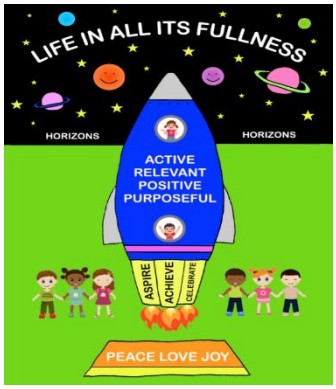
Stratford-sub-Castle CE VC Primary School Newsletter

Wednesday 18th November 2026

Life in all its fullness John 10:10





Our theme for assembly this term is

Trust

'My God is my strength in whom I trust'
Psalm 18.2



OPAL

Our playtimes have been enhanced by the introduction of scooter boards, diablos, skipping ropes and spinning plates! Thank you to the FOSS for funding these new resources.









Some of the resources have broken or got damaged and we need to replace them. We need:

- Tarpaulin, sheets etc to make dens
- pegs
- Trowels and buckets for the digging area
- Pots and pans, cups and cutlery for the mud kitchen

- Dressing up clothes – these can be outfits or your old clothes!

If you are able to provide any of these please bring to the gate and give either to myself or one of the teachers. The more equipment we can offer the children the more fun they will have.

Woodpecker Class Reading Showcase session
Monday 23rd November

Mrs Rudman will be leading a reading fluency showcase lesson for parents of children in Woodpecker Class on **Monday 23rd November from 09.00 – 09.30**. You are invited to come along and watch the reading lesson so you can see how it is taught. This will help you be able to support your child at home when reading.
If you would like to come along, please email admin@stratford-sub-castle.wilts.sch.uk with **Woodpecker Class Reading Showcase** in the subject box.

Reception 2027

If your child has a sibling that is due to start school in September 2027, please remember to apply for their place before 15 January 2027.

Message from Rev. Suzie!

St Lawrence's Breakfast Church - This Sunday!
Why not join us this Sunday at 9.45am in the Reading Room for Breakfast Church?
We'll begin with a delicious breakfast together before exploring the theme of **light** through a Bible story and a range of fun, hands-on activities that will help us think more about what light means in our lives and faith.
Breakfast Church is suitable for all ages, and we'd love to welcome new faces as well as familiar ones.

SCHOOL CHRISTMAS CARDS / POST BOX



The school *Christmas Post Box* will be by the gate, from **Tuesday 1st December until Monday 14th December.** Christmas cards must not be brought to school before that time. All cards should be placed in the box addressed with **FULL NAME (first and second name) and CLASS.** Our 'little elves' will sort all the cards after this date and will deliver them out to all the children on Wednesday 16th December.

Please remember this is only for school cards! We can't deliver to Manchester! This is an internal school delivery service only!

Butterfly and Hedgehog Class Nativity – The Nativity

This year the pupils in EYFS, Y1 and Y2 will be performing 'The Nativity' on Wednesday 9th and Thursday 10th December 2026. A dress rehearsal in front of the whole school will take place on the morning of Tuesday 8th December with performances to families taking place on the following two days. The children will perform on both of these days, but to simplify ticket allocation, we have designated a day for the families of each class to come along.

Every child will be allocated 3 tickets for their designated 'class performance'. They will be sent home in an envelope by 30.11.26.



Day 1 - Wednesday 9th December: Butterfly Class (09:15 – 10:15)

Day 2 - Thursday 10th December: Hedgehog Class (09:15 – 10:15)

If you want to swap tickets with another family, please don't involve us, just get on and make your own arrangements. This does mean however, that entry on each day is by **TICKET ONLY**.

Christmas Bazaar – Friday 11th December 2026 @ 3.20pm

Raffle tickets will be sent home, in an envelope , with your child, week beginning Monday 23rd November. Please return the envelope with any sold raffle ticket stubs and money and/or unsold raffle tickets to school and put in the grey raffle bin! This will be emptied daily.

We will also start collecting items for the Christmas bazaar on Monday 30th November.

