

Newsletter Issue 6



Newsletter Issue 6

20th November 2025



Headteacher's News

The last two weeks weeks have been incredibly busy at Sissinghurst. We have shown round around 60 families who are interested in our school for a place for their nursery aged child for next September. Our Y6 children were superb tour guides and the feedback from all visitors was very complimentary, saying how our vision, to let our lights shine, was so evident throughout the school but especially in the oldest pupils and how they conduct themselves and speak articulately about the opportunities they have at school. The children also talked about how they can flourish and thrive at Sissinghurst in every aspect of school life, from the carefully designed curriculum offer, to playtimes, to the social and emotional aspects of school and the many roles and responsibilities they hold as they get older and show the way to other children. It was quite humbling to hear the pairs leading the tours talk about their individual journeys at Sissinghurst. It was really evident too how the team of staff have helped them be successful and how their friends and families have encouraged them to be courageous, kind, show service and forgiveness.

Our vision is underpinned by the Bible verses Matthew 5: 14-16. Jesus said ... **"You are the light of the world!** A city can't be hidden if it's on top of a hill. People don't light a lamp and put it under a bucket; they put it on a lampstand. Then it gives light to everybody in the house. That's how **you must shine your light** in front of people! Then they will see what wonderful things you do, and they'll give glory to your father in heaven... If I make you **light-bearers**, you don't think I'm going to hide you under a bucket, do you? I'm putting you on a light stand. Now that I've put you there on a hilltop, on a light stand—**shine!** Keep open house; be generous with your lives."

Hopefully this week you are joining us for parent evening meetings and you will see how your child is learning, both socially and academically. It may be you have booked to see Robin Hood tomorrow – if you have we will love you to be part of the fun that is so vital in primary education. Oh yes it is!

Have a lovely weekend when it gets her

Sarah Holman

Thank you - Children in Need / Dance Dash



Thank you for your online contributions to Children in Need and the Dance Dash raised £80 which was given to Homewood School

Christmas at Sissinghurst



The 1st of December this year is a Monday and children will arrive at school to the magic of Christmas with lights and our tree in the hall up and ready for the last few weeks of term.

Also part of the run up to Christmas is the post box. Our Y6 elves will be very busy sorting these as the box fills each week and distributing them to classes. This means of course that envelopes must be clearly labelled with a first name and ideally a surname (or initial in case more than one child with same name) and year group or class so they are delivered to the right place!

The post box is located in the KS1 library tree space so children can easily see it when they come in to post their cards.

Dates are on the school diary dates but here they are too so you can plan the festivities!

We are already learning carols for our Christmas church service, there is of course the Christingle service in church too on Sunday – it would be great if you can join us.

Although we love Christmas and things have already started (oh yes it has we have the panto tomorrow to look forward to!) we do try to keep as much 'normal' learning as possible too to not let ourselves get overexcited!

Please note for the festivities some classes have elves, some advent calendars, some teachers do special quizzes or are reading Christmas themed books in class – there are lots of lovely things going on across the school at this time.

Christmas dates:

Friday 28 November – non uniform day if you bring something for our FoSS shop gifts. See separate info to come from FoSS for how this works.

Monday 1 December – Post box up and decorations in school.

Thursday 4 December – FoSS Christmas Shopping day – see separate info re this but children bring in money to purchase and wrap gifts for family members in the pop up shop in our hall. A wonderful, magical day.

Sunday 7 December - 10am Christingle Service at Frittenden - all welcome

Wednesday 10 December – Nativity – led by Giraffes with supporting Lions and Elephants too (so children have '3' nativities during their time with us). Two performances in one day - 9am (to school and a few parents if they cannot make pm performance) and 2pm. Parents from YR, 1 and 2 invited to 2pm performance.

Sunday 14 December - Carols by Candlelight - 5pm Trinity Church Sissinghurst (and 6.30pm at Frittenden) - all welcome

Monday 15 December – some members of choir to sing for local OAP group at Vestry with Mrs Holman (lunchtime) – parents will be contacted if their child is chosen for this.

Tuesday 16 December – Class parties – pm – Children can wear party clothes all day and bring in food. Party food arrangements to be confirmed by teachers but so you are aware in advance, nowadays, due to allergies and likes / dislikes we often ask that each child brings in a plate of their own party food rather than items to share.

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

Thursday 18 December – LAST DAY. Christmas Carol Service in church - 9am leave school PROMPTLY, ideally 9.20 start until 10am service. All parents welcome to walk down and / or in church.

From 2pm on this (last) day too - open afternoon as for each full term – a chance to come in, catch up with teachers and TAs and look at your child's books and have a tour if you like. You can sign your child out anytime from 2pm to the normal time / end of the school day.

NSPCC - Keeping children safe



Want to keep your child safe? Watch the webinar from NSPCC here <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/free-online-safety-group-workshops/> Their new Keeping Children Safe Online workshop provides parents and carers with information about how to support their child in their online world. The 40 minute pre-recorded presentation covers topics such as online bullying, mental health, and social media, as well as signposting to resources and organisations for help and support.

Dulwich Weald Sports, Versatility Netball Wednesday 12th November

Thank you to our netballers who took part in this years skill and games event: Ava O, Isla F, Olivia C, Lucinda C, Jamila A, Delilah M, Claire K.

