! But that means that swimming has cost the school an additional £500 on top of that we already budgeted for.

Thank you so much to those 14 parents who have paid in full and the other 7 parents who have paid for some of the lessons.

If you have not yet paid in full, please can you continue to pay, even in instalments, over the year.

Date of next newsletter

Thursday 18th December 2025

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Nativity performances

We are looking forward to seeing you next week for our nativity performances. The morning performance on Wednesday starts at 9.30am. The afternoon performance on Thursday starts at 2.00pm. Doors will open 10 minutes before the performances start.

A few reminders:

- you can take photos and videos but please focus on your child only and do not post any images online without the parents' consent
- please ensure phones are turned to silent
- please take any little ones out if they cannot sit quietly. It is not fair on other parents who can't hear their child's line

Tickets

Each family will receive 2 tickets. Please email via the class email addresses if you have a preference for which performance. Please let us know if you would like to be added to the waiting list for any spare tickets (we won't be able to guarantee there are spares for the day you request)

Christmas Jumper Day

On Friday 12th December children can wear a Christmas or winter jumper instead of their school jumper or cardigan. All other uniform remains the same. This is an event in aid of Save the Children and they suggest a minimum of a £1 donation. Thank you.

Christmas parties

On Monday 15th December, classes will hold their Christmas parties in the afternoon. Children come to school in their uniform as usual but can choose to bring party clothes to change in to. They may also bring a **small** plate of party treats. They will have had lunch so they really do not need much! Please ensure the plate is named.

Last Day of term

We break up for the holidays on Thursday 18th December at the usual times. It is **NOT** a half day. This day is a non uniform day in aid of Christchurch Foodbank.

Return to school

We return to school on **Monday 5th January.**

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Sad news

For those parents who have had children at the school for some years, you will, I'm sure, remember a fabulous teaching assistant, Mrs Judy Sheppard.

Mrs Sheppard worked at our school for 18 years and retired in 2021.

Sadly, Mrs Sheppard passed away on 25th November.

Our thoughts are with her family and friends and our school colleagues who remember with such love and warmth.



Winter Sparcle and Carol Concert

This year our annual carol concert on the playground will have a fresh new look as we are combining with the PTA to bring you Winter Sparcle!

The event is free and we would love to see you all there.

We will be joining together for carols, songs and some poems and there will also be games, letter writing to Santa and Beryl's food van with yummy Christmas treats.

All children **must** be accompanied by an adult.

Come along and kick start Christmas on **Tuesday 9th December 4.30-6.00pm.**

There may even be a special visitor flying in.....

Punctuality

So far this academic year, **14, 694 minutes** of learning has been lost due to children being late to school. This equates to approximately **245 hours** of learning which is over **40 school days** or **8 weeks** of learning!

We have sent letters to parents this week where significant amounts of learning is being missed and have been pleased to see some improvement already—thank you! The start of the day is so important so please do all you can to ensure your child is on time and ready for learning.

If you would like some support with the start of the day, please chat to us.

89 children have never been late to school this year—well done to you!

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