We need:

- Items suitable for the children's tombola and adult/children Lucky Bags. Items in good, nearly new condition please.
- Chocolate for the chocolate tombola
- Christmas craft items – these can be hand made

We would also like Christmas goodies, for example cakes and biscuits for the cake stall but will collect these on the day of the bazaar.

Rainbow Raffle

We will be collecting items for the Rainbow Raffle hampers from Monday 30th November. Each class is allocated a colour, see below. Please bring items of your child's class colour to put in the hamper. For example, if your child is in Robin Class then bring items that are red, eg red wine, baubles, shower gel, Maltesers. Please make sure items are in date, new or nearly new.

The colours for each class are

Butterfly Class: Blue **Hedgehog Class: Green** **Robin Class: Red**

Woodpecker Class: Silver **Fox Class: Gold**

There will be a crate for each class outside the front gate before and after school.







Jolly Jars

From Monday 7th December – Wednesday 9th December we are holding JOLLY JAR DAYS in aid of the **Christmas Bazaar.** We are hoping everyone will fill a 'Jolly Jar' and bring it to school on one of these days. The idea is to fill a jar and perhaps even decorate it for the JOLLY JAR STALL at the Christmas Bazaar. The jars can contain anything from sweets to hair bands, crayons to stationery.

Everyone bringing in a jar will go into a draw to be the first person to meet Santa and have a special one to one time with him and his elves, on the evening of the Bazaar.

Please give your jars to Mrs Watkins or Miss Crook so they can add your name to the draw.

Please see the photograph above for some fab ideas.

Best wishes
Justine Watkins

2026 -2027

TERM 2

EVENT	DATE
ALL BACK TO SCHOOL	Monday 02.11.26
No clubs except Early Birds and Night Owls	w/b Monday 02.11.26
Parents' Evenings (In person)	Wednesday 04.11.26 Thursday 05.11.26
Clubs commence	w/b Monday 09.11.26
No Clubs except Early Birds and Night Owls	From w/b Monday 07.12.26
Dress rehearsal to school: Infant Nativity in School Hall	Tuesday 08.12.26
Infant Nativity in School Hall to families (Butterfly Class)	Wednesday 09.12.26 @ 09.15
Infant Nativity in School Hall to families (Hedgehog Class)	Thursday 10.12.26 @ 09.15

Christmas Bazaar (FOSS)	Friday 11.12.26
School Carol Service in St. Lawrence Church Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6.	Thursday 17.12.26 @14.15
No Night Owls on Friday 18th December 2026 School finishes at 13:15	

2026 -2027	
TERM 3	
EVENT	**DATE**
Teacher Development Day 3	Monday 04.01.27
Teacher Development Day 4	Tuesday 05.01.27
No before/after school clubs except Early Birds and Night Owls	w/b Monday 04.01.27
ALL BACK TO SCHOOL	Wednesday 06.01.27
After school clubs commence	w/b Monday 11.01.27
Primary School Deadline for EYFS September 2027/ 2028 (www.wiltshire.gov.uk)	Friday 15.01.27
Y6 Parent Workshop – Year 6 SATS TEAMS meeting	Thursday 21.01.27
No Clubs except Early Birds and Night Owls	w/b Monday 08.02.27
Open Door afternoon. Come and look round the school and see displays, books and classrooms!	Tuesday 9.02.27 Thursday 11.02.27
ALL BREAK for HOLIDAY	Friday 12.02.27
TERM 4	
ALL BACK TO SCHOOL	Monday 22.02.27
No clubs except Early Birds and Night Owls	w/b Monday 22.02.27
Parents' Evenings (Online)	Wednesday 24.02.27 Thursday 25.02.27
Clubs commence	w/b Monday 01.03.27
National Offer Day: SECONDARY	Monday 01.03.27
No Clubs except Early Birds and Night Owls	w/b Monday 22.03.27
School Easter Service in St. Lawrence Church: Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6.	Wednesday 24.03.27 @14.15
ALL BREAK for HOLIDAY	Thursday 25.03.27
No Night Owls on Thursday 25th March 2027	