

HEADTEACHER'S UPDATE
17 October 2025



Dear Parents,

I would like to thank you all for the support shown at this year's harvest festivals. It was fabulous that so many of you joined us for these services, and we hope you enjoyed the readings, singing and prayers that the children presented. We were overwhelmed with your generous food offerings which were distributed to the Lockswood Day Care Centre, two local care homes and the food bank at the Waypoint Hub. We were also extremely grateful for your kind donations at the end of the services. We raised **£428.63** and this has been donated to the **Cystic Fibrosis Kids - Portsmouth** charity.

Homework Expectations – Please find attached the Homework schedule and expectations for each year group each half term.

Parent Governor Vote – If you haven't already done so please remember to vote for your choice of candidate for the Parent Governor vacancy via the on-line form (<https://forms.office.com/e/2ExqM4Ekwe>) before mid-day on **Wednesday 22 October**. Personal statements for all the candidates can be found on the school website or on the printed ballot papers available from the office.

Heartstart – There are still spaces available on the Heartstart Parent Information Session being held in school on **Thursday 23 October 6:00-9:00 pm**. The feedback from the previous session was that it was an extremely valuable learning experience led by highly skilled and knowledgeable professionals. **If you would like to come along to this session please join us in the school hall**. We look forward to seeing those parents that have already booked their places.

School Photos – “Yellow” School Photographers will be in school on **Thursday 23 October** to take Individual pupil photos.

Secondary School Applications - Reminder that Year 7 applications for a secondary school place are currently being accepted via the Hampshire Admissions online portal and the deadline for applications is midnight on **Friday 31 October 2025**. (<https://www.hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning/admissions>)

Children accessing technology - We would like to remind parents about the importance of monitoring their children's usage of technology. This week we have dealt with an issue arising from inappropriate comments being made within a WhatsApp group between children. We strongly recommend checking your children's devices regularly as well as having discussions about conduct online.

The Smartphone Free Childhood Warsash group are meeting at the Warsash Sailing Club from 7.30pm on Friday 24th October. Information on the e-safety risks and promoting positive relationships with technology will be shared as well as alternatives to smart devices.

Reception September 2026 Tours - We are conducting individual tours of the school for any parents whose children are due to start in September 2026. In addition to this we will be holding Open Afternoons on **Wednesday 22 October & Thursday 6 November** at 1:45pm. If you know anyone with a child due to start next September please ask them to contact the school office for further details.

Scooters & Bikes on the Playground – Please can you remind your children that they should dismount from scooters and bikes as soon as they enter the school grounds.

Odyssey project – In collective worship today the children were reminded about what the Odyssey Project entails and a Medic for the Police Force awarded medals to those children who had completed the challenge. It is wonderful to see so many children actively engaging in this project, which is really helping to develop their citizenship skills. If your child is interested in taking part please see Miss Rogerson for a booklet.

Aspens Theme Day – The caterers will be providing a special menu on **Thursday 05 November** entitled **Sparkle Spectacular**. On this day your child will be able to choose from the options below. Please order your child's meal via the online Aspens Select website.

- Bonfire Sausage Banger, wedges & rainbow slaw
- Veggie Bonfire Banger, wedges & rainbow slaw
- Jacket Potato, Cheese &/or Beans or Tuna
- Hot Pasta topped with Homemade Tomato sauce & Cheese

Remembrance Sunday – Sunday 9 November - We will be joining with St Mary's Church and the Warsash community in remembering those who fought and lost their lives in times of conflict. We would like to invite children and their families into school on the morning of **Sunday 9 November** for a short service of Remembrance and creative activities. This will begin at approximately **10.30am**, following the wreath laying at the war memorial in the village. We look forward to welcoming many of you into school for this important annual event.

Whole School Flu Vaccine Immunisation – The NHS school Immunisation Team are coming into school to administer the latest Flu Vaccine (nasal spray) to all pupils on **Friday 28 November 2025**. Please register your child on their online platform via the following link to confirm whether or not you want your child to have the vaccine.

