

It's that very busy time of year again – we hope that you are well on your way with your preparations for Christmas.

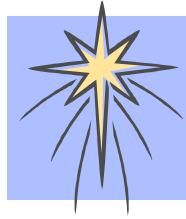
'Operation Christmas Child'

For the third and final year, you have been amazingly generous with your donations of Christmas Shoe Box presents. The final count was 125, an outstanding effort. A big THANK YOU to everyone who donated a box – a child somewhere in Eastern Europe will have a truly memorable Christmas through your generosity.



Christmas Post Box

It is the traditional custom to have a Christmas Post Box for children and staff to send cards to one another. The post box is now open and is situated in the entrance hall by the school office. Please ensure that all envelopes are labelled with the **full name (first and surname) and class** of the child receiving the card. The cards will be delivered by a special band of Christmas folk on Friday 18th December.



Christmas Carol Service

We are looking forward to seeing many family members at our Christmas Carol Service being held at All Saints Church at 6.30pm on Tuesday 15th December.

The school staff and children will be returning to All Saints Church on the morning of Wednesday 16th December to participate in the Carol Service.

Rights Respecting Schools Award

The school has been awarded the UNICEF Rights Respecting Schools Level 1 Award which is a result of the tremendous work we have done within the school over the last three years to ensure that the children fully participate and are aware of their rights and responsibilities towards themselves and one another. Our special thanks go to Mrs Garland for co-ordinating this development so well.

Family SEAL

The group of Year 3 parents/carers and family members have recently finished their participation in the Family SEAL scheme. It has proved a great success and the comments received from those attending have been very pleasing. Our thanks to everyone who took part and to Jackie Pointer and Debbie Alley for leading the sessions.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Gryphon House for achieving something not achieved before – winning the House Point Cup for three months on the trot! However, Gryphon House beware, the other houses are close on your tail!



Congratulations also to the school football team for reaching the semi-final of the local schools' 7-a-side cup competition. In the match, they played very well, but were beaten 2-0 by St.Osmunds Middle School.

Emergency Closure of the School

As we approach the depths of winter, it is important that you are aware of the procedure for the closure of the school in the event of extremely inclement weather. A decision to close the school would only be taken in the most extreme circumstances as it was in March of this year after a very heavy snowfall.

You can find out if the school is closed due to poor weather by listening to the following radio stations:

Wessex FM 96.0 & 97.2 FM

BBC Radio Solent 103.8 FM

Road Safety and School Car Park

We hope that the changes made to the High Street outside the school gates has made crossing the road safer.

However, I am afraid that a small number of inconsiderate drivers are still entering the car park at the start and finish of the school day. **Please stop! You are putting the safety of our children at risk.**



Morrison's 'Let's Grow Vouchers

We have received an amazing number of these vouchers which we are using to gain a computerised weather station and many tools and seeds for gardening. Thank you to everyone who made donations.

Friends Association

Thank you to everyone who attended the Friends Christmas Bingo – a good time was had by all. From the money recently raised by Friends events, they have been able to make a £750 donation towards the cost of increasing the number of home reading books available to our children.

A Reminder

School closes for the Christmas vacation on Friday 18th December at **2.05pm**.
School re-opens on **Tuesday 5th January** at 8.45am
(Staff training takes place on Monday 4th January).

I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of the staff and governors to thank you for your continuing support of the school and wish you and your family a very happy Christmas and a healthy and prosperous New Year.

Carl Saunders

