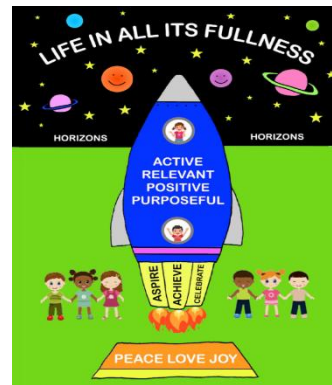


**Stratford-sub-Castle CE VC Primary School
Newsletter**



Thursday 18th December 2025

Life in all its fullness John 10:10



**Our theme for assembly this term is
Compassion**

**'Clothe yourself with compassion, kindness, humility,
gentleness and patience'**
Colossians 3.12



As I look back and reflect on my 3rd year as Headteacher, and 30th as part of our fantastic school, I do so with pride and happiness. I feel very privileged to work in such a wonderful place and be lucky enough to have a job I love.

I would like to thank all the staff who work so hard, go above and beyond and are committed to making our school the best it can be. They always put the children first and want the very best for them now and in their future.

I would also like to thank you, parents, grandparents and other members of your family who are involved with our school. I know how lucky we are to have your support and it makes such a difference to the children because we all work together.

Finally, I would like to say how proud I am of all our children. They work hard, strive to do their best, show understanding and empathy for others and know they are all loved and valued as part of our team.

Wishing you all a peaceful and loving Christmas and joyful
new year
Justine Watkins



Christmas Bazaar 2025



Once again, **THANK YOU** for helping to make the **Christmas Bazaar** such a success. It just showed, yet again, what a strong community we are!

Thank you to all the FOSS committee who worked so hard behind the scenes to get everything prepared. However, the FOSS committee could not have succeeded without your generosity; helping to make the stalls and the Rainbow Raffle so sparkling! To everyone who baked cakes and biscuits, donated Jolly Jars, donated gifts, manned stalls, created a fabulous grotto for Santa, helped set up and helped to tidy up at the end... a very big **THANK YOU!**

We raised an amazing **£2440.55!** This is a staggering amount for our small school and the biggest ever raised. I cannot thank you all enough. This money will go towards educational visits and resources to enhance learning for **your children**. We have plans to continue to improve the outdoor space, including the Golden Garden for our OPAL journey.

Well done to all, a great team effort, yet again.

GO TEAM STRATFORD!

The FOSS would also like to say a big thank you to everyone who volunteered their time, including staff, to create great memories for the children of Stratford.

Nativity 2025

WELL DONE to all the pupils in Butterfly and Owl Classes who performed '**It's a Party!**' to their families on Wednesday and Thursday, last week. The dress rehearsal was in front of the whole school on Tuesday and the older children thoroughly enjoyed it. All the performances were wonderful. Once again, I am a very proud Headteacher. The singing, Makaton, teamwork and the overcoming of nerves was fabulous!





CHRISTMAS ART COMPETITION 2025

Congratulations to our winners of the Christmas Art Competition:

**Anna (Fox Class), Arlo (Woodpecker Class), Hugo (Robin Class),
Helena (Owl Class) and Robyn (Butterfly Class)**

Every year the children decorate the Church with their art. This year the theme was Peace, love and Joy. The children's beautiful artwork is now on display in the church and will be all over the Christmas period. Please do feel free to visit the Church and have a look. Thanks to Miss Crook and Mrs Waters for taking the time to decorate St Lawrence, so everyone can see it.

Christmas Carol service in St Lawrence Church

Thank you to all who came to our end of term Christmas Carol Service. It was lovely to see how full the church was. I think you will all agree Woodpecker Class led the service very well and spoke beautifully. Thank you to the choir for their performance, they sounded wonderful, and a special thank you to Mrs Aylett for organising the choir and playing the organ.

Important messages

There will be **no Night Owls** on the last day of term, **Friday 19th December** as we **finish at 13.15**.
Please note there will be no bus for after school on this day.

We are back to school on Tuesday 6th January as Monday 5th is a TD day.

Message from Rev. Suzie

You are all invited to our wonderful Christmas Eve Outdoor nativity service at 11am. Come dressed as a person from the nativity... or just come! This outdoor simple service will welcome not just baby Jesus but our animal friends too (camels and donkeys!) Weather permitting.



2025 -2026	
TERM 3	
EVENT	DATE
Teacher Development Day 4	Monday 05.01.26
No before/after school clubs <u>except</u> Early Birds and Night Owls	w/b Monday 05.01.26
ALL BACK TO SCHOOL	Tuesday 06.01.26
After school clubs commence	w/b Monday 12.01.26
Primary School Deadline for EYFS September 2026/2027 (www.wiltshire.gov.uk)	Thursday 15.01.26
Y6 Parent Workshop – Year 6 SATS TEAMS meeting	Thursday 22.01.26
No Clubs except Early Birds and Night Owls	w/b Monday 09.02.26
Open Door afternoon. Come and look round the school and see displays, books and classrooms!	Tuesday 10.02.26 Thursday 12.02.26
ALL BREAK for HOLIDAY	Friday 13.02.26
TERM 4	
ALL BACK TO SCHOOL	Monday 23.02.26
No clubs except Early Birds and Night Owls	w/b Monday 23.02.26
Parents' Evenings (Online)	Wednesday 25.02.26 Thursday 26.02.26
Clubs commence	w/b Monday 02.03.26
National Offer Day: SECONDARY	Monday 02.03.26
No Clubs except Early Birds and Night Owls	w/b Monday 23.03.26
School Easter Service in St. Lawrence Church: Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6.	Thursday 26.03.26 @14.15
No Night Owls on Friday 27th March 2026	

2026 -2026

TERM 5

EVENT	DATE
ALL BACK TO SCHOOL	Monday 13.04.26
No clubs except Early Birds and Night Owls.	w/b Monday 13.04.26
National Offer Day: PRIMARY	Thursday 16.04.26
Clubs commence	w/b Monday 20.04.26
Key Stage 2 SATs Week/Assessment Week.	w/b Monday 11.05.26
No clubs except Early Birds and Night Owls.	w/b 18.05.26
Class Photographs	Wednesday 20.05.26
ALL BREAK for HOLIDAY	Friday 22.05.26

TERM 6

Teacher Development Day 5	Monday 01.06.26
ALL BACK TO SCHOOL	Tuesday 02.06.26
No clubs except Early Birds and Night Owls	w/b Tuesday 02.06.26
Clubs commence	w/b Monday 08.06.26
Meeting for Parents of new intake September 2026	Wednesday 17.06.26
Induction Session 1: Year R September 2026	Tuesday 23.06.26
June Fayre	Friday 26.06.26
Induction Session 2: Year R September 2026	Tuesday 30.06.26
Sports day	Thursday 02.07.26
Induction Session 3: Year R September 2026	Tuesday 07.07.26
Reserve Sports Day	Thursday 09.07.26
No Clubs except Early Birds and Night Owls	From w/b Monday 13.07.26
Family Open Evening – all welcome	Thursday 16.07.26
Leavers' Service in St Lawrence Church	Wednesday 22.07.26 @ 09:00
No Night Owls on Wednesday 22 nd July 2026 School finishes at 13:15	