

The Blue Letter: 8th December 2023



Learning, Loving, Growing,
Together with God.

Dear Parents and Carers,

Next week is full of fun Christmas activities for the children. At the start of the week, the children will be busy putting the final preparations together for **'Fireside Nativity'**. The performances take place in Church on **Wednesday 13th December at 2pm and 6pm**. We look forward to seeing you there. If you need to bring younger siblings to watch, please try to bring them to the afternoon performance rather than the evening one. Also, please take them out if they get noisy - it not only helps everyone to hear, but means the performing children don't get distracted. After the afternoon performance the children will come back to school to be dismissed.

The children will bring their costumes home after the afternoon performance. **Please can they be back in Church not before 5.50pm.** - in costume please. When you arrive in church, please ask your child to sit with you until the teachers are ready for them and not to run around. Thank you for your support.

There is no charge to attend the performance, however, we do have a collection as you leave. This year the money from this collection will be given to Chestnut Tree House.

There are events at the St Blaise Centre and the village at the same time as our afternoon nativity performance. Please try to walk if you can and think carefully about where you park a car if you need to come by car. The children walk from school to church and back again and we need the road to be safe for them to cross.

Thursday is our Christmas Craft day where the children have the opportunity to work in their house teams rather than classes to create some fun decorations. It is also the day for Chartwells Christmas dinner. If your child has a packed lunch, you might like to make it a special one or add a festive treat. There will be Christmas Crackers for the children to enjoy too.

Friday is our Christmas Breakfast Morning! For new families to the school, this may seem an unusual event, but it's great fun! We ask the children to bring in breakfast to eat with their friends in the classroom. This could be some cereal (please send a bowl, spoon and milk!), or a bacon sandwich, maybe some toast or a croissant. Whatever you think your child might like to eat. We do ask that you don't send peanut butter, Nutella or other nut products as we do have some children who are allergic. Then the children in Squirrel Class are off to the theatre to see the Three Billy Goats Gruff.

Thank you for all the donations for Save The Children, they looked fantastic in their festive clothes. We raised a total of £121. It's not too late to donate via our just giving page <https://christmas.savethechildren.org.uk/fundraising/CJD230034729?edit=page>

Staffing Update - Mrs Whittle is hoping to be back at work in January and we want to thank Miss Rickard for all her hard work in Squirrel Class. The children have loved working with her. In January the class will also be joined by Mrs Arkinstall, who is a teaching student with the University of Chichester. We are very sad that we will be saying goodbye to Mrs Scott who has made the decision to move on from Boxgrove School. We will miss her support in class, at outdoor learning and in nurture and ELSA Sessions. We will be advertising for a new Teaching Assistant and Midday Meals Supervisor.

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| Monday 11th December | Fox Class PE Squirrel Class PE |
| Tuesday 12th December | |
| Wednesday 13th December | Nativity Performances 2pm and 6pm Boxgrove Priory Church |
| Thursday 14th December | Owl Class PE Squirrel Class PE Chartwells Christmas Dinner |
| Friday 15th December | Christmas Breakfast Squirrel Class theatre trip Owl Class PE Create Club |

Create Club will take place on Fridays again next term starting on 12th January. A flyer with booking details will be sent via parentmail with the blue letter.

Advance Dates

Wednesday 13th December - Nativity performance 2pm and 6pm
Thursday 14th December Chartwell Christmas dinner
Friday 15th December Squirrel Class Theatre trip
Friday 15th December - last day of term
Tuesday 2nd January - INSET day
Wednesday 3rd January Spring term starts

Christmas Tree Festival and Christingle Service

The children have been working on decorations for the school tree that will be part of the festival. The theme for this year is 'Sing a song of Christmas' and we have chosen to represent a well-loved carol with cattle, a manger and some stars...

The church is open **Friday 8th and Saturday 9th from 11am to 5pm and on Sunday from 12noon to 4pm**. Do go and have a look at our tree, as well as the rest of the fantastic displays.

Don't forget the **Christingle Service on Sunday afternoon at 4.30pm**.

Owl Class have helped to make the Christingles: an orange to represent the world, a red band to remind us that Gods love surrounds the world, the cocktail sticks and sweets to represent the fruits and gifts God has given us and the four seasons, and a candle to represent Jesus the light of the world who brings hope in the darkness. The Christingles will be lit as part of the service.



Achievers

Well done to all our achievers this week:



Squirrel Class: Lexie, Ethan, Lilly-Rose, Emily, Robyn and Chloe

Fox Class: Nelly, Lilly, Hattie and Arham

Owl Class: Gracie, Lucas, Freddie and Bella



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