



SAMLESBURY

Church of England Primary School



NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2023



OUTDOOR WORSHIPS

All classes have now had their outdoor worships for this term, as well as their Godly Play worships. Lots of fun was had by all as we explored in more detail the Creation Story.

We've one more outdoor worship planned for this term which will be our first ever whole school Forest Church session.



ANTI-BULLYING WEEK

Wearing odd socks to show we are all different was just one of the things we did during Anti-Bullying Week.

Worship Theme: REVERENCE & RESPECT

This half term's Bible verse:

'Do to others as you would have them do to you' Luke 6:31

VISITORS INTO SCHOOL

We welcomed Archdeacon David Picken into school this month. He led an informative question and answer session with Key Stage 2 as well as a whole school worship.

Years 5 and 6 also welcomed PC Ash Gibson and Nicola in to talk about hate crimes as part of their learning in PSHE.



DODGEBALL SUCCESS

Our fantastic Y3/4 Dodgeball team took part in an inter-schools competition where they had to play 10 matches. They were fantastic throughout and ended up in 2nd place. Huge congratulations!



OPEN DAY

We held an Open Day for prospective Reception children and their families.

Our Year 6s were tour guides and we couldn't have been prouder! They spoke so confidently and enthusiastically as they showed our guests around.



DERIAN HOUSE LUNCHTIME CHALLENGES

Our Ethos Council organised a variety of lunchtime challenges to raise money for Derian House. In just one lunchtime, we raised £53.00. Thank you to everybody who took part.

AND THAT'S NOT ALL!!!

We've also had a book fair; our Y5s have taken part in Sports Leader training; our pupil councils have organised a fundraising day...and that's all on top of our amazing learning that takes place every day!

PARENT QUESTIONNAIRE - FEEDBACK

Thank you to everyone who completed one of our parental questionnaires at the recent parents' evening. It was brilliant to hear so many comments and really useful to hear little niggles or suggestions for improvement. We've written some of the comments below (yellow), along with our responses (blue).

Communication was an interesting area – some parents said there was too much whilst others said there was too little! Some said they preferred the monthly newsletter whilst others said they would prefer weekly newsletters home. Communication is an area we're going to look at developing further and it would help us if you could complete the ten quick questions mentioned on the next page...

We'd like more / different sports at the after school clubs.

Firstly, we'd like to celebrate the fact that both our lunchtime and after school clubs are free (which is not the case at all schools).

Historically we've found numbers have dropped when we offered alternative sports to Key Stage 2, but we're happy to try again!

The infants sports clubs also include cricket and rounders in the summer terms.

Miss Wallace is running Science Club for Y3/4 next half-term.

Explain transition a little better.

I think a briefing with parents moving from infants to Y3/4 would be helpful.

We agree! This is definitely something we'll put into place moving forwards.

We'd like more information about what the children have been learning.

Our Curriculum News comes home at the start of each term and gives an outline of what the children will be learning. You can also find some more information on our website.

It's fantastic that you want to share what your child has been learning at home and if at any stage you'd like to know more details, please just chat to the staff at the end of the day.

We'd love to know topic areas for reception so we can discuss better at home.

We do try to share some of our learning on Facebook, but school is such a busy place, it's difficult to put everything on. We hope you enjoyed our new first page of the newsletter as we celebrate some of what's been going on this month. How to share learning and success is another area we're exploring, so that also features in our ten quick questions...

Too many Facebook pages – there seem to be multiple Samlesbury School pages.

We've done our best to delete any old pages. Please do let us know if you come across any.

TEN QUICK QUESTIONS...

We have a ten short questions (most are just yes/no answers) that we'd love for you to answer by clicking [on this link](#). It should only take you a few minutes but it will be helpful information for us to make Samlesbury even better. The topics are...

1 - PARENTS' EVENING

Would you be interested in a morning appointment at our next parents' evening?

2 - FACEBOOK

We post a lot of information celebrating what we do in school on Facebook, but do you see it? Is there a different way you would prefer us to share what's been happening in school?

3 - SCHOOL CALENDAR

Do you use the calendar on our school webpage?

4 - CLASS DOJO

Earlier this term, we put a few events on the calendar function on Class Dojo, which meant you probably received alerts on your phone. Did you notice this and like the feature or was it too much?

5 - DIARY DATES

Do you find the diary dates poster in the foyer useful?

THANK YOU FROM THE SCHOOL COUNCIL

Thank you to everyone who was able to support Wednesday's bits and bobs sale. The Pupil Councillors have worked incredibly hard to organise this so a massive thank to them all. We raised a fantastic £192.25 which will be split between our two school charities - Compassion child and Derian House. Anything that was left (and there wasn't much!) was taken to a Derian House charity shop.

