



CHAWTON C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

'Love, Courage and Fellowship'

December
2025

NEWSLETTER

***We aim to be a FISH and NUT free school. ***

***Please ensure your child's lunch DOES NOT contain FISH or NUTS, including prawn cocktail flavour e.g. Skips. ***

A WORD FROM MRS. DOYLE

As we reach the end of a busy and joy-filled term, I want to take a moment to reflect on the wonderful celebrations and achievements of the past few weeks.

Our School Nativity was once again a highlight of the season. The children performed with such confidence, enthusiasm, and kindness toward one another. It was a pleasure to see families come together to support the pupils, and we are incredibly proud of every child who took part.

A huge thank-you to everyone who contributed to our Christmas Fayre. Whether you donated items, volunteered your time, or joined us on the day, your support helped create a warm and festive community event. It was lovely to see so many families enjoying the activities and stalls.

We were also delighted with the success of our Book Fair, which not only encouraged a love of reading but also helped us raise funds to buy new books for our school library. Thank you to Mrs Harriman for arranging and all the families who visited and supported this event.

Later in the month, our pupils and staff enjoyed taking part in Christmas Jumper Day, filling the school with colour and festive cheer. This was followed by our much-anticipated Christmas Lunch, which brought everyone together for a joyful and very delicious celebration.

As we look ahead to a new year, I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to all our families for your ongoing support, kindness, and partnership. It is a privilege to lead such a warm and vibrant school community.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. May the festive season bring you rest, joy, and time with loved ones.

Best wishes,

Mrs Doyle

OUR SCHOOL VALUES

*"Let all that you do, be done in **love**."*
Corinthians 16:14



*"Be strong and **courageous**; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."* Joshua 1:5-9



*"If we walk in the light as He himself is in the light, we have **fellowship** with one another."* John 1: 1-7



Arbor Parent Portal

Please sign up to the parent portal/app. Contact the office on adminoffice@chawton.hants.sch.uk for help in signing up.



Website: www.chawton.hants.sch.uk



Contact: 01420 544381



Email: adminoffice@chawton.hants.sch.uk





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OUR EDITORS

This is your Chawton School Newsletter. We hope you enjoy reading about the various things that have happened over the month. From the Editors x

Celebrations:

We are thrilled to share that Matylda has won the WPR Christmas Card Contest! Her creativity and festive spirit shone through, earning her first place in this exciting competition.

As part of her prize, Matylda will be receiving a Nintendo Switch 2 along with Mario Kart. To say she's excited is an understatement.

Congratulations, Matylda, on this wonderful achievement. Your artwork has brought joy to the season and inspiration to our school community.



WELL DONE!



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Several of our Chawton pupils and a member of staff (Mrs Harriman!) proudly took part in Alton's remembrance parade.

It was wonderful to see them representing with such enthusiasm, adding to the lively atmosphere of the event.



Inset Days

The first day back after the Christmas Holidays will be Monday 5th January 2026

Our Inset days for the rest of the academic year are as follows:

Friday 27th March 2026

Monday 1st June 2026

Monday 20th July 2026

Tuesday 21st July 2026

Wednesday 22nd July 2026



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After School Club:

Miss Piper and the After-School Club Have Been Very Busy!

Miss Piper and her After School Club children have had an exciting and creative few weeks. From entering competitions to making festive Christmas decorations, there has been plenty of enthusiasm and hard work on display.

The group recently took part in a national competition called **Food Friends**, where children were challenged to draw their favourite food and turn it into a fun character with a silly name. The prize was the chance to have their artwork published in a real book—and the activity was a huge hit!

We are delighted to share that **all seven children who entered were selected as winners**. Each child received a lovely certificate, and their imaginative food characters now appear in the published book.

We have kindly been sent a copy for our school library, where it will be available for everyone to enjoy. Well done to Miss Piper and our talented After School Club artists! After School Club also now have a special display board dedicated entirely to the After School Club, where the children can showcase their wonderful creativity. The board is proudly featured in the hall, and we're sure it won't be long before it's bursting with colour, imagination, and FUN!



