

# Churchfields' Weekly Newsletter

Friday 25 November 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

Thank you for your positive responses to our curriculum enrichment afternoons which start from January. Teachers have been busy this week planning provision for the spring terms and are excited to get started. We will feedback to you on how these afternoons go, and undoubtedly the teachers will share the odd photo or two on our Facebook page!

We are all looking forward to Sunday's Christmas Fayre which will be held at the Atworth base from 12-3pm. Thank you for already providing numerous goodies to support the event, the proceeds of which all go towards adding to the PTA's coffers and ultimately our pupils. We hope to see you there!

Kind regards,

Simon Fletcher.

Wiltshire Council is consulting on the proposed admissions criteria and admission arrangements for its Community & Voluntary Controlled Schools for the 2024/25 academic year. It is also consulting on the proposed schemes for co-ordination of admissions to all maintained schools and academies for the 2024/25 academic year.

**The consultation starts on Friday 25 November 2022 and it ends on Friday 13 January 2023.**

The consultation documents can be accessed by clicking on the link below.

[www.wiltshire.gov.uk/schools-learning-admissions-consultation](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/schools-learning-admissions-consultation)

To respond to this consultation please send your comments by email to [admissions@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:admissions@wiltshire.gov.uk) or you can write to:

School Admissions Team  
Wiltshire Council  
Bythesea Road  
Trowbridge  
Wiltshire  
BA14 8JN



**Thank you for your generosity last Friday, Churchfields raised £106.02 for Children in Need. You were Spotacular!**

## Churchfields The Village School Vision – a message from the Governors

You may remember from previous newsletters that the school Values have been devised through engaging with the school community via questionnaires, canvassing parents & carers when at school and speaking to the children.

Part of the responsibilities of our Governing Board is to review the School's Vision from time to time to make sure it still applies or whether there is a more suitable alternative.

There is an accompanying letter with this newsletter giving more information about this planned review and we would appreciate your involvement and feedback.

Thank you

## Parking during drop off and collection times Monkton Farleigh.

We have been contacted by a concerned neighbour of our Monkton Farleigh base following an issue with a poorly parked vehicle during drop off time. Please can you be considerate to our surrounding neighbours when dropping off and collecting your children at school. Please ensure you are parked legally and not blocking anyone's driveway or entrance to their home.

Thank you



## Warm Spaces

Atworth Parish Council are drawing together a register of 'warm space' that can be available to parishioners in the cold weather. St Michael's church is extending the time they offer tea and coffee after the Thursday service at 11am and are exploring the possibility of a hot meal service.

As a school we would also like to offer some support to our families and we are exploring the possibility of a 'cosy club' at both bases once a week for an hour after school. We will share more with you about this as soon as we are able.



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Bikeability

We learnt how to ride on the road safely and went on the main road on our own. We practised how to signal and how to get around the roundabout. We learnt about primary and secondary position, which is where you ride near the kerb or in the middle of the road. We learnt that you should not change gears when your bike is still. On the way home I could see all the Y6s who live in Atworth riding their bikes on the road. Since we've done bikeability I feel a lot safer on the road.

Thom and Hector

## CHRISTMAS LUNCH & ACTIVITIES

Friday 09<sup>th</sup> December



Children from Monkton Farleigh will transfer to Atworth by coach in the morning at 9:45am and will be back at Monkton Farleigh for pick up at the end of the day.

We have lots of Christmas activities planned:

- ★ Children can dress in party clothes, Christmas jumpers or something festive!
- ★ Please supply a named cracker for your child/children
- ★ To round up the day's activities there will be a show in the church hall

**Can we ask that you please check your lunch booking on Parent Pay for Friday 09<sup>th</sup> December? If your child is having turkey, their booked option should be battered fish & chips and if they are having Quorn, their booked option should be mozzarella bites and chips. If the booking is not correct please contact the office by Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> November**

## CHRISTMAS PRODUCTIONS



KS2 (Yrs 3, 4 & 5)

You are warmly invited to our production of **FIVE GOLD RINGS**

**On Tuesday 06<sup>th</sup> December**

St Michael's Church Atworth

Dress Rehearsal: 1:30pm

Performances at: 4:00pm & 6:00pm.

Full details and tickets have been sent out in book bags today

## CAROL SINGING

★ **Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December - Atworth**

Meeting at 4:30pm in the School Hall before singing around the village

**Everyone is welcome to join in!**

You will need to wrap up warm and bring a torch and please note – children need to be accompanied by an adult.



Reception & KS1 (Yrs 1 & 2)

You are warmly invited to our performance of **Christmas with the Aliens**

**On Thursday 08<sup>th</sup> December**

St Michael's Church Hall, Atworth

Dress Rehearsal: 1:30pm

Performances at: 4:00pm & 6:00pm.

Full details and tickets have been sent out in book bags today.



**CAROL SERVICE**

**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December,  
1:15pm, St Michael's  
Church, Atworth**

Everyone is welcome to join us at our Carol Service.

Parents of pupils from Monkton Farleigh will be able to take their children straight after the service if they so wish. Please ensure you inform your child's class teacher at the time so they can make a note.

