



CHURCH SERVICE

Thank you to everyone who joined us for our Christmas service in All Saint's Church. The children sang enthusiastically and delivered their readings brilliantly. Thank you to reverend Cranston for opening our service and closing with a blessing for all.

We would all like to wish you a wonderful Christmas and look forward to seeing you in the new year.

FOTS AND JUNIOR FOTS – THANK YOU

Thanks again to FOTS for their continued support and dedication in raising much needed funds for the school. The pupils loved their crackers, when they enjoyed their Christmas lunch and the treats for the KS2 Christmas party.

A special thanks also to the Junior FOTS for their wonderful support serving Christmas dinner 😊

CHURCH SCHOOL INSPECTION (SIAMS)

Many thanks to all of the parents and pupils who supported us with our Church School Inspection this term.

We were delighted that our inspection identified the following strengths:

- Collective worship is inclusive and invitational. It enables pupils to have moments of stillness, to reflect on Bible stories and ask deep questions. As a result, pupils develop well spiritually.
- The school has created a culture which fosters a welcoming and inclusive environment. The community live well together and members are treated with care and compassion.
- Tailored, nurturing support for adults and pupils who are vulnerable, empowers them to achieve both academically and personally.

Here are some of the best bits:

‘Pupils and adults feel well-cared for at Trefonen.’

‘Effective strategies are in place to help those who need them.’

‘The school’s curriculum is inspired by the pupils’ connection with nature and the world. They talk enthusiastically about outdoor learning. Mixed-age groupings in class promote collaboration and pupils enjoy learning together. This supports the strong relationships across the school’

‘Pupils are curious, engaged and purposeful’

‘Those who are vulnerable are supported particularly well. The inclusion of those with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities is a strength of the school ... pupils gain access to the tailored provision and nurturing environment they need. This results in a sense of belonging and meaningful participation in school life.’

‘The curriculum provides opportunities for pupils to explore spirituality. They are able to explain that it is about connecting with something bigger.’

'The school's core value of respect influences the worship life of the school. As a result, all pupils are included and invited to take part. They enjoy holding the candles, leading prayers and reading from the Bible to support each other's spiritual reflection and growth. Prayer is an important part of school life and pupils can clearly explain that they are talking to God'.

'Visits to church on special occasions are valued, and parents talk about how uplifting these services are. The worship life of the school has an important and encouraging impact on the school community.'

'Pupils conduct themselves well and, in the playground, pupils of different ages delight in playing together. They talk about how they feel supported by adults to work through any conflict that may arise. A strong sense of treating everyone equally permeates the school'.

'...there are many opportunities for them (pupils) to take on responsibilities, such as wellbeing champions and prayer monitors. Pupils with these roles are proud of the tasks they undertake. They are encouraged by helping and supporting their peers.'

'Through roles, such as the school council, pupils promote supporting causes that are important and meaningful to them. Examples of this include planting trees and litter picking.'

'Pupils across the school explore inequality in the world. Peace prayers, written by the children, show an understanding of war coming from greed and selfishness.'

'RE has a prominent place within the curriculum'

'pupils understand the big story of the Bible and Christian concepts.'

'lessons do provide the opportunity for pupils to develop and discuss their own beliefs''

Areas to continue to develop:

Over the next year we will be renewing and reviewing our Christian Vision Statement, so that it is much easier for pupils and parents to understand, and so that Governors can better use it to underpin their decision. We will look forward to the support of our new vicar to help us to embed our renewed Vision Statement into school life.

We will be introducing our new pupil team of 'Courageous Advocates' to help our pupils to better express and celebrate all of the amazing things that our pupils do as stewards of God's world, as well as their other charitable works and actions that help them to understand world justice.

We will be continuing to support staff in implementing the new 'Understanding Christianity' aspect of our RE curriculum, that we introduced earlier this year, including refining how we identify pupil progress against the new scheme.

You can read the full inspection report on our school website.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR HAWKS CLASS - SPRING TERM

Mr Wilson, Hawks Class Teacher will be absent during January as he will be taking paternity leave.

We are delighted to let you know that, former teacher of Hawks Class, Mrs McKinney will be Hawks Class teacher during January.

Mrs McKinney already knows our school well. She knows our expectations and routines and she knows our pupils well. This will ensure that there is no loss in the continuity of Hawks pupils learning during this period.

If any parents/carers have any concerns please let us know through email, addressed to Miss Dunleavy, using Parent Contact.

LUNCH BOOKINGS FOR NEXT TERM

Don't forget to put funds on your ParentPay account and to book your child's school lunches for next term, starting on Tuesday 7th January. Thank you.

LUNCH BOXES/UNIFORM

Please ensure that all lunch boxes/uniform are collected at the end of the day on Friday as any lunch boxes left over the Christmas holidays will be disposed. Thank you.

FAMILY CAROL SERVICE

Mrs Ellis has been helping some of our children practise for the family carol service on Saturday 21st December at All Saints Church at 4pm.

