



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,

What an exciting week - our Christmas preparations have begun!

This time of year is full of such anticipation and fun.

Next week Reverend Mike and Reverend Matt will be joining us for Christingle celebrations, with our 'everyone invited' PTFA Christmas fair following closely on Saturday 6th December (get your bookings in to meet Santa!). The following week we are then excited to present to you our whole school Christmas performances of the Nativity and Christmas carols that we are currently busy learning and rehearsing.

Wishing everyone a wonderful weekend,

Ms Munday Headteacher www.csfschools.org



Great Shefford village Christmas tree...

We were very happy to be invited to be part of the decorating of the village Christmas tree again this year. Each class has been busy considering their designs and







materials for their own personalised decorations and on this week's chilly, frosty Wednesday morning we were all able to walk to the village tree, situated outside the village hall, to place our decorations. The tree is now looking very festive and ready to help us all welcome in the season of Christmas.



Class worship...

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

	In Robins...	Darcey, "I have enjoyed reading."
		Miriam, "I have enjoyed playing with the playdough."
	In Kingfishers...	Teddy, "I have enjoyed the (Christmas production) rehearsals."
		Nancy, "I have enjoyed singing 'Little Donkey'."
		Isla, "I'm proud of the writing that I have been doing at home"
		Freya, "We celebrated my Mum and Dad's wedding anniversary together as a family"
		Kingfishers class all enjoyed walking together to place their Christmas tree decoration on the village tree.
	In Owls...	Sophie, "I felt proud when I made a hedgehog in Forest School and it looked really good."
		Elizabeth R, "I have been living life in all its fullness by helping my dad build a bird house."
	In Red Kites...	Joseph, "Football club was fun and useful."
		Lilly-Kate, "Maths assessments were fun!"
		Rosie, "I have enjoyed drawing this week."
		Quinn, "I have loved participating in the Christmas poster competition."
Our school adults...		Miss Carter, "My family and I put the Christmas tree up together and worked as a team."

Picture News and the BIG question this week...

The BIG question...

What are some of the different ways we can express ourselves?

McDonald's changed the colours of its famous Happy Meal box in the UK, making it white on three sides, for children to colour and design it themselves. The company said the new boxes encourage creativity and let children express their ideas and feelings through drawing. Four million of the new 'colour-your-own' boxes have been given out as a trial to see how children respond.

The Bible explains when you create something that is truly yours and unlike anyone else's, whether it's a song, a drawing, or a unique solution to a problem, you are honouring God and His creativity. Being creative and making things that are unique is a reflection of who we are, and our special relationship with 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	
Tues, 2nd	Red Kites trip to Oxford National History Museum
Wed, 3rd	Kingfishers group 1 trip to Wantage museum
Thurs, 4th	Kingfishers group 2 trip to Wantage museum
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 Shefford, 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 - Chaddlesworth St. Andrew's & Shefford - C.E. Federated Primary Schools	



Parent and carer community news and information...

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!

JOY

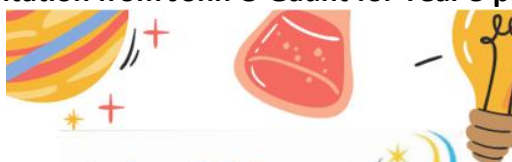
ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS SERVICES IN THE WEST DOWNLAND BENEFICE

<p>30 Nov Advent Sunday Carols 10:30am - St Mary's, Leckhamptead A festival of Advent music and readings followed by refreshments.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>12 Dec Carol Service 7pm - St Stephen's, Shefford Woodlands A familiar service of readings and carols with festive refreshments and good cheer.</p> <p>14 Dec Community Chanticle 10:30am - All Saints, Brighton You will remember this one! A great way to share the meaning of Christmas.</p> <p>14 Dec Contemporary Carols 7pm - St Mary's, Fawley Readings and Carols with a live band, this is an experience not to be missed.</p> <p>16 Dec Carol Singing In The Five Bells 7:30pm - The Five Bells, Wickham We're bringing the carol sheets, you bring the voices and we'll raise the roof!</p> <p>18 Dec Carols Through The Avenue 6:30pm - St Mary's, Great Shefford Join us through the beautiful avenue of trees into church for carols & festive drinks.</p> <p>19 Dec Phoenix Brass @ the Pop Up Pub 7pm - St James, Leckhamptead What can be more Christmassy than carols with a Brass band in the Pop Up Pub!</p> <p>20 Dec Christmas Carol Service 3pm - St Thomas, East Shefford Christmas Carols and Blessings in the beautiful 12th Century church.</p>	<p>21 Dec Christmas Café Church 10:30am - St Mary's Great Shefford The Christmas Biry, Cold Church style. Breakfast served from 10:15am.</p> <p>21 Dec Nine Lessons and Carols 7pm - All Saints, Brighton Readings and Carols set by the benefice choir, with Mulled Wine and Mince Pies.</p> <p>22 Dec The Longest Night 7pm - St Mary's, Fawley A service of contemplation and music for those who find Christmas overwhelming.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>24 Dec Carols by Candlelight 3pm - St Margaret's, Cotman Carols and readings in the beautiful church, in aid of the Church Conservation Trust.</p> <p>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!</p> <p>24 Dec Midnight Communion 11:30pm - St Sallust's, Wickham The final formal Christmas service of the year. Join us as we celebrate the birth of Christ.</p> <p>25 Dec Christmas Day Communion 10am - St Mary's Great, Shefford 10:30am - All Saints, Brighton All welcome at this all-day communion service. Even bring your favourite present!</p>
---	---

Follow us for more info

@westdownland

An invitation from John O Gaunt for Year 5 parents,



John O'Gaunt
SCHOOL

Year 5 Science Show by The Royal Institution

**Wednesday 3rd December 2025
16:00-17:00**

**At John O'Gaunt School
Main Hall**

Tickets are free (available from John O'Gaunt office)

Only 100 available

Children must be accompanied by an adult.



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 Shefford, spreading festive cheer and sweets, while raising money for Great Shefford 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!



**Winter Public Opening**

6, 13, 14, 20 & 21 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)

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

info@facefamilyadvice.co.uk

www.facefamilyadvice.co.uk



Wildlife Photographer of the Year

Fri 27 Feb - Sun 26 Apr

THE BASE
Greenham

[Click here for details](#)



'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.to.download](http://see.www.thebasegreenham.co.uk.to.download)) and your photo attached to admin@thebasegreenham.co.uk by 8pm on Sunday 11 January 2026.

Events