



Dates for diaries:

Sunday 15th March – Mothering Sunday service at Holy Rood church at 10.30am

Thursday 19th March – Comic Relief Red Nose Day. Details below.

Saturday 21st March Doors open 6.45pm - PTA Easter Bingo. Portman Hall. Save the date!

Friday 27th March – Easter Church service at Holy Rood 2:40pm- all welcome

Friday 27th March – Last day of Spring Term

Summer 2:

Monday 29th June – **Sports Day** 9.30am start / 1.30pm finish

Wednesday 1st July – **Back Up Sports Day** (if weather poor on Monday)

Mothering Sunday

From Rev'd Andrew

Children at Shillingstone School in Years 4/5 talked to ladies from the WI on Tuesday 10th March and identified so many different skills that Mothers possess. Together they made quite a stunning image of 'Supermum'. Holy Rood Church celebrates MUMS for an hour at 10.30am this Mothering Sunday (+ posies that young people can give to their parent). There will be a chance to present their own ideas about what makes Mums special? It would be great to be able to welcome extras on this special day.

Looking Ahead Do not miss our pair of Donkeys and their Palm Sunday Procession at 10am on Sunday 29th March from Child Okeford Community Centre Car Park.

More info? Even more important - do not forget your banner, and if you need the chance to make one - look out for our workshop Saturday morning, the day before, at Child Okeford Church. That Palm Sunday, 29th March, get ready for Holy Week with our Sung Eucharist for Holy Week in Holy Rood Church, Shillingstone at 6pm.



SHILLINGSTONE C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL
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Help for Gardening Club

Gardening club will begin next week and need a bit of assistance with some items. If anyone could help we would very much appreciate it!

We are looking for:

Compost for seed planting.

Seeds: sweetcorn, tomatoes, leek, cucumber, courgette, squash, celery, runner beans, broad beans, sweet peas, pak choi, carrot.

Plus some onion sets and seed potatoes.

Also some hand trowels and forks for children to use (most of ours are past their best now).

Many thanks. Mrs Proyer.

Comic Relief



On Thursday 19th March, we will be doing something 'Funny for Money' to raise money for this year's Red Nose Day Appeal. The school council have discussed dressing funny for the day as our school theme. Suggestions include wearing clothes inside out / odd socks / a funny wig / or a funny costume (if you have one). Please focus on donating money to the cause rather than spending money on costumes. In addition it has been suggested that children could bring in their favourite joke to share with their friends that day. Thank you for your continued support. Red noses will also be available for sale from our school office from 9th March. Please donate through our just giving page, we cannot except cash. Please follow the link.

https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/rnd26-shillingstone-church-of-england-primary-school?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=CL&utm_campaign=lc_frp_share_transaction_transactional--_page_launched--_campaign





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Support for Parents

Parenting together in a digital world

Join us for an online information event designed to help parents and carers feel confident supporting their child in today's digital world.

This online event offers practical insights and open, non-judgemental conversations about how smartphones and digital technology can influence children's wellbeing. Professionals will share insights on supporting safe and balanced tech use, and there will be the chance to ask your own questions.

Our speakers include:

Dr Helen Thomas, Hampshire GP

James Law, Primary Headteacher

Leanne Symmonds, Secondary Headteacher

David Sidwick, Dorset Police and Crime Commissioner



Sign up by scanning the QR code or by visiting:
www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/parent-together-event



This event is delivered in partnership with:



Dorset Council is hosting a free online event, *Parenting Together in a Digital World*. The session includes practical insights and advice from local professionals, along with an opportunity to submit questions as part of a Q and A.





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The Mental Health Support Team (MHST) would like to invite all parent/carers to an upcoming online webinar on supporting healthy sleep, held to mark World Sleep Day.

The poster is for a parent/carer webinar titled 'SUPPORTING SLEEP'. It features a teal header with social media icons for Facebook, X, and Instagram, the handle '@DORSETMHST', a logo of interlocking gears with letters M, H, S, T, and the text 'Dorset Mental Health Support Team in Schools'. On the right, it says 'NHS Dorset HealthCare University NHS Foundation Trust'. The main title 'PARENT/CARER WEBINAR' is in a teal box, followed by 'SUPPORTING SLEEP' in large black letters. The text explains the webinar is to mark World Sleep Day and focuses on supporting healthy sleep in children, young people, and teenagers. It lists topics to be covered: why sleep matters, common sleep difficulties, practical tips for healthy routines, and where to find further help. The date and time are Tuesday 10th March, 13.00 - 14.00, and it is online. A QR code is provided for sign-up. A yellow box at the bottom contains the link: bit.ly/4kfZZFQ.

