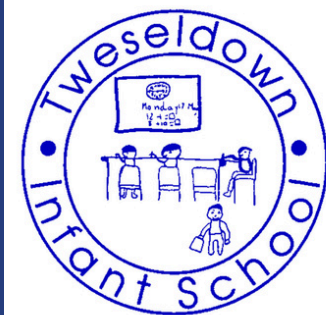
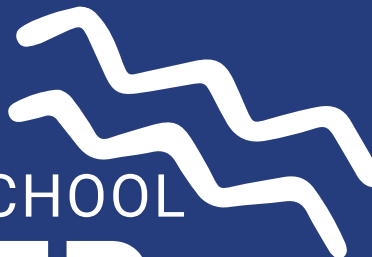


04/12/2025
TWESELDOWN INFANT SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER



DIARY DATES

DECEMBER

4th December - School Discos

- Year R - 3:05pm - 3:45pm
- Year 1 - 4:00pm - 4.45pm
- Year 2 - 5:00pm - 5:45pm

9th December - Year R Christmas Celebrations

- Rabbit & Hedgehog Classes 9:00am - 10:15am
- Squirrel (Yr R) & Mouse Classes 1:45pm - 3:00pm

10th December - Year 2 Christmas Celebrations

- Robin & Owl Classes 9:00am - 10:15am
- Kingfisher & Woodpecker Classes 1:45pm - 3:00pm

11th December - Year 1 Christmas Celebrations

- Squirrel (Yr 1) & Deer Classes 9:00am - 10:15am
- Otter & Badger Classes 1:45pm - 3:00pm

- Christmas Jumper Day

16th December - Christmas Lunch Day

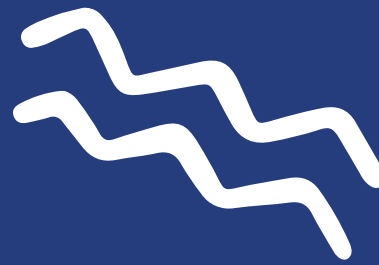
17th December - PTFA Mufti Day

- Rocksteady Concerts 9:00am & 9:30am
- Class Christmas Parties

18th December - Festive Coffee & Conversation with Mrs Tottem 2:30pm

19th December - Last Day of Term - 1:30pm finish - NO STARCARE AFTER SCHOOL

IMPORTANT INFORMATION



TERM DATES 2025/2026

22nd December - 2nd January - Christmas Break

5th January - Inset Day (closed to pupils)

16th February - 20th February - Half Term

23rd February - Inset Day (closed to pupils)

30th March - 10th April - Easter Break

25th May - 29th May - Half Term

29th June - Inset Day (closed to pupils)

22nd July - Last Day of School

SCHOOL DISCO'S - TONIGHT

If your child is due to attend Starcare after the school disco tonight, please can you ensure your child has a packed tea, their disco clothes and parents/carers collect them from year 2 classes. Please use the walkie talkie strapped to the gate to call the Starcare team at pick up. For everyone else, drop off and pick up for the disco is the main entrance to the hall. (Remember to take coats home with you please!)

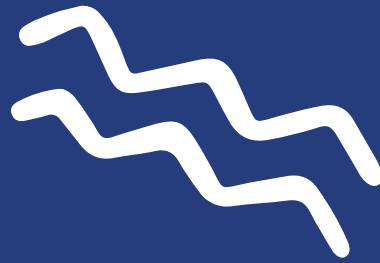
CHRISTMAS RUN FOR PHYLLIS TUCKWELL HOSPICE

Unfortunately due to the bad weather conditions on Monday 1st December, our Phyllis Tuckwell Christmas Run was postponed. This has been rearranged for Monday 15th December 1pm-2pm. We are really looking forward to taking part - Please ensure children have a warm coat with them on the day. Thank you.

YEAR R & YEAR 1 ACCESS

From Monday 8th December, there will be no access from the Year R to Year 1 side due to the installation of the pre-school's outside area.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION



CALEB'S COFFEE - CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS

Caleb's Coffee will be here for you to purchase tea, coffee and a festive treat before both the morning and afternoon Christmas Celebrations next week.

CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

It will be Tweseldown Christmas jumper day on Thursday 11th December! Please wear your festive jumpers on the day and bring a £1 donation towards Save the Children.
Thank you.

CHOIR VISIT TO BOURLEY GRANGE

A few children have been selected from the choir to perform at Bourley Grange Care Home on Friday 12th December. They will bring the residents so much joy and festive cheer with their beautiful singing!

CHRISTMAS LUNCH

The children will get to enjoy a delicious Christmas lunch on 16th December. The menu choices were sent out yesterday - Please ensure you follow the link and update Arbor for that day.

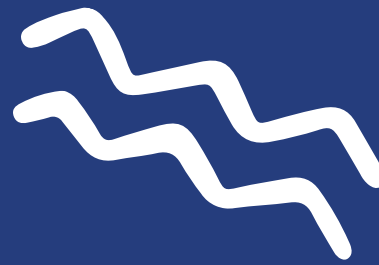
CLASS CHRISTMAS PARTIES & MUFTI DAY

Class Christmas parties will take place on the afternoon of 17th December. To celebrate the festivities, children can come to school in mufti that day.

STARCARE - 18TH DECEMBER

The Starcare team will be hosting a special Pyjama & movie night on Thursday 18th December. Please can children attending Starcare that afternoon remember to bring PJ's to school that day.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION



ROCKSTEADY CONCERTS

The children that attend Rocksteady will be performing in concerts on the morning of Wednesday 17th December. Please refer to your email from Rocksteady for the time of your child's performance.

COFFEE & CONVERSATION

Mrs Tottem will be holding a coffee and conversation with a festive take on Thursday 18th December at 2:30pm. Mulled wine & mince pies will be offered as a festive treat!

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

We will be breaking up for the Christmas Holidays on Friday 19th December at 1:30pm. Starcare will not be available that afternoon so please ensure you make other arrangements for your child should you be unable to pick them up at this earlier time.

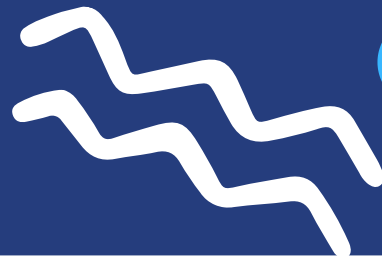
HPCN DECEMBER WORKSHOPS & PARENT CARER GET TOGETHERS

Hampshire Parent Carer Network (HPCN) are holding various free December events, workshops, and get togethers. Please see the flyers attached below for further information.

For a list of events, get togethers, resources, and booking pages, please see the link below;

👉 <https://linktr.ee/hpcn.org.uk>

RECEPTION



This week in Reception, we have been enjoying lots of festive fun!

In Art, we have been exploring emotions through colours and pictures, thinking about how feelings can be shown in artwork. We are now getting ready to begin working with clay.

In English, we have been reading *The Jolly Christmas Postman*. We talked about how postmen and postwomen travel to different houses to deliver letters and compared this to the journey our own post takes. We also linked this to our *Whizzy Wheels* theme, thinking about how different vehicles help us.

In Maths, we have looked at the concept of part-part-whole, learning that objects can be split into parts and put back together again.

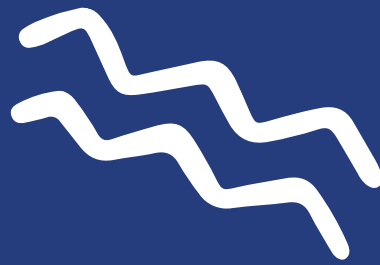
In History, we have been looking closely at trains. We have been comparing old and new trains, practising full sentences to describe how we know which ones are from the past.

We are really looking forward to welcoming you to our Christmas celebration next Tuesday!

