



# SHILLINGSTONE C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

GROWING TOGETHER · TOGETHER WE LEARN

Head Teacher: Mrs J Whitehouse-Sharpe Augustan Avenue · Shillingstone · Blandford · Dorset · DT11 0TX  
Telephone & Fax: 01258 860446 email: office@shillingstone.dorset.sch.uk web: www.shillingstone.dorset.sch.uk

## Dates for diaries:

### Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December

Santa Dash – come to school dressed as santa or Christmas themed clothing – trainers needed!

PTA Christmas Online Pantomime

### Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December

Christmas Jumper Day

## For the body is not one member but many. Corinthians 12: 12-14

### Growing Together. Together we learn.

Our vision reminds us that the body of Christ, or the people that are the whole of humanity, are a team. The body is not supported by one person, but by all of us. We are one; we are strongest working together in unity. As we all we work together we demonstrate our Christian values of **respect, compassion, friendship and trust.**



Our ambition is to: Celebrate diversity, Make a change, and Support families.

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2020

Dear parents,

### Attendance

Whole school attendance from is 7.9.20 to 20.11.20 is 97.03%

Attendance figures for each class for Autumn Term so far:

Jungle Class – 94.59%	Woodland Class – 99.33%	Ocean Class - 98.47%	Desert Class – 95.21%

School attendance is vital for your child to reach their full potential. If your child is unwell, please ensure that you telephone the school office on the morning of the first day of absence. Your help with this is much appreciated.





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### **BACS Payments at Shillingstone**

We now have the ability to accept BACS payment directly into the SAST school bank account, this should make the payment process easier for parents and help us to avoid some cash handling.

The main payments we receive are for breakfast club, trips and uniform (although there is only limited stock of uniform so less likely going forward). Therefore if / when you make a payment, please can you ensure that you include the reference STN, followed by your child's initials and year ??? e.g. EE1, followed by payment purpose BC (breakfast club), T (trip) or U (uniform). If we accept payments for other things in the future, I will let you know a new code at the time. So for example, if pupil John Blake Year 3 parents are paying in monies for breakfast club the reference would be STNJB3BC.

Bank details are as follows:

Account Name: Sherborne Area Schools Trust

Account Number: 43188460

Sort Code: 30-99-98

If you are able please can I ask that you advise once payment has been made, via email is fine. Then I can locate the payment in the bank to process and issue you with a receipt.

If you have any problems let me know and of course we are still able to accept cash / cheque payments if this is easier for you.

For your information I hope to be sending out instruction soon for accepting tax free childcare vouchers for payment of breakfast club, so watch this space.

### **Library Open Again!**

Hi everyone

The library is re-opening its doors on Thursday 3rd December and we are looking forward to welcoming our community back.

We have lots of lovely new children's books for readers of all abilities and we would love to see you but if you can't make it to the library during our revised opening hours, why not request some books via our order and collect service. You can either go online to request books at





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<https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/libraries-history-culture/libraries/libraries.aspx> or you can call the central helpline on 01305 228400. Books can still be reserved through our library catalogue too.

Our current opening hours are

Mon 9.30-1.00pm

Thurs 9.30-1.00pm

Sat 9.00-12.30pm

In other news the library will soon have its own Facebook page where we will be sharing all our library news and fun activities so keep a look out for that too.

See you soon  
Tracey and Rosanna

### Message from the PTA

Hi everyone! Please remember to start at the GivingMachine for all your online shopping, for every purchase through the GivingMachine website or mobile app the PTA receives a percentage of your spend totally FREE! You'll also find special offers and discount codes for various retailers on the website, the link is below.

Thank you!

<https://www.thegivingmachine.co.uk/causes/shillingstone-ce-va-primary-school/>

### The Vale Pantry in Sturminster Newton

The Vale Pantry was set up in 2020 in order to provide affordable and nutritious food to local residents. For a weekly membership of £4.50, members of The Vale Pantry will be able to choose a selection of food with a value of £15 - £20 each week. The pantry is here to help you top up your weekly shop, and the variety of food available includes fresh fruit and veg, store cupboard favourites ...

