



SILCHESTER CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

Compassion, Courage & Respect

Dear Families of Silchester,

It happens early in primary schools, and this week it appears that Christmas has arrived!

It began at the weekend when the Miles family turned Christmas Fairies and created the beautiful archway that now covers our entrance. Thank you so much for giving up your time to do so – it looks great. On Wednesday, we upheld one of the loveliest Silchester traditions, when several families gathered to walk into the woods to choose our Christmas Tree. The children loved rambling around selecting their tree and were (thankfully!) helped by lots of dads who gallantly carried the tree back and put up in the hall. It is enormous! Huge thanks to Rich Edwards for kindly leading us and allowing this tradition to continue.



Art Trip to The Willink

In her role as Art leader, Mrs Dowling organised a fab trip for lots of our children this week. They went over to The Willink where they got to take part in an art class led by The brilliant Willink art team. As you can see from the photos, the children had a great time and it was so lovely to enable them to take part in this opportunity.





Junior Road Safety Officers

After school today, our Junior Road Safety Officers will be giving out fluorescent slap bands to promote children's safety when out and about. All children are welcome to take one band. If you are able to donate to their cause to cover the costs, then donations will be gratefully received.

PTA CHRISTMAS FAIR!

We do hope that you will be able to join us for the PRA Christmas Craft Fair this Saturday 23rd November.

It promises to be a really special event for the school. Our wonderful PTA have put so much effort into planning an occasion full of stalls, games, activities, grotto, raffle, tombola and all of the Christmas bells and whistles!

Our School Choir will also be performing, so do join us for a singalong and enjoy the festivities.

An **enormous** thank you to all of the PTA for the time and effort they have put into arranging this event. I can't wait to see the school full of Christmas cheer when the preparations begin after school today and hope that you all have a really special time on Saturday.

Children's Christmas Market

From Monday 25th December, the PTA will be accepting donations for the Christmas Market so that your children can do their own Christmas shopping! It's a lovely tradition for the children of Silchester Primary and something they look forward to each year. Classes will have the opportunity to visit the Christmas Market in the school hall on the afternoon of Friday 6th December. Items are sold to the children for £1 each. We therefore suggest each child brings a maximum of £5 cash on the day (ideally in a named purse or envelope that can be safely stored by class teachers until it is needed) to purchase items for their friends and family.

We'd love this year's Children's Christmas Market to be as successful as ever, so we are asking for your help. Please can we ask for donations for the Market and make the following suggestions for each year to bring in (please make sure all donations are in good condition):

- Year R - Pet gifts
- Year 1 - Dad/male gifts
- Year 2 - Children's gifts (not items that are baby gifts)
- Year 3 - Mum/female gifts
- Year 4 - Dad/male gifts
- Year 5 - Mum/female gifts
- Year 6 - Dad/male gifts



Upcoming Nativities

The children in Chestnut and Hazel Class have already begun practicing for their nativity performances. They will be doing a dress rehearsal to the whole school and local nurseries on Tuesday 10th December. We will then be holding non-ticketed open performances for parents, grandparents and others on:

- Wednesday 11th December at 2:15pm
- Thursday 12th December at 9:15am

This year, our Ladybirds Class (Year R) are doing their own nativity Christmas show for parents on:

- Friday 13th December at 2:30pm.

CAMHS Events for Parents

The Hampshire Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service offer some information events for parents, so we wanted to flag these to you in case they are of interest:

PACE events (Free) – Alton, 23 Jan 2025

<https://hampshirecamhs.nhs.uk/events/p-a-c-e-21-nov-copy/>

Or Basingstoke 27 Feb 2025 (may be better for Silchester parents) – flyer below

<https://hampshirecamhs.nhs.uk/events/p-a-c-e-21-nov-copy-copy/>

P.A.C.E. 2025
PARENT & CARER EVENTS

NHS
Hampshire Child and Adolescent
Mental Health Services

**A free mental health & wellbeing event
for all parents and carers who support
or work with young people**

THURSDAY, 27TH FEBRUARY 2025
QUEEN MARY'S COLLEGE, CLIDDSDEN RD,
BASINGSTOKE, HAMPSHIRE RG21 3HF

WHAT CAN I EXPECT?
PACE events consist of two main components:

1. A number of introductory sessions on young people's emotional health and wellbeing.
2. Information stands from local organisations.

Attendees can choose which sessions they would like to attend; select as many or as few as you would like to attend.