PSHE VISIT

We do apologise again for having to postpone our PSHE visit day. Unfortunately, the presenter visiting school was unwell, however we have rearranged the day for **Thursday 1st February**. The details remain the same as previously shared and all parents/carers are warmly invited to a 10-15 minute workshop starting at 8.50am to come and find out more about what their children will be learning during the day. There's no need to sign up, just come along on the day.

TROPHIES

If your child was awarded a trophy during the summer celebration service, please return it to school by Wednesday 13th December, ready to be awarded to this term's winners. Thank you.

FOSS Update

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

Thank you for all the fantastic donations sent in today for the Christmas hampers.

Children will be coming home with raffle tickets soon with some fantastic prizes, including a top prize of £100 cash, PNE tickets, hampers and a meal for 2, plus many other exciting prizes.

Winning tickets will be drawn on Monday 18th December to give families chance to collect their prizes.



To book your child's place, please send cash in a clearly named envelope. Thank you.

What's happening in school this month?

INFANT SHOW

– 4th, 5th, 6th December

The infants are very excited about their performances of The Angel Who Nearly Missed It All. Families are invited to two performances (the dress rehearsal on 4th is for Key Stage 2):

Tuesday 5th December at 2pm
Wednesday 6th December at 6pm

There's no need to book tickets, but we would love it if you could make a cash donation on the evening. All donations go towards future shows in schools, as well as some treats for our Christmas parties. There are lots of hidden costs when putting on a school show, from buying scripts to licencing fees so.

Children should **return to school at 5.40pm** for the Wednesday performance, ready to start at 6pm.

FOREST CHURCH WORSHIP

– 8th December

All children are taking part in our first ever Forest Church Worship which will take place at Forest School. All children will need to **bring appropriate footwear** to change into, eg wellies or stout footwear and waterproofs. **Warm layers**, such as hats and gloves would also be useful.

THE WIZARD OF OZ

– 13th December

This is our whole school trip to Planet Ice, Blackburn to watch The Wizard of Oz. Children who haven't yet returned their slips have been given a second paper letter today: please **return** these by **Wednesday 6th December**. **Payment** needs to be made on ParentPay **before 13th December**.

A **big thank you to FOSS** for paying for the transport and slushies during the interval.

CHRISTMAS JUMPER & DINNER DAY

– 7th December

All children are invited to wear a Christmas jumper or Christmas top, along with their usual uniform on Thursday 7th December.

This is also our **Christmas dinner** day. If you would like a Christmas dinner for your child, please pay on **ParentPay**. All infants are eligible to receive a free Christmas dinner.

PARENTS'/CARERS FOREST SCHOOL SESSION

– 15th December

All **infant parents/carers** are invited to join the class for a Christmas themed Forest School Session. **Please let Miss Wallace know by Friday 8th December** if you would like to join in the fun.

CHRISTMAS SERVICE, BLACKBURN CATHEDRAL

– 14th December

We're very excited to be taking part in a **joint worship at Blackburn Cathedral** with the other two schools in the Benefice. All **families are invited** to join us in the **Cathedral** for a short service starting at **1pm**. We'll be back in school ready for dismissal at the end of the day. If you haven't yet sent back your slip or replied to the email giving **permission**, please do so **by Wednesday 7th December**.

END OF TERM CELEBRATION WORSHIP

– 20th December

All families are invited to share in our end of term celebration worship which will take place in church, starting at **9am on 20th December**. This service will be led by our Key Stage 2 children.

ICE DAY

– 20th December

We'll return to school ready for a day of Science-based learning as we have our very first Ice Day!

CHRISTMAS PARTY – 21st December

All children are invited to come to school in non-uniform / party clothes for the last day of term. We will still be having playtimes on this day (and active party games), so please make sure they wear sensible footwear for outdoor play / running around.

FINISH FOR CHRISTMAS – 21st December

We finish for Christmas at 3.15pm on Thursday 21st December.

Church / School Links

CRAFT AFTERNOON – 5th December

On Tuesday afternoon (5th December), we will be holding our second craft afternoon of the year, **straight after school in church**. We will be making an angel, or a nativity set or both, depending on how long you want to stay!

There will be teas and coffees with drinks for the children.

Please come and join us.



PRAYER MORNINGS WITH REV KAREN

You would be most welcome to join Rev Karen in church at 9am for a short prayer session on any of these dates: Monday 11th December, Wednesday 13th December, Thursday 14th December, Wednesday 3rd January, Thursday 4th January.

CAROL SERVICE – 17th December

The Carol Service is on Sunday 17th December at 6.30pm at St Leonard-the-Less.

All the angels that the children have made will be on display, there will be some music and poetry along with all those festive carols.

There will also be mince pies and mulled wine served afterwards.

