



14th December 2016

Wishing you all a very Happy Christmas!

Dear Parents,

Firstly, may I take this opportunity to thank everyone who came to our Christmas Carol Concert on Friday of last week. There was a lovely atmosphere with superb singing from the children in the choir and great performances from our orchestra and soloists – what a lovely way to celebrate the talents of our young musicians at Sarisbury.

Thank you also for your fantastic support and generosity at our recent Christmas Fair where, along with the secret room gifts, we raised a profit over £2400! I am very grateful for the great support and contribution of our PFA team who did a fantastic job in ensuring these events ran superbly.

This week's Christmas Events:

Year 4 presented their first Christmas Nativity performance at St Paul's Church on Tuesday 13th and what an excellent evening it was! My congratulations and thanks go to Mrs Hart, the staff and children in Year 4 for their superb production. The second performance will take place at St Paul's on Wednesday 14th December.

If you are free on Thursday 15th December and able to walk the children to and from the Carol Services at St Paul's, we would be very grateful. The **Lower School** will be leaving school at 9:30am and the **Upper School** leaving at 1:30pm. You will be welcome to stay for the service as well as join the staff for mince pies etc as a thank you for your help; please contact the admin team.

Several members of the school choir are singing in the Family Christmas Service at St Paul's Church on Sunday 18th December at 10:30am. I'm sure Rev. Matheson and our friends at St Paul's would be delighted to see you if you wish to join them for the service.

Christmas Jumper Day:

Please support us on Friday 16th December when we will be wearing a Christmas Jumper and / or non-school uniform in aid of 'Save the Children' fund for a small donation of £1; thank you.

Club Activities:

Club activities will start in the week beginning 9th January 2017. Further details about clubs running during the spring term will appear in my first newsletter of the New Year. Parents can also access a variety of information about the school, including club activities, on our website.

Class Assemblies:

We are introducing our programme of class assemblies during the course of the spring term, which will give the children an opportunity to share examples of their work with the rest of the school. Parents will be invited to attend their child's class assembly and I include the relevant dates for your diaries.

Friday 13th January	Class 6SM	Friday 10th March	Class 6SH
Friday 20th January	Class 5SC	Friday 17th March	Class 5AC
Friday 3rd February	Class 4LH	Friday 24th March	Class 4JL
Friday 10th February	Class 3CH	Friday 31st March	Class 3DR

Class assemblies will begin at 9:00am and as the spring term is shorter in length, the class assemblies for 6HK, 5JC, 4PD, and 3ET will take place during the summer term. I have included other dates for your diaries during the spring term, which I hope parents will find useful, at the end of this newsletter.

Postcards from our Christmas Travels:

This is a reminder that Miss Dane is hoping to display postcards from our travels over the Christmas holiday. If you have time and would like to send the school a postcard from wherever you may be, that would be much appreciated. She would also appreciate children bringing a map from the places they visit; these can be easily collected from a tourist information centre. This is part of our Geography learning at SJS and will provide a helpful resource for children in improving their knowledge of the wider world.

Access to the Staff Car Park:

Please may I take this opportunity to remind parents that only cars with an SJS Parking Permit are permitted to use the staff car park at the start or end of the school day. Given the restricted number of parking places, and the number of children who access the cycle and scooter racks, permits are only available for parents who require accessible parking. Your cooperation with this matter is much appreciated.

Dogs on the School Site:

I have had a number of concerns raised by parents about the dogs being tied to the fence adjacent to the school gate. We have a number of children who are fearful of dogs and having them so close to the school entrance / exit can be a worry. I would ask that all dogs are kept away from the school entrance and parents refrain from tying leads to the fence. Thank you for your cooperation.

Staffing Update:

Mrs Macadam, a long serving and valued member of our learning support team, will be leaving us at the end of the autumn term and we offer her our sincere thanks for the excellent support she has provided for many children at Sarisbury in her 14 years with us. She will certainly be missed and we all wish her every success for the future.

We welcome Miss Stevenson back to Sarisbury after the Christmas Holiday as she returns from maternity leave. Miss Stevenson will be working on a Thursday each week to provide additional leadership release time for teachers for the remainder of the school year.

Dates for the Spring Term:

Tuesday 3 rd January	Term Begins
Monday 9 th January	Spring term club activities begin
Tuesday 10 th January	Year 6 to Harry Potter World
Wednesday 11 th January	Year 5 Swimming (Class 5AC – 12 weeks)
Friday 13 th January	SJS Film Night for Year 5 and Year 6
Friday 20 th January	SJS Film Night for Year 3 and Year 4
Friday 27 th January	In-Service Day Closure
Friday 27 th January	Portsmouth Race 4 – this will run as normal
February 2017 (tbc)	Year 5 to River Hamble (filed trip)
Friday 3 rd February	Portsmouth Race 5
Friday 10 th February	Portsmouth Race 6
Friday 10 th February	Year 4 to Sea City Museum
Friday 17 th February	Spring term discos (to be confirmed)
Monday 20 th February	Half Term Holiday
Monday 27 th February	Mock SATs Week for Year 6
Friday 3 rd March	Crookhorn College Championship Race
Wednesday 22 nd March	Parents' Evening 4:00 to 7:30pm
Thursday 23 rd March	Parents' Evening 4:00 to 7:30pm
Tuesday 4 th April	Year 5 Easter Production 7:00pm
Wednesday 5 th April	Year 5 Easter Production 7:00pm
Thursday 6 th April	Easter Services
Friday 7th April	Term Ends

Monday 24th April

Summer Term Begins

This has been a very enjoyable and successful term at Sarisbury and I am grateful for the efforts and hard work given by all associated with the school. On behalf of the staff at Sarisbury, Governors and myself, may I take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support and wish you all a very Happy Christmas and peaceful New Year.

Yours sincerely,

A.J. Stockton

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Headteacher