Rabbit and Hedgehogs: 9.00am- 10:15am

Squirrel and Mouse: 1.45pm- 3pm

YEAR 1



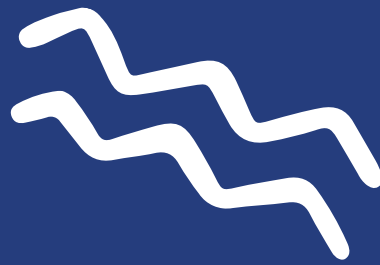
This week in Year 1, Deer class have visited Bealieu. They created posters before they went about how to stay safe and have written great recounts afterwards to share their exciting day. The rest of Year 1 have been reading the story Simon Sock. We started the week by describing characters from the story, before creating their own sock puppet and writing sentences to describe these. We are now really focused across all classes about sitting our letters on the line, remembering finger spaces between words, starting sentences with a capital letter and ending with a full stop as well as using a capital letter for names. Thank you for sending in socks as it really helped give our writing a lovely purpose this week.

In maths, we have continued to learn strategies to help us with our addition and subtraction. We have looked at what happens when we subtract a consecutive number such as $6-5$ or $9-8$ with the children noticing it always ends in 0. We have also been recapping our skills of doubling and recalling these facts quickly as well as applying these to near doubles such as $3+4$ or $8+9$ and how these facts can help us to mentally calculate. These help build quick mental fluency, could you practice some facts on a walk to and from school?

We have been hard at work learning songs and poems for Christmas performances. We are getting excited about sharing these with you next Thursday. We have also been developing our programming skills using the beebots. We have been learning how to program a set of instructions and then review these if they do not work exactly as we thought. We have used positional language such as forward, backward, left, right and turn. The children really enjoyed collaborating together to make these work.

Please remember to double check your child's spelling book each Friday for their new spellings to learn for the following week. Year 1 will have their last 'Beyond the Gate' session next week. This will not be happening in the last week of term.

YEAR 2



It has been a rather wet week, but Year 2 do not mind at all! The rainy days are helping the children with their Geography studies as they continue to investigate which is the rainiest month of the year. We were even greeted with a beautiful rainbow at home time yesterday!

In English, the children have showed us which writing skills they have remembered when writing new and improved story endings for the story of My Friend The Weather Monster; brilliantly describing a happy, snowy scene where the main characters enjoyed creamy, hot-chocolates and played in the white, fluffy snow, whilst the snowflakes danced in the air like beautiful ballerinas. Well done Year 2!

The festive spirit continues beyond writing sessions as the children practise singing and reciting poetry ahead of the Christmas shows coming up next week. They are all looking forward to welcoming you to the show and to participate in a little crafting after the show has finished, on Wednesday 10th December.

Robins and Owls - 9AM

Kingfishers and Woodpeckers - 1:45PM

Thank you to everyone who has sent their child in with their Christmassy clothes to wear at the show already. They are due, in a named carrier bag, by tomorrow morning (Friday 5th December).

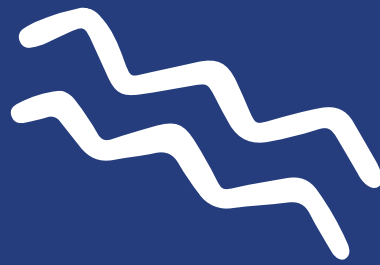
Also this week the children have been building upon their addition knowledge, learning how to partition 2-digit numbers into tens and ones and add them together; either using practical equipment or an unstructured number line. We're sure the children would love to show you how it's done at home.

Over the next few weeks we are looking forward to more festivities such as Christmas Lunch, Christmas Jumper Day, the postponed Reindeer Run and class Christmas parties. Please check the diary dates for the details.

Reminder – You are welcome to join your child on either the afternoon of Friday 5th or Friday 12th to help them with their sewing skills in our DT lessons. Please let your child's class teacher know if you'll be popping along, 1.30pm – 2.45pm.

Thank you for your continued support at this busy time of year!

ECO SCHOOLS



Cut your Carbon Challenge:

The challenge has now finished. All completed checklists must be handed in to your class teacher by tomorrow morning (Friday 5th Dec) for your data to be included in our school results and for you to receive your certificate.

Even if you only succeeded one of the challenges, we still want to know.

Developing a Composting area:

As part of our sustainability and Eco Schools actions, we are hoping to develop a composting area within our school grounds. We plan to use pallets to build this area.