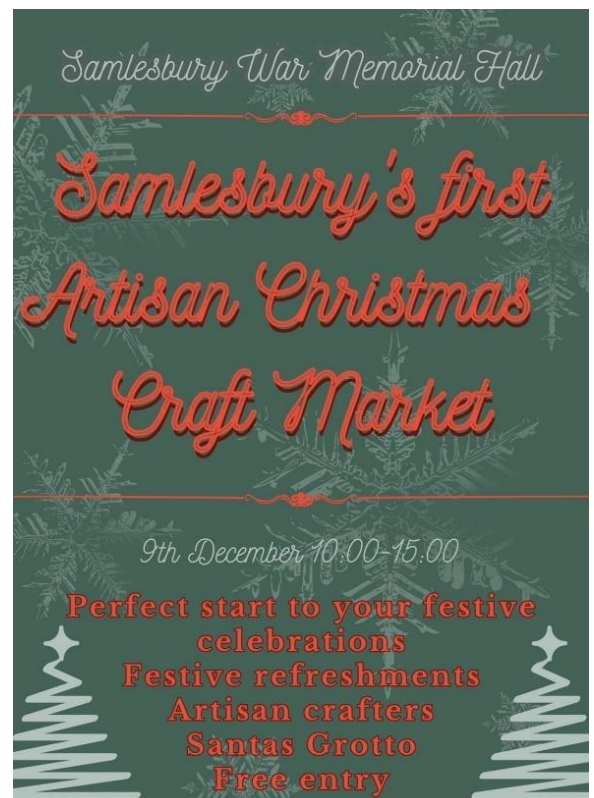
All are welcome!



Community News

CHILDREN AND FAMILY WELLBEING SERVICES

Children and Family Wellbeing Services offer a wide range of activities for local families, aimed at those with children from 0-19. This includes baby groups, sessions for children in primary school to develop their confidence and self-esteem as well as groups for parents. All groups are free. Attached to this week's email is their leaflet showing what's on offer this term or you can take a look at their Facebook page 'South Ribble Children and Family Wellbeing Service'. This leaflet contains activities running until the end of December.



November Samlesbury Superstars

DOJO WINNERS

ANNABELLA (Y2)
KIAN (Y2)
GRACE (Y2)
FLORRIE-MAY (YR)

JUDE (Y4)
LAILA (Y4)
THOMAS (Y4)
THEODORE (Y4)

IMOGEN (Y6)
WILLOW (Y5)
LEANNA (Y6)
LAYLA-MARYAM (Y5)

HEADTEACHER AWARDS

ELLIOTT (Y4)
THOMAS (YR)

LEADING LIGHT AWARDS

AMENA (Y1)
HENRY (YR)
FREYA (YR)
HENRY (Y1)

NOAH (Y3)
JAXON (Y4)
WILLIAM (Y3)
EDITH (Y4)

MIA (Y6)
KAYDEN (Y6)
EMELIA (Y6)
WILLOW (Y5)

Reading Awards

Infants

INFANT READER OF THE WEEK

NOAH (Y1)
FLORRIE-MAY (YR)
BELLA (Y2)
LOTTIE (Y2)

Juniors

100% READING AWARD

TILLY (Y3)
GEORGE (Y3)
HENRY (Y3)
ESTHER (Y3)
ELLIOTT (Y4)
JUDE (Y4)
LAILA (Y4)
THEODORE (Y4)
JAXON (Y4)
MATILDA (Y4)

LILLY (Y5)
JACOB (Y5)
EESA (Y5)
ISAAC (Y5)
HARRY (Y6)
SAMMY (Y6)



Congratulations to you all for shining your lights and setting a fantastic example!

DIARY DATES

5th December – Infant Show at 2pm.

6th December – Infant Show at 6pm (children to be back by 5.40pm please).

7th December – Christmas Jumper and Christmas Dinner Day (KS2 children can order on ParentPay).

8th December – Forest Church (children will need to bring clothing suitable to put on so that they can take part in worship at Forest School, eg wellies/hat/gloves etc).

9th December – Choir singing at 11.30am at Samlesbury's Artisan Christmas Craft Market at Samlesbury War Memorial Hall.

11th December – Canon Daunton leading worship in school at 2.45pm.

13th December – Whole school trip to see Wizard of Oz at Planet Ice, Blackburn.

14th December – All school to Blackburn Cathedral to take part in the three Benefice schools joint Christmas Service. All parents/carers invited – the service starts at 1.00pm.

14th December – FOSS Christmas Disco (details to follow).

15th December – Infant parent/carers Forest School session starting at 1.30pm.

18th December – Rev Karen leading worship in school at 2.45pm.

20th December – 9am End of term celebration service in church. All welcome.

20th December – 'Ice Day' throughout school as we use ice to develop our science skills.

21st December – Christmas parties in the afternoon (children can come in non-uniform).

21st December – Finish for Christmas at 3.15pm.

8th January – Return to school.

24th January – Free online safety information session on Zoom for all parents/carers at 6pm. The session will be led by Nigel Kirkham (a Teaching and Learning Consultant for Computing and Online Safety). We'll share log in details nearer the time.

Remember to subscribe to the calendar on our website which we update regularly and select the 'google calendar' option for automatic updates.