

# Newsletter



*Inspiring the individual; creating a community*

C of E Primary School

**Our Christian Value for this half term is HOPE**

**Friday 2nd December 2016**

## Coming Up Next Week

**Wednesday 7th December -**  
Choir singing at Reading Rooms

**Thursday 8th December -**  
Dragonfly and Butterfly  
children to Westcott in the  
morning

**Friday 9th December -**  
Dragonfly and Butterfly  
children to Westcott in the  
morning

## Letters sent home this week

Letters sent home from the  
school office this week. Paper  
copies will be available from  
the office on request.

- Reception Children only -  
Transition Questionnaire
- Year 3 children only -  
Transition Questionnaire



**TODAY**  
**FROM 3.30PM**  
**UNTIL 6.00PM**

**IN THE SCHOOL HALL**  
**ALL WELCOME!**

Good afternoon. Welcome to our first newsletter of December, time is really flying by.

Today is the day of the Christmas Fair - many thanks in advance to everyone who has donated items, offered their time and to those who will be attending. I look forward to seeing as many of you there as possible. This is one of the major fundraising events for the school during the academic year and all the funds raised will be ploughed back directly into the school to benefit your children. F@SH will in due course let you know how much was raised and how the funds will be spent.

The children are becoming increasingly excited about all the Christmas activities and we have put out our post boxes for your children to post cards should they wish. Please ensure that the envelopes have the child's name and class, so that they can be easily sorted and delivered.

Now that the nights are darker could we please ask that those of you who let children walk home alone or in groups, unaccompanied by an adult, review these arrangements. Police alerts about child safety increase fourfold during the winter period. Ideally, anyone walking should be wearing some form of reflective clothing.

Children of primary age should not be cycling unaccompanied. NB Only Year 6 may do this once they have passed their Cycling Proficiency later in the year. Even then, they should not be cycling home alone in the dark.

The safest thing is for you to meet your child at the school gate where there is a member of staff on duty but if this is not possible, please reinforce with your child that they must return to the school office if you do not arrive to pick them up at the agreed time. Children should not have mobile phones in school as the school office is a reliable point of contact. However, if your Year 6 child does have to walk alone, particularly if you are developing their independence prior to secondary school, and you wish to provide them with a phone for contacting you on their way, this **must** be left at the school office in the morning and collected at the end of the day.

This links below are useful for information to be used with children about keeping safe! <http://talesoftheroad.direct.gov.uk/be-bright.php>  
<http://think.direct.gov.uk/education/early-years-and-primary/parents/7-to-11s/Be-bright-be-seen/>

You will know that the end of term is extremely busy. Do please keep an eye on the newsletter dates section for all that is happening and check book bags for any paper communications.

See you at the Fair!

Best wishes.

*Jennie Ratcliff*  
*Headteacher*

## KS1 Nativity Performance

**13<sup>th</sup> December at 2.30pm and the 14<sup>th</sup> December at 9.30am**

**Hey Ewe!** is a Christmas nativity told through the perspective of excitable and curious sheep. Of all the sheep in the flock, the smallest, youngest sheep are the most inquisitive. They are always busy getting under the shepherds' feet, asking questions and, to the irritation of the rest of the flock, demanding to know exactly what is going on. One night, however, while all the other sheep are trying to sleep, some extraordinary events unfold that excite their curiosity more than ever before!

Our Nativity Performances will be soon be taking place at our Westcott site. In preparation for this we have arranged for the children from the Abinger site to go over to the Westcott site on a number of days over the next few weeks. We are transporting the children in minibuses as much as possible to reduce the impact on parents. However there are a few occasions where transporting your own child will be necessary. These dates and times are listed below:

**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December: Dragonfly and Butterfly classes only** – Abinger children to be dropped off at Westcott in the morning at 8.30am, children will be brought back to school by minibus at lunchtime.

**Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December: Dragonfly and Butterfly classes only** - Abinger children to be dropped off at Westcott in the morning at 8.30am, children will be brought back to school by minibus at lunchtime.

**Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December: Caterpillar, Dragonfly and Butterfly classes** –All children to Westcott all day for Dress rehearsal: Please drop your child off at 8.30am and collect from Westcott at 3.00pm.

**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December: Caterpillar, Dragonfly and Butterfly Classes** – Afternoon performance - All children to be brought over to Westcott at lunchtime by minibus, please collect from Westcott at 3.30pm.