This event involved skill training, involving quick movement, accelerating from landing foot and changing direction, essential in netball. Between 8 schools our team were split into mixed teams with the other schools to play netball games. The focus was to learn more about netball, playing different positions and to meet, get to know other children from different schools. All played extremely well throughout the sunny afternoon. Claire K won a medal, voted by her team for team spirit. Olivia C won a medal for most valuable player and Isla F, for most improved player. So proud of all our team!

Well done

Mrs Saxby.

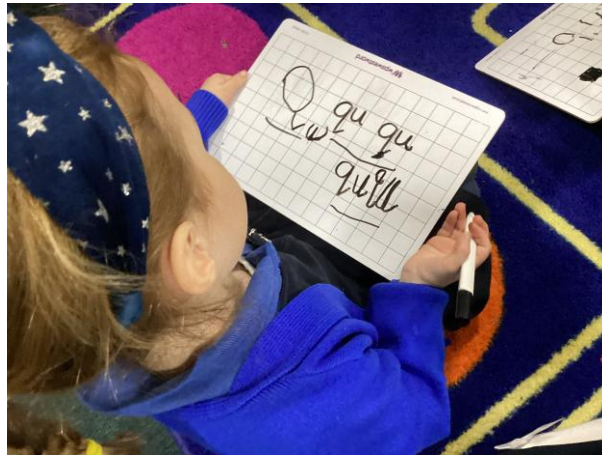


[Click here for dates](#)

Twitter/X

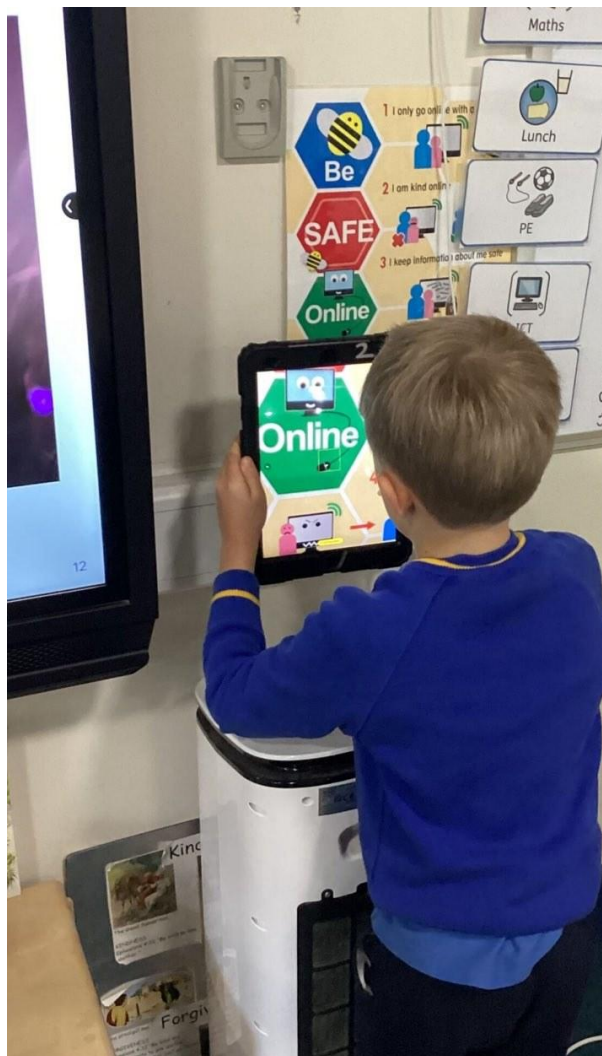
Do follow us on Twitter/X @sissinghurstva to keep up to date on all the exciting activities/lessons the children are taking part in. Here are a couple from last week:

Superb writing our sounds in Lions, forming the letters correctly and listening carefully to say them correctly too :





Learning what makes a good photograph in Elephant Class







[Family Lives@FamilyLives·Nov 19](#) Change can be tough for autistic, ADHD, OCD and other neurodivergent children and young people. New schools, family shifts or small surprises can trigger anxiety and distress. Our advice can help manage transitions <http://ow.ly/FsOI50XpgsH>
[#Neurodiversity](#) [#ParentingNeurodiversity](#)



Merry Christmas!



December Timetable

All sessions delivered live online via zoom. 90 minutes long

£24 each or FREE with School Membership

Book online at facefamilyadvice.co.uk

Recordings available for 48 hours (excluding Free Talk)

Decreasing Depression	1 DEC 10am
Raising Self Esteem	1 DEC 7pm
Understanding the Teenage Brain	2 DEC 10am
Supporting Healthy Sleep	2 DEC 7pm
Autism - Improving Communication	8 DEC 10am
Improving Family Communication	8 DEC 7pm
Supporting A Child with ADHD	9 DEC 10am
Understanding Addictive Behaviour	9 DEC 7pm
Anxiety Based School Avoidance	15 DEC 10am
Understanding Anger	15 DEC 7pm
Supporting Healthy Screen Use	16 DEC 10am
Facing Defiance	16 DEC 7pm

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>

Sissinghurst (VA) Church of England Primary School

Common Road, Sissinghurst, Kent TN17 2BH

Tel: 01580 713895 / Fax: 01580 710051

office@sissinghurst.kent.sch.uk / <http://www.sissinghurst.kent.sch.uk>

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