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Attendance:

ATTENDANCE

Why is it important?

| Attendance | Days absent | Weeks absent | Lessons missed |
|------------|-------------|--------------|----------------|
| 95% | 9 days | 2 weeks | 50 lessons |
| 90% | 19 days | 4 weeks | 100 lessons |
| 85% | 29 days | 6 weeks | 150 lessons |
| 80% | 38 days | 8 weeks | 200 lessons |
| 75% | 48 days | 10 weeks | 250 lessons |
| 70% | 57 days | 11.5 weeks | 290 lessons |

89% or below
Drastic effect on academic achievement

96% - 90%
Cause for Concern

100% - 97%
Excellent!

| | |
|----------------|-----|
| Oak Class | 95% |
| Maple Class | 92% |
| Chestnut Class | 93% |
| Sycamore Class | 92% |

Attendance matters, every day counts!



SICKNESS— Please adhere to our 48 hour rule. No child should return to school after sickness or diarrhoea for at least 48 hours after their last episode. THANK YOU, we appreciate your support.

School Lunches:

We will return to School on Monday 5th January on Week 1 menu.



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Our learning this month....

Oak Class



This term has been filled with memorable experiences for our Reception children. One of the highlights was their trip to Alton Fire Station, where they learned about the important role firefighters play in keeping our community safe and enjoyed exploring the fire engines and equipment. Another special moment was their very first school nativity, in which the children's enthusiasm and effort shone through as they helped to tell the Christmas story, delighting families and staff alike. The class also worked carefully to design and create their own Christmas cards, each one made with thought and creativity, bringing joy to those who received them. A unique occasion this term was the baptism of the class bear at church, where the children took part in the service and learned about this special tradition, making it a memorable experience for everyone.

As we come to the end of this busy and joyful term, we would like to wish all our families a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We look forward to more adventures and learning together in 2026.



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Maple Class



Maple Class have had an incredibly busy and exciting half term! We began with a fascinating trip to Sea City Museum, where we explored the story of the Titanic. During our visit, we discovered what different smells passengers might have experienced on board, investigated how lifeboats could have been boarded so they were equally weighted, and matched real artefacts to their descriptions. One of the highlights was having a go at keeping a boiler going, which gave us a real sense of the hard work involved behind the scenes. Back in class, our Titanic theme continued as we learned about the different classes on board and why the ship was considered so special. We explored its luxury and size, and imagined what life might have been like for passengers in first, second, and third class.



Alongside this, the children have produced some fabulous writing, including a diary entry as the child in the story *Flashlight*. They have worked hard on handwriting and building sentences that start with a capital letter and end with a full stop, rehearsing ideas in their heads first and using repetitive sentence structures to strengthen their skills. In maths, they've shown brilliant understanding of fractions, multiplication, and division—tricky topics that required real perseverance! We've just started measuring objects carefully with rulers, making sure they are positioned accurately.

The children are progressing brilliantly with their phonics and reading. They put so much effort into their reading and we can see the impact of this progress in other areas of the curriculum, as they are able to read instructions and information to help them – it is such an amazing thing to see and we are very grateful for the support we receive in getting them to this point.



One of the highlights of the half term has to be the nativity. The children practiced so hard to learn their song words, actions, and lines, and they were truly fabulous performing!

It has been a half term full of learning, creativity, and effort – we couldn't be prouder of every child in Maple.

We wish you a merry Christmas and a happy new year!



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Chestnut Class



This term has been filled with curiosity, creativity and enthusiastic learning across the curriculum.

In English, we began by exploring the poem *The Tree That Walked* by Mandy Coe. The children enjoyed discussing the imagery and themes within the poem and took part in sensory-based activities to inspire their own creative writing. They have also been developing their use of poetic devices including similes, metaphors, personification, onomatopoeia and alliteration to bring their ideas to life. A vocabulary walk around Chawton helped them gather rich descriptive language for their own poems. After the Christmas break, we will continue our work with the beautifully illustrated text *Town Is by the Sea*.

