

# October 2023 Newsletter

## Singleton Church of England Primary School

"Passion for Learning .....Passion for life"

Christian Value – Respect

Luke 6:31 "And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them."

Dear Parents,

I cannot believe that it is October already... time really does fly! Class 3 have a very exciting few weeks ahead of them, as they are preparing to go on their residential Trip to Tower Wood in the Lake District. Mrs James, Mrs Lilley and Mr Davies (Chair of Governors) will be accompanying the children and are very excited!

Our new Foundation children have settled very well into life at Singleton School. They are full of life and enthusiasm and we are really enjoying getting to know them all.

There are many exciting things happening over the next few months in the run up to Christmas! Mr Hogg has planned another STEM week; we have a whole school trip to the Panto at the Grand Theatre booked... and FOSS have arranged a Disco for our KS2 Children. Please check the diary dates carefully to make sure that you do not miss anything as at busy times we will not always send out text reminders.



### Opening Times

<b>Monday</b>	7.30 am - 8.45am	3:15 – 5:30 pm
<b>Tuesday</b>	7.30 am - 8.45am	3:15 – 5:30 pm
<b>Wednesday</b>	7.30 am - 8.45am	3:15 – 5:30 pm
<b>Thursday</b>	7.30 am - 8.45am	3:15 – 5:30 pm
<b>Friday</b>	7.30 am - 8.45am	3:15 – 5:30 pm

**Booking** for Acorns closes at 7p.m for the following day. This helps to manage staff and ratios. Without booking the day before, the children will be unable to attend.

All booking information and links are on the school website. Please be aware that fees are subject to change. Acorns offer a 10% discount for siblings. This will automatically be deducted upon booking.

### Important Information:

Acorns has its own Facebook page – please have a look at all the wonderful activities that they provide. The feedback from our children is that the club is "amazing". We agree with them!!!

For any further enquiries, contact details are as follows:

#### Current Fees

<b>Before School Breakfast Club</b>	7.30 am - 8.45 am	£4.75 per child (includes breakfast)
<b>After School Club – full session</b>	3.15 pm - 5.30 pm	£9.50 per child (includes snack)
<b>After School Club – early session</b>	3.15 pm - 4.15 pm	£4.50 per child (no snack)
<b>After School Club following an extra-curriculum activity</b>	4.15pm - 5.30 pm	£5:00 per child (includes snack)

- Sarah Goldie TEL: 07860816175
- EMAIL: [sarahgoldie\\_uk@outlook.com](mailto:sarahgoldie_uk@outlook.com)



### School Office

If you need to contact school for any reason then the office opening hours are as follows:-

<b>Monday</b>	8.00 am - 4.15pm
<b>Tuesday</b>	8.00 am - 4.15 pm
<b>Wednesday</b>	8.00 am - 4.15 pm
<b>Thursday</b>	8.00 am - 4.15 pm
<b>Friday</b>	8.00 am - 3.15 pm

Tel (01253) 882226

Please note that the office is closed for lunch between **12:00 and 1:00pm**

**The phone will not be answered at this time, but a message can be left.**

### Payments to School

Please note all clubs and dinners must be paid for **in advance**.

### Dinner Money

You can pay for School dinners on a weekly or half-termly basis. If you choose to pay weekly, you will need to pay a week **in advance**.

**Dinner money for this term will be £82.50 please pay this via ParentPay.** If you decide that you no longer want your child to have a School dinner or you want to take up the School dinner option, you must give the office a **weeks' notice**, as all food is ordered a week in advance.

### Absence

If your child is absent from school, please inform the office by 9.20am and **leave a message** on the answerphone.



