



Community, **Compassion**, Courage, Trust, Perseverance, Thankfulness

Chaddleshworth and Shefford Federated CE Primary Schools

'Living life in all its fullness' John 10:10

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week began with a reminder from Robins of their invitation for me to join them last Friday in their immersive experience to prepare for St Andrew's Day.

I was welcomed into class to the sounds of Scottish bagpipe music



accompanied by beautiful images of the Scottish highlands even featuring a highland cow! The children took Scottish flags home in preparation

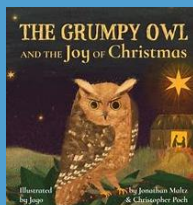
for St Andrew's day on Sunday 30th

November. On Monday we invited

everyone to bring in silver coin donations to add to their class Scottish flags, as St Andrew is the patron Saint of Scotland, to raise money for Great Ormand Street Hospital. Thank you for all your generous silver coin donations. We raised a total of £38.95 for GOSH which will support bringing joy to the families and children on the hospital wards.

I hope to see you at our PTFA's Christmas fair between 11-2pm in the school hall. Wishing everyone a wonderful weekend,

Ms Munday Headteacher www.csfschools.org



Whole School Worship...

We were grateful to be gifted a copy of a new book by the Oxford Diocesan Board of Education (ODBE) and Reverend Mike for Christmas this year. This week in worship we introduced, and began sharing, the story of 'The Grumpy Owl and the joy of Christmas'.

We quite quickly spotted that the story was not only following the journey of a rather grumpy owl, but also telling the story of the very first Christmas!

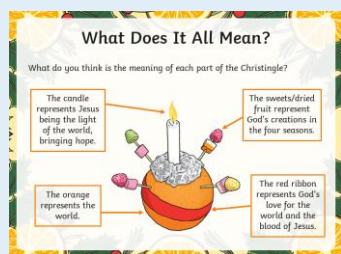
We considered how Compassion could be helpful for the Grumpy Owl through the story and realised that empathy would be needed for the Owl and everyone around him to help share compassion for each other. We're looking forward to sharing the end of the story together next week to find out what happens next!



Christingle...



As we enter the season of Advent our Wednesday whole school worship with Reverend Mike and Matt welcomed much excitement and anticipation, to find out about Christingles! Christingles are used in some Christian churches during the time of Advent. Each part of a Christingle represents something special for



this time of year. Christingles began over three hundred years ago when a bishop in Germany wanted to explain to children the happiness that people feel through knowing Jesus. At his Advent service, the bishop gave all the children a candle with a red ribbon around it as a



symbol of this. In 1968, the Children's Society charity used the idea of the Christingle and made their own version. Reverend Mike and Matt were able to introduce to us a live action version of making a Christingle, what fun!

We were invited to share our Advent and Christmas traditions. Tuppence shared that she enjoys a reuseable advent calendar, where each day a little box is opened with a different activity for her to do. Alfred shared that his family always leaves Santa a warm drink and some biscuits on

Christmas eve. Reverend Mike shared that his Christmas tradition is to

visit 25 different children's church events every year. Each one focusses on the message of Joy for the Christmas season. The Church of England has shared more suggestions to find the JOY of Christmas at home...

Reverends Mike and Matt shared the times and dates of our local family friendly Christmas services that everyone is welcome and invited to attend.



Red Kites trip to Oxford...



"On Tuesday, Red Kites had the pleasure of going to Oxford Museum of Natural History; it was fantastic. We took part in a workshop about insects, where we had to decide what type of habitat each group of insects would live in. In each group there were a variety of different insects such as dragon flies, butterflies, bees, beetles and many more. We had so much fun using the magnify glasses to look closely at each insect. After this we explored the museum. There were so many things to look at, read about and touch - yes touch!! We also managed to complete different scavenger hunts. If you want to learn some of the facts we found out, please read our blog. We all had an amazing time."

Mrs Chapman



Kingfishers trip to Wantage...



"On Wednesday and Thursday this week Year 1 and Year 2 visited the Vale and Downland Museum in Wantage. They went to find out about how a Victorian Christmas would have been celebrated. In the Victorian kitchen the children learnt about the different sorts of Christmas traditions



and decorations that they would have had in the Victorian times, they went on an imaginary tram ride to go carol singing and they made Victorian inspired Christmas cards. It was a very enjoyable, and a very festive trip!" Mrs Harris



Christmas posters...

