



# Newsletter

9<sup>th</sup> January 2026

## Message from the Headteacher

Dear all,

**Happy New Year!** I hope you all had an enjoyable Christmas break- the children seemed to have!

Staff spent the INSET day learning about the **Voice 21 Oracy Framework** which is all about the importance of children learning to talk. We discussed what our aims for talk are in school and the skills we want our children to develop. We looked at some different **strategies for developing high quality talk in the classroom and beyond** and we look forward to putting these in place over the coming terms. You can read more about it here: <https://voice21.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/Voice21-Student-Friendly-Oracy-Framework-Final.pdf>

The start of term has been an **Art week!** We have given curriculum time to art workshops- and the **children have really enjoyed being creative!** We have had a number of artists in school and the children have learnt a variety of skills including water colours, acrylics on canvas, clay tiles, spray painting, graffiti and so much more! A huge **thank you to all the artists who have come into school**, talked to the children, shared their work and led workshops which have given our children such fantastic experiences! Links to some of the artists and their work are below. We look forward to sharing the children's creativity in our **art gallery this afternoon**, which is open to parents from 3pm. Please come through classroom doors and everyone is welcome to have a look at the work across the school.

As always, myself and the team look forward to **working with you in 2026** to provide the best possible educational experience for your child. Please do come and talk to us if you have any questions or concerns so that we can work together for your child.

Beulah

Mrs Beulah Letchford  
Headteacher



## Key Notices

### **Parking**

Please be reminded **not to park or stop** on the yellow zig-zag lines outside of the school **at any time**. This blocks children's and adults views of the oncoming traffic and are there to ensure safety for all.

### **Lunches**

We have a new catering company, Chartwells, who now provide school lunches in ours and other schools across Hampshire. Nick and Dawn still work in the kitchen and are getting to grips with the new menu. We hope the children are enjoying the new dishes. If you have any feedback, we will pass this on to the catering company. Please be reminded to order your child's school dinner on Scopay **every day** - even if your child is bringing a packed lunch from home, this should be recorded as an 'S'.

### **Clubs**

A communication went out to all parents on Thursday regarding the clubs on offer this term. We apologise that some clubs, e.g. netball, continued this week without a prior communication and that this caused some frustration for some parents.

We are working with the Corn Exchange this term and they are running a dance club. We have been pleased with the number of children who have signed up and are excited to see how this develops.

If you would like to run, or support, a club in school we would love to hear from you! Particularly if you have an interest in gardening.

### **Artists in School**

Please find the links to the artists who have been working in school this week if you would like to find out more about their work, or even commission a piece- please mention us if you do!

<https://laylasmurals.co.uk/>

[www.jorichardsartist.com](http://www.jorichardsartist.com)

<https://www.helengrimbleby.com/>

<https://www.facebook.com/Clairehowarthart/>

<https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=3689732004440796&set=a.168282076585824>

<https://livingpaintings.org/>

### **Term dates**

Term dates for the 2026-2027 academic year have been published on the website. Please refer carefully to these when booking holidays.

### Dates for the Diary

Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> January	Art week gallery- open
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> January	Y5/6 Football v Oakley @ Burghclere 1:30pm
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> January	Y5/6 Football finals night @ Park House 4pm
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> January	Y5/6 Netball tournament @ Park House 4pm
Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> January	Y5/6 Athletics @ The Clere 1-3pm Oak class trip to Reading Museum
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> January	Y5/6 Archery @ Park House 4pm
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> January	Y4 Maths Challenge @ St Gabriels 1-3pm
Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> January	SENCo Parent info session - all families welcome in the hall - 8:50am-9:20am
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> January	Falcon class trip to Ufton Court
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> February	Y2 Speed Stacking @ Park House 4pm
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> February	Y5/6 Speed Stacking @ Park House 4pm
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> February	Y5 Maths Challenge @ St Gabriels 1-3pm
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> February	Robin class Egyptian workshop
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> February	FOBS silent letter day - more info to follow
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> February - Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> February	Half term
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February	Young Voices
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> February	FOBS family bingo night - 6:30pm - all welcome