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BSc Hons, PGCE, NPQH

December 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

Newsletter Number 3

Whole School

As we approach the end of term, with only one week to go, it is a really busy time but with some exciting events for the children. The Carol Service is one of the highlights, as well as a visit from Santa Claus.

As you know, for 4 days each week, I have been providing interim headship at Bransgore Primary School, in the absence of their Head and Deputy. I was asked to take on this role by Hampshire Local Authority and could do so, because of our strong Leadership Team. Mr Crane has admirably taken on the role of Acting Head during this time and everything has been running smoothly. Whilst I enjoyed the experience and felt I was able to make a real contribution, being well received by staff and parents, I am pleased to be back leading our school. I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank Mr Crane and the Leadership Team for all they have done.

Link with schools in Kenya

We are pleased to welcome Zacheus to our school once again. You may remember, he is the Director of Zaelyn Academy and Yenya, our two link schools in Kenya. Our strong connection with these schools has been running for over 14 years and during this time, children have been pen pals with children in both schools. They have communicated by letter and Face Time and are always excited to receive their letters and get to know what life is like in schools in Kenya.

The two schools have been set up by Lynn Johnson who regularly comes into school to share her experiences and deliver the pen pal letters. She works closely with Zacheus and yesterday they were both in school for the Year 3 Sing Along which was enjoyed by us all.

Next week, Zacheus and Lynn will be visiting classes and taking the opportunity to interact with the children and spend some dedicated time with the pen pals. I know that Zacheus really appreciates the opportunity to continue getting to know our school really well.

Learning, Behaviour and Attitude Report

We believe children's attitude to learning, together with the behavioural habits they form, are key to successful learning. We place a high focus on this and frequently discuss them with the children. You may have heard them refer to Gilbert the Goose who is good at teamwork, Percy the Persevering Penguin or Octavia the Thinking Owl. Class teachers have completed a short report for each child indicating how well they are developing these positive traits and good work habits, including completing homework.



The report will be sent home on Wednesday 17th December. We hope you will take time to discuss this with your child and reinforce the expectations that as a child progresses through school they take increasing responsibility for themselves and their learning; a life skill so necessary in modern society and higher education.

Get Caught Reading

Once again, we are holding our Get Caught Reading Challenge and would like children to take a photo of themselves reading in a special or unusual place at Christmas time. A book token will be awarded for the most interesting or unusual place! All photographs will be displayed in school. Please could the photo be 6" x 4" and emailed to admin.office@ringwood-junior.hants.sch.uk by Friday 16th January 2026.

School Events

Year 4 Music Concerts

Year 4 children had an opportunity to share with us their newly acquired recorder skills in a mini concert this week. We were impressed by their level of knowledge and skill and the way that the children came together in their playing of the recorder.

Year 3 Christmas Sing-Along

Yesterday afternoon, the year 3 Nativity Performance got Christmas off to a great start and was very well attended by year 3 parents and families. Well done to everyone involved. It was a truly wonderful performance.

Carol Service in Ringwood Parish Church – Tuesday 16th December 6:30pm

Our traditional Carol Service will be held in the Parish Church on Tuesday 16th December at 6:30pm. The Carol Service is always a highlight of our festive celebrations, and we do hope you will join us. If you are bringing siblings to the Carol Service, please ensure they remain seated in a pew throughout the service and do not sit in the aisle, as this is a distraction to the pupils and other members of the congregation. Thank you.

Christmas Lunch – Thursday 18th December

Children will be able to enjoy a special Christmas lunch served by staff. The cost of the lunch is **£3.20** and this amount should be credited to your child's dinner account no later than **Tuesday 16th December**. There will be **no other choices** available at lunchtime, therefore, if you have not ordered the Christmas lunch, please arrange for your child to bring in a packed lunch.

Visit from Santa Claus – Thursday 18th December

Children will receive a visit from Santa Claus. I will be taking him to visit the classrooms after the Christmas lunch when children will receive a small gift from him. I have a couple of Christmas elves to join me!

Christmas Post Box

If your child would like to post a Christmas card then please make sure they clearly print the child's name and class on the front of the card. The post box is situated in the main school library. There are still a few days left!