## Extra-Curricular Activities

### Information about PE and extracurricular activities

- Please make sure that your child has additional kit for any after school activity, as P.E. Kit **must not** be worn.
- It is important that for sports such as football and hockey your children have the correct kit (clearly labelled with the child's first and last name) as these clubs **will always** take place outdoors (e.g. Football boots, shin pads, waterproof etc.)– Please ask Mrs James if you are unsure what your child needs.
- Mrs Lilley will oversee the smooth running of the clubs and ensure that children are passed over to parents/ carers at the end of the session.
- All children attending extra-curricular clubs should be collected from Class 3's door.
- Please pick up your child promptly at **4.15pm after clubs**.
- Please make sure that you pay for clubs in advance. If this does not happen then your child will not be booked on the course.
- Please note that as we continue to receive the Sports Grant in the year 2023 /24 we will continue to supplement the cost of the extra-curricular activities once again this year. However due to increases in costs there will be a slight price increase to £3:00 per session (£4 for tennis).



The overall attendance for **September**

was

98%

For more information about attendance and holidays in term time, please check out the school website.

If you need support with attendance and punctuality please contact Miss Manns, our Family Learning Mentor



Happy Birthday to the following children  
**October**

1<sup>st</sup> – Alexia  
1<sup>st</sup> - Alice Young  
3<sup>rd</sup> – Reuben  
6<sup>th</sup> – Harris  
21<sup>st</sup> - Harriet  
26<sup>th</sup> – Autumn  
28<sup>th</sup> – Molly  
30<sup>th</sup> - Martha

## EXTRA-CURRICULAR CLUBS SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 2023 FROM MONDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER TO THURSDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2023

	Lower School	Upper School
<b>Monday</b>	Multi-Skills Y2/3 £18	Dance Y4/5/6 £18
<b>Tuesday</b>	Brass Y2 £30 Football (outdoor) Y2/3 £18 Woodland Reading Club (until 4pm) £6	Brass Y3/4/5/6 £30 Basketball Y4/5/6 £18
<b>Wednesday</b>	Outdoor Hockey Y2/3 £18	Tennis Y4/5/6 £18
<b>Thursday</b>	Singing (Lunchtime) Y2-6 £30 Yoga & Mindfulness Y2/3 £18	Singing (Lunchtime) Y2-6 £30 Football Y4/5/6 £18

## Payment

Miss Stansfield will write to parents in advance of the new term to outline the clubs on offer. Club places are allocated on a first come first served basis. Sporting Clubs are provided by third party providers.

All payments are now via the 'Parent Pay' system.

As per our payment policy – School Dinners are to be paid for in advance.



## Parish and Community links



### Family Communion

Our Family Communion service is held every Sunday at 9.30am. On the first Sunday of the month this is followed by coffee and biscuits served in church.

### Children

Junior Church runs on the second Sunday of every month at 09:30am. (Contact Fiona Small for information; 07913 901015)

There is also an 'All-Age Family' service at St. Chad's on the first Sunday of every month at 10:00am (lasts about 45 mins).

Note: Qualification for application to Saint Aidan's on faith grounds is that parents attend church twice a month - all the services listed above would count.

## Parental Workshops 2023 – 24

### Parent courses and workshops

The staff have once again organized parental courses/ workshops as we have done in the past. This year we are going to run the courses online as we know from feedback that the majority of parents find this easier. We would actively encourage parents to try and join these workshops as they really are useful. If you are interested in any of these please let Miss Stansfield know so she can reserve your place and send you the links.

#### All Parents – In school

- **Friday 22nd Sept 2023 / Friday 19th Jan 2024 – 2:15 – 3:15pm -** Learning Mentor support sessions- Social / Emotional / Behaviour support. Everybody Welcome for a cup of tea and a chat. We have lots of useful leaflets and these sessions are good opportunities to chat with other parents. Miss Manns will also go through the Solihull Approach and developmental milestones as well.

### Lost Property

We seem to have a lot of lost property already in school this term. Please ensure that all your child's uniform (this includes coats and Extra-Curricular sport kits) is clearly labelled. We will only be keeping lost property for the full term, because as you can imagine we haven't got much space to store it all in school. Please check the lost property box in the school's main entrance.



