



# NEWSLETTER

## Friday 13th December 2024

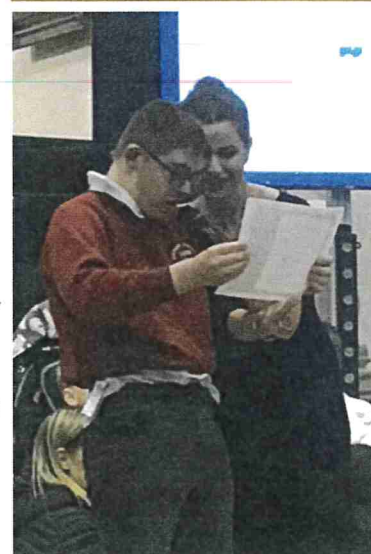
### THE NATIVITY

Well no-one does the Nativity quite like Icknield do they?

What a thoroughly enjoyable, unique and successful experience was had by everyone who attended St Mary's Church yesterday morning. There were some amazing highlights of the event which definitely brought a tear to the eye of some parents and staff, e.g. Jesse walking up the aisle in his walker; Shelby loudly and clearly reading her lines perfectly and Luci courageously standing up in front of a huge crowd to give her reading - and let's not forget Neil who wants to be a rockstar when he grows up.

It is so wonderful to be able to see the majority of the students in one place and noticing how much their abilities and confidence has improved in the course of a year. It is down to all the hard work put in by parents, guardians, family and staff—you are all amazing.

Many thanks go to the organisers and vicar for their help in making the event run smoothly as possible and making everyone feel warmly welcome—the hot drinks were very much appreciated!



Cont/...

Also a huge thank you to Beth for organising the signing, singing and music. Her helper, Jamie was fantastic as always—signing along to the music like a professional.

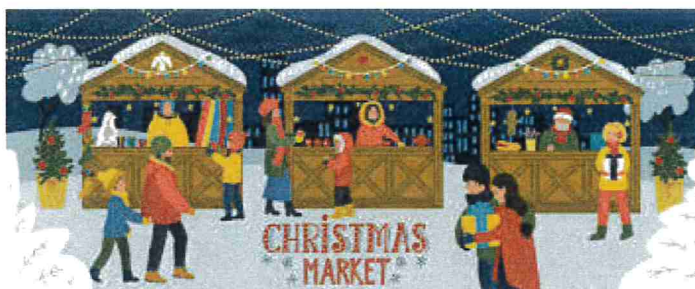
Last, but definitely not least, let's not forget to thank all the parents who came along and joined in the celebrations by singing and dancing in the aisles.

Roll on next year when we can do it all again....!



## CHRISTMAS CHIMES!

Chimes class had a wonderful trip to the Winchester Christmas market. They enjoyed smelling mulled wine and hot chocolate, as well as



different festive soaps and candles. They tasted lots of honeys and curds also — Abel liked the lemon curd whilst Missy was unsure of the cherry version. There were lots of pretty lights and decorations to look at whilst listening to Christmas music and a few carol singers.

Abel loved smelling the mulled wine and smiled to tell us that he liked it.

Phoebe definitely wanted more hot chocolate!

Delilah tasted the honey and licked the stick clean!

Missy enjoyed smelling all the different scented soaps and smiled for a picture in the lovely wreath decoration.

Olly loved looking at all the fairy lights and people watching as everyone bustled around the market.



## SPECIAL CELEBRATION AT WINCHESTER CATHEDRAL

Banjo class had the pleasure of attending the Hampshire Music Service special celebration at Winchester Cathedral last Friday. They all had an amazing time singing along to different Christmas songs, playing instruments, having a dance and playing their part in the celebration. It is always a wonderful opportunity to integrate with different special schools from across Hampshire and soak up the magical atmosphere of the Cathedral.

Ben and Arthur felt very proud to carry our school banner in the opening procession. Destiny and Jack were candle bearers and led a procession of angels, and Arthur and Logan were symbol bearers representing 'Love'. Finlay, Oscar, Fergus and Chloe all enjoyed dancing down the aisle with their ribbons during the final celebratory song. The staff left feeling extremely proud of all of the pupils and rather festive as well!