Our Art Leaders wanted to spread some festive cheer across the school and invited everyone to have a go at their Christmas poster competition! There were lots of creative, eye catching posters brought in and the Art Leaders had a tricky task choosing the winners to receive certificates for their efforts. The chosen winners are....

Robins...

Miriam



Kingfishers...

Lola



Nancy



Owls...

Alexi

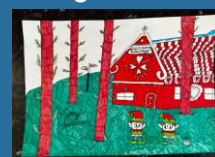


Red Kites...

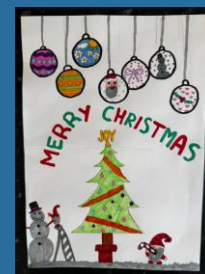
Rosie



Emily



Sophie



Jesse







Evey



Thank you to everyone who entered the competition. All the Christmas posters will be on display at the Christmas Fair this Saturday!

Class worship...

How have we all been..." Living life in all its fullness" (John 10:10) this week?

	In Robins...	Albie, "being with my sister."
		Jesse, "my Christmas classroom is amazing!"
	In Kingfishers...	Spencer, "I enjoyed going to Wantage museum to learn more about the Victorians, I really enjoyed making a Victorian Christmas card."
		William, "I've learnt how to swim on my back for the first time."
		Luna, "I went to my boxing class at the weekend and got to do a crescent kick, it was tricky but I did it!
	In Owls...	Sophie, "I made a reindeer for my elves and they loved it!"
		Betsy, "I have decorated my Christmas tree at home."
		Seb, "I have life in all its fullness because I made a bag in my DT lesson."
	In Red Kites...	Evie, "I loved the T-rex skeleton!"
		Sullivan, "I enjoyed looking at the gems and minerals."
		Ava, "Our amazing class trip to the Oxford Natural History Museum!"
		Louie, "I loved looking at the dinosaur fossils."
		Josh, "I loved the dinosaurs, especially the plesiosaur."
		Henry, "It was the BEST trip ever!"
Our school adults...		Miss Carter, "I have helped make some props for the nativity which has made me feel proud."

Picture News and the BIG question this week...

The BIG question...

How important is it to feel a sense of togetherness?

On Friday, the Princess of Wales will host her annual carol service, which will bring people together to celebrate kindness, connection, and community. The event aims to show how love can link people of all ages, backgrounds, and beliefs, especially at times when the world can feel divided. It encourages everyone to think about the power of togetherness and the importance of supporting one another with compassion and joy.

The Bible teaches that true faith is about taking action. Christians are taught to show compassion by caring for those who are in need.

These acts of kindness help build a strong, happy community where everyone feels they belong. For Christians, helping other people is a way to show their love for God.

Class Blogs

Click on the class bird to link to the class blog pages sharing your child/ren's learning this week...



Robins



Kingfishers



Owls



Red Kites

PTFA news and updates...



Diary dates... (New dates are added in green)

December 2025	
Sat, 6th	PTFA Christmas Fair, 11am – 2pm See poster information to book in to meet Santa and for the Christmas Bake off.
Tues, 9th	Nativity and Carols dress rehearsal day 1.15pm
Wed, 10th	Nativity and Carols afternoon performance 1.30pm
Thurs, 11th	Nativity and Carols evening performance 6pm
Fri, 12th	Christmas jumper day. Christmas jumpers are invited to be worn in place of a school jumper today.
Wed, 17th	Christmas Church service, 9.30am, St Mary's Church, Great Sheffield, all welcome School dinner Christmas lunch day
Thurs, 18th	Whole school pantomime trip to the Corn Exchange, Newbury Last day of term 2
January 2026	
Mon, 5th	Term 3 begins
February 2026	
Fri, 13th	Last day of term 3
Mon, 23rd	Term 4 begins
March 2026	
Fri, 27th	Last day of term 4
April 2026	
Mon, 13th	Term 5 begins
May 2026	
Fri, 22nd	Last day of term 5
June 2026	
Mon, 1st	Term 6 begins
July 2026	
Tues, 21st	Last day of term 6
Term Dates - Chaddleshworth St. Andrew's & Sheffield - C.E. Federated Primary Schools	



Parent and carer community news and information...



