



SOUTHMINSTER  
C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL



## Southminster C of E Primary School's Newsletter Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2023

### Bible Quote of the Week

Isaiah 7:14 Therefore, the Lord himself shall give you a sign; behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son and shall call his name Immanuel.



We made our way to the Church this week for a Christingle service. Reverends Peter and Jackie welcomed us with our muddy wellies for a service to lead us into the Christmas season. We learned about the symbolism of the Christingle itself and the children enjoyed singing several Christmas carols. Key Stage One gave us a preview of their forthcoming production with a song which they sang beautifully in front of their first audience.



### Tag Rugby

This week, we saw 26 of our Year 4, 5 and 6 children compete against four other Dengie schools in a tag rugby competition. Miss Mason and Mrs. Copsy were blown away with how fantastic the Southminster children were. They were polite and great sportsmen and sportswomen. It was a pleasure to see them all enjoy themselves and to develop and learn new skills. They all well and truly earned their medals and the teachers cannot wait to take them to the next sporting event. Well done, children!

### EYFS

This week in EYFS, we have started to look at how Christmas is celebrated around the world. We have learnt that in India, people decorate banana and mango trees and Santa visits with a horse and cart. In Italy, people eat 7 different types of fish for their Christmas meal! This represents the seven days that it took for God to create the World. We have also been busy making Christingles and practising our Christmas show.



SOUTHMINSTER  
OF E. PRIMARY SCHOOL



### KS1

KS1 enjoyed the Christingle service on Tuesday. The children made their own Christingles too. They have also been busy sewing stockings for the Christmas Tree and rehearsing their Nativity play.



### LKS2

This week in Years 3 and 4, we have been exploring circuits again. We have investigated what an insulator and a conductor are. We have used different materials such as a plastic-coated paperclip, a metal paperclip, paper, rubber, wood, aluminium foil, a plastic ruler and metal coins to find the best conductors of electricity. Some children created the circuits themselves and were very successful as they built on their prior learning and had lots of fun in the process.



### UKS2

This week, we have been looking at narrative writing and linking it to *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens. The children were riveted by the synopsis of the story. They laughed when Mrs. Mason said that she would be under the table when we started to look at one of the ghosts!

In Maths, we have been looking at multiplying and problem solving with money. The children will be well-versed in buying things on a budget and finding out how much change would be left after buying things for a party.

We have also completed our DT by making the buzzer circuit which we designed last week. We investigated Morse Code by sending messages to each other.



## Reminders:

### School Car Park

The school's car park is for staff and visitors only. We have a limited number of spaces at the front of the school for drivers with a disabled badge. If you have a badge and are using these spaces, please park considerately for others in order that they can park here too.

All other drivers must park off the school premises, thank you, even if you are running late. The middle gates in the car park will be closed and locked by 8.30/8.40 once all staff are in the building.

Thank you for your co-operation.

### Attendance and Lateness

All children are expected to be in class for registration at **8.50am**. Arrivals after this time will receive a late mark. Registers close at **9.20am**, so arrivals after this time will receive an unauthorised absence for the morning session.

#### **Please note:**

**Persistent Absence is anything that is 90% or less.**

**Unauthorised absence** may result in the school referring to the Local Authority for sanctions and/or legal proceedings. This may include issuing each parent with a Penalty Notice for £120, reduced to £60 if paid within 21 days or referring the matter to the Magistrates Court whereby each parent may receive a fine up to £2500 and/or up to 3 months in prison. If a parent is found guilty in court, they will receive a criminal conviction.

Please see the school's Attendance Policy for more information.

[Attendance policy \(southminsterschool.co.uk\)](https://southminsterschool.co.uk/attendance-policy)

### Dates for your Diary:

- ❖ EYFS Nativity: 6<sup>th</sup> December 9.30-10.00 and 7<sup>th</sup> December 2.30-3.00
- ❖ Christmas Jumper Day: 7<sup>th</sup> December
- ❖ Panto: Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December
- ❖ KS2 Carol Concert: 11<sup>th</sup> December 9.30-11.00 and 12<sup>th</sup> December 1.30-3.00  
Further information will be sent out next week.
- ❖ Christmas Dinner Day: 13<sup>th</sup> December
- ❖ KS1 Nativity: 13<sup>th</sup> December 2.00-3.00 and 14<sup>th</sup> December 9.30-10.30
- ❖ Last day of term: 20<sup>th</sup> December
- ❖ First day of term: Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2024
- ❖ Inset Days: Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2024 and Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2024



SOUTHMINSTER  
C OF E PRI



**Deadline for booking Christmas dinner is 7<sup>th</sup> December. No late bookings can be taken. If you do not pre-book Christmas dinner you will need to provide a packed lunch on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2023.**

Kind regards,

Mrs. Woods and all the staff at Southminster C of E Primary School