PARENT/CARER WEBINAR

SUPPORTING SLEEP

To mark World Sleep Day, the Mental Health Support Team in Schools would like to invite you to an online webinar focused on supporting healthy sleep in children, young people and teenagers.

We hope you can join us!

During the session, we will cover:

- Why sleep matters for children and young people
- Common sleep difficulties and what contributes to them
- Practical tips for creating healthy routines
- Where to find further help if you need it

Tuesday 10th March
13.00 - 14.00
Online

For more info & sign up: bit.ly/4kfZZFQ



Scan QR code or click on the link: [Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams](https://bit.ly/4kfZZFQ)





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Find the Duck

We are running a competition to win a cuddly duck, a bag of sweets and easter egg this term! All you have to do is buy a square from the office. £1 a square.

We will draw a number on Thursday 26th March and the lucky winner will get to take it all home. The winner will be announced in our whole school assembly in the afternoon.



Thank You Janet and Riley!

We have nominated them for the BBC Make a Difference Awards.

Make A Difference Awards

Therapy Dog – Riley



Janet and Riley make a truly positive difference to life in our school. Every Friday, Janet generously gives her time to visit and support our pupils, bringing with her Riley, a calm and friendly therapy dog who quickly puts children at ease. Together, they provide a unique and valuable form of support that benefits both the learning and emotional wellbeing of our pupils.

One of the most important ways Janet and Riley help is by listening to children read. For pupils who lack confidence in their reading, sitting with Riley creates a relaxed and non-judgmental environment. Children often feel less pressure reading to a dog, which helps them build confidence, improve their fluency, and begin to enjoy reading more.

Janet and Riley also play an important role in supporting pupils who feel anxious about coming into school. Some children find the school day overwhelming, but spending time with Janet and Riley helps them feel calmer and more settled. Their visits give children something positive to look forward to each week, which can make a real difference to how they approach the school day.

Another wonderful aspect of Janet and Riley's visits is the way children open up to them. Many pupils feel comfortable talking while they sit with Riley, and Janet provides a warm, supportive presence that helps children express their thoughts and feelings. This emotional support contributes greatly to the wellbeing of our pupils.

We are incredibly grateful for the kindness, dedication, and positive impact that Janet and Riley bring to our school community every week.





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Summer Term Music lessons

1:1 music lessons in Piano / Keyboard, Guitar and Recorder with Mrs Cooper BA. PGCE. LTCL. MISM.

Practical music lessons are offered developing skills in playing technique, reading music notation, improvisation, composing, music theory and aural skills.

When teaching, Mrs Cooper can demonstrate and accompany a pupil to maintain an enjoyable, creative and enriching musical experience during each half hour lesson.

If interested in further information, please contact Mrs cooper at music.teacher@keebo.co.uk.



Planning ahead...

I know it is along way away but I know some parents need to plan their working days around this. Please find the date on the front of the newsletter.

Timings and plans will be shared nearer the time but this is the normal structure of the day.

We welcome parents in to watch the children take part in track and field events, from 9.30 am – 1pm. You are then more than welcome to stay and have a picnic lunch with your child on the school field. We ask parents to leave school site at 1.30pm.





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PTA Update

Easter Quiz! Please don't forget to return your child's Easter and Spring Quiz that they were sent home with last week. It is 50p entry. There are spare quizzes in the school office. Please come and ask if you need one. There is an Easter goody bag up for grabs, one winner from each class. The winner will be announced during assembly on Thursday 26th March.

Thank you for your support with our Movie Night and Mother's Day Sale. We raised the following



Movie Night £91.74



Mother's Day Sale £119.65

Easter Bingo – Saturday 21st March – 6:45PM Portman Hall

Our big event this term is the Easter Bingo on Saturday 21st March. Lots of plans have been made, but we could do with some help with prizes, so here is a bit of a plea 😊

Do you run a business or know someone who does? Would you like to make a cash donation for prizes at the Easter Bingo in return for a special mention at the Bingo and in our social media? Remember, a donation to the PTA is tax deductible and goes directly to benefiting the children. Thank you!

Alternatively, do you have some (unopened) bottles from Christmas? A box of chocolates that aren't your favourites, or maybe even a gift set that is in the back of the cupboard? Any donations of items that could be used in hampers would be really welcomed! There will be a box left for donations near the front door or please pop them into the school office. Thank you so much for your help with this.

We really want to raise as much as we can at the Easter Bingo and continue our on-going commitment to providing equipment and experiences for the children, so your help is really appreciated. Please do speak to a committee member if you have any questions or ideas.

Kindest regards,

Mr Wright - Head of School (Monday-Thursday) & Mrs Vail - Head of School (Friday).