### September 2023

#### Foundation

Layla Baker

Harry Barlow

#### Class 1

Joshua Birks

Archie Bincow

#### Class 2

Harris Akram

Aidan Mutema

Emma Birks

#### Class 3

Jensen Abrahams

Evelyn Blacow



### September 2023

#### Foundation

Emmeline Long, Martha Blacow,  
Harriet Smith, George Chamberlain.

#### Class 1

Alice Robinson, James Hacking,  
Olivia Hubbard, Matilda Glover.

#### Class 2

Darcey Underwood, Aidan Mutema,  
Elliott Rhodes, Harris Akram.

#### Class 3

Mia Visvanathan, Sienna Rushworth,  
Finley Piggott, Alice Yates.



## Diary Dates and Holidays

### HOLIDAYS 2023 /2024

#### Autumn Term 2023

**Open:** Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2023  
**Half Term:** Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> October – Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2023  
**Closes:** Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December 2023

#### Spring Term 2024

**Open:** Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024  
**Half Term:** Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February – Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2024  
**Closes:** Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2024

#### Summer Term 2024

**Open:** Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2024  
**May Day:** Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2024  
**Half Term:** Monday 27<sup>th</sup> May – Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2024  
**Closes:** Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2024

**Total number of openings – 190 days**

#### Inset days

**1<sup>st</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> September 2023**  
**22<sup>nd</sup> December 2023**  
**22<sup>nd</sup> July 2024**

### HOLIDAYS 2024 /2025

#### PROVISIONAL DATES

#### Autumn Term 2024

**Open:** Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2024  
**Half Term:** Monday 21<sup>st</sup> October – Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2024  
**Closes:** Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2024

#### Spring Term 2025

**Open:** Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025  
**Half Term:** Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February – Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2025  
**Closes:** Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2025

#### Summer Term 2025

**Open:** Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2025  
**May Day:** Monday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2025  
**Half Term:** Monday 26<sup>th</sup> May – Friday 30<sup>th</sup> May 2025  
**Closes:** Friday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2025

**Total number of openings – 190 days**

#### Inset days

**2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> September 2024**  
**21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2025**

## Dates for your Diary - (3 months in advance)

October	November	December
W/B 9 <sup>th</sup> – STEM week 9 <sup>th</sup> – Class 2 Assembly -8:50am 11 <sup>th</sup> - Open afternoon 1:15pm (STEM FOCUS) 16-18 <sup>th</sup> – Tower Wood Class 3 16 <sup>th</sup> – Class 1 Assembly -8:50am 17 <sup>th</sup> – New Parents Open Afternoon 1.30pm 19 <sup>th</sup> – Flu Vaccinations 20 <sup>th</sup> – Non-uniform – Tombola prize 20 <sup>th</sup> – School Closes 3.15pm 30 <sup>th</sup> – School Opens	2 <sup>nd</sup> – New Parents Open Morning 9.30am. 2 <sup>nd</sup> - FOSS Magical Disco (Years 3/4/5/6) 6 <sup>th</sup> – Foundation Class Assembly - 8:50am 7 <sup>th</sup> - Virtual Parents evening 8 <sup>th</sup> – Virtual Parents evening 20 <sup>th</sup> New Parents Open Afternoon 1.30pm. 24 <sup>th</sup> – Non-uniform day – Chocolate donation	1 <sup>st</sup> – FOSS Christmas Fair 3.15pm. 5 <sup>th</sup> - Infant Nativity 6pm. 6 <sup>th</sup> – Infant Nativity 2pm. 12 <sup>th</sup> – Whole School Trip to the Pantomime at The Grand Theatre – Aladdin. 13 <sup>th</sup> – Junior Carol Service 6pm. 14 <sup>th</sup> – Junior Carol Service 2pm. 19 <sup>th</sup> Christmas Dinner and Party Day. 21 <sup>st</sup> School Closes at <b>1.30pm</b> .

