



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

## Chaddlesworth and Shefford Federated CE Primary Schools

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

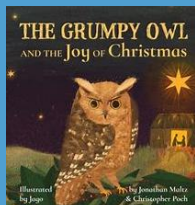
Dear Parents and Carers,

This week has been incredibly busy with the final preparations for, and then the sharing of, our Christmas performances. And how magical they were! Thank you to everyone who was able to join us, your singing voices were a tuneful addition to the traditional Christmas carols shared.

Please do join us for our Christmas service next week on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December at 9.30am in St Mary's Church, Great Shefford, we'd love to welcome as many of our school friends and families there to celebrate with us.

Wishing everyone a wonderful weekend,

Ms Munday Headteacher [www.csfschools.org](http://www.csfschools.org)



### Whole School Worship...

The Grumpy Owl and the Joy of Christmas was our story again this week. We were able to identify not only a clear link with the story of the Nativity, but also a nod to another traditional tale too!

(Can your children remember which story it was? The clue is a devious fox!)

It was clear to us that there were so many people and animals involved in the story of Jesus' birth and its celebration too. From Kings to angels, cows to sheep. Everyone wanted to travel and meet the new baby, and even the Grumpy Owl was filled with joy by the end!

Do take some time to enjoy the story at home together too via this link...

[The Grumpy Owl and the Joy of Christmas](#)



### Trussell Trust support...

If you (or someone you know) is facing financial challenges now or in the future and is in need of help, advice or Food Bank support, we would like to signpost you to the Trussell Trust as a potential source

for assistance across a range of services.

For those in emergency need of support, the Trussell Trust Foodbank scheme provides emergency food parcels (3 days' worth of balanced meals) and other items such as toiletries, through a network of local food banks.

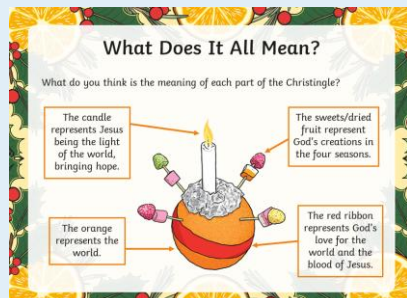
This support can be accessed via a referral from a support organisation such as the school (or other community organisations such as your doctor). Once referred, a voucher is issued which can then be exchanged at the food bank for a food parcel. Should you wish to contact the school at any time to request this support please be assured of our absolute confidentiality and discretion.

Please request a referral via the email address [cfinance@csf.w-berks.sch.uk](mailto:cfinance@csf.w-berks.sch.uk) with the subject line stating 'Trussell referral request'. This email address will be monitored through the Christmas period and after term ends until the deadline for referral of **Monday 22nd December**. The centre will

then be closed until Monday 5th January 2026.

The Trust also offers support and advice for a range of concerns such as benefits advice and energy bill support. To find out more, please go to <https://www.trussell.org.uk/>

### House meetings and Christingle making...



Friday brought us to our house meetings for this term, led by our House Captains, giving everyone opportunity to make their very own Christingle. Last week we learnt, with Reverends Mike and Matt, the meaning of each of the parts of a Christingle and its symbolism during Advent as we await

Christmas Day to arrive.

Do take a look at the '10 golden rules' from The Children's Society when enjoying your child/ren's Christingles at home.



### Christmas performances...

This is such a special time of year, especially as a Church of England Primary School! We were reminded of the true meaning of Christmas through the whole school performances of the Nativity story and sharing of traditional Christmas carols. We were happy to welcome Great Shefford Under 5s and Reverend Matt to our dress rehearsal and then more of our families and community to our two further performances through the week. Our whole school came together to present these magical performances with drama and





song at its heart.





I'm sure everyone who was able to join us would agree that the joy of Christmas has been spread in abundance!

Thank you to our whole school community for making these performances, and this time of year, in our school just so very special!