In Maths, we have completed our addition and subtraction unit, with the children gaining confidence in column methods, exchanging and selecting efficient strategies. We then moved on to length, area and perimeter, where the children have compared and measured using millimetres, centimetres, metres and kilometres and calculated the perimeter of shapes with increasing accuracy.

Our Geography learning has focused on understanding our local area and wider region. The children have investigated urban and rural land use—comparing Chawton, Alton and Southampton—and explored Hampshire's physical and human features alongside its neighbouring counties.

In French, the children have been extending their sentences using *et* ("and") and building phrases using *Je peux* ("I can"), supported by a growing range of verbs.

In R.E., we concluded our learning on devotion in Hinduism, reflecting on the many ways people show love and commitment to what matters to them.

A highlight of the term has been our Nativity preparations. The children have worked incredibly hard, using expressive storytelling voices, clear enunciation and confident singing. Their enthusiasm has been wonderful to see.

We are also delighted to welcome Mrs Piddington to the Chestnut Class team. We are so pleased to have her working with us and the children.

It has been a joyful, productive term, and we are incredibly proud of the children's progress, resilience and creativity.

Wishing all our families a very Merry Christmas and a restful break. We look forward to another exciting term of learning in the New Year.

With warmest wishes,

Mrs Hayes and Mrs Piddington



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Sycamore Class



This half term Sycamore have studied World War 2. We started our topic with an amazing trip to Milestones Museum where we had the opportunity to learn about what life was like living in the war days. We explored shelters, rationing, evacuations, identifying different aircraft and much more. We of course also enjoyed spending old money in the archades! We applied our learning within in our emotive diary entries in English and also created war hero portraits using charcoal in Art.



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Forest School:

What a wonderful time for forest school. There is nothing quite like the chilly weather, the puddles and mud to make for a fun afternoon.

In Oak we have been focusing on 'getting to know forest school', learning the rules and getting to know the area that we can play in. I'm sure you have heard that their favourite part is the mud mountain and the house in the woods. We have also played in the leaves, learnt lots of things about bugs, hibernating animals and birds. I love seeing how excited they are to be out in nature and hopefully this will turn into a life-long love for the outdoors! It's also great to see how much more confident they have become outside, pushing themselves to try new things (like lighting fire) and taking bigger risks (climbing a higher slope). There are so many benefits of children being outside but one of my favourite skills is for them to learn to assess a risk themselves!

In Sycamore it has been all about connecting with the outdoors and remembering that we are visitors in nature, most of these trees that surround us have been here long before us and hopefully will be standing for many more decades to come. It is also a chance for us to play. One of the most used things in forest school in Sycamore is the mud kitchen and it's lovely to see a group of children who normally want to be so 'big' playing - as they are still children after all. Some of us have also began using some tools to create some beautiful items, we are learning how to saw, drill and use knives safely to create wood crafts. All in all a lovely half term of fun!



As from January, Forest School will be:

Tuesday - Oak
Wednesday - Chestnut
Thursday - Sycamore
Friday - Maple



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IMPORTANT:

As the weather begins to get colder, we want to remind parents / carers of children in Oak and Sycamore that long sleeves and trousers—or waterproof trousers—are essential for children during forest school. This precaution helps protect against ticks, ensuring a safer experience for all.

Children will need to have their arms and legs covered to participate in these activities. Our risk assessment, along with NHS guidance, supports this advice to promote health and safety.

Thank you for your cooperation.

