

# THE OTTER

THE NEWSLETTER OF OTTERBOURNE CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL.



*Dear Families*

*HAPPY ADVENT. I'm not really sure if that's something to say to each other but with the arrival of elves and calendars in classrooms and homes across the community, and in recognition of today being the school's Advent Worship in St. Matthew's Church, it seems an appropriate start to the penultimate newsletter of this term.*

*'Thank you' to everyone who joined us for a little bit of Festive Fun after school today; the chance to trade pre-loved Christmas jumpers and enjoy some hot chocolate with live music (well done Ed) and carolling was the perfect way to brush away the cold weather we've experienced this week. This was our first event of this kind so please let me know what you thought of it.*

*Kindest regards and best wishes for a relaxing weekend.*

*Mr Geraghty*

## CHRISTMAS DISCO

It's disco time again, with Andy Max bringing all the festive fun to the school on Monday 11th December. Keystage 1 times are 4:45-5:45pm, and Keystage 2 is 6-7pm. The disco is our treat to the children, but there is an opportunity to contribute should you wish to.

*Winchester Basics Bank are running a school holiday lunch scheme over the Christmas break. The scheme will provide food for 10 meals per child, and is designed to replace the hot meal that children would receive in school.*

*For more information, or to register please visit; <https://winchesterbasicsbank.co.uk/get-help/> or email; [holidaylunch@winchesterbasicsbank.co.uk](mailto:holidaylunch@winchesterbasicsbank.co.uk) or telephone 01962 864720*

**Help with the cost of living - the connect4communities programme.**

**This programme aims to support those most in need with significantly rising living costs.**

**<https://www.hants.gov.uk/socialcareandhealth/childrenandfamilies/connectforcommunities>**

## SAFEGUARDING YOUR CHILDREN

Throughout the year, we have been highlighting where we need the support of visitors to ensure the school has the highest standards for safeguarding. I would like to take the opportunity to say thank you for your ongoing support with this.

Last week, we were joined in school by Steve Brine MP. It was a special day for a number of our children as Mr Brine first joined our Year 5/6 children as some of them shared the brilliant persuasive writing they completed as part of their cleaner rivers campaign. This unit of work was completed in conjunction with the Hampshire and IOW Wildlife Trust, and the children who present their speeches did so with animation, enthusiasm and wonderfully clear speaking voices.

Following this, Mr Brine also presented certificates to Lily, Martha, Phoebe, Arthur and Jenson as they were finalists in the Christmas Card competition that he holds each year. The children's entries are on display in Winchester Museum for all to see.

Otterbourne Church of England Primary School goes Platinum!



We are delighted to announce that we have achieved the School Games Platinum Mark Award for the 2022/23 academic year.

The School Games Mark is a Government-led award scheme launched in 2012, facilitated by the Youth Sport Trust to reward schools for their commitment to the development of competition across their school and into the community, and we are delighted to have been recognised for our success.