Please note that we try to inform you of diary dates/changes to dates well in advance so that you can plan. We will not necessarily send out specific letters for every individual event as dates and times are quite clearly indicated in the monthly newsletter which gives up to 3 months' notice. Miss Stansfield usually does try to send out reminder texts/Facebook notices as an additional support to parents, but this may not always happen during busy periods.

We are thrilled to announce our new Junior Leadership Team...The Year 5 / 6 pupils prepared speeches and performed them in front of the whole school outlining their vision for the JLT and their personal' Leadership 'qualities. The children were amazing and we are going to have a fabulous JLT this year.



## Junior Leadership Team

We are thrilled to announce our new Junior Leadership Team...The Year 5 / 6 pupils prepared speeches and performed them in front of the whole school outlining their vision for the JLT and their personal 'Leadership' qualities. The children were amazing and we are going to have a fabulous JLT this year.

- **Literacy Leaders** – Nancy Lee, Gabriella Wills
- **Numeracy Leaders** – Oliver Robinson, Finley Piggott
- **Science Leaders** – Luca Fusco, Isabelle Rowland
- **Pastoral Leaders / Growth Mindset** – Reuben Smith, Betsy Suleyman, Mia Visvanathan, Rocco Fusco, Ruby Pitches
- **Growth Mind Set** – Evelyn Blacow, Alfie Cross
- **Digital Leaders** – James Smith, Luis Rigby
- **Sporting Leaders** – Jack Dobson, Alice Yates
- **Health and Safety and Safeguarding** – Will Tomlinson, Arthur Leonard



Miss Manns is going to run Parent Workshops again this academic year. They are very much an informal coffee and a biscuit type event and we encourage parents to come along.

This year after feedback from parents and staff the focus is going to be on the following:-

- Supporting your child with emotional health and well-being.
- Supporting with behaviour.
- Supporting with resilience.

These workshops are intended to be a supportive session. We will go through the Solihull Approach looking at the importance of reciprocity, containment, resilience and the relationship between a parent and a child.

We will chat about behaviour, looking at behaviour management strategies, consistency, boundaries structure and routines. Finally, we will discuss behavioural developmental milestones.

The next session is planned for  
**Friday 19th Jan 2024 – 2:15 – 3:15pm**

**Please let the office know if you can attend**

## Christian Leaders

We are thrilled to announce our new Christian Leadership Team

**Year 1** - Ayla Fretwell

**Year 2** - Carter Moore

**Year 3** - Harris Akram

**Year 4** - Annabel Smith

**Year 5** - Mia Masters

**Year 6** - Daniel Small

## Healthy Snacks Policy

As you are all well aware, the Governing body have a policy that **only fruit snacks** are permitted in school for break times.

We ask that you ensure that you continue to support this; the Governing Body made this decision because we have a number of children with allergies and we also promote 'Healthy Eating' in our school. If other snacks are sent in, they will be returned home uneaten. Please ensure that you reinforce with the children that fruit snacks must not be shared with others – they must eat their own.





## FOSS (Friends of Singleton School) Updates

### Up and coming events

Event	Date and time
Magical Disco	Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November - FOSS Magical Disco, from 3.15 – 4.45pm for Classes 2 and 3.
Non-uniform days	20 <sup>th</sup> October – non-uniform day – Tombola 24 <sup>th</sup> November – non-uniform day – Chocolate donation
Christmas Fair	1 <sup>st</sup> December 3:15pm

In the last academic year, we used the money that was raised by FOSS to purchase an outdoor shelter for the Foundation Stage outdoor class room and new library books for our libraries as well as lots of other small projects. They also help with the cost of the coaches for our Panto trip to help keep costs down. A big thank you to you all for your support it really does make a difference to our little school.

This year we are fundraising to buy some more books for our libraries, new ICT equipment, and more outdoor learning resources.

Please remember that as parents you are all automatically members of FOSS and any support is greatly appreciated. You don't have to attend every meeting or support at every event – but anything that you can contribute or bring to the table is always greatly appreciated.