SESSIONS:
NEW Connecting with your child, AI & Safeguarding, Understanding ADHD - an extended session

To find out more and booking scan this QR code

BOOK YOUR SESSION SPACE AT:
hampshirecamhs.nhs.uk/events

You have to book on and select individual sessions:

60 minute sessions include:

- Eating Difficulties including ARFID
- Trauma Recovery
- Introduction to Managing ADHD
- YP in Crisis & Managing Self-Harm
- Coping and Resilience Strategies to

Support Children & Young People

- Introduction to Autism
- YP with Obsessive Compulsive

Disorder (OCD)

Looking After Yourself to Support Your Child

- Connecting with your Child
- Managing Anxiety
- Artificial Intelligence and Safeguarding

135 minutes sessions include:

- Understanding ADHD
- Supporting your Autistic Child to Thrive

Furthermore, there is a full day session on **How to cope when your child can't** - Thurs 30 Jan 2025 (Basingstoke) Cost £25 – more information available at:

[How To Cope When Your Child Can't Event – Basingstoke 2025 – CAMHS](#)

Christingle Toy Service

Our very own lovely Reverend Karen would like to invite you all to the Christingle and Toy Service at St Mary's Church on Sunday 1st December.

During this service, they collect presents to give to local children. This year, they have a list of nearly 1000 children in need who live in and around our area.

Should you wish to contribute a new gift that can be passed on, we have a collection box in the office at school.



St Mary-the-Virgin, Silchester, RG7 2HH

Christingle and Toy Service




 We'll be collecting new, unwrapped, toys at the service for the Salvation Army Toy Appeal

(Toys can be left, ahead of the service, at the back of the church, at Silchester School, or in the Village Hall. Thank you.)

Sunday 1st December, 10am

St Mary-the-Virgin
Silchester




 **Loddon Valley Lions Club present**

SANTA

is coming to town

DATE	TIME	AREA	START	FINISH
Mon 2	5:45pm	Baughurst	The Badgers Wood	The Elephant Restaurant
Tue 3	5:15pm	Bramley West	Minchens Lane for 30 mins	Tudor Close to The Bramley
Wed 4	5:45pm	Tadley North	Lidl Supermarket	Falcon Fields
Thu 5	5:45pm	Tadley East	Swimming Pool	New Inn
Fri 6	5:15pm	Tadley Central	Sainsbury's Supermarket	Sainsbury's Supermarket
Sat 7	4:15pm	Kingsclere	St Mary's Church	The George and Horn
Mon 9	5:45pm	Silchester & Little London	The Calleva Arms	The Plough
Tue 10	5:45pm	Tadley West	Bishopswood Road Shops	The Badgers Wood
Wed 11	5:45pm	Pamber Heath & Tadley	The Pelican	Bishopswood Road Shops
Thu 12	5:45pm	Sherborne St John	West End	Village Hall
Fri 13	5:15pm	Tadley North West	Bishopswood Schools	Link Community Centre
Sat 14	4:15pm	Tadley New Road Estates	Swimming Pool	Candover Gardens
Mon 16	5:45pm	Ramsdell, Charter Alley, Monk Sherborne	The Queens College Arms	The Queens College Arms
Tue 17	5:45pm	Tadley South	St Paul's Church	St Paul's Church via Tadley Gate
Wed 18	5:45pm	Pamber Heath	The Pelican	The Pelican
Thu 19	5:45pm	Mortimer	St John's Church	Williamson Close via Strawberry Fields
Fri 20	5:15pm	Bramley East	The Bramley	Centenary Fields
Sat 21	4:15pm	Bramley Green	The Bramley	Kirby Drive via Lane End
Mon 23	5:45pm	Sherfield-on-Loddon	The White Hart	The Four Horseshoes
Tue 24	9:00am	Tadley, Sainsbury's Supermarket - Static until 1:00pm		

For details of each route go to:
www.loddonvalleylions.org

And finally...!

Santa is coming to town!

The Loddon Valley Lions will be bringing Santa on his brightly lit sleigh to meet children along his route. The list of dates, times and places are attached.

He will be visiting Silchester on Monday 9th December starting at The Calleva Arms at 5:45pm.

Upcoming Key Dates

Friday 22 nd November	JRSO's selling fluorescent slap bands after school – Be Bright Be Seen!
Saturday 23 rd November	PTA Christmas Fair
From 25 th November	Receiving donations for the Christmas Market
Friday 6 th December	Year R Theatre Trip – funded by our PTA
Friday 6 th December	PTA Children's Christmas Market
Wednesday 11 th December – 2:15pm Thursday 12 th December – 9:15pm	Nativity Performances – Chestnut and Hazel Class (Year 1,2,3)
Friday 13 th December – 2:30pm	Nativity Christmas Show – Ladybirds Class (Year R)
Wednesday 11 th – Friday 13 th December	Year 5 residential to Ufton Court
Tuesday 17 th December	6pm – 7pm Christmas Carol Concert
Wednesday 18 th December	Christmas Dinner at School
Thursday 19 th December	Chestnut and Hazel Class – Nativity Trail with the church
Friday 20 th December	Last Day of Autumn Term and break up for Christmas Holidays

I hope that you and your families have a great weekend, and I'll look forward to welcoming you back to school on Monday.

Rachel Moir

Rachel Moir
Head of School