To get in to the Christmas mood, please go along and support the children. We would like to thank Mrs Ellis for her time and effort.

CLASS NEWS

ROBINS

Robin's Class have had a wonderful term!

All the Robin's staff are very proud of the children and their achievements this term.

We hope you have a very joyful Christmas and a happy new year!

NIGHTINGALES

What a wonderful last week before Christmas! In phonics the Year 1 children have continued recapping the phonemes they have been learning this term. The Year 2 children have been looking at words ending in -il. In English, we have been reading and writing Christmas poems.

In maths the Year 1 children have finished their unit on shape and have been consolidating their skills with some Christmas maths. The Year 2 children have started their unit on shape.

The children had great fun on their movie afternoon. They have been sewing and finishing off their puppets. They then had to evaluate how their puppet making had gone. They sang beautifully in the carol services.

Have a great Christmas and please next term remember the children need to bring in their water bottle every day. Make sure that their jumpers/coats have their name in. Most importantly, remember to read regularly and write it in the reading record, stating what page you have read to.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

WRENS

We have had a busy term with wonderful work achieved and events from a Stone Age workshop and Laps for Literacy to Christmas Performances and dinners. Everyone has worked so hard and is making great progress. Enjoy your Christmas break!

Next term, PE lessons will continue on Wednesdays and Fridays. Pupils will continue to need water bottles, coats and Reading Records with reading books each day. We wish you all a very merry Christmas and look forward to seeing you in the new year.

From Mrs Drury, Mrs Morris, Miss Taylor and Miss Lumley

PUFFINS

The Puffins pupils have been brilliant this week. Their resilience and problem solving in DT has been outstanding! They have designed and created wonderful torches and motorised vehicles - that work! The pupils will be able to buy their creations £2 for a torch (Year 4) and £3 for a motorised vehicle (Year 5). These amounts can be paid through ParentPay (before or after Christmas) and when payment is received the pupils can take them home. Thank you

It has been lovely working with the pupils in these special weeks before Christmas. The pupils took care in delivering their readings in Church, on Thursday, as part of our church service and sang merrily for our carols around the Christmas tree, on Friday.

We wish you all a very merry Christmas and look forward to seeing you in the new year. *Best wishes from Mrs Phillips, Mrs Edwards, Miss Grimshaw and Miss Lumley*

HAWKS

As we approach Christmas, the children have been planning and designing their D&T projects - creating toys with different cam mechanisms. Their children have really enjoyed channelling their creativity into their designs. A big well done to all the children for the hard work they have invested in these - they look amazing and the designs are super innovative!

It has been great seeing the progress the children have made in class this term and I know they are ready for a well-deserved break for Christmas. Well done to the children who have returned their activity passports, showing the activities they have undertaken throughout the autumn - it has been great to see photos of them doing things like taking part in a debate, learning something new about their local area and going orienteering. We look forward to the children showcasing some of their completed activities next term.

During the Christmas break it would be amazing if the children are still encouraged to keep on top of their reading and doing this regularly as we welcome them back in the new year. Have a joyful and happy Christmas and see you next year.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

In relation to the following notices the school accepts no responsibility for verifying the suitability of the providers for the events. Parents should exercise their own judgement.

ALL SAINTS CHURCH

Church services are now generally at 10.00am on a Sunday though there are exceptions. Please try and arrive at the church with some time available to be shown to your seats.

December

December 21st - Saturday Christmas Carol Service – 4.00pm

December 22nd - No service

December 24th - Christmas Eve, No Service at Trefonen but 11.15pm Midnight Holy Communion at Llanyblodwel Church

December 25th - Christmas Day Family Service All Welcome - 10am

December 29th - Benefice Service - tbc

January

January 5th – Family Service – 9.30am

Trefonen Church is open during the day at least between 10 and 4 and can be used for prayer and quiet reflection.

Go to <https://borderparishes.org.uk/index.php/trefonen/> for details.

EXPLORERS AT TREFONEN – HOLIDAY CLUB

There are still some places available for the Holiday Club at Explorers Trefonen on:

Monday 23rd December - 9am-3pm

Thursday 2nd January - 9am-3pm

Friday 3rd January - 9am-3pm

Monday 6th January - 9am-3pm

Contact on 01691 653512 or trefonen@explorerschildcare.co.uk

PARENT AND CHILD SUPPORT - CHRISTMAS 2024

There is information about what is on for children and parents during the Christmas holidays on the school website. Go to:

<https://www.trefonenschool.co.uk/parent-support-1/>

On the parent Support page there are dates for the Coffee and Chat sessions at Oswestry Library and Parenting Support links to talk to Shropshire Supporting.

FREE SCHOOL MEAL INFORMATION

If anyone thinks that their child may be entitled to a Free School Meal, please complete the form online or visit the school website Parents – Lunch Menus - down load the form at the of the page.