JOY
Services
For All Ages
This Christmas

For unto us
a child is born!



30 Nov Advent Sunday Carols
10:30am - St James, Leckhamptead
A festival of Advent music and readings
followed by refreshments.

07 Dec Carols Round The Tree
4pm - Leckhamptead Green
Join us as we light the Christmas Tree and
sing carols before drinks in the village hall.

12 Dec Carol Service
7pm - St Stephens, Shefford Woodlands
A familiar service of readings and carols
with festive refreshments and good cheer.

14 Dec Community Christingle
10:30am - All Saints, Brightwalton
You will remember this one! A great way to
share the meaning of Christmas.

14 Dec Contemporary Carols
7pm - St Mary's, Fawley
Readings and Carols with a live band, this is
an experience not to be missed.

16 Dec Carol Singing In The Five Bells
7:30pm - The Five Bells, Wickham
We'll bring the carol sheets, you bring
the voices or we'll raise the roof!

18 Dec Carols Through The Avenue
6:30pm - St Mary's, Great Shefford
Join us through the beautifully lit avenue of
trees into church for carols & festive drinks.

19 Dec Phoenix Brass @ the Pop Up Pub
7pm - St James, Leckhamptead
Special live live more Christingle than carols
with a Brass band in the Pop Up Pub!

20 Dec Christmas Carol Service
3pm - St Thomas, East Shefford
Christmas Carols and Blessings in the
beautiful 12th Century church.

21 Dec Christmas Café Church
10:30am - St Mary's Great Shefford
The Christmas Story, Café Church style.
Breakfast served from 10:00am.

21 Dec Nine Lessons and Carols
7pm - All Saints, Brightwalton
Readings and Carols set by the benefice
choir, with Muled Wine and Mince Pies.

22 Dec The Longest Night
7pm - St Mary's, Fawley
A service of contemplation and music for
those who find Christmas overwhelming.

23 Dec Carol Singing In The Ibbex
7:30pm - The Ibbex, Chaddleshall
Another chance to grab a carol sheet and
bring the joy of carolling to the local.

24 Dec Carols by Candlelight
3pm - St Margaret's, Cotman
Carols and readings in the beautiful church,
in aid of the Church Conservation Trust.

24 Dec Live Nativity Crib Service
4pm - St Gregory's, Wotton
Come dressed as your favourite nativity
character as we celebrate the Christmas
story in live action!

24 Dec Midnight Communion
11:30pm - St Swithuna, Wickham
The final service, Christmas service of all,
join us as we celebrate the birth of Christ.

25 Dec Christmas Day Communion
8am - St Mary's Great, Shefford
10:30am - All Saints, Brightwalton
All welcome at this all-age communion
service. Even bring your favourite present!

See @westdownland for the complete
list of services and events in December



JOY
ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS SERVICES
IN THE WEST DOWNLAND BENEFICE

30 Nov Advent Sunday Carols
10:30am - St James, Leckhamptead
A festival of Advent music and readings
followed by refreshments.

07 Dec Carols Round The Tree
4pm - Leckhamptead Green
Join us as we light the Christmas Tree and
sing carols before drinks in the village hall.

12 Dec Carol Service
7pm - St Stephens, Shefford Woodlands
A familiar service of readings and carols
with festive refreshments and good cheer.

14 Dec Community Christingle
10:30am - All Saints, Brightwalton
You will remember this one! A great way to
share the meaning of Christmas.

14 Dec Contemporary Carols
7pm - St Mary's, Fawley
Readings and Carols with a live band, this is
an experience not to be missed.

16 Dec Carol Singing In The Five Bells
7:30pm - The Five Bells, Wickham
We'll bring the carol sheets, you bring
the voices or we'll raise the roof!

18 Dec Carols Through The Avenue
6:30pm - St Mary's, Great Shefford
Join us through the beautifully lit avenue of
trees into church for carols & festive drinks.

19 Dec Phoenix Brass @ the Pop Up Pub
7pm - St James, Leckhamptead
Special live live more Christingle than carols
with a Brass band in the Pop Up Pub!