If you are able to help with this project, by providing us with pallets or by helping us with the skills and labour to construct this area, please make contact with our site manager, Mr Wythe, on this email address: a.wythe@tweseldown.hants.sch.uk

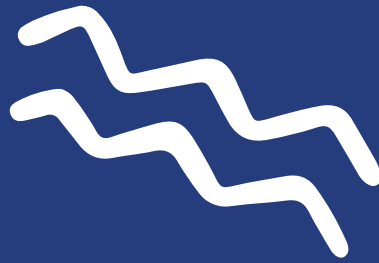
Please do not deliver any pallets without speaking to Mr Wythe first.

Litter Picking Loan Equipment:

Remember we have litter picking equipment which you can borrow over the weekend. There are plenty of spaces for this half term:

<https://volunteersignup.org/events/summary/636458>. The equipment can be collected from Miss Fewtrell (Owl class) on a Friday and returned to her on a Monday.

BEYOND THE GATE



Volunteers:

We are still short for volunteers in our Year One sessions. Without volunteers, sessions may need to be cancelled due to ratios. Please sign up in advance:

volunteersignup.org/9MM99

Blog:

Have you looked at the Beyond the Gate blog on the website? It is a great way to stimulate a conversation with your child about what they enjoyed doing and what they learnt:

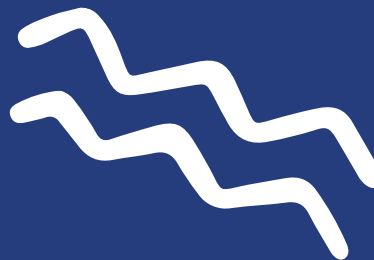
<https://www.tweseldowninfantschool.co.uk/page/?title=Forest+School+Blog&pid=277>.

Donations:

For an activity Mrs Dear needs lots of open pine cones. If you are on a walk and find any please collect them, and put them in the Forest School donation box in the school entrance.

Other helpful donations currently:

- Craft pipe cleaners
- String or twine
- Bird seed (without peanuts in please)
- Fat balls



A huge thank you

Thank you so much to everyone who attended the Festive Fireworks last week! It was a wonderful evening. Thanks to your support, we raised valuable funds for the school. We've still got money trickling in but so far, we've raised an amazing £802.61 from this event.

And of course, a big shout out to our amazing staff and parent volunteers. You were absolutely wonderful! Thank you for giving your time to help make this event happen. We couldn't have done this without you.

Upcoming PTFA Events & Dates

17th December – Mufti Day: £1 cash, bank transfer or QR code

PTFA Mufti Day – Wednesday 17th December

Surely the children will be looking forward to another mufti day. This year it will coincide with the class Christmas parties, so the children will be able to wear their lovely party outfits all day!

If you have made a bundle payment for your child, then you do not need to pay for this mufti day.

Should you have opted for the pay as you go option, please send your child in with **£1 in cash, use the bank details below, or use the QR code** to make the payment.



Please take care when referencing any bank transfers so we can make sure they get allocated correctly. The bank details and reference guidelines are below; in case you need them.

Name: **Tweseldown Infant School PTFA**

Account number: **27335060**

Sort code: **30-80-42**

*****Please ensure you put your child's name and current class as the reference. (First letter of child's name, surname, and first 3 letters of class are sufficient. E.g. JBloggsKin = Joe Bloggs Kingfisher)*****

HELPFUL CONTACTS

CAMHS - Hampshire Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service – helping with emotional wellbeing and mental health for children aged 5-18 years old. <https://hampshirecamhs.nhs.uk/>

ERIC-Help coping with children bedwetting. <https://eric.org.uk/childrens-bladders/bedwetting/>

Family Lives -Co-parenting after divorce or separation. Free online help, or call for free on 0808 800 2222 <https://www.familylives.org.uk/>

Gingerbread -Advice and practical support for single parents <https://www.gingerbread.org.uk/>

Grief Encounter -Supporting bereaved children and young people.
<https://www.griefencounter.org.uk/>

Parentkind -Loads of resources for parents, covering many topics, including Common Sense Media; Fatherhood; Childcare Choices. <https://www.parentkind.org.uk/for-parents/parents-resources/parenting>

