



It was great to see you!

Thank you to all the parents who attended the Y1 and Y2 Harvest Assemblies. It is always good for the children to have an opportunity to share their learning with you and we hope you enjoyed these celebrations.



Thank you also to the parents who attended the Early Years reading meeting on Tuesday 17th October. We hope you found it useful. If you were unable to attend, there is a link to the presentation on the website, under Children—Reception—News (October 2017) Please do speak to your child's class teacher if you have any further questions or concerns.

Opportunities to earn awards

Children have the opportunities to earn awards in school for the time they spend outside of school reading and being active.



Please read the following sections carefully for more information about these award schemes. We know they are new to most Year R parents, so if you have any further questions, please speak to your child's class teacher.

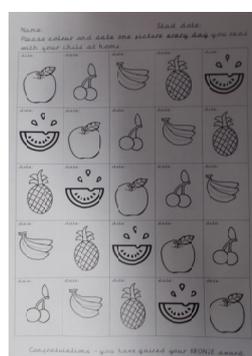
Reading Awards Scheme

Last year, we introduced a successful reading awards scheme to encourage children to read at home as often as possible.



We are restarting this after half term.

Today, your child will bring home a set of cards covered with pictures. Please keep



these tucked inside your child's reading diary.

Each day that your child reads at home and the reading diary is signed he or she may colour in one of the pictures.

Please begin with the card on the top of the stack, which will earn your child his or her bronze award. Children need to colour in 25 pictures to get a bronze award certificate, 50 for a silver certificate and 100 for a gold certificate.

Teachers in school will check that the number of pictures coloured matches the number of times the reading diary has been signed and then remove each card as it is completed. Parents will then be invited to a special assembly when certificates are presented to children.

Change of dates

Unfortunately, we have had to change the dates of the reading rewards assemblies. The first reading rewards assembly will now be held on Monday 27th November and the following one on Wednesday 20th December, both at 9 a.m.

Important Dates

AUTUMN TERM 2017

Mon 23 Oct - Fri 27 Oct: Half term

Mon 13 Nov (all classes) & Weds 15 Nov (all classes except Moles): Parent/ teacher meetings (all year groups)

Weds 15 Nov: Flu vaccinations for whole school. More information to follow.

Thurs 16 Nov: Parents' Evening for Moles.

Tues 21 Nov: } 9.00 Y1 Phonics for
 } parents -

Weds 22 Nov: } 6.00 more info to follow

Thurs 23 Nov: Y2 visit from Fire Service

Fri 24 Nov: FoSM Art Evening

Monday 27 Nov: 9.00 Reading awards assembly (Please note change of date)

Tues 12 Dec: 9.30 YR Nativity play

Weds 13 Dec: 9.30 Y1 Nativity play
 2.00 Y2 Nativity play

Thurs 14 Dec: 9.30 YR Nativity play
 2.00 Y1 Nativity play

Fri 15 Dec: 9.30 Y2 Nativity play

Please be aware that babies and pre-school children will not be admitted to the Christmas performances. They are strictly for adults only.

Mon 18 Dec: School Christmas Lunch

Tues 19 Dec: 2.00 Church service

Weds 20 Dec: 9.00 Reading awards assembly (Please note change of date)

Weds 20 Dec: Party day

Thurs 21 Dec: Last day of term

Aldershot Active Award

The cluster of Aldershot schools are working together on an award scheme for children to encourage them to be active when they are out of school. We know that lots of you encourage your children to be active, so they shouldn't find it hard to achieve the awards! Children will have cards which can be stamped in school when they have been active after school or at the weekend. They will work towards bronze, silver and gold awards, with each award gaining them a badge which can be sewn on to their school uniform. Children in Years 1 and 2 should already have their cards from last term, but children in Year R will be bringing theirs home today.



Parents' Evenings

A reminder that for the forthcoming parents' evenings in November we operate an online booking system. Bookings will open on Monday 30th October at midday and close on Friday 10th October at midday. If you have mislaid your log-on, don't

worry, just contact the school office where a replacement can be printed off for you.



Operation Christmas Child



Every year we like to encourage our children to think about those less fortunate than themselves by contributing to 'Operation Christmas Child'. We send shoeboxes filled with small toys and other items to parts of the world where children might otherwise have nothing for Christmas. Parents can either prepare a complete shoe box, or send individual items to school for us to collect. You will be receiving a leaflet from The Samaritan's Purse which gives further details, and provides a label to go on the box, but in brief you need to decide whether the medium sized shoebox is for a boy or a girl, and for an age group either 2-4, 5-9 or 10-14. The box needs to be covered in wrapping paper, with the lid wrapped separately, and filled with age appropriate items. £1 shop items are fine, but no books (because the child receiving the box might not read English), no war related items and no chocolate or liquids. Suitable items include toys, school supplies, toothbrush and toothpaste, soap, hairbrush, wrapped sweets (not chocolate) with a long use by date, knitted hat, scarf etc. If you need more labels or further information, these can be found at <https://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/2017-operation-christmas-child-resources/>.

The 'Shoebox' service, at St. Michael's Parish Church, is at 3.00 pm Sunday 19th November. Children and parents make a human chain to pass shoeboxes along to fill a van in preparation for taking them abroad. If you can't come to the Church service, we are more than happy to take your shoeboxes on your behalf as long as we receive them by Friday 17th November. It would be wonderful to exceed our last year's total of 33 shoeboxes. Many thanks for your support for this very worthy cause.

Wanted: Lunchtime Supervisory Assistant

We need another lunchtime supervisory assistant as soon as possible. Our team of 10 lunchtime supervisory assistants work closely together to provide a pleasant lunchtime experience for our children. With the introduction of free school meals for all infant children we are now catering for about 220 children every day with the remainder having a packed lunch, and they all eat in the school hall between 12 noon and 1pm. Hours of work are from 12.00 - 1.15 each day (6 $\frac{1}{4}$ hours a week), term times only. Please contact the school office if you are interested.



Parent volunteers

We have had a couple of parents who have volunteered to help us on a school trip recently who were disappointed to discover that they were asked to spend the day in a group without their own child. When we ask for help, it is to help the year group in general, and more often than not parents won't be with their own child, which can actually be a bonus! This also applies when parents volunteer to help in school during the school day. We very much value all parental help, but we have to put the needs of the children first when allocating adults. Thank you for your understanding.