Next FOSS meeting: TBA

### Tower Wood Residential Trip

It is that time of year again when our Year 5 and 6 pupils begin to think about their residential trip. The annual residential trip to Tower Wood takes place in October.

This year the trip will take place from **16<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> October 2023**

Please click on the link below for more information;

<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/outdooreducation/our-centres/tower-wood/>

### Christmas Diary Dates



Christmas is fast approaching and that means many diary dates. Please make sure you make a note of the production times.

This year there will be two Infant Nativity performances in Church

- **Tuesday - 5<sup>th</sup>** Nativity 6pm
- **Wednesday -6<sup>th</sup>** -Nativity 2pm

This year there will be two Junior Carol Concerts in Church

- **Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup>** Junior Carol concert 6pm
- **Thursday 14<sup>th</sup>** Junior Carol service 2pm

Tickets will be on sale towards the end of November priced at £3:00

All the money raised through the selling of tickets to the Christmas events is used to buy things for the children. For example at Christmas, we buy:-

- Prizes for the Christmas Parties.
- Crackers for the Christmas dinner.
- A present for every child from Father Christmas.
- Drinks and sweets / biscuits for the Grand Theatre Panto.
- As well as purchasing props, production licenses etc.



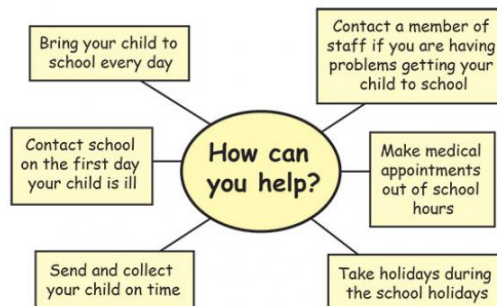
## The Importance of good attendance



Attendance during one school year	Equals days absent	Which is approximately weeks absent	Which is this the number of lessons missed
95%	9 days	2 weeks	50 lessons
90%	19 days	4 weeks	100 lessons
80%	38 days	8 weeks	200 lessons
70%	57 days	11.5 weeks	290 lessons

## Your children get 14 weeks holiday a year!

There are **38 weeks** in the year when schools are open, and **14 weeks (175 days)** when families can visit family overseas; go on holiday; travel; pupils can work, take educational trips, attend non urgent medical appointments.....**So is your request for leave exceptional?**



## When a Child Arrives

- It interrupts concentration.
- It wastes valuable learning time.
- The teacher repeats information / instructions whilst others have to wait.
- The late child is at an immediate disadvantage because they may have missed important teaching points, missed discussions where ideas are shared and will be generally unsettled.
- Children feel stressed and anxious about having to walk into their lessons late, some children find being late very distressing.
- **Please note school starts at 8:40 and the expectation is that all pupils enter school at this time**

## Late:

## A polite reminder about drop off and collecting on time before / after school and after clubs.

- Parents will drop off / collect children (or arrange for this to happen) **punctually** – if parents are late then the children will be placed in Kids Club and there will be a charge. Please note there is an expectation that you collect promptly at 3:15 (or 4:15pm if your child participates in an extra – curricular activity).
- Late collection is monitored by Miss Manns (Family Learning Mentor).



## Safeguarding information for parents

### Singleton Safeguarding team

#### Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSL)

- **Amanda Clayton** (Head) – Lead DSL
- **Leonie Millward** (SENCO) – DSL
- **Kate James** (Online / PREVENT) – DSL
- **Susan Manns** - DSL

#### Governors with Responsibility for Safeguarding

- **Alec Davies** – Chair of the Governing Body / Safer recruitment
- **Keith Walker** – Chair of the SHE committee / Safer recruitment

#### Safeguarding DBS lead

- **Rachel Reeves** (Office Manager)
  - Rachel keeps and maintains a log of all staff and volunteers who have DBS clearance to work with children and the Governors review, and general safeguarding in school monthly.

