



South Marston CofE Primary School

Term 2 December 2024 Newsletter



Head Teacher Update

Dear Parents,

As a busy week and indeed term comes to an end, thoughts are turning to Christmas and what this time means to us all. The recent nativities and performances have been a wonderful opportunity to come together to celebrate this special time so a big thank you if you came and enjoyed them with us. I know your presence meant a huge amount to the children and staff.

May I take this opportunity to say a heartfelt thank you to you, our parent community, for your continued support - it is very much appreciated. We really do appreciate and recognise that as a school we have a very supportive parent community who work with us for the best outcomes for every child. Special thanks also to my incredible staff team who work so, so hard. Thank you for showing your appreciation to my staff team too - I know from the amount of cards and gifts coming into school recently that you recognise and value the staff team as much as I do.

Finally, I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! I hope that however you spend this time of year it is filled with wonderful memories and that you spend it with those that you love, doing what you love.

We look forward to welcoming the children back on Tuesday 7th January.

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	89%
Willow Class	91%
Silver Birch Class	95%
Sycamore Class	90%



Office Hours/Staffing

Monday 8:30am – 4:00pm – Mrs Smith

Tuesday 8:30am – 4:00pm – Mrs Smith

Wednesday 8:30 – 12:00 – Mrs Smith

Wednesday 12:30 – 4:00 – Miss Townsend

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

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

We are pleased to announce that we recently had an unannounced visit from the Environmental Health Officer and scored 5 stars!



Trust Update

On Monday Mrs Parr (Interim CEO) and Mrs Antwis (Director of Education) from DBAT came to school to present us with a special plaque to commemorate our time in DBAT which as you know is coming to an end as we join Blue Kite from January 1st. The plaque is next to the Acer tree kindly donated by the Diocese of Bristol and is situated behind school near to the trim trail. As the partnership comes to end, we have been reflecting on what being part of DBAT for the past 8 years has meant for our school and are very thankful for the support, guidance and wisdom that the many wonderful staff at the Trust have given us. DBAT has always championed putting each child at the heart of everything we do and has encouraged us all to 'let our light shine.'

We now look ahead to our new partnership with Blue Kite Academies Trust and I trust that you have had a chance to look at their parent information that we sent out recently.



Christmas Performances

A big well done to all the children for their wonderful performances in this year's Christmas performances! It was a joy to see them participate, singing festive songs, showcasing their acting talents and wearing such beautiful costumes in our local church. A heartfelt thank you to all the families and friends who came along to support and celebrate with us.



Dates for your diary

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
Monday 3rd February	KS2 Performing Arts festival at the Wyvern. More details to be confirmed.

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! 🏠 🔦



