



# Shalford News



The weekly newsletter for  
Shalford Infant School and Nursery

8<sup>th</sup> December 2023

Issue 12

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## Head Teacher Update

Dear Families,

A huge thank you to everyone who helped and attended the PTA's first **Christmas Cheer** event last Friday. It was a lovely occasion with a great festive atmosphere, with parents, children and staff working together to support the school. We raised **£1,248** which is great for such a small school! Thank you to Katie, Chris, Laura and Becky for organising and thank you to everyone who came, spent money and either helped set up or pack away. Thank you also to Mrs Davies for playing the piano whilst we sang carols!

We look forward to seeing you at one of the Christmas performances next week. There is no need to book tickets and everyone is welcome (within reason!!). Please remember that babies and younger siblings are invited to the performances on **Wednesday**. A collection will be taken after each performance and this year we are once again supporting CHASE Shooting Star, the children's hospice service, which cares for local families with a child or teenager with a life limiting or terminal condition.

Just a reminder that it is Christmas jumper day at Shalford on **Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December**. We will also be having our Christmas lunch! All children are invited to wear a Christmas jumper (no donation required) with school uniform on their bottom half.

Do not forget, school finishes at **1pm on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December for all classes**

We were pleased to welcome Olive into Pine Class today. He has already begun to settle in to our school community and our children are showing their Shalford values by helping him to find out all about our school.

Have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes,

Michelle Dutton

## Shalford Celebrates....

Congratulations to...



	Headteacher Award	Values Ambassador
Acorn	Tilly	Austin
Oak		
Ash	Seb	Stanley
Pine	Oli	Avi

## Pantomime Information

We are all looking forward to our traditional panto trip next week to see Cinderella.

We will be providing a sweet treat for the interval that meets all dietary requirements that the different children have. **Please do not send in sweets or snacks for the trip.**

To keep costs down for parents we have booked one coach who will do two shuttle runs back to school once the panto has



finished. The theatre has said that the performance will finish at about 4.25pm. Therefore, we are expecting the first bus to be back at school at about 4.45pm. This bus will have all the Oak Class children on board as well as half of the Pine Class children. The bus will then drive back to the theatre to pick up the Ash Class children and the rest of Pine Class. We expect that bus to return at about 5pm, depending on traffic.

The school's front door will be opened at 4.30pm so that parents can enter the site and wait outside the classroom door that you usually pick up from. The children will be handed over to you from that door by a member of school staff. This is to ensure that every child leaves school with the correct adult.

The Pine Class children will be split into two groups for travelling and the names of the children and which coach they will be on will be emailed to parents separately to this newsletter.

Important Dates	
<p>12<sup>th</sup> Dec: 9.30am EYFS Christmas Performance  13<sup>th</sup> Dec: 9.30am KS1 Christmas Performance  13<sup>th</sup> Dec: 2pm EYFS Christmas Performance  14<sup>th</sup> Dec: 1.30pm KS1 Christmas Performance  15<sup>th</sup> Dec PM: Pantomime Trip, Oak, Ash &amp; Pine  19<sup>th</sup> Dec: Christmas Lunch &amp; Jumper Day  19<sup>th</sup> Dec: Term finishes at 1pm  20<sup>th</sup> Dec: <b>INSET DAY</b>  15<sup>th</sup> &amp; 18<sup>th</sup> Jan 9am: Family Learning  7<sup>th</sup> Feb: 2.45 – 3pm: Welcome Wednesday  19<sup>th</sup> Feb: <b>INSET DAY</b>  27<sup>th</sup> Feb &amp; 1<sup>st</sup> Mar 9am: Family Learning  27<sup>th</sup> Mar: 2.45 – 3pm: Welcome Wednesday  15<sup>th</sup> April: <b>INSET DAY</b>  24<sup>th</sup> &amp; 25<sup>th</sup> April 9am: Family Learning  22<sup>nd</sup> May: 2.45 – 3pm: Welcome Wednesday  3<sup>rd</sup> June: <b>INSET DAY</b>  18<sup>th</sup> &amp; 21<sup>st</sup> June 9am: Family Learning</p>	<p><b>Guildford County School Consultation on change to Admission Arrangements 2025 2026</b></p> <p>We have a statutory duty to consult on admissions arrangements if we intend to make a change, therefore, Guildford County School is consulting on admission arrangements for 2025 2026. The Local Governing Body's consultation period will run from 5 December 2023 to 16 January 2024. If you would like to submit any comments or views on these changes, please do so by emailing the school's Admission Officer at <a href="mailto:nevans@guildfordcounty.co.uk">nevans@guildfordcounty.co.uk</a> or by post to Mrs N Evans, Admissions Officer, Guildford County School, Farnham Road, Guildford, GU2 4LU</p> <p>Please see below for a summary of the changes and attached proposed admission arrangements.  <u>The changes being proposed for this school are as follows:</u></p> <p><b>Proposed change 1</b>  <b>The opening of a new unit for autistic children in September 2025</b></p> <p>We are hoping to embark upon a journey with Surrey County Council, that, if successful, will ultimately see the conversion of the loft space above our English corridor into a new unit to support a total of 25 children with ASD (Autism Spectrum Disorder). Whether a child has ASD or would identify as more neuro typical, it is our firmly held belief that if we can improve our delivery for children with ASD, then we will improve our delivery for every child. In so doing, we will also make further improvements to the main school site as a result of the £3.3m investment from Surrey that this project represents.</p> <p><b>Proposed change 2</b></p> <p>For entry into the Sixth Form, students are currently required to gain five GCSE passes or the equivalent at Grade 4 (higher tier) or above for A level courses, with a recommendation that five GCSE passes at Grade 5 are probably better suited to A level study. From 2025, it is proposed that students will be required to gain five GCSE passes or the equivalent at Grade 5, which must be higher tier if a two-tier qualification or above for A level courses. It is hoped that this will bring clarity to our position here.</p> <p>After the closing date, responses will be collated and presented to the school's Local Governing body. They will decide whether or not to proceed with the proposed changes as well as determine the admission arrangements for Guildford County School for 2025/26. The Governing body's decision will then be ratified at the LGB on Monday 26 February 2024. Once determined, the final admission arrangements for 2025/26 will be published on the Guildford County School website by 15<sup>th</sup> March 2024. The proposed varied admissions policy can also be accessed on the school's website:  <a href="https://www.guildfordcounty.co.uk/636/admissions-policy">https://www.guildfordcounty.co.uk/636/admissions-policy</a></p>
Blackheath Children's Cricket Club	
<p>Registration has just opened for the Blackheath Cricket Club junior section in 2024. The club has waiting lists for most of its junior squads but there is currently plenty of space in our new Minis squad. This is for primarily for children in Year 1, but we do sometimes take children in Reception as well. The available places are likely to go quickly and the club is keen to encourage applications from Shalford Infant children.</p> <p>The Minis squad will be training on Friday evenings from 4.15 to 5pm in the summer in the beautiful surroundings of Blackheath Cricket Club. All sessions will be run by a team of professional coaches. The first session will be on Friday 19 April 2024. For more details see the <a href="#">Minis</a> page of the club website.</p> <p><i>The club will be accepting entries from its waiting list in date order, and to maximise the prospects of your son/daughter being offered a place, put their name on the waiting list as soon as possible. This takes only a minute or two, involves no commitment, and can be done by entering just a few details at this</i></p> <p><a href="#">Registration Link.</a></p> 	