Psicon-A specialist team, offering the highest quality diagnostic assessments, treatment and support for Autism, ADHD and Mental Wellbeing. <https://www.psicon.co.uk/>

Relate -Get help with: counselling; mediation; supporting parent relationships; work place relationship support. <https://www.relate.org.uk/what-we-do/counselling/relationship-counselling>

Rainbow Trust -Support for seriously ill children and their families.
<https://www.rainbowtrust.org.uk/>

Safe Haven Aldershot -Drop in, 365 days a year for mental health crisis. 6-11pm, Monday – Friday; 12:30pm-11pm weekends and bank holidays.
Also available virtually using link: <https://nhs.vc/sabp/safe-haven-aldershot>

<https://www.sabp.nhs.uk/our-services/mental-health/safe-havens/SafeHavenAldershot>

Together for Short Lives -Family support team and helpline provides families of seriously ill children with emotional, financial and practical support and advice. Helpline: 0808 8088 100
<https://www.togetherforshortlives.org.uk/>

The Sleep Charity -Advice and support with bedtimes and sleep.
<https://thesleepcharity.org.uk/>

Winston's Wish -Bereavement charity supporting grieving children and families.
<https://winstonswish.org/>

Young Minds -A place of support if your child is struggling with anxiety.
<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/parent/parents-a-z-mental-health-guide/anxiety/>



DISCO

£2.50

THURSDAY 4TH DECEMBER

YEAR R - 15:00-15:45

YEAR 1 - 16:00-16:45

YEAR 2 - 17:00-17:45

PLEASE USE THE
CORRECT CLASS QR CODE
POSTER OR MAKE A BANK
TRANSFER

IMPORTANT: If you have made a £12.50 bundle payment for your child, you do not need to pay for this event.

Please contact ptfa@tweseldown.hants.sch.uk if you have not yet made a bundle payment but would now like to.

Become a Parent Representative!

Join Hampshire Parent Carer Network and help shape better services for families.

Your Role

- Share your experiences as a parent carer to help shape children's services.
- Ensure parents' voices influence key decisions.
- Work with professionals to improve services for children with disabilities.

What's Involved

- Attend relevant meetings or events (with another HPCN member if possible).
- Share short written feedback within 2 weeks.
- Respond to topic-related requests and help at events.
- Join training sessions and promote our work



Time Commitment

Flexible – even one hour a month can make a difference!
Training and support provided.

We'll Support You

Advice, guidance, and training
Reimbursement for travel and related expenses.



Are you interested?
For more information

Contact :

Participation@hpcn.org.uk



**HAMPSHIRE
PARENT CARER**

NETWORK

enabling voices to be heard





Understanding Developmental Language Disorder (DLD) in the 14–25 Transition Years

Free online session : 19th December , 12.30pm

Language helps young people grow and become independent. But when understanding or expressing words is hard, life gets tougher.

DLD is lifelong, and its effects continue into adulthood.



Join Claire a parent engagement officer with Afasic and Ineke a help line volunteer as they share a parent's perspective on:

- What DLD can look like in teenagers
- The challenges young people face as they transition into adulthood
- The impacts it can have, both within the classroom and in wider life
- How parents and carers can better understand and support them

Book your tickets now for this free Event :
<https://www.tickettailor.com/events/hpcn>





HAMPSHIRE
PARENT CARER
NETWORK
enabling voices to be heard



BURNOUT IN THE LEAD-UP TO CHRISTMAS

with guest speaker Ellie - Lived Experience Trainer | Autism & ADHD

17th December - 11am - online session

Join Ellie as she shares her lived experience of autism, ADHD, and navigating the pressures of the festive season.

Ellie brings honest insight as an ADHD, Autistic adult, and mum to two autistic teenagers.

A supportive, relatable session to help you make the festive period more manageable.

This session will explore:

- What burnout can look and feel like in the run-up to Christmas
- Why the festive period can be particularly challenging for autistic and ADHD individuals
- Practical techniques and preparation strategies from Ellie's lived experience
- How parents and caregivers can support autistic or ADHD young people during this time
- Ways to reduce overwhelm and create a more manageable, meaningful holiday season



To book onto this session please use our Ticket tailor link : <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/hpcn>