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PTA Fundraising:

Fundraising
RESULTS
SEPT '25 - DEC '25

CHAWTON C.E. PRIMARY

PTA
Supporting Our School Together

THE HIKE
Money raised £1,015

MISC EVENTS
INCLUDING DISCO & LOGS
Money raised £856

CHRISTMAS FAIR
Profit from money raised £1,386

**Total
£3,257**

Thank you to everyone who donated,
volunteered, participated and supported

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New ASC Opportunity



www.yo-chi.co.uk



Yo-chi After School Club

**Every Thursday @ 3.20pm - 4.20pm
Starting 15th January**

Yo-Chi is a creative and educational programme combining Seasonal Yoga, Tai-Chi and Mindfulness. It gives children a tool box of wellbeing self help skills and techniques.

Each week we explore the Season through yoga adventures & games, nature and seasonal inspired crafts and relaxation stories

£8 per class, payable half termly

Contact Sara on
sara@nbalance.co.uk
07970729738

Yo-chi After school club - Thursdays at 3.20pm to 4.20pm.

Yo-Chi is a creative and educational programme combining Seasonal Yoga, Tai-Chi and Mindfulness. It gives children a tool box of wellbeing self help skills and techniques.

Each week we explore the Season through yoga adventures & games, nature and seasonal inspired crafts and relaxation stories.

£8 per session, 9 weeks so £72 for the term (no classes in the feb half term week)

To book: Sara @ sara@nbalance.co.uk or contact her on 07970729738



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Community News

“You may or may not be aware of the Health on the High Street Event which takes place weekly at Alton Assembly Rooms. There are different agencies in attendance as you can see on the attached poster.

The School Nurses are there every 1st Wednesday of the month to meet with parents and discuss any health related matters that parent/carers may have for their child/children. We would be very grateful if you could share the attached poster with your families in the best way you see fit, either posters up in school or via your newsletter. If this could be a permanent feature that would help ensure everyone has the opportunity to attend.



HEALTH ON THE HIGH STREET

AT ALTON ASSEMBLY ROOMS

OUR SERVICES

- WARM HUB**
ENJOY FREE HOT DRINKS IN A RELAXED, WELCOMING SPACE.
- SUPPORTIVE ENVIROMENT**
TALK TO ADVISORS ABOUT YOUR WORRIES, HOUSING, FINANCES, MEANTAL HEALTH, ETC.
- NO APPOINTMENTS NEEDED**
THE HUB OFFERS FREE, WALK-IN ACCESS TO A RANGE OF SUPPORT SERVICES IN OUR COMMUNITY. WHETHER YOU NEED GUIDANCE, SIGNPOSTING TO LOCAL RESOURCES, OR JUST A FRIENDLY FACE TO TALK TO, WE'RE HERE FOR YOU.


LOCATION

The Hub is open every Wednesday from 10 AM to 2 PM at Alton Assembly Rooms, High Street, Alton GU34 1BA

YOUR LOCAL HUB FOR SUPPORT AND WELLBEING

FREE WALK-IN ACCESS TO A RANGE OF SERVICES IN OUR COMMUNITY. EVERYONE WELCOME!

Our Partners



If attending with small children, please make sure they are supervised by an adult at all times.



Free Festive Film

Disney
The Muppet Christmas Carol

TUESDAY 23RD DEC
2.00PM
ALTON COMMUNITY CENTRE

HOT CHOCOLATE STATION & OTHER REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE

JOIN US FOR A COSY AFTERNOON WITH A FREE SCREENING OF THE MUPPETS CHRISTMAS CAROL

Reserve your free ticket 01420 85057



SCAN ME

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We are pleased to inform our community that one of our parents will be participating in an upcoming marathon in support of the **Alzheimer's Society**. This initiative reflects a strong commitment to raising awareness and contributing to the vital work carried out by the charity. If you wish to make a donation, please scan the below QR code. We wish Aimee all the best for this exciting event!



