



Hermes

30th November 2018

Autumn Term

Issue No. 475

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas!



Part of the excitement was also associated with the return to school of Mrs Sleightholme after her maternity leave.

With twins, Ivy and Violet, in the capable hands of their Nanny and Grandad, Emma is back with us three days a week, with Miss Jackson staying with us on a Wednesday and a Thursday as part of their job share.

I have a feeling returning may also be for a part rest for Emma as I can only imagine how exhausting looking after twins must be!

Dear Parents

It has been a fabulously wet and windy week in school. On the face of it, not a great synopsis but the raw energy that such natural phenomena brings seems to be readily absorbed by young children. The upshot has been that there has been a great buzz around school, which has undoubtedly been accelerated by the incoming tide of all the Christmas events that are being rehearsed.



I must also say a big thank you to all the Junior Prep staff who have held the fort in Emma's absence. They have done a great job and I'm certain Emma will find all the year groups on top form. You'll all be able to welcome Emma back yourself when we convene at 9.15am next Friday for the Junior Prep Nativity. As always, there will be refreshments for you all in the Drawing Room before the show at 8.30 am. The Hall doors will not open until 9.10 am. We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the Nativity. We will try to record the show "in house" for those not able to make it. If you give Megan a virus checked USB we'll download it for you.



On Tuesday, Mrs Nolan-Stone and Mr Vanburgh hosted a lovely informal music concert in the Drawing Room. Whilst it was very impressive to listen to some of the senior musicians perform to such a high standard, what was most heartening was to see the number of young musicians performing for the very first time and with such enthusiasm and confidence. It bodes very well for the musical future of the school and also pays tribute to the music department for encouraging the development of music from the youngest children upwards.

There's a feast of music ahead in the next few weeks starting with an evening concert at 7.00 pm tonight, led and in aid of Mosaic who support bereaved children, then Sunninghill's Got Talent at 7.00 pm next Friday. In between these two dates the Form 3 and 4 children are going to combine a science trip to the Sealife Centre with a musical performance at the same time. It's all go for the musicians!

The teachers have asked me to remind all parents about the need for children to have their water bottles with them at all times so they can remain hydrated. Ideally, they use the SPS water bottles we handed out free of charge, though any bottle would do. Spares can be purchased very reasonably from the school office if you need one. If you remember, we handed out these reusable bottles to save using the thousands of single use plastic water bottles that used to be the norm.

Pictured below is the new Wellbeing office situated on the top floor of the Main building. Nikki Carr, our Wellbeing Coordinator and Safeguard Lead, has moved in and is doing some terrific work to support welfare across the school.



On top of her scheduled meetings with children and parents, she also has a drop in service when any child can have a chat about an issue that is worrying them. There will also be a post box outside the room for children to leave questions that they'd like answering. Nikki will also be delivering the PSHCE program of study from January onwards for Form 5 upwards.



Wellbeing remains one of our biggest concerns and this development represents a significant investment from the school to make sure we are ahead of the curve and can offer the very best preventative support. Don't forget as parents you can also have full access to Nikki. Do feel free to email her if you have any concerns or queries yourselves.

It's been a very busy week behind the scenes for the teachers. On top of their usual teaching duties they are all in the thick of writing Christmas reports due out mid-way through the final week of the term. A great deal of care and attention goes into producing these documents. I hope you find these valuable tools to help support future learning.



Finally, Form 6 gave us a wonderful assembly this morning. Working alongside Mrs Woollam and Mrs Walters, and supported by Mrs Rosemary Hardwick from the Dorchester Foodbank, they shared with us the plight of local families who are struggling to make ends meet and how we can help. They have asked us all to bring in five non-perishable items, one thousand in total across the school. In particular, items such as chocolate, toiletries and long life milk were requested. More details about this later in Hermes. I know you will also reach out and help. I believe we may also be able to fill one box a week to send to the Foodbank throughout 2019. We're going to place a box outside my office once we return after Christmas.

Some of us lent Laura a helping hand when getting arty for our book themed Christmas display board.



Wishing you a great weekend ahead.

Mr John Thorpe
Headmaster

Fledglings

This week at Fledglings we've been very much getting into the Christmas spirit! We made a start on all our special surprises that will go home with us at the end of term, we've been dancing to festive songs and attempting to learn the words to a few.



Nursery



On Tuesday morning and Thursday afternoon the children enjoyed a trip to the Garden Centre in Poundbury.

The children loved looking at all the decorations and especially liked the unicorns! They were very well behaved and good at listening to our instructions. Well done, everyone.



Let's Explore with Reception & Nursery

The children have enjoyed making reindeer food, Christmas cards and free play. They have also been practising in the school hall for the Nativity next week.



Holiday Club



Final call to book for our Christmas Holiday Club. We are running for the first week of the holidays from Monday 17th December until Friday 21st December. Booking forms are available from our website.