#### Prevent Lead

- **Kate James** (Y5/6 Teacher)
- **Alec Davies** (Governor)

#### Useful information / Publications for parents

#### Children's Safeguarding Assurance Partnership

Each month we will provide some links or publications to download that will cover a wide range of current Safeguarding information for parents taken from the Children's. Safeguarding Assurance Partnership Website.

This month we are focusing on the use of digital Media.

Instagram, Facebook, Snapchat, YouTube, Twitch... the sheer number of social websites in today's world can feel endless. So, perhaps it's not too surprising that 48% of children have been exposed to social media by age seven.

But before you despair, let's take stock of all the positive outcomes these platforms can have – rallying real change, bridging distances, building communities. The problem is not social media in and of itself. It's how it's used.

That's why we want to help parents like you have important conversations with your children early on about how to build a healthy relationship with social media.

Please click on the link <https://www.vodafone.co.uk/mobile/digital-parenting/goldilocks>. This will take you to an online story based on Goldilocks which is a modern twist on the classic fairy tale that offers a fun and accessible way for you to discuss all things social media related with your younger children. Co-branded by Vodafone UK and Andersen Press, award-winning author Jeanne Willis created the light-hearted story alongside illustrator Tony Ross. The book is designed to help educate children about the potential consequences of being unkind, getting carried away with selfies, or oversharing images, as we see Goldilocks getting into trouble with the three bears over her pursuit of likes on social media....





## Applying to Secondary Schools

### Important dates

The arrangements for the transfer of pupils to secondary schools in September 2023 will, as far as possible, conform to the following timetable.

#### **1 September 2023** - Apply from this date

- School places are not allocated on a first come, first served basis. All applications received up to the closing date are given equal priority, but if you miss the deadline, a late application may reduce your chance of getting your preference of school.

#### **31 October 2023** - National closing date for secondary applications (statutory).

- During this period all applications are processed and all preferences are considered against the published admissions policy. Where there are more applications than places available, decisions are made as to which children should be offered the available places. We will liaise and exchange information with all other admission authorities including neighbouring local authorities. The allocation and offer of a secondary school place is finalised.

#### **1 March 2024** - Offers issued to parents

(The national offer date is 1 March, if this date falls on a weekend or a bank holiday, offers are sent the next working day.)

**If you are not happy with an initial offer the appeals period starts from your receipt of the offer. [Appeal information](#) will be issued later as this allows some time for reserve lists to operate.**

Appeals which we receive after the deadline will be slotted into the schedule where possible. We cannot guarantee this however, and late appeals may have to be heard after the agreed date at a second round of hearings. The schedule is subject to change depending upon the availability of appeal panel members, clerks, venue, etc.

## Applying to Primary Schools

### Important dates

The arrangements for the admission of pupils to primary schools in September 2024 will, as far as possible, conform to the following timetable.

#### **1 September 2023** - Apply from this date

- School places are not allocated on a first come, first served basis. All applications received up to the closing date are given equal priority, but if you miss the deadline, a late application may reduce your chance of getting your preference of school.

#### **15 January 2024** - National closing date for primary applications (statutory).

- During this period all applications are processed and all preferences are considered against the published admissions policy. Where there are more applications than places available, decisions are made as to which children should be offered the available places. We will liaise and exchange information with all other admission authorities including neighbouring local authorities. The allocation and offer of a primary school place is finalised.

#### **16 April 2024** - Offers issued to parents

(The national offer date is 16 April, if this date falls on a weekend or a bank holiday, offers are sent the next working day.)

**If you are not happy with an initial offer, the appeals period starts from your receipt of the offer. [Appeal information](#) will be issued later as this allows some time for reserve lists to operate.**

Appeals which we receive after the deadline will be slotted into the schedule where possible. We cannot guarantee this however, and late appeals may have to be heard after the agreed date at a second round of hearings. The schedule is subject to change depending upon the availability of appeal panel members, clerks, venue, etc.