**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December: Caterpillar, Dragonfly and Butterfly Classes** (morning performance and Christmas parties). All Children will be at the Westcott site all day. Please drop your child/ren off at the Westcott site at 8.30am. Abinger children to be picked up from Westcott at 3.00pm.

Please park at Westcott Cricket ground in Milton Street, there will be a lot of traffic on these days and parking may be an issue so please drop your child off quickly and as near to 8.30am as possible and car share where you can.

**Performances will be on the 13<sup>th</sup> December at 2.30pm (siblings can attend this performance) and the 14<sup>th</sup> December at 9.30am (we kindly ask that siblings do not attend this performance).**

Parents of children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 can book tickets for the Nativity at [surreyhillsparentseveningsystem.co.uk](http://surreyhillsparentseveningsystem.co.uk). Tickets are limited to two per family and can be booked from 9.00am tomorrow. If you have any problems booking tickets please contact the school office.



**Christmas Cards** Over the Christmas period we operate a Christmas card delivery service. Each site has a special post box. If your child would like to use our post service they must ensure they write a child's whole name and class on the envelope – without this Santa's elves cannot deliver them!



**If you have any outgrown nativity character costumes lurking in your dressing up boxes (Mary, Joseph, Shepherd, angels etc) we would be very grateful to receive them. Please can you drop them off at the school office.**



Headteacher: Mrs Jennie Ratcliff		
Assistant Head Teachers: Miss Bethan Lucas and Mrs Hanna Garrick		
	Abinger Site	Westcott Site
	Abinger Lane, Abinger Common, Dorking, Surrey RH5 6HZ	School Lane, Westcott, Dorking, Surrey RH4 3QF
	01306 730747	01306 881136
	<a href="mailto:abinger@surreyhillssurrey.sch.uk">abinger@surreyhillssurrey.sch.uk</a>	<a href="mailto:westcott@surreyhillssurrey.sch.uk">westcott@surreyhillssurrey.sch.uk</a>
	<a href="http://www.surreyhillssprimaryschool.org.uk">www.surreyhillssprimaryschool.org.uk</a>	



## F@SH NEWS

'Friends At Surrey Hills' (F@SH) are a charity and we organise various events across the school year to raise money for the extras – both big and small – that would otherwise be beyond the school's ever reducing budget. All our children, from Reception through to Year 6, benefit from the funds that we raise.

F@SH held the AGM on Monday evening. It was attended by an additional six people to the committee. It was a good meeting which included valuable ideas and plans. We had the opportunity to meet new parents to the school and get to know some familiar faces. The Chair and Treasurer gave very interesting and informative yearly updates which will be published. We then elected members to the charity board and committee.

The newly elected committee consists of Rachael Stockhausen as Treasurer and Maggie Duerden as a committee member. Linda Alexander has stepped up to be an additional committee member.

Ellie Quinn has stepped down as Chairperson, Becky Taylor has stepped down as Secretary and Lorraine Cross and Natacha Menzies have stepped down as committee members.

Our members who are stepping down have all thoroughly enjoyed their time with the charity, however after several years (a combined time of 14 years between us!!) we would like to move on to other projects and our lovely ladies are taking a well-deserved break which means we need your help to step forward and continue to steer our successful charity into the future. We will, of course, continue to support and offer advice to the new committee.

With a lack of volunteers at the AGM the current situation with F@SH is that the Charity cannot run with only one board member, it is not in line with our constitution.

We have found that over the past year the current committee have worked very well together, we have enjoyed a lot of laughs while being successful in fundraising. It is great fun and very rewarding to be involved in our children's school, to be able to make a real difference to the opportunities open to them and to be able to be part of events that they will remember for a long time. We think that being or becoming friends has put us in a good position to do this, therefore we believe moving forward that a group or a couple of friends would be well suited to the remaining roles. This also takes away the sole responsibility of these roles for us busy parents/carer's. The new positions would be a 'doubling up' position, where two people would take on a board role as Co-Chairs or Co-Secretaries.

Now is the time to show your support to the Charity that supports our school and our children. As budgets across the country tighten within the Education sector, our school needs this money more than ever. Please help F@SH to help your children. If you are interested in becoming a committee member please contact Rebecca Taylor on 07917 881911 or catch her on the playground.