Children not collected will return to the Monkton Farleigh base by coach and be released at the normal time for collection.

Pupils of the Atworth base will be taken back to school after the service and released at the normal time.

We look forward to seeing you there.

★ **Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December - MF**

Carols on the amphitheatre 1:30pm -2:30pm,

*We look forward to seeing lots of you there.*

## GEM LEARNER PLEASE NOTE

### MONKTON FARLEIGH

**ON FRIDAY 02<sup>ND</sup> DECEMBER AND FRIDAY 09 DECEMBER THERE WILL BE NO GEM LEARNER AT MONKTON FARLEIGH BASE**

### ATWORTH

**ON FRIDAY 02<sup>ND</sup> DECEMBER GEM LEARNER WILL BE A CHRISTINGLE ASSEMBLY AT ATWORTH SCHOOL HALL ALL PARENTS/CARERS ARE WELCOME  
THERE IS NO GEM LEARNER ON FRIDAY 09<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER**

Contact details:

E: [admin@churchfields.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@churchfields.wilts.sch.uk)

T: 01225 703026

[www.churchfields.wilts.sch.uk](http://www.churchfields.wilts.sch.uk)



**Churchfields**  
The Village School  
Atworth & Monkton Farleigh



There will be a storytelling session with Santa, this is for 8 children at a time and booking is essential to secure your place. Santa and his elves will be reading the children a festive story and they will all receive a gift. This is £3 per child which is payable on the day. The sign-up sheet is currently at Atworth base so please do look out for it, spaces have been reserved for the children at Monkton Farleigh and the sheet will be sent over next week so you can book your slots.

We can't wait to see you all, it will be a fun festive family afternoon out, so please come and join us.



## Christ Church Shaw Christmas tree Festival

They have 26 Christmas Trees signed up for the Festival. So hope you are all knee deep in paper and card making your Christmas decorations and putting the final touches to your Christmas tree. We are less than 2

weeks away now. The organisers just wanted to remind people that set up is on Thursday 1st December between 3-7pm. If you have any problem with this time window just the organisers know. When you dress your tree **please ensure that the battery pack and control is at the front of the tree and is clearly visible and accessible** so the organisers can turn the lights on and off as necessary and to change batteries. Also, that take down is Sunday 4th December 3-5pm again other times can be arranged if necessary.

### The Festival will be open:

- |          |   |
|----------|---|
| Friday   | - 10.30am to 5pm on Friday and again<br>- 6-9pm for a gala evening with live music and mulled wine and mince pies |
| Saturday | - 1-.30am to 4pm  |
| Sunday   | - 10am Special Family Service for the Festival including Christingle for children<br>- Final viewing 12 - to 3pm  |

Tea/ coffee and cake will be on sale when the festival is open.

## Churches of Atworth with Shaw and Whitley

Sharing the Love of Jesus with all



**This Christmas you are all invited to rediscover God's promise of peace, joy and love. Please join us at any or all of these services and events.**

### Sunday 04<sup>th</sup> December

10am Chrstingle in the Chrstmas Trees Christ Church  
4pm Advent Choral Evensong St Michael & All Angels

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

4pm Nativity at the White Hart Atwroth (with donkey!)

### Thursday 22 December

7pm Carols by Candlelight St Michael & All angels

### Christmas Eve

4pm Crib Service ST Michael & All Angels

5pm Crib Service Christ Church

11pm Christmas Night Holy communion St Michael & All Angels

### Christmas Day

10am Informal Family Holy Communion Christ Church



## TERM DATES FOR 2022 – 2023

<b>Term 1: Thursday 1 September – Wed 19 October</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Thursday 01 September – children back to school</li> <li><b>Wednesday 19 October – INSET DAY (school closed)</b></li> </ul>	<b>Term 4: Monday 20 February – Friday 31 March</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monday 20 February – children back to school</li> <li><b>Friday 31 March – INSET DAY (school closed)</b></li> </ul>
<b>Term 2: Monday 31 October – Friday 16 December</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monday 31 October – children back to school</li> </ul>	<b>Term 5: Monday 17 April – Friday 26 May</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monday 17 April – children back to school</li> <li><b>Monday 1 May – Bank holiday (school closed)</b></li> <li><b>Monday 08 May – Bank holiday (school closed)</b></li> </ul>
<b>Term 3 Tuesday 03 January – Friday 10 February</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Tuesday 03 January – INSET DAY (school closed)</b></li> <li>Wednesday 04 January – children back to school</li> </ul>	<b>Term 6: Monday 5 June – Tuesday 25 July</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monday 05 June – children back to school</li> <li><b>Monday 24 July – INSET DAY (school closed)</b></li> <li><b>Tuesday 25 July – INSET DAY (school closed)</b></li> </ul>