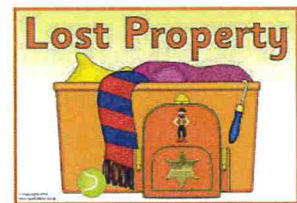
## DOLLS

We are putting out an appeal for dolls which can be used to play with by our older students. More specifically, we are after Barbie and Bratz dolls. If you have any at home that are no longer being appreciated by your children, please could you send them our way where they would bring a lot of enjoyment to the upper school students. Thank you.



## LOST PROPERTY

We have an age 16, grey Diesel sweatshirt in the school office which is looking for an owner. It was left after one of the After School Clubs recently and despite notices going up and searches for the rightful owner being made, no-one has yet claimed it. If you think it is your child's sweatshirt, please get in touch.



## CRICKET

This half term our Banjo students have been enjoying cricket sessions. If you think this is an activity your child would enjoy taking part in outside school then please note the following:-



### SUPER 1s

All abilities welcome (ages 12—25)

**Free** inclusive cricket sessions sponsored by the Hampshire Cricket Board, Lord's Taverners and Berkely Foundation

Contact: Michael Powell

[Michael-powell@utilitabowl.com](mailto:Michael-powell@utilitabowl.com)







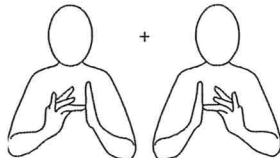

## PARENT COFFEE AFTERNOON

Thank you to those who came along to the parents' afternoon on Wednesday. We know you enjoyed the mince pies, biscuits and coffee! Much hilarity could be heard—probably due to the experiences that were shared among yourselves. We hope you found the time beneficial, made new friends and look forward to seeing you again.



# SIGNS AND SYMBOLS OF THE WEEK



			
			
Christmas card	lights	Jesus	angel

## DIARY DATES—AUTUMN TERM (2) 2024

### DECEMBER

- 17th Mars House Trip—Sleeping Beauty, Anvil Theatre
- 19th Christmas Lunch & special guest visit (school only)
- 19th Christmas Lunch (FE only)
- 20th Last day of Autumn Term

## DIARY DATES — SPRING TERM (1) 2025

### JANUARY

- 6th RETURN TO SCHOOL (School & FE)**
- 8th Yr9 Teenage Boosters
- 23rd FE Disco, Orange Rooms, Southampton
- 24th Burns Day Celebration
- 27th Theme Week (2 of 3) —Video & Film
- 28th Governors' Curriculum Meeting

### FEBRUARY

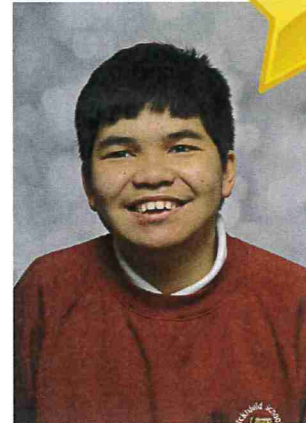
- 4th ZooLab visit
- 11th Mercury House Trip
- 14th INSET DAY (FE only)
- 28th INSET DAY (Whole school)



## SUPERSTAR OF THE WEEK

The following students have been awarded the Class Star of the Week Award:

Chimes	- Phoebe
Drum	- Coulson
Maracas	- Matthew
Tambourine	- Freya
Triangle	- Akosua
Trumpet	- Gus
Oboe	- Kabya
Banjo	- Finlay
Cello	- Luci



**The School Superstar of the Week is ...Gus!**

Gus is a very smiley and happy young man who enjoys nothing more than a lovely massage. He is often seen on the basket swing when outside and also occupies himself by looking at lights and spinning spinners! Gus is good at intensive interaction and is comfortable with communicating his needs/wants with all staff. Two other favourites of his are listening to music and food!

## FE PPICC CHAMPIONS

*(Personal, Physical, Independence,*

CHAMPIONS



Chloe and Jamie



## BIRTHDAYS CELEBRATED THIS WEEK WERE ...

Matthew H, Glasto - 19 yrs old  
Chloe S, Drum - 5 yrs old



Happy birthday!

# CRAFT ACTIVITIES WEEKDAYS

23RD DEC TO 3RD JAN  
10.00AM - 12.30 PM

FREE WITH MUSEUM ADMISSION  
(museum closed 24th, 25th & 26th Dec)



Christmas  
Trail  
throughout  
December!