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Weekly Newsletter: wb 1st December 2025

Phonics

As ever, children in EYFS / KS1 have been busy learning their phonics. This is a vital step in learning to read so it is very important to get things right. Whilst reading (or even just talking) with your children, please try to focus on the correct pronunciation of words using 'pure sounds' (for example the difference between the 'f' and 'th' sounds in words like 'free' and 'three'). After all, if children can't say the words correctly, they'll certainly struggle to *spell* them. For more information about what we teach and how we teach it, please take a look at <https://www.littlewandle.org.uk/resources/for-parents>.

Christmas performances

The letters about ordering tickets for our forthcoming Christmas performances (see below) have now been sent out (or if they haven't, they will be on Monday!). As usual, we have initially reserved a set number of tickets per family but you are welcome to request additional ones if required (see details on letters). All the money raised in ticket sales goes towards future performances (scripts, licenses, costumes etc.). If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

- **EYFS:** 'The Innkeeper's Busy Night' on Wednesday 10th December, 10am
- **KS1:** 'A Little Bird Told Me' on Wednesday 17th December, 2pm
- **KS2:** 'A Christmas Concert' on Monday 15th December, 2pm and 6pm

Christmas Clothes Swap Shop (FoWSS)

Reminder: our PTA, 'Friends of Wharcliffe Side School' a Christmas Clothes Swap Shop on Monday & Tuesday this week. Buy, swap or donate Christmas jumpers on the yard before and after school!

Project for Positive Change

As mentioned in a previous newsletter, we are working with SWFC's Community Programme on a project for positive change. Unfortunately, the letter that was meant to come out alongside the newsletter did not appear for some reason (thank you to the parents who pointed this out). It will come again with this edition... Please bring all donations to the school office before **Wednesday 10th December**.

Breakfast Club

If you need to drop your children off a bit earlier in the morning, why not take advantage of our breakfast club? It is open each day from 7:30am and costs £6 per day (or £4 for those on Pupil Premium) – payable on ParentPay. For new bookings, please email Mrs Rowett on mrowett@wharcliffeside.sheffield.sch.uk before midday the day before. Failing this, please contact the school office (as places cannot always be guaranteed).

Uniform discount code

One of our uniform suppliers, My Clothing, are running a special 'Black Friday' promotion, with 15% off all school uniform orders before **midnight on the 1st December** (Monday). Just add the code SAVE15 at checkout or use the following link: www.myclothing.com/discount/SAVE15 (this promotion excludes bundles, clearance items or events hoodies).

Holiday Activities with Food (HAF)

Sheffield Healthy Holidays are once again running a variety of 'Holiday Activities with Food' during the Christmas holidays for families on free school meals (you just need your HAF code to book). These are now available to book on www.sheffieldhealthyholidays.org (don't delay – they will up fast!). Take a look at the post on ReachMore for more information...

Mr Gaughan

Nurturing confidence, nurturing potential, nurturing success.



Celebrating Achievement



Well done to the following children:

- ★ **Bronze:** Holly, Leo C (Sycamore)
- ★ **Silver:** Ford, Mila (Ash); Alfie J (Willow); Cooper, Willow G (Rowan); Evie (Sycamore); Leela, Lily (Oak)
- ★ **Gold:** Ellis (Ash); Lucy, William R, Xander, Felicity (Willow); Molly (Rowan); Brody (Sycamore); Isla (Oak) - the most in any week so far this year!
- ★ **Nursery Stars of the Week:** Felicity & Dexter (Seedlings); Kash & Isabella (Saplings)
- ★ **Attendance winners:** Attendance was 93.6% overall last week (slightly up on the previous week). The winning classes were Willow (KS1) with 97.5% and Sycamore (KS2) with 94.6%.
- ★ **House Point winners:** Oceania won the house point trophy for the second time this year.



This week's birthdays:
Neo (5), Caleb F (9)

This week's 'School Standard' is:
Giving 100%

What's Happening?

Little Seedlings are making mud soup in their Forest Schools session!

Saplings will be reading the story of the Gingerbread Man (and decorating their own!)

Ash class hosted a craft workshop with a focus on religious festivals last week. If you came along, we hope you enjoyed it.

Willow are starting to think about their own puppets in their DT unit.

KS2 children in The Learning Zone will be learning a new traditional tale.

Children in Rowan have been learning to play the recorder.

Sycamore have been doing some descriptive writing inspired by Charlie & the Chocolate Factory.

Oak are practising 3 different types of stitch for use on their waistcoats.

Meanwhile, thank you to the children who helped with the planting in our new Wellbeing Garden. It will soon be ready to start using!

Finally, Reverend Deans will be joining us in assembly on Monday to talk about Advent (have you got your calendars ready?)