### Class worship...

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

	In Robins...	Jesse, "Wearing my costume, it made me feel great!"
		Darcey, "Walking to the church with friends."
		Albie, "Watching pre-school Nativity."
	In Kingfishers...	Emily and Ivy, "We've really enjoyed being Narrators in the Nativity."
		Charlie, "My eye is getting better; I can read smaller words now. It means I'm driver level now!"
		Isla, "Taking part in swimming games. At first I was a bit nervous but then I really enjoyed them."
		Aurora, "I've nearly filled my star jar up, one thing I've done is fed my chickens!"
		Kaleb, "I love the Nativity, I loved being the Donkey."
		Teddy, "I loved being a King and my family seeing me."
	In Owls...	Harvey, " I'm proud of being a part of the Nativity."
		Hollie, "I've been sewing (to make a bag in D&T)."
	In Red Kites...	Jess, "I have enjoyed Maths because it's been fun."
		Ava, "I am happy because I scored the best try in rugby!"
		Alfred, "It was nice to have Coach Olly back for PE."
		Eleanor, "I have found History fascinating and have learnt a lot!"
		Ava-Rayne, "I loved doing my piano solo (at the Christmas performance)."
Our school adults...		Erin, "I've enjoyed sorting the Christmas cards in the post box."

### Picture News and the BIG question this week...



The BIG question...

**How might challenges help us to grow?**

An adventurer named Darren Edwards, who is paralysed from the chest down, is preparing to travel 137 miles across Antarctica using a sit-ski. If he succeeds, he will break the world record for the longest sit-ski journey to the South Pole. Darren hopes his challenge will raise money for charity and show that his injury does not limit what he can achieve.

The Bible teaches us that if things are too easy, we do not learn how to reach our potential. Doing something difficult, even if it feels scary, proves our strength and helps us grow and develop as a person. Challenging ourselves helps us grow in confidence and feel proud of our abilities.

### 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...**

Wow! What a fun event the Christmas fair was for everyone.



With the prize filled raffle, bottle tombola, tasty snacks, plate and cookie decorating, elf bowling, visits to Santa and much, much more!

Our PTFA have worked incredibly hard to organise such a busy and inviting event for our whole community, and we'd like to say a



**HUGE..**

The PTFA have shared that the fundraising total from the Ploughing match, Little Recyclers, the Christmas Fair and Christmas performance refreshments has come to a total of **£1600!** An amazing amount which the PTFA has chosen to use to fund our whole school pantomime trip to the Corn Exchange in Newbury to see 'Robin Hood and Maid Marion' on our last day of term!



Oh no they haven't. Oh yes they have!

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

December 2025	
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 - Chaddleshworth St. Andrew's & Shefford - C.E. Federated Primary Schools	




**For unto us  
a child is born!**



**07 Dec** Carols Round The Tree  
4pm - Lockingtons Green  
Join us to sing the Christmas carols and sing carols before drinks in the village hall

**14 Dec** Community Christmas  
10.30am - All Saints, Bingham  
You will receive a gift. A great way to share the meaning of Christmas

**21 Dec** Christmas Cafe Church  
10.30am - St Mary's Great Shefford  
The Christmas Story, Cafe Church style. Breakfast served from 10.30am

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

**25 Dec** Christmas Day Communion  
10am - St Gregory's, Shefford  
10.30am - All Saints, Bingham  
A special service to celebrate Christmas. Even bring your favourite present!


