

11/12/2025
TWESELDOWN INFANT SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER



DIARY DATES

DECEMBER

15th December - PTFA Stocking Fillers & Half Price Sale 2:45pm - 3:15pm

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

JANUARY

5th January - INSET day for pupils

6th January - Return to school

9th January - Year 2 Board game afternoon 2:30pm

10th January - Year 1 Board game afternoon 2:30pm

23rd January - Year R Board game afternoon 2:30pm



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

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.

CHRISTMAS LUNCH

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

[Christmas Menu – Fill out form](#)

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.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION



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.

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! The theme of this will be Christmas Celebrations.

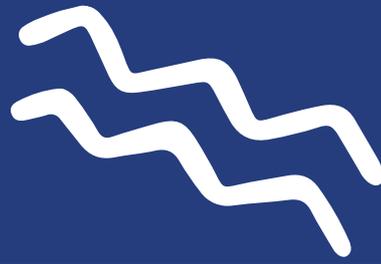
CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

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.

MEMORY MAKERS

Throughout your child's time at Tweseldown, they can take part in our 'Tweseldown Memory Maker Awards'. Each year there are a number of activities for them to complete. The children keep these Memory Makers for the whole 3 years they are at our school. If your child loses this booklet throughout that time, please let us know.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION



CHRISTMAS CARD DESIGNS

If you would like to pick up your child's original christmas card design, please come to the office to pick this up by Monday 15th December. Thank you.

ARBOR - LUNCHES AND STARCARE BOOKINGS

You will now be able to book lunches on Arbor for next year. The bookings are also open for Starcare.

ORCHARD GAMES

If you are on the hunt for some great Christmas presents, check out Orchard Games - They make fun, interactive games for your children and the whole family!

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS

We are so proud of all the children for their amazing performances this week! They really have been so wonderful to watch and we know the children have all really enjoyed showing their parents and carers what they've been working on!

Thank you to everyone who was able to come and watch their child in the performance and for all the support.

RECEPTION



The Year R team would like to start by saying a big well done to all the Year R children for their wonderful Christmas celebrations this week! Thank you to the grown-ups at home too for all your support with bringing in festive clothing and words of encouragement. The children have all enjoyed singing Christmas songs, doing crafts and rehearsing lines together.

This week in English we have been reading the book Mince Spies. The children communicated their ideas of who may have been destroying the Christmas treats and we made a tally chart. Our ideas included the crunchy carrots, Yorkshire puddings or a runaway Gingerbread man! In the end, everyone was shocked when it turned out to be the Brussel sprouts! Next, we made breadcrumb trails around the outside area to find the missing Christmas treats and used positional language to describe the trail.

In Maths this week we have been investigating parts of a whole. We looked at different ways to make 3 using blocks. In Art and Design we have been making our clay faces using clay and natural resources.

YEAR 1

It has been a lovely week in Year One!

We have been enjoying our class book Mince Spies, which has brought lots of festive fun to our drawing club sessions.

The children worked very hard on their Christmas celebration assemblies, and we hope you enjoyed watching their performance. We also hope you had fun taking part in our Christmas craft activity.

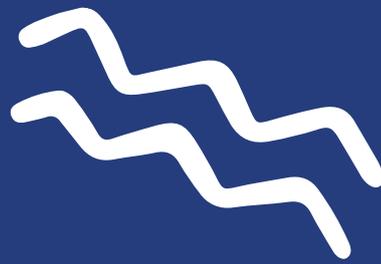
In RE, we are learning about journeys and thinking about the different journeys people make.

In Computing, the children have begun exploring programmable robots (Beebots), learning how to give simple instructions to make them move.

In Maths, we are busy consolidating our addition and subtraction skills, making sure we can use them confidently in different ways.

Due to the Christmas Performances, the spelling test will take place on Friday this week.

YEAR 2



This week Year 2 has shown just how hardworking and determined our children can be!

In English, we have been busy researching and creating fact files about extreme weathers. The children explored hurricanes, blizzards, heatwaves and floods to name a few, thinking carefully about how these events affect people and places. This section of our topic has been wonderful for them to see what a meteorologist does and given them inspiration for a videoed weather forecast next week!

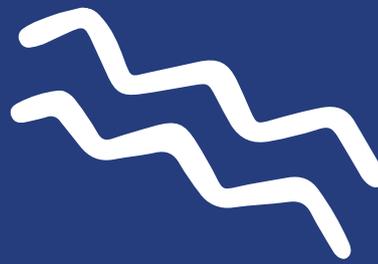
In Maths, we have been working hard on subtraction using place value and number lines. The children practised breaking numbers into tens and ones, then used number lines to jump backwards with confidence. Some have even challenged themselves to do different sized jumps including 2s, 5s and 10s!

In RSE, we reflected on thankfulness, considering the people and things we are grateful for in our lives. Our DT lessons have been especially hands-on. The children carefully cut out their fabric pieces using a template and have now begun sewing their hats together. They are learning to use needles safely and are very proud of their progress.

