

Newsletter Issue 5



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7th November 2024





Headteacher News

It is one of the best terms in primary schools with children starting to be excited about the festive season, alongside such wonderful discussions about expectations and joy. Of course the festive season is a mixed one often, those seen in films and adverts of 'perfect' Christmasses when in reality often this is not the case for many. Do let us know if you wish to talk about this as it is vital that we know if you are experiencing difficulties to help support your children in school. Mrs Ridgway (our FLO) is available on Monday all day and for part of the day on Tuesday and Wednesdays if you would like a call or to make an appointment with her.

It is the time of year when, regardless of beliefs, we will hope to have peace, goodwill and kindness in our hearts and community. We at Sissinghurst will definitely be enjoying the magic of the season and with over 170 excited children with us it is with a careful balance that we keep normality of school alongside the high excitement of festivities!

We are looking forward to welcoming parents into school for parent consultations in a couple of weeks. This week we welcomed over 50 sets of parents who are looking for a primary school for their child to start school in September 2025. It is such a pleasure to show visitors to the school round and

our Y6 Leopards did a fantastic job, touring groups of parents and talking about what it is like to be a child at Sissinghurst Primary. I am incredibly grateful to all of them as comments from the prospective parents was so positive, with many saying the children are superbly behaved, with impeccable manners and so eloquent in how they talk about school life and their learning.

Term 2 dates here which includes our end of term events <https://www.sissinghurst.kent.sch.uk/page/?title=School+Calendar+Dates&pid=91>

See below for some more information for you



Christmas dates – we cannot believe there are only 6 school weeks left of term!

Friday 22 November – Pantomime – thank you to FOSS for paying for this British tradition and treat for everyone. The company coming in this year are showing Dick Whittington. We cannot wait to join in with the traditions of pantomime – oh yes we do! We ask that children come into school ON PANTOMIME DAY in non-uniform, and bring a donation towards the cost (or via parent pay) so we can enjoy so many wonderful things that FoSS pay for so the children can have a wonderful time in school. Remember they have most recently paid for the sand for the sandpit and raised over £300 at the October disco. We do have up to 30 tickets for family members to watch the panto (oh yes we do!) – They are £3 each. Book via the office on a first come first served basis and note there is no family worship on this date as the pantomime is on from 9-10am.

Friday 29 November – non uniform day to bring in gifts for the FoSS Christmas Shopping day.

The tradition at Sissinghurst continues with the tree being up in the hall from 2 December and post box for cards also with our Y6 elves ready to empty it when it is full until the penultimate day of term. Please ensure cards are clearly named (first and surnames please) and the class added too to help the elves deliver them correctly.

Thursday 5 December – FOSS Christmas Shopping Day is a day to look forward to where the hall is transformed into a magical secret shop where prepaid gifts are on display for your children to carefully

choose, wrap and label them. This is a truly magical day and we thank you for your donations towards the gifts (Friday 29 November when we have a non uniform day to bring in items). Each class has a set time to enter the shop and select their gifts throughout the day.

Saturday 7 December is the Christmas Tree Festival in church and Sunday 8 December the Christingle service at 10am in church.

Wednesday 11 December – the school will enjoy watching the Y1 nativity with children from YR and Y2 joining in the singing too.

Last week of term –

Tues 17 Dec – Christmas dinner and jumper day and headdresses eg antlers (no donations just for festive spirit). Normal school uniform on lower half.

Wed 18 Dec – Class parties – pm (Can wear party clothes all day and bring in food).

Thursday 19 Dec (Last day of term for children) – 9am leave school to be at Church for a 9.20 start until 10 service. To include telling the Christmas story, carols and a few songs from the choir.

2pm open afternoon – parents welcome to school to see books, catch up with your child's teacher and teaching assistants. You are welcome to tour the school too if you would like to and can leave site after 2pm if you sign your child out (they will be given a sticker to wear as previously).

