



**Learn together. Grow together. Succeed together.**

**Edition 15: Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup>  
December 2023**

**Dates for your Diary**

Mon 18 <sup>th</sup> Dec	School Carol concert at St Mary's Church
Tues 19 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Christmas Craft Day
Weds 20 <sup>th</sup> Dec	End of term 3.15pm
Mon 8 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Start of Spring term
Mon 8 <sup>th</sup> Jan	New Clubs start
Weds 10 <sup>th</sup> Jan	First Y5/6 swimming lesson
Thurs 11 <sup>th</sup> Jan	10am Final EYFS Sept 24 intake tour
Fri 9 <sup>th</sup> Feb	End of spring term 1
Mon 12 <sup>th</sup> to Fri 16 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Half term holiday
Mon 19 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Start of spring term 2
Mon 26 <sup>th</sup> to Weds 28 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Year 4 Minstead Residential
Weds 27 <sup>th</sup> March to 12 <sup>th</sup> April	Easter Holidays

*\*More information coming*

**This week at Parsons Down...**

- ✓ We'd like to wish you all a very **Happy Christmas and our very best wishes for 2024**. Thank you so much for all of your festive messages and gifts. We ended the term with a very memorable assembly this morning with some star performances from the 12 days of Christmas. This was followed by Partnership Play.
- ✓ This week's **attendance** for EYFS and Key Stage 1 was only 88.7% and for Key Stage 2 it was 91.6%.
- ✓ On Monday, the Partnership walked to St Mary's church for our annual **Carol Concert**. The children sang beautifully, our choir treated us to two magnificent songs and our Year 6 readers retold the Christmas story with clarity and purpose. Also a huge thank you to the volunteers who helped us walk safely there and back.
- ✓ I can't believe we are already nearly a third of the way through the academic year. We're busy preparing for the spring term. Year groups newsletters will be emailed out to all families by Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January. In the new year we will be **reinforcing uniform expectations**. In particular, those relating to health and safety. Long hair should be fully tied back, earrings must only be studs (no hoops), We would also like to remind you that trainers are only for PE/playtimes/MUGA. Children should be wearing black school shoes. However, we are also allowing children to wear sensible boots in winter. On PE days school jumpers should be worn but they can bring in a PE jumper that they can change into for the PE lesson. <https://www.pdp.w-berks.sch.uk/school-uniform>
- ✓ The deadline for final payments for the Year 4 residential trip to **Minstead** is Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January.
- ✓ If you registered an interest in your child attending one of our **after school clubs** you should have received a slip to confirm they have a place. The clubs will start in the week beginning 8th Jan 2024, and the last club date will be on Thursday 1st Feb 2024. Children attending after school clubs will need to be collected promptly from the school reception area at 4pm. If your child is allocated a space, we expect commitment and positive behaviour. Children must only attend a club when they have received a confirmation slip indicating a place has been allocated.
- ✓ It was **Mrs Blair's final day at Parsons Down today**. She will be leaving us for a new teaching position nearer home. She's worked at Parsons Down for 20 years and will be greatly missed. We wish her well in the future. In January, Miss Nunn will be returning to Parsons Down after her maternity leave. This will mean some cover changes in the new year.
- ✓ We emailed out a **swimming** letter to the families of children in Years 5 and 6 that will be starting swimming lessons in January.
- ✓ Finally, we wish you all a very Happy Christmas and best wishes for the New Year. We hope that you all enjoy the holidays and look forward to welcoming the children back to school refreshed and ready to learn on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January. **Click on the link for a festive message from the staff at PDP to you all** <https://www.pdp.w-berks.sch.uk/post/we-wish-you-a-very-happy-christmas>

Finally, be kind, be safe, be respectful, Mrs Bull



## The Week in Pictures

On Monday we walked to the church and on Tuesday it was Christmas Craft Day.





**We wish you a very Happy Christmas**

From all of the staff at PDP, we wish you all a very Happy Christmas and best wishes for 2024.