PTA Events

The Christmas Fayre was well attended and we hope your child enjoyed this traditional event in school whilst raising funds for our playground project. Thank you to the PTA Committee for organising all of the enjoyable events, we appreciate your hard work and all that you do for the school.



Community Support

Community Fundraising

Thank you for your donations for both the Royal British Legion and Children in Need. £114.70 was raised for the Poppy Appeal and £512.77 raised for Children in Need. This year, we again joined FSCI's Christmas Box Appeal. Thank you to all of you who donated shoeboxes, we collected 45 boxes which will be appreciated by the people who receive them in South East Europe.

Other Matters of Interest

Parent Governors

There are two vacancies for Parent Governors at our school. If you care about children's education, want to contribute to your local community and value working as part of a team, then please refer to the Vacancies page on the school website for additional information. Please contact the school office to request an application pack.

Ringwood Reporter

There are still copies of the Ringwood Reporter on sale for 20p so please send your child in with the change to buy a copy or alternatively, you can purchase a copy from the front reception.

Sports

We have been fortunate to have Rian from The New Forest School Sports Partnership visiting the school over the past few weeks to deliver lunchtime football coaching to our Year 6 girls' teams. He has also delivered Leadership and Organisation Management training to the newly recruited Play Leaders. Children enjoyed thinking of different games they could play with the equipment and also learning how they can be assertive and respectful, whilst on duty.

We have taken part in a number of sports events this term and have noticed that our sports kit has reduced in size. Please could you have a look at home, in case you have some sports tee shirts or maybe some out-grown house colour tee shirts, as these are always needed back in school. Thank you.

Site Safety

There are some parents who are dropping off their children on the road at the front of the school by the yellow zig zag lines. These markings are there to help protect children on their way to and from school. **For the safety of all, please do not park or stop even for a short moment on, or opposite, the yellow zig zag markings.**

Can I also remind parents that pedestrians are not permitted to walk into school via the double gates at the bottom of the drive, unless your child has a scooter or cycling permit.

Staff are committed to ensuring the health, safety and wellbeing of your child. If you have any concerns, we will always listen to them and address them. However, disrespectful language and behaviour will not be tolerated. Please treat staff in a respectful manner.

Attendance

We know that it is vitally important that your child attends school and is on time, both for their education and well-being. Attendance is crucial and the government has made this clear. Please support your child to give the best chance with their learning and ensure they attend school.



Photography and Videos

Please can we remind parents and carers that any photos or videos taken of children during performances are only to be taken of your child and are not to be shared on any social media for safeguarding reasons.

Arrangements for the last day of term.

I would like to remind you of the arrangements for Friday 19th December as we will be finishing school at 12:45pm for the Christmas holiday. We would like to invite the children to wear their Christmas jumper as part of a non-uniform day, in exchange for a voluntary contribution of 50p.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your ongoing support and wish you a very Merry Christmas.



Mrs Sally-Ann Evans
Headteacher



Diary Dates

Tuesday 16 th December	Christmas Carol Service, Ringwood Parish Church 6.30pm
Wednesday 17 th December	Learning Behaviour & Attitude Reports to Parents
Thursday 18 th December	Christmas Lunch and Santa Visit
Thursday 18 th December	Year 6 Christmas Party
Friday 19th December	Last day of term, school closes at 12:45pm
Monday 5th January	INSET Day
Tuesday 6th January	Children return to school
Monday 12 th January	Year 6 - Writing Workshop with Chris Connaughton
Monday 12 th January	Year 6 SATs meeting 5:00pm virtually
Tuesday 13 th January	Year 5 – Planetarium in the hall
Monday 19 th January	Year 3 – Iron Age Day
Wednesday 28 th January	Year 5 visit to Portsmouth Historic Dockyard
Friday 6 th February – Thursday 12 th February	Year 6 Bikeability
Thursday 12 th February	PTA Disco Years 3 & 4 will be 5:15pm – 6:30pm Years 5 & 6 will be 6:45pm – 8:00pm
Friday 13th February	Last day of half term
Monday 23rd February	Children return to school