20 Dec Christmas Carol Service
3pm - St Thomas, East Shefford
Christmas Carols and Blessings in the
beautiful 12th Century church.

21 Dec Christmas Café Church
10:30am - St Mary's Great Shefford
The Christmas Story, Café Church style.
Breakfast served from 10:00am.

21 Dec Nine Lessons and Carols
7pm - All Saints, Brightwalton
Readings and Carols set by the benefice
choir, with Muled Wine and Mince Pies.

22 Dec The Longest Night
7pm - St Mary's, Fawley
A service of contemplation and music for
those who find Christmas overwhelming.

23 Dec Carol Singing In The Ibbex
7:30pm - The Ibbex, Chaddleshall
Another chance to grab a carol sheet and
bring the joy of carolling to the local.

24 Dec Carols by Candlelight
3pm - St Margaret's, Cotman
Carols and readings in the beautiful church,
in aid of the Church Conservation Trust.

24 Dec Live Nativity Crib Service
4pm - St Gregory's, Wotton
Come dressed as your favourite nativity
character as we celebrate the Christmas
story in live action!

24 Dec Midnight Communion
11:30pm - St Swithuna, Wickham
The final service, Christmas service of all,
join us as we celebrate the birth of Christ.

25 Dec Christmas Day Communion
8am - St Mary's Great, Shefford
10:30am - All Saints, Brightwalton
All welcome at this all-age communion
service. Even bring your favourite present!

Follow us for more info
f i g @
@westdownland

JOY

Returning this year!

**Shefford Woodlands
Carol Service**

Friday 12th December @7pm
With mulled wine and mince pies
St Stephens, Shefford Woodlands




JOY

Please join us for the
**Community
Christingle**



10:30am Sunday 14th December
All Saints, Brightwalton



FACE School Membership Plan

Good for parents, staff and Ofsted



contact Jane
info@facefamilyadvice.co.uk
facefamilyadvice.co.uk



January 2026 Timetable

All sessions delivered live online via zoom, 50 minutes long
£24 each or FREE with School Membership
Book online at facefamilyadvice.co.uk
Recordings available for 48 hours (excluding Free Talk)

Autism - Improving Communication	5 Jan 10am
Improving Family Communication	5 Jan 7pm
Supporting A Child with ADHD	6 Jan 10am
Understanding Addictive Behaviour	6 Jan 7pm
Anxiety Based School Avoidance	12 Jan 10am
Understanding Anger	12 Jan 7pm
Supporting Healthy Screen Use	13 Jan 10am
Facing Defiance	13 Jan 7pm
Cannabis and Ketamine Awareness	19 Jan 10am
Anxiety Explained	19 Jan 7pm
Introduction to OCD	20 Jan 10am
What Is ACT	20 Jan 7pm
FREE Responding to Angry Behaviour	22 Jan 7-8pm
Raising Self-Esteem	26 Jan 10am
Decreasing Depression	26 Jan 7pm
Supporting Healthy Sleep	27 Jan 10am
Understanding the Teenage Brain	27 Jan 7pm

Save the Date for Santa's Parade

Sunday 7th December
from 4.30pm

Come and see Santa and his elves as they walk through Great Sheffield, spreading festive cheer and sweets, while raising money for **Great Sheffield Under Fives!**



The sleigh team will be heading to the village hall where hot drinks and refreshments will be on sale, and our raffle will be drawn! Join us for a wonderful evening of festive fun for all ages!



Christmas AT SHAW HOUSE

Winter Public Opening

6, 13, 20 & 27 Dec | 11am - 3pm | Free
Inspired by Christmases gone by, we invite you to admire decorations through the House representing different eras, from Tudor times to the present day. A reindeer trail will be available for younger visitors at a suggested donation of £2.

Christmas Fair

Sunday 7 Dec | 11am - 3pm | £2 adults, £1 child
Browse over 70 stalls selling locally made gifts, food, drink, decorations and craft. Warm up with mulled wine and seasonal treats from the café and outdoor caterers. Plus a themed craft in our Activity Room and a reindeer trail (trail suggested donation of £2). With vintage music from Gramofon.