Free health & wellbeing events for all parents & carers who support or work with young people

| DATE | LOCATION |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Thursday, 26 February 2026 | Basingstoke Queen Mary's College, Cliddesden Rd, Basingstoke, Hampshire RG21 3HF |
| Thursday, 16 April 2026 | Eastleigh Junction Church, 2 Romsey Road, Eastleigh SO50 9FE |
| Friday, 8 May 2026 | Lyndhurst Lyndhurst Community Centre, Central Car Park, High Street, Lyndhurst SO43 7NY |
| Thursday, 25 June 2026 | Andover Winton Community Academy, London Rd, Andover, Hampshire SP10 2PS |
| Monday, 5 October 2026 | Havant Trosnant School, Stockheath Lane, Havant, Hampshire PO9 3BD |
| Friday, 23 October 2026 | Waterlooville Waterlooville Community Centre, 10 Maurepas Way, Waterlooville PO7 7AY |

BOOK YOUR SESSION SPACE AT:

hampshirecamhs.nhs.uk/events



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Contact: 01420 544381



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PROUD TO BE A
**MUSIC MARK
SCHOOL**





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Kids Christmas Camp!!



Our last NB Kids camp of the year!
Its going to be a festive one!!

Monday 22nd December
10am to 4pm
Age 4+ (£40 per child)

We have a wonderful Christmas scavenger hunt planned in Chawton woods, making some nature inspired Christmas gifts & edible treats, & ending with a cosy campfire with hot Chocolate & Christmas smores.

TO BOOK:
sara@nbalance.co.uk



Website: www.chawton.hants.sch.uk



Contact: 01420 544381



Email: adminoffice@chawton.hants.sch.uk





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Safeguarding

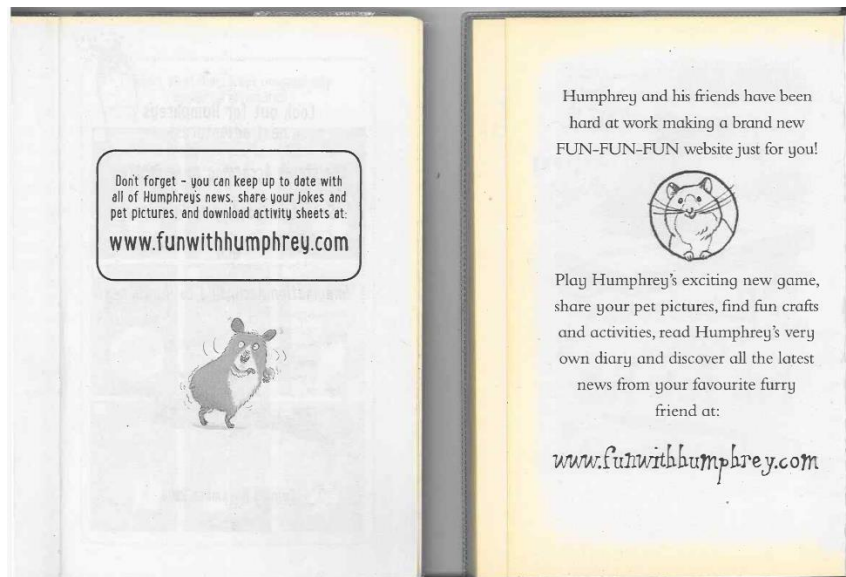
Please follow the link below to our Safeguarding section on our website, where you can look at the latest **NetSupport Safeguarding Guide 2025**. It's a comprehensive guide that focuses on the roles of various stakeholders, including senior leaders, teachers, governors, and parents. This year's edition also provides comprehensive information on safeguarding children and young people as they explore and learn online.

<https://chawton-church-of-england-primary-school.secure-primariesite.net/safeguarding/>

We have been made aware that several titles in the *Humphrey's Tiny Tales* series by Betty G Birney contain a weblink at the back of the book that no longer directs people to information about the books. Instead, the link now leads to inappropriate and unsafe material, containing pornographic content with no age restrictions.

The School Library Service are recalling copies held in their collection and on Sora.

Below is an image of the page containing the weblink. If you have this book at home, please obscure the link so that children do not have access to this.



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Merry
Christmas
AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

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