## Christmas Events

KS1 Nativity (all KS1 Children at Westcott) @ 2.30pm  
KS1 Nativity (all KS1 children at Westcott) @ 9.30am  
Carols by Candlelight KS2 6.30pm at Westcott  
Christmas Lunch

Tuesday 13th Dec  
Wednesday 14th Dec  
Monday 19th Dec  
Monday 19th Dec

## Diary Dates 2016/2017

Please add these dates to your diary but check the Newsletter each week for any changes/ updates these will appear in red.

### December 2016

Christingle at St James' at 4.00pm	4th December
Thank you Coffee Morning for Parent Helpers at 9.30am at Westcott	5th December
Nativity at Westcott – 2.30pm at Westcott	13th December
Nativity at Westcott – 9.30am at Westcott	14th December
Christmas Dinner	19th December
Carols by Candlelight at Westcott 6.30pm – Years 3, 4, 5 and 6	19th December

**End of Term 21st December 2016 – early close Abinger 1.15pm Westcott 1.30pm**

**Christmas Holiday 22nd Dec – 3rd Jan 2017**

### January 2017

INSET Day	3rd January
Parent Lunch – Moles	10th January
Year 6 SATS Parents Information Meeting 3.00pm Westcott	24th January
Parent Lunches – Foxes	26th January
Year 2 SATs Parents Information Meeting 2.30pm at Abinger 3.00pm at Westcott	26th January
Parent Lunch – Badgers	31st January
Parent Workshop – Spelling, Grammar, Vocabulary and Punctuation Years 1 and 2	31st January

### February 2017

Parent Workshop – Spelling, Grammar, Vocabulary and Punctuation Years 3, 4, 5 and 6	2nd February
Parent Forum Meeting at 7.00pm	TBC
<b>Year 6 Residential Trip - Deposit £137</b>	<b>3rd February</b>
E-Safety Day	7th February
Foxes Class Assembly	10th February

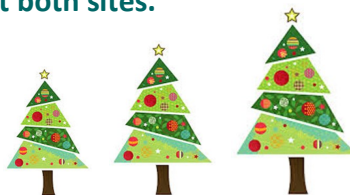
**End of term 10th February 2017 – Normal close time**  
**Half Term 13th February – 17th February 2017**

Parent Lunches – Hedgehogs	21st February
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### March 2017

World Book Day	2nd March
Parents Lunch – Rabbits	2nd March
<b>Year 6 Residential Trip—Payment £33.75</b>	<b>3rd March</b>
<b>Year 4 Residential Trip - Deposit £164</b>	<b>3rd March</b>
Parent Lunches – Squirrels	7th March
Whole School Science Day	10th March
Parents Lunch – Ladybirds	16th March
Hedgehogs Class Assembly	17th March
Shakespeare/ Book Week	20th – 26th March
Parents Lunch – Butterflies	21st March

**A BIG THANK YOU to Kingsfisher Farm Shop in Abinger Hammer who kindly donated the Christmas Trees at both sites.**



## Join us at our Christingle

**Celebrate hope. Make children's voices heard.**

We would love for you, your friends and family to join us at one of our Christingle celebrations this weekend so we can help the Children's Society to support vulnerable children.

### SUNDAY, 4TH DECEMBER

**MORNING:**  
Christingle Service  
10:15am

**Holy Trinity Church,  
Westcott**

Starts with lovely continental breakfast (no charge) at 9:30am;  
All age worship at 10:15am.



**AFTERNOON:**  
Christingle Service  
4.00pm

**St James' Church,  
Abinger Common**

All families welcome to come and enjoy this short, festive service.



**Extra-Curricular Clubs - All activity clubs finish on Friday 9th December**

## Christmas Lunch

All Children can wear a Christmas Jumper on Monday 19th December. We are asking for a £1 donation which goes to Save the Children.



Save the Children  
**CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY**

**The school will close at the following times on Wednesday 21st December:**

**Abinger: 1.15pm**

**Westcott: 1.30pm**



**Save the Date - 2nd July 2017 - 1.00pm until 4.00pm**

**Please note we have an INSET Day on 3rd January 2017. We have one more INSET Day to set and will let you know when this will be as soon as possible.**

### Useful Contact Numbers/ Emails

Surrey Hills School Governors	chair@surreyhillsschool.surrey.sch.uk
Breakfast Club at Abinger	07901 926191
Breakfast Club at Westcott	01483 270160
After School Club at Westcott	07787 568091