<https://sunninghillprep.co.uk/information/holiday-club/>

PTFA News



PTFA Christmas Fayre, Thursday 6th December from 7.00 pm

Tickets are selling fast - please buy yours from Megan for this wonderful festive event @ £3.00 each, or on the door, if there are any left!

Weymouth Foodbank

This Christmas Sunninghill Prep School are proud to be supporting the Weymouth Foodbank.

Foodbanks are vital for all areas of the country, nobody knows when they might need their help. Sadly in the Weymouth area a lot of single people and families can't survive without their amazing support. Foodbanks are run by dedicated volunteers, without these wonderful people and the support from the Community a lot of families would go without food and basic toiletries, how very sad in 2018.

Rosemary Hardwick who helped set up the Dorchester and Weymouth Foodbanks, spoke to our children in assembly today, explaining how we can all help. So let's make a difference, and bring a little sparkle and love to our Community this Christmas. I am asking every child to bring in at least 5 items from the list below (a whole bag would be fantastic!) -

Cereal's, pasta sauces, rice, instant mash potatoes, tea bags, instant coffee, sugar, instant hot chocolate, biscuits / snack bars, jam, crisps

Tinned - fruit, custard, meat, fish, vegetables, soup, rice pudding, sponge pudding

Washing powder, toothbrushes, toothpaste (adult / children), toilet roll, deodorant, soap, hand wash, shampoo, bubble bath, female toiletries, Boots Vouchers

MOST IMPORTANT - Christmas chocolates, Christmas sweets, Christmas biscuits

Please check all dates on food, remember small tins are very useful for single people. The Foodbanks have plenty of bake beans and dried pasta, thank you.

Please bring all items into School by Monday 10th December and leave by Megan's desk.

We all love having Christmas chocolates / goodies let's make sure everyone in our Community has a little Christmas magic sprinkled over them.

A massive thank you for your support, wishing you all a very merry and magical Christmas.

Karen Woollam

On behalf of Sunninghill PTFA

Ballet News

Kitty attended a really tough audition for The English Youth Ballet this week and was accepted. She will be performing in Coppélia at Weymouth Pavilion on Friday 5th and Saturday 6th April.



A final Children in Need photo, which missed the previous edition.



Form 8 Responsibilities for the Autumn Term

Head Boy	Lawrence
Head Girl	Verity
Sports Captains	Amalia & Nathan

Prefects:

ICT	Lawrence and Olivia
Art	Jessie
M&D	Clara and Lily B
Outdoor Ed	Atlanta and Frida
STEM	Verity and Poppy
Languages	Lea and Amalia
Humanities	Olivia
Eco	Jessie and Verity
Publicity	Clara

Lost Property

Charlie F has lost his new Clarks trainers- white size 4 ½.

Sports News

Unfortunately all matches were rained off this week. We are hoping for better weather next week!

Lydia: secretary@sunninghill.dorset.sch.uk
Mandy: registrar@sunninghill.dorset.sch.uk
Megan:
receptionist@sunninghill.dorset.sch.uk

Weekly Diary

WHOLE SCHOOL DIARY OF EVENTS	3rd	
	4th	ABRSM Music Exams Fordington Methodist Church 9.00 am
		Form 7 House of Parliament visit
		Forms 3 & 4 Junior Inter House Hockey 2.15 pm
		U8 & U9 Rugby v Sherborne (H) 2.15 pm
	5th	Nursery to Form 4 Nativity Dress Rehearsal
		Form 3 & 4 Sealife Centre including Carol Singing
		U12/13 Rugby v The Park 1.30 pm
		Form 5 - 8 Inter House Hockey 2.30 pm
	6th	Rec- Form 4 Swimming
		Form 5 to Shire Hall 2.30 pm
		PTFA Christmas Fayre 7.00 pm
	7th	Nursery to Form 4 Nativity, School Hall 9.15 am
		Pupil Christmas Fayre in Classrooms
	Sunninghill's Got Talent, School Hall 7.00 pm	
LETTERS ON THE PORTAL	Menu - 3rd December	
	Music Timetable - Week 12	
	Sports Fixtures	
	Weekly Diary	
Fledglings	Christmas Food Bank Appeal/SPS Got Talent	
Nursery	Christmas Food Bank Appeal/SPS Got Talent	
Reception	Christmas Food Bank Appeal/SPS Got Talent	
Form 1	Christmas Food Bank Appeal/SPS Got Talent	
Form 2	Christmas Food Bank Appeal/SPS Got Talent	
Form 3	Christmas Food Bank Appeal/Forms 3 & 4 Sea Life Centre/SPS Talent	
Form 4	Christmas Food Bank Appeal/Forms 3 & 4 Sea Life Centre/SPS Talent	
Form 5	Christmas Food Bank Appeal/Shire Hall trip/SPS Got Talent	
Form 6	Christmas Food Bank Appeal/SPS Got Talent	
Form 7	Christmas Food Bank Appeal/SPS Got Talent	
Form 8	Christmas Food Bank Appeal/SPS Got Talent	