## DIARY DATES TERM 2

DATE	EVENT
Sunday 27 November	Christmas Fayre
Friday 02 December	Whole School at Atworth Base
Friday 02 December	YR 6 NCMP Nurse Visit
Friday 02 December	No GEM Learner at Monkton Farleigh
Friday 02 December	Christingle Service Atworth school Hall Parents/carers welcome 2:40 -3pm
Tuesday 06 December	KS2 Christmas Production performances at 4pm & 6PM
Thursday 08 December	EYFS/KS1 Christmas Production performances at 4pm & 6PM
Friday 09 December	No GEM Learner Monkton Farleigh and Atworth
Friday 09 December	Christmas Dinner Day
Monday 12 December LAST WEEK OF TERM – NO SCHOOL CLUBS THIS WEEK	
Tuesday 13 December	Christmas Service St Michael's Church, Atworth at 1:15pm
Wednesday 14 December	Whole School Disco Atworth Base 5:30pm to 7pm
Thursday 15 December	Monkton Farleigh Carols on the Amphitheatre (1:30-2:30pm)
Friday 16 December	END OF TERM 2



## What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

# TIKTOK

AGE RESTRICTION  
**13+**

(certain features are restricted to over-18s only)

TikTok is a free social media platform that lets users create, share and watch short videos ranging anywhere from 15 seconds to 10 minutes in duration. The app gained notoriety for its viral dances, trends and celebrity cameos and can be a creative, fun platform for teens to enjoy. Now available in 75 languages, it has more than a billion active users worldwide (as of spring 2022) and is most popular with the under-18 age bracket. In fact, a 2022 Ofcom report found TikTok to be the most-used social media platform for posting content, particularly among young people aged 12 to 17.

### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

#### AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

While TikTok's "Following" feed only displays videos from users someone follows, "For You" is a stream of clips based on their previously watched content. Most videos on a child's "For You" feed will therefore be light-hearted and amusing, but it could potentially surface something unsuitable. TikTok's guidelines prohibit the sharing of illegal or inappropriate content, but the sheer volume of uploads mean they aren't manually monitored and vetted.

18  
CENSORED

#### DANGEROUS CHALLENGES

Due to TikTok's immense popularity, some young people have unfortunately been influenced by videos challenging them to perform harmful, criminal or even deadly acts. One extreme example was the 'blackout' trend, which encouraged users to hold their breath until they passed out from a lack of oxygen. It led to two families filing lawsuits against TikTok over the tragic deaths of their children.

#### CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

With around 1.1 billion users globally, the potential for contact from strangers on TikTok is high – especially as accounts created by over-18s (or youngsters using a false date of birth) are set to public by default. This not only means that someone's profile is visible to everyone else on the app, it also lets their videos be suggested to others and enables anyone to comment on them or download them.

#### IN-APP SPENDING

TikTok is free, but users have the option to buy TikTok coins, which can be used to purchase emojis in the app. These emojis are then sent as rewards (retaining their monetary value) to other users for videos they've created. Coin bundles range from £9.99 to an eye-watering £99; TikTok's policy is that they can't be bought by under-18s, but it's possible to bypass this with a fake birthdate.

#### ADDICTIVE NATURE

Like all social networking platforms, TikTok can be addictive: figures show that young people are investing increasing amounts of time in it. In the UK, children with TikTok spend an average of 102 minutes per day on the app, versus 93 minutes on YouTube. This compulsive repeated use can interfere with their sleep patterns – leading to irritability – and distract them from other activities.

#### TIKTOK NOW

Introduced in late 2022, the 'TikTok Now' feature lets users post a daily video or photo at the exact same time as their friends. Users receive a synchronised notification at a random time of day, giving them three minutes to take a video or real-time photo. This addition can not only be a distraction to young people but could lead to them inadvertently sharing private content such as their location.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

#### ENABLE FAMILY PAIRING

Family Pairing allows parents to link their TikTok account with their child's and control their settings remotely. Parents can then, for example, turn on Restricted Mode (reducing the chances of a child seeing inappropriate content), set screen time limits and manage their child's ability to send messages (and to whom). Children can't alter these settings without parental approval.

#### MAKE ACCOUNTS PRIVATE

Although under-18s will have their TikTok account set to private by default, bypassing this setting is relatively easy. However, parents have the ability to manually set their child's account to private – meaning that their videos won't be visible to strangers and they won't be able to exchange messages with people who aren't on their friends list.

#### LIMIT IN-APP SPENDING

If your child is using an iPhone or Android device to access TikTok, you can alter the settings to prevent them from making in-app purchases. We'd recommend that you enable this feature, as it's quite easy for a young person – without realising what they're doing – to spend a significant amount of real money buying TikTok coins so they can unlock more features of the app.

#### DISCUSS THE DANGERS

If your child wants to use TikTok and you're happy for them to do so, it's crucial to talk about the potential risks in this type of app. For example, ensure they understand not to share any identifying personal information – and that they realise they could be exposed to inappropriate content. Thinking critically about what they see on TikTok can help children become generally more social media savvy.

#### READ THE SIGNS

If you're concerned that your child might be spending too much time on TikTok, or that they've been emotionally affected by something inappropriate or upsetting that they've seen, it's important to know how to spot the possible signs. Increased irritability and a lack of concentration are potential red flags, as are failing to complete homework or regularly not eating meals.

#### Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology journalist with a track record of more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of tech tabloid The Inquirer, Carly is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant.



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Online  
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#WakeUpWednesday



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