

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of term, I would like to say a heartfelt thank you to everyone for the warm welcome and support I have received since joining Sarum St Paul's as Headteacher in September. It has been a real privilege to get to know the children, staff, families and our wider community and I am incredibly proud of all that has been achieved together already.

This final week has been a wonderful celebration of school life. The KS2 Christmas Carol Concert filled us with hope and joy and *One Bright Star* was absolutely beautiful. Well done to all the children who took part - your singing, reading and acting was wonderful. Thank you also to everyone who bought raffle tickets, your support is very much appreciated. The winners were announced during the service and all winners have been notified. We have also celebrated this week with Christmas Lunch and Parties which have been full of fun and laughter.



Year 5 have been spending time preparing Christmas cards and crafts for Home Instead, a company that provides care for people in their own homes, spreading kindness beyond our school gates. Some Christmas Elves came to collect all that they had made so it could be distributed. Thank you, Year 5!

Our School Council met with Chris Taylor, our local councillor, to talk about getting to and from school safely, particularly now that the mornings and afternoons are darker. Alongside FOSSP, funding is being applied for to purchase high-viz items for children to use when walking to and from school. The School Council thoughtfully considered options such as neck scarves, bag covers and clip-on items to decide what would work best.

Finally, after Christmas we will be making a change to lunch arrangements for KS2. Children in KS2 will no longer eat in their classrooms and will instead eat in the hall. To help keep the hall calm, lunches will be served in two sittings: Year R, Year 1 and Year 2 will continue to eat at 12pm, with KS2 being served afterwards, starting at 12.20pm.



Thank you once again for your continued support and I wish you all a restful and happy Christmas break.

Best wishes
Mrs Easthope

Forest Schools

There will be **no Forest School** in the first week of term. The next Forest School session will take place on **Thursday 15th January with Year 6**. Please come dressed for Forest School and take the weather into account. Your child **MUST** wear long trousers, layers/warm clothes and wellies.

Choir's Christmas Adventures!

The choir has had such a busy festive period from singing at different concerts and recording for the radio to visiting a care home. Please see below some photographs of the choir.

The competition, 'Song for Christmas' has now been judged and the winner will be announced on Christmas Day at 11.20am on Salisbury Radio.

The children had a fantastic time at Fairfax Care Home. The residents loved their singing and chatting to the children afterwards. Events like this make a real impact to their day.



Six ways to support your child over the Christmas period

This was sent in a newsletter to school this week and we thought it would be helpful to share.

Christmas can be a busy time for families. We've pulled together some suggestions to help support you over the festive period.

- Keep routines steady where you can, such as eating and sleeping patterns. When it's time for school again use visuals and gentle reminders to ease the return to school.
- Try to limit screen time: set clear time periods and check the [NSPCC website for online safety advice](#).
- Encourage, play and praise: where you can engage in daily open-ended play and focus on praising effort, as well as results.
- Set boundaries: be clear, calm, and consistent.
- Use positive body language: stay present, use a gentle tone, and reassure with soothing words.
- Teach self-kindness: help children practice gentle self-talk when things go wrong.

And overall we hope you have time to have fun with your child over the holidays.



School Uniform

Please ensure that your child has the correct uniform on every day for school. Being smart for school is important and shows pride.

Reminders:

- Shoes must be all black – no colour or logos. They can be trainers or traditional school shoes.
- PE kit must only be worn on PE days.
- Children should wear a jumper that is the school's blue colour.
- Hair accessories must be in the school colours.

FOSSP – Friends of Sarum St Paul's - please join their FOSSP Facebook page.

We're looking for parents who can help out with organising school events! You can give as much or as little time as you're able; every bit of support makes a difference and is truly appreciated. If you'd like to get involved, please speak to your child's class teacher or Mrs Buckley in the office.

Our FOSSP team is wonderfully friendly and approachable, but as everyone has busy schedules, a few extra hands would make a huge difference. New faces and fresh ideas are always welcome! For Friends of Sarum St Paul's to keep going strong, we really do need your help.



Used Uniform Sale – this will be happening most Friday's. Please check the FOSSP Facebook page to check if it is on. For this to be possible, the gates will be open until 3.45pm. Uniform will be sold from the mobile classroom.

Fairy Cake Friday – Fairy Cake Friday will begin again next term on January 9th with Year 1.

More events to come in the new year 😊