Wreath Making

9 & 10 Dec - 10am & 6.30pm | 11 Dec - 10am | £55
Master the technique of mossing your own wreath and then add foliage, dried fruits and cinnamon sticks, fir cones, baubles and sparkles! Price includes a hot drink and mince pie.

Midwinter Revels

Thursday 11 Dec | 7.30pm | Adult £15, Child £5
A celebration of Yuletide Past guaranteed to warm the cockles of the most Scrooge-like heart, featuring Christmas carols, winter folk songs, toe-tapping tunes.

A Visit from Beauty and her Prince

Sunday 14 Dec | 11am, 1pm & 3pm
£10 per child, one accompanying adult free.
The royal couple will delight young audiences with a fun sing-a-long, themed games and story time.

Christmas Carol Concert

Friday 19 Dec | 7.30pm | Adult £12, Child £6
Newbury based chamber choir, Cantemus, will be giving a concert of festive music telling the Christmas story from Advent to Epiphany along with an opportunity for the audience to join in with some of the well-known pieces.

Children's Magic Show

Sunday 21 Dec | 11am, 12.30pm & 3pm
£8 per child, one accompanying adult free
Featuring Mr Muddle the charming, if muddlesome, magician who captivates and amazes children with his comical slapstick magic.

Movie in the Hall: Frozen

Tuesday 23 Dec | 10.30am | Adults £5 Child £3
Fearless optimist Anna teams up with rugged mountain man Kristoff and his loyal reindeer Sven in an epic journey to find Anna's sister Elsa, whose icy powers have trapped the Kingdom of Arendelle into eternal winter.

www.westberkshireheritage.org/whats-on



Merry Christmas!


December Timetable

All sessions delivered live online via zoom, 50 minutes long
£24 each or FREE with School Membership
Book online at facefamilyadvice.co.uk
Recordings available for 48 hours (excluding Free Talk)

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

info@facefamilyadvice.co.uk
www.facefamilyadvice.co.uk

Events



'MY WILD LIFE'
PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION 2026

We are excited to bring back our popular 'My Wild Life' photography competition, inspired by the return of the Natural History Museum's 'Wildlife Photographer of the Year 61' exhibition to The Base.

Budding photographers of all ages and expertise can enter – whether it's a spectacular sunset, wildlife discovered on a family walk or snaps of your beloved pet... we are looking for creative thinking when it comes to capturing the wonders that surrounds us, both in your town or countryside.

Finalists from two age categories (**Under-18s** and **Over-18s**) will be selected by a panel of expert judges. The general public will then choose the winners from each category in an online vote on The Base's Facebook page.

Don't miss out! You could win...

- Under-18s:** A Family Base Pass, a Family Day Ticket to Marwell Zoo, and a Marwell Zoo goodie bag, a Berkshire Wildlife Hides 'Kingfisher Hide Experience' for two and featured in Newbury Weekly News.
- Over-18s:** A Base Pass Plus, a Family Day Ticket to Marwell Zoo and a Marwell Zoo 'Animal Experience', a Berkshire Wildlife Hides 'Kingfisher Hide Experience' for two and featured in Newbury Weekly News.
- All 1st place, 2nd place, finalists and highly commended entries** will have their photographs displayed as part of the 'My Wild Life' exhibition in Honesty at Parkway and The Base's Runway Gallery.

Submission deadline: **8pm on Sunday 11 January 2026**
More info and regular updates at www.thebasegreenham.co.uk/news

THE BASE Greenham

In association with **honesty** **Marwell Zoo**

Email a completed entry form, including the communication release form ([see www.thebasegreenham.co.uk/ky-download/](http://www.thebasegreenham.co.uk/ky-download/)) and your photo attached to admin@thebasegreenham.co.uk by 8pm on Sunday 11 January 2026.

Chaddleworth St. Andrew's and Shefford Church of England Federated Primary Schools



'Living life in all its fullness'

Starting school in September 2026?

Come and see what makes our school special!

We are a small, nurturing school where every child is known, valued and encouraged to thrive academically, socially and spiritually.



We would love to welcome you for a visit.

Come and meet our staff, see our classrooms and discover why our families love being part of our community.

To book a visit, please contact our school office...

Tel. 01488 648657 Email. Office@csf.w-berks.sch.uk

We look forward to meeting you!