Have a lovely weekend when it gets here

Sarah Holman



[Click here for dates](#)

Odd Socks Day - Tuesday, 12th November

Tuesday 12th is 'Odd Socks' day. Could children and staff come in with odd socks for the day?

[Parents and Carers](#) please click on the link for more information on things that you can do at home.

Phillip Mans - Uniform Shop

We have just been informed that unfortunately Phillip Mans will be closing in Spring 2025

This means we, along with other local schools, are looking for a new provider. The uniform will not change but where and how we buy it will need to of course. We will keep you informed once we know more information about this.



Twitter / X

Do follow us on Twitter/ X @sissinghurstva to keep up to date on all the exciting activities/lessons the children are taking part in. Here are a few from this week:

Using devices to take images in Elephants to then play photography bingo!





We are loving our new dressing up clothes and even wear them to buy poppies [@PoppyLegion](#) and with our football kit! [@OPAL_CIC](#)





[Kooth](#) and [Qwell](#)'s **November newsletter**

kooth | **Qwell**

Supporting the mental health of children and young people in your school community

[View this email in your browser](#)

The NSPCC logo consists of a solid green square with the letters "NSPCC" in a bold, white, sans-serif font centered within it.

NSPCC


1 - NSPCC@NSPCC

Our parenting hub is here to help. For more support managing stress alongside parenting, see:
<https://nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/mental-health-parenting/...>

Dear Parents and Carers,

Managing stresses alongside being a parent or carer is a complicated part of life for many. Here are a few things you could do:

- Talk it all out, maybe you can call a friend or family
- Write out your feelings
- Try to take some time out for yourself, whether that's at home or by going for a walk

If you, or someone you know is struggling, there is support available. Read the caption to find out more about our Parenting Hub 

internet
matters.org

Online safety information for parents:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/what-is-a-deepfake/>



Looking for some fun indoor activities to try this weekend? [#ParentsToolkit](#) have five cooking and baking activities to try with your child

More recipes on [@BBCFood](#)'s website too

5 Activities to try with the kids

Make a family-style pizza

Talk about what they might like on their pizza - different vegetables, seasoning, some protein like meat or meat alternatives - let them have some fun!



Supporting children with additional needs and their families in West Kent



FAMILY EVENT
CHRISTMAS PANTO IN TUNBRIDGE WELLS
ALADDIN
SPACE 2 BE ME TUNBRIDGE WELLS PANTO TRIP

SATURDAY 28TH DECEMBER – 1.00 PM
ASSEMBLY HALLS THEATRE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS

Join us this Christmas for an action packed adventure complete with of spectacular sets, breathtaking special effects, gorgeous costumes and mountains of mayhem.

Book online via our website www.space2beme.org.uk

COST PER PERSON IS £13 PER DISABLED CHILD OR YOUNG ADULT MEMBER
ONE FREE CARER PER FAMILY
ADDITIONAL CHILDREN £13 AND ADDITIONAL ADULTS £15 EACH.
CONCESSION RATES ARE AVAILABLE FOR THOSE ON INCOME RELATED BENEFITS
BOOKING DEADLINE 10.00 AM ON FRIDAY 15TH NOVEMBER
FIND OUT MORE AND BOOK AT WWW.SPACE2BEME.ORG.UK

NOT A MEMBER? NOT A PROBLEM. CONTACT INFO@SPACE2BEME.ORG.UK TO FIND OUT MORE OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE.



A SHORT BREAK EVENT FOR ALL THE FAMILY FUNDED BY

www.space2beme.org.uk info@space2beme.org.uk 01622 764566

Registered Charity: 1140764, Company Reg 07324545



News & Events

For upcoming local events in the parish of Cranbrook & Sissinghurst:

<https://cranbrookandsissinghurstpc.co.uk/whats-on/upcoming-events/>

Sign up to receive 'Be In The Know' emails from the parish council:

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

Or follow the Parish Council Facebook page

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

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Office opening hours are 08.30am to 3.30pm (term-time only)