In RE, our focus has been on angels. We discussed how angels are represented in stories and art, and the children shared thoughtful ideas about their meaning. We created a stain glass window which was used in our Christmas performance.

The focus for the last few weeks has been to create a modern twist on the traditional nativity story. The teachers put on their director, composer, prop design and staging hats ready to write the script. After including a couple of jokes and sorting parts, the children worked incredibly hard to learn their lines and all the songs/poems! All the staff in Year 2 are incredibly proud of the children's confidence, dedication and resilience! Thank you to all the grownups who could make it and for joining in with our festive craft, we hope you enjoyed it as much as we did!

ECO SCHOOLS



Cut your Carbon Challenge

Well done to the 27 children (and families), who took part in and handed in your sheets for the Cut your Carbon Challenge for November.

22 children managed to have at least three plant based meals in the month.

25 children managed to walk somewhere they would have normally driven on three occasions.

25 children managed to meal plan for at least one week.

27 children dropped their washing machine to 30 degrees at least three times.

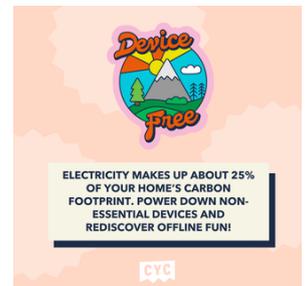
22 children managed a device free day.

24 children turned the heating down by 1 degree for at least a week.



As a consequence, as a collective, they reduced carbon emissions by approximately 487.3 kgCO₂e:

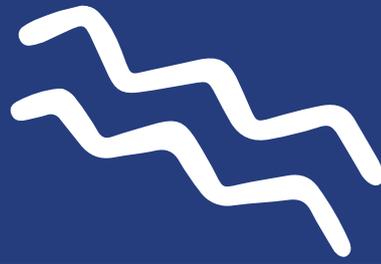
Estimated Carbon Savings	
'Cool It.'	22.4 kgCO ₂ e
'Ditch The Drive.'	38.3 kgCO ₂ e
'Drop It Like It's Hot.'	167.3 kgCO ₂ e
'Veggie Vibes.'	247.7 kgCO ₂ e
'Meal Plan-et.'	7.2 kgCO ₂ e
'Have a Device-Free Day.'	4.4 kgCO ₂ e



To put that into context it would take approximately 23 mature oak trees to absorb that much carbon. Well done to the families who took part - we hope some of the new habits will be sustained.



ECO SCHOOLS



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: adminoffice@tweseldown.hants.sch.uk

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

Litter Picking Loan Equipment:

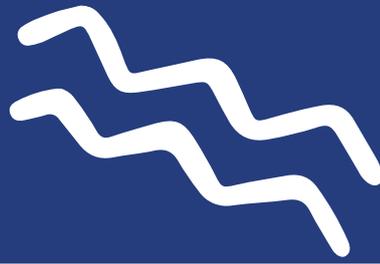
Remember we have litter picking equipment which you can borrow over the weekend. There is still space for this weekend:

<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.

Growing Fruits and Vegetables

We are looking for a team of people to help the school with growing our own fruit and vegetables. A google form will be sent out for this in due course. If you are interested, please let us know via the form. Thank you!

BEYOND THE GATE



Volunteers:

Thank you to everyone who has volunteered in our Beyond the Gate sessions this term. Mrs Dear values your support.
The sign up for next half term will go live next week.

Blog:

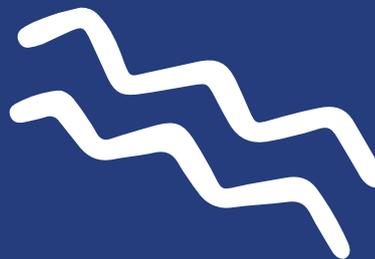
Have you looked at the Beyond the Gate blog on the website? It is a great way to stimulate a conversation with your child about what they enjoyed doing and what they learnt: <https://www.tweseldowninfantschool.co.uk/page/?title=Forest+School+Blog&pid=277>.

Donations:

For an activity Mrs Dear needs lots of open pine cones. If you are on a walk and find any please collect the, 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



Upcoming PTFA Events & Dates

Monday 15th December – PTFA Stocking Fillers & Half Price Sale

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

PTFA Stocking Fillers & Half Price Sale – Monday 15th December

Come and grab some stocking fillers for your child or simply treat your little one to some festive items ahead of the big day. We will be **outside the main entrance from 14:45-15:15 on Monday 15th December.**

Items priced at £2 or less!

All money raised will go towards PTFA funded activities in 2026.

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!

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)*****

Second-hand Uniform Update

Please note that **we are currently not accepting any second-hand uniform donations.** We have run out of storage space! We will update you as soon as we are able to take donations again. Thank you for your understanding.

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/>