



St Mark's CofE Primary School

Danebury Road, Hatch Warren

Basingstoke, RG22 4US

(01256) 346 111

adminoffice@st-markscofe.hants.sch.uk

www.stmarksprimary.net

News Update - Monday 27th November, 2017

A Message From Mr Applegate

The Christmas season seems to have begun, and we are looking forward to celebrating Christmas together. We are mindful that Christmas can also be a difficult time for a variety of reasons. Last weekend, the American tradition of Thanksgiving took place, reminding us to give thanks in all circumstances. Not always easy to do, but it really helps us through tricky times. It also helps us to look outwards and not inwards.

My apologies for causing some discussion around the change to finishing times on the last day. We are finishing at 3:20pm because schools aren't supposed to finish early (I've had confirmation from the diocese). Many prefer this anyway due to work commitments. If you have to take your child early, just pop into the office and collect them after 1:30pm, but this should be the exception not the norm. 😊

Respond To School At Home



This week, we learn about St Andrew, looking at who he trusted, and the good news he spread.

Can you help us on Sunday 10th Dec?

Hatch Warren Nature group are helping us redo our Willow Tunnel and also improve our raised beds, as both are looking tired.

Can you spare a few hours to help them? 9:30am until lunch. We really need 4 more volunteers. Parents are to supervise their own children if they bring any. Bring gardening gloves. Bring secateurs if you have some. Wear old clothes and wear strong shoes or boots.

Please let us know if you can make it!



Christmas Performances - Update

Thank you for the overwhelming positive comments and suggestions regarding the new ticket system.

We aim to get the tickets out to parents for the Reception performances on Monday, and the other performances in the following days.

If you haven't applied for tickets, please do so immediately via our website.

No ticket = No performance 😊

For all performances, young children and babies can be on an adult's lap in the performance. Older siblings will require a seat (and therefore their own ticket).

Finally, at the end of each performance, we'll be taking donations for "The Raising Hope Foundation", a charity which works with orphaned and vulnerable children in the traditional town of Santrokofi, Ghana.

www.raisinghopefoundation.co.uk



Christingle Donation

Your child may have come home with a Christingle box or envelope on Friday. If you would like to, feel free to pop a few coins in as a donation towards The Children's Society, who work with disadvantaged children and young people, and return it by Friday 1st December. You are also invited to Immanuel's Christingle Celebration on Sunday 3rd Dec at 3pm, in the school hall.



Friends of St Mark's Christmas Fayre

Sat 2nd Dec

11am-2pm

Head Teacher: Mr Charles Applegate
Deputy Head: Mrs Claire Cooper
Assistant Head: Mrs Nicola Ford
Assistant Head: Mrs Rebekah Alsey





Christmas at St Mark's C of E Primary School 2017

★ **Christmas Fayre** ★
Saturday 2nd December 11am-2pm

★ **Christmas Lunch** ★
Wednesday 20th December

★ **Year R Nativity** ★
Performances on:
Tuesday 5th December at 10am
Wednesday 6th December at 10am

★ **Year 1 and 2 performances of
Behind the Stable Door** ★
Performances on:
Monday 11th December at 10am
Tuesday 12th December at 10am
Wednesday 13th December at 2pm

★ **Years 3, 4 and Choir
Carol Concert** ★
Performances on:
Thursday 14th December at 2pm
Monday 18th December at 7pm
Tuesday 19th December 2pm

★ **Years 5, 6 and
Choir Carol Concert** ★
Performances on:
Friday 15th December at 2pm
Monday 18th December at 2pm
Tuesday 19th December 7pm



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

To attend a performance this year you will need to have a free ticket. Please see our website for more information!



Dates for your diary....

Autumn Term

Christmas Fayre

Dec 2nd

Flu Vaccinations YR – Y4

Dec 12th, 13th

Christmas break

Dec 22nd – Jan 3rd

Spring Term

First day

Thurs 4th Jan 2018

Half-term

Feb 12th – 16th

Easter break

Mar 30th – Apr 13th

Summer Term

First day

Monday 16th April

May Day Bank Holiday

May 7th

Half-term

May 28th – June 1st

INSET Days - 2018

Friday 19th January, Thurs 29th March, Monday 4th June

Last day of term

July 23rd

We finish at 3:20pm on Thursday 21st December for the Christmas break.

Join us this Christmas at
Immanuel Church
as we celebrate Jesus' birth

Saturday 25th November

10.00am Advent Activity Morning

Advent Sunday: 3rd December

10.00am Holy Communion for all

3.00pm Christingle

Sunday 10th December

10.00am Holy Communion for all

Sunday 17th December

10.00am Nativity for all

6.30pm Carols by Candlelight

(with mulled wine & mince pies afterwards)

Sunday 24th December

10.00am Holy Communion for all

3.00pm Crib Service

11.30pm Midnight Mass

Monday 25th December

10.00am Celebration Christmas Communion

Immanuel Church, Danebury Road, Hatch Warren, RG22 4US
www.immanuelhub.co.uk facebook.com/immanuelhub

Christmas Jumper Day – Friday 15th Dec

Feel free to decorate the St Mark's jumper with Christmas items, or wear a Christmas jumper.

Absence – Please be honest!

Thank you to everyone who is honest when their child is absent from school for any reason.

It can be tempting for parents to tell a 'little white lie' about why their child was absent (e.g. child was unwell despite being away on holiday).

The problem is that children talk about their holiday, parents, pupils and staff know things from social media, and the school almost always finds out. Sometimes children have tans, too. It's also not great for the children who may be told to keep quiet about a holiday.

If we have sufficient evidence to believe that a child has actually been away, then this may go down as unauthorised and will count towards absences for a penalty notice (fine).

Finally, there is an amazingly clear statistical link between good attainment and good attendance at school. Attendance really does help!