



South Marston CofE Primary School

December 2024 Newsletter



Head Teacher Update

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the penultimate newsletter of this term!

Christmas is slowly appearing into school following our decorations coming down from the loft ahead of the Winter Fayre last week. A gentle reminder that 2024 is nearly at an end and that school will be feeling thoroughly festive very, very soon. In this newsletter there will be reminders of key dates so do please make a note of those; we look forward to enjoying this special time in school with you.

I must say a special thank you to our PTA this week following the brilliant Winter Fayre last Friday. It was a wonderful evening made possible only by the dedicated individuals who make up our PTA, giving up so much of their own time for the benefit of our children. How lucky are we to have them?! Thank you to my fantastic staff who also supported the event and thank you to you if you attended and hopefully started your Christmas shopping! As I said in the last newsletter, events such as these take a phenomenal amount of planning and preparation even before the event itself and would not be possible without the commitment of our hardworking PTA members.

The next newsletter will be as we are about to break up for the Christmas holidays and no doubt the days in between now and then will be incredibly busy both in school and at home for us all. I know I will be trying to keep on top of different events for my own two children and stay as organised as possible - if that is at all possible at this busy time of year! I hope your run up to the end of term is smooth and your 'to do' list, short!

Very best wishes,

Mrs M Hendry

Safeguarding when school is closed

The information below is from Swindon' Connect (formally MASH) which may be of used when school is closed. Please note that school staff will have their 'out of office' notifications on and may not see messages that are urgent in this way. Please contact Swindon Connect (formerly MASH) if you are concerned about a child. If you think that a child is in immediate danger, please ring 999 and speak to the police. If are concerned about a child or young person: E-mail: contactswindon@swindon.gov.uk

Telephone: 01793 464646 (during normal office hours which are 8.30am to 4.40pm Monday to Thursday, and 8.30am to 4.00pm Friday). The Emergency Duty Service (EDS) is available outside office hours on 01793 436699

Fortnightly Attendance

Class	Attendance
Pine Class	91.0%
Willow Class	94.0%
Silver Birch Class	95.0%
Sycamore Class	93.0%



Office Hours/Staffing

Monday 8:30am – 4:00pm – Mrs Andrews

Tuesday 8:30am – 4:00pm – Mrs Andrews

Wednesday 8:30 – 12:00 – Mrs Andrews

Wednesday 12:30 – 4:00 – Miss Townsend

Thursday - 8:30am – 4:00pm – Miss Townsend

Friday – 8:30am – 4:00pm – Miss Townsend

Please kindly note that Mrs Smith hasn't started yet but we will keep you informed as to when she will be joining us.



Sporting Success

Following in the footsteps of the girls last week, our team has secured a spot in the County Finals in Devizes this January after an incredible performance at Foundation Park. The team won three of their group matches, losing only to the reigning county champions, before progressing to a nail-biting semi-final.

The semi-final ended in a tense draw, leading to penalties. Every player stepped up with courage, and Bodhi made some outstanding saves, but Chiseldon edged the win by just one penalty.

It was an exhilarating effort, and we're proud of the team's determination and skill. We can't wait to represent the school at the County Finals!



The Silver Birch mixed football team put on an impressive display at the Swindon Schools Tournament at Lydiard Park Academy. The team played with skill, tactical awareness, and intelligence, winning three matches, drawing two, and conceding no goals!

Although we narrowly missed out on the semi-finals due to goal difference by just one goal, we had a fantastic time and showcased once again that football is a real strength of our school.





**Twelve days of Christmas
Illuminated Walk**

Saturday 21st December 2024
Event starts at 4.30 pm



Carol Singing with the Church Choir

Illuminated Walk around the wood

Children's Elf Hunt

Santas Grotto until 6.00 pm

Come and join us for a short festive walk, depicting the twelve days of Christmas!
Complimentary light refreshments available

PLEASE NOTE – The car park will be closed to vehicles during the event

Main car park at St Julian's Wood,
St Julian's Close, Off Thornhill Road, South Marston

Please bring a torch if you can!





Dates for your diary

Wednesday 11th December	EYFS/ KS1 Christmas Performance at the church (performances at 09.30 & 1:45)
Wednesday 18th December	KS2 Christmas performance at the church (performances at 1:45 & 6:00) School tour for prospective parents at 9.30am
Thursday 19th December	Christmas Lunch and Christmas jumper day Christmas movie afternoon
Friday 20th December	Last day of term—12.30pm finish for all pupils Choir singing at Sainsburys after school finishes – all welcome ☺

Monday 6th January 2025 Monday 24th February 2025	TD days (school closed to children)
Tuesday 7th January	Children return to school for Term 3