Newsletter 15

Dear Parents and Carers,

In our final week before Christmas, Reception take centre stage on Monday, showing their Nativity play to the older children and staff in the morning and performing to families in the afternoon at 2pm. We have our Christmas concert at 5pm on Monday, Carol Service on Tuesday and Christmas Party Day on Wednesday (children can wear party clothes or non-uniform for the day).  On Thursday we have the Times Tables finals and early pick up at 1pm from the normal places.

**Nativity Performance**

Reception will have their performance on Monday 16th December at 2pm. Doors open at 1.30pm, please don’t arrive more than ten minutes before that, we have to get the Hall ready after serving lunches and can’t let the audience in any earlier!

**Christmas Concert – Monday 16th December at 5pm**

Our Christmas Concert will take place in the Hall at 5pm on Monday 16th December. It is a free event that’s open to anyone who’d like to come and you won’t need tickets to come to celebrate and encourage all our young musicians. Doors open at 4.40pm. Please could all performers arrive between 4.40 and 4.50pm, no earlier or later!

**Christmas Carol Service – Tuesday 17th December at 2pm in St James Church**

The children and staff will sing Carols and Christmas songs, and hear the Christmas story in this service. The are 30 places for parents of children in Years 3-6, please email the office if you’d like a place or two.

**Christmas Times Tables Finals – Thursday 19th December at 9.30am**

Finalists from each class from Year 2-6 will compete to see who has the quickest, most accurate recall of their times tables facts. Parents of finalists will be invited to come along if they can.

**Last Day of term – Thursday 19th December, collections from 1pm**

Please note that the children finish on Thursday 19th December, we have a staff training day on the Friday. Children can be collected at 1pm from the normal places. If they need to stay with us after that, please let the office know what time you will pick them up, and do so via the main office entrance.

**Holly’s Church Clock appeal**

Holly from Year 4 has set in motion an amazing fund-raising appeal to get the clock working again on St James’ church. She has already raised a brilliant amount but needs more help to get the hands turning again. She has been told that every pound she raises will be matched by another source, so please add a little donation if you can.

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/st-james-church-clock>

**Forest School – Wednesday afternoons**

After Christmas it will be Y6  followed by Year 2 from 29th January and Year 1 from 26th February.

Children need to have trousers and long-sleeved tops, wellies and a **waterproof coat** (with overtrousers if they have them). The Forest School philosophy is to wear the right clothing to go out in all weathers.

Forest School bookings for the after school clubs for your school for Spring Term 1 and 2 can be made by clicking on the links below:

[Shaftesbury Abbey After School Club Spring Term 1 2025 - Booking by Bookwhen](https://bookwhen.com/forestyogiminds/e/ev-sjt0-20250108152000)

[Shaftesbury Abbey After School Club Spring Term 2 2025 - Booking by Bookwhen](https://bookwhen.com/forestyogiminds/e/ev-sl26-20250226152000)

Michael Salisbury, Head teacher

**TERM DATES 2024 – 2025**

**Autumn Term**

**INSET DAY                                                      Tuesday 3rd September 2024**

Children start back                                       Wednesday 4th September 2024

Autumn Half Term                                        Monday 28th October – Friday 1st November 2024

**INSET DAY                                                      Monday 4th November 2024**

Autumn Term ends                                      Thursday 19th December 2024

**INSET DAY                                                      Friday 20th December 2024**

Christmas Holidays                                       Monday 23rd December 2024 – Friday 3rd January 2025

**Spring Term**

Children  start back                                      Monday 6th January 2025

Spring half term                                            Monday 17th February to Friday 21st February 2025

Spring Term ends                                          Friday 4th April 2025

Easter holidays                                              Monday 7th April to Monday 21st April 2025

**Summer Term**

Schools due to start back                            Tuesday 22nd April 2025

MAY DAY Bank Holiday                                 Monday 5th May 2025

Summer half term                                          Monday 26th May to Friday 30st May 2025

**INSET DAY                                                       Monday 2nd June 2025**

Summer Term ends                                       Tuesday 22nd July 2025

**INSET DAY                                                       Wednesday 23rd July 2025**