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




## Parent and carer community news and information...

**JOY**

Please join us for the  
**Community Christingle**



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



**JOY**

**ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS SERVICES  
IN THE WEST DOWNLAND BENEFICE**

<b>30 Nov</b>	<b>Advent Sunday Carols</b> 10:30am - St James, Leckhamptead A festival of Advent music and readings followed by refreshments.	<b>21 Dec</b>	<b>Christmas Café Church</b> 10:30am - St Mary's Great, Sheffield The Christmas Story, Cold Church style. Breakfast served from 10:00am.
<b>07 Dec</b>	<b>Carols Round The Tree</b> 4pm - Leckhamptead Green Join us as we light the Christmas Tree and sing carols before drinks in the village hall.	<b>21 Dec</b>	<b>Nine Lessons and Carols</b> 7pm - All Saints, Brightwalton Readings and carols set by the benefice choir. With Mulled Wine and Mince Pies.
<b>12 Dec</b>	<b>Carol Service</b> 7pm - St Stephens, Shefford Woodlands A familiar service of readings and carols with festive refreshments and good cheer.	<b>22 Dec</b>	<b>The Longest Night</b> 7pm - St Mary's, Fawley A service of contemplation and music for those who find Christmas overwhelming.
<b>14 Dec</b>	<b>Community Christingle</b> 10:30am - All Saints, Brightwalton You will remember this one! A great way to share the meaning of Christmas.	<b>23 Dec</b>	<b>Carol Singing In The Ibox</b> 7:30pm - The Ibox, Chaddelworth Another chance to grab a carol sheet and bring the joy of carolling to the local.
<b>14 Dec</b>	<b>Contemporary Carols</b> 7pm - St Mary's, Fawley Readings and Carols with a live band, this is an evening not to be missed.	<b>24 Dec</b>	<b>Carols by Candlelight</b> 3pm - St Margaret's, Cotman Carols and readings in the beautiful church, in aid of the Church Conservation Trust.
<b>16 Dec</b>	<b>Carol Singing In The Five Bells</b> 7:30pm - The Five Bells, Wickham We'll bring the carol sheets, you bring the voice as we'll raise the roof.	<b>24 Dec</b>	<b>Live Nativity Crib Service</b> 4pm - St Gregory's, Waltham Come dressed as your favourite nativity character as we celebrate the birth of Christ in live action.
<b>18 Dec</b>	<b>Carols Through The Avenue</b> 6:30pm - St Mary's, Great Sheffield Join us through the beautiful avenue of trees into church for carols & festive drinks.	<b>24 Dec</b>	<b>Midnight Communion</b> 11:30pm - St Swithuna, Wickham The final formal Christmas service of the year as we celebrate the birth of Christ.
<b>19 Dec</b>	<b>Phoenix Brass @ the Pop Up Pub</b> 7pm - St James, Leckhamptead What can be more Christmassy than carols with a Brass band in the Pop Up Pub!	<b>25 Dec</b>	<b>Christmas Day Communion</b> 10am - St Mary's Great, Sheffield 10:30am - All Saints, Brightwalton All welcome at this all-age communion service. Even bring your favourite present!
<b>20 Dec</b>	<b>Christmas Carol Service</b> 3pm - St Thomas, East Sheffield Christmas Carols and Readings in the beautiful 12th Century church.		



Follow us for more info  
f @westdownland

**JOY**

Returning this year!

**Shefford Woodlands  
Carol Service**

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



**Let's Play**

FUN | INCLUSIVE | EDUCATIONAL

**CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR FUN DAYS**

SWIMMING (INDOOR & OUTDOOR), MULTI-SPORTS, SOFT PLAY, ARTS & CRAFTS, BOUNCY CASTLE, PERFORMING ARTS, GAMING, LASER TAG, NERF WARS, LEGO BUILDING & MUCH MORE!

Friday 19<sup>th</sup>, Monday 22<sup>nd</sup>, Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> December & Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> January



**Northcroft Leisure Centre**  
Northcroft Lane, Newbury RG14 1RS  
**9.00am – 4.00pm**  
Early drop off from 8am, late pick-up until 5pm

OPEN TO CHILDREN AGED 5 (SCHOOL YEAR 1) – 12  
**FROM £27.50 PER DAY!**

Discounts for siblings & full week booking – please see booking page for details.  
We accept Childcare Vouchers, Tax-Free Childcare & we are OFSTED registered!  
Please bring: Lunch, Snacks, Waterproof Clothing & a Refillable Drinks Bottle.

**FREE FUNDED HAF SPACES AVAILABLE**



Scan the QR code for more information,  
call 01344 508008 or email [info@lets-play.org.uk](mailto:info@lets-play.org.uk)  
Book online: [www.lets-play.org.uk](http://www.lets-play.org.uk)

f @LPlayUK @LetsPlayUK

## 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 Talks)

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
<b>FREE Responding to Angry Behaviour</b>	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



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 Talks)

info@facefamilyadvice.co.uk

www.facefamilyadvice.co.uk

Anxiety Based School Avoidance	15 DEC 10am
Understanding Anger	15 DEC 7pm
Supporting Healthy Screen Use	16 DEC 10am
Facing Defiance	16 DEC 7pm



## 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



## '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 a 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](http://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/entryform](http://www.thebasegreenham.co.uk/entryform)) and your photo attached to [admin@thebasegreenham.co.uk](mailto:admin@thebasegreenham.co.uk) by 8pm on Sunday 11 January 2026.