<https://www.yourlocalpantry.co.uk/thevale/>





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### **Blandford Food Bank**

It is that special time of the year again when our attention turns to the exciting season of Christmas. However, for many, this year will not be the one they were expecting or hoping for.

Blandford Foodbank have been getting ready by collecting seasonal goodies from generous donors and have received over 400 brand new toys to distribute to those families most in need.

Each family will receive:-

Two food parcels

- One delivered during the week beginning 21st December with a Christmas goodie bag
- Second delivered during the week beginning 28th December

Toys for each child up to the age of 12/13 years old.

A meat voucher.

If you are a family that has suffered by lose of a job or being self-employed but unable to work or claim financial aid and finding it hard to make ends meet (you do not need to be on benefits) please contact me in the strictest confidence and I shall provide your details to the Blandford Foodbank.

### **Christmas Post Box in school**

A message from Year 6 We will be creating separate post boxes this year – one for each bubble.

\*You may send Christmas cards to anyone in the school. Please write their name and their class clearly on the envelope. \*Post them into the post box within your bubble. **\*Post boxes will be open from Tuesday 1st December. \*Cards must be posted by Friday 11th December. \*The cards will be quarantined for at least 48 hours (over the weekend). \*Year 6 children will sort the cards the week beginning Monday 14th December. \*The cards will be delivered during the last week of term.**

### **Santa Dash – Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December**

The Year 5 & Year 6 Sports Ambassadors will be leading and planning our Santa Dash. Children should come to school dressed as Santa or in Christmas themed clothing but will need their trainers. Further details to follow!





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### Desert Class Trip to Carey Outdoor Learning Centre



### DESERT CLASS HAD A FANTASTIC DAY OUTDOORS AT CAREY CENTRE!

We were all looking forward to our trip so much and we certainly were not disappointed! Some quotes from the children –

“That was the best day I’ve had in ages!”

“I can’t pick my favourite activity – it was all great fun!”

“I’ve loved everything.”

All of the Year 5 & 6 children took part in 4 separate activities during the day, fire lighting workshop, orienteering star course (very challenging), low ropes and ski planks . They worked well together, encouraging and supporting each other, as well as challenging themselves to try new activities.





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### **Maypole Nursery**

We are very sad to announce that Maypole Nursery will be closing at the end of December. We have been through a tendering process to try and find a new provider. The date for bidders' applications for the nursery contract closed on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> November. Unfortunately, on this occasion, no bidders have come forward. This is extremely disappointing as it is very important for us to have a nursery on the school site. We were hoping that there would be a smooth transition from Maypole to the new provider early in the new year. We will continue to look for new providers in the coming weeks and months but sadly we cannot guarantee when they will start.

We hope that the timing of this tendering process, during a national Covid lockdown, has been the reason for the lack of bidders on this occasion. However, nationally nurseries are finding it difficult to continue to run as viable businesses.

Maypole are providing some of our families with after school childcare which will sadly cease when Maypole close their doors. Due to the number of children/families that use this service, the school is currently unable to provide after school child care as it is not viable financially. The school will continue to provide after school sports clubs where COVID restrictions allow.

### **Christmas tableau at Holy Rood**

From 12<sup>th</sup> December the porch at Holy Rood church will be transformed into a beautiful Christmas nativity scene.

Do go and have a look and take a moment to reflect on the wonder of the Christmas story - that God was born as a baby in a stable in Bethlehem.

### **PTA Christmas Pantomime Online**

All classes will be watching an online pantomime of Cinderella in their own classrooms. This is the closest thing we can do instead of our usual annual trip to the pantomime in Poole.

### **Christmas Jumper Day – Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December**

Due to the Santa Dash and Pantomime we will be swapping our Christmas Jumper Day to Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December. We will be supporting Save the Children Fund on this day and a donation would be appreciated to help the less fortunate children in the world.





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## Starting School for the first time in September 2021

If you have a child who is born between 1 September 2016 and 31 August 2017 they will be due to start school in September 2021. Applications are open until 15th January 2021. Applications can be made online at [www.dorsetforyou.gov.uk/school-admissions](http://www.dorsetforyou.gov.uk/school-admissions) We are only conducting telephone enquiries at the moment due to Covid-19 regulations.

Yours sincerely

Jane Whitehouse-Sharpe  
Headteacher