<https://www.hiowhealthcareimmunisations.co.uk/Forms/Flu>

Christmas Services - Christmas Services will take place later this term at St Marys Church. As usual we would like to invite you to join us at these special events. The dates and times are:

Infants **Tuesday 16 December** 09.30am - **P, 1H, 2D** 10.45am - **T, 1J, 2B**
 Juniors **Wednesday 17 December** 09.30am - Led by **Y6** accompanied by **Y3 & Y5**,
 10.45am - Led by **Y4** accompanied by **Y5 & Y6**

Shoebox Appeal – We are collecting shoeboxes again this year for the Operation Christmas Child initiative and Half Term is an ideal time to fill your box. This will be explained to children in Collective Worship on Monday and we will send further details home next week.

Day Closures - There will be another INSET day this term on **Monday 3 November 2025**. The remaining days will be on Friday 13 February, Monday 13 April and Wednesday 22 July.

Yours sincerely

Sara Willoughby

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Headteacher

Attachments: Homework Expectations; Confident Reader Parent Workshop Flyer; St Mary's Church Flyer; Southampton Half Term Activities.

Next Week

Mon	20 Oct		KS1 Art Club 3:30-4:30pm Fun-nastix 3:30-4:30pm Chess Club 3:30-4:30pm LHTA Tennis 3:30-6:30pm
Tue	21 Oct	HMS Music – Guitar	Y5 Netball 8:00-8:45am Spanish Lunchtime Y3 Football Lunchtime IDPE Dodgeball Y1/2 3:30-4:30pm Hockey 3:30-4:30pm (3/3)
Wed	22 Oct	HMS Music – Brass/Keyboard/Woodwind New Year R Sept 2026 Open Afternoon 1:45pm Governor Voting Closes 12:00pm	Y3/4 Netball/Dodgeball 8:00-8:45am French Lunchtime DT Club 3:30-4:30pm (3/5) Judo 3:30-5:30pm Art Club 3:30-5:00pm
Thurs	23 Oct	Individual School Photos HMS Music – Drums / Rock2theBeat Penguins Parents Evening 3:40-8:00pm Heartstart Parent Information Session 6:00-9:00pm Y5/6 Boys Football Match 3:30pm Wasps 3G Pitch	Y6 Netball 8:00-8:45am Y5/6 GIRLS Football Lunchtime Art Club 3:30-4:30pm Showstoppers 3:30-5:00pm NO Y5/6 BOYS Football 3:30-4:30pm LHTA Tennis 3:30-6:30pm
Fri	24 Oct	Y6 Swimming (7/8)	Y4 Football Lunchtime IDPE Dodgeball Y3/6 3:30-4:30pm Cross Country Training 3:30-4:15pm
Sun	26 Oct	Clocks Go BACK	

27 – 31 Oct		Half Term
Fri	31 Oct	Y7 Admission Portal Closes
Sat	01 Nov	New Year R Admissions Portal Opens
Mon	03 Nov	INSET DAY
Tue	04 Nov	Poppies go on Sale
Wed	05 Nov	PTFA Firework display / Aspens Theme Menu
Thurs	06 Nov	New Year R Sept 2026 Open Afternoon 1:45pm
Fri	07 Nov	Remembrance Cake Sale

Sun	09 Nov	Remembrance Service in school 10:30am
Tue	11 Nov	KS2 Remembrance Service St Mary's Church 10:30am
Fri	14 Nov	Children in Need – Dress in Spots & Stripes for £1 Donation Y5 Swimming Starts
Tue	18 Nov	EYFS Curriculum Meeting 2:30pm
Wed	19 Nov	Y6 Make £5 Grow Sale EYFS Curriculum Meeting 7:00pm
Thu	20 Nov	Shoebox Collection Deadline
Fri	28 Nov	NHS Whole School Flu Nasal Vaccine Immunisation PTFA Christmas Wreath Making Evening
Sat	06 Dec	PTFA Christmas Fayre
Thurs	11 Dec	Rock2theBeat Concert
Tue	16 Dec	Infant Christmas Service 09.30am – P, 1H, 2D 10.45am - T, 1J, 2B
Wed	17 Dec	Junior Christmas Service 09.30am – Led by Y6 accompanied by Y3 & Y5 10.45am - Led by Y4 accompanied by Y5 & Y6
Thurs	18 Dec	Christmas Lunch; Class Christmas Parties; Christmas Jumper Day
Fri	19 Dec	Last Day before Christmas Break
22 Dec – 02Jan		Christmas Holidays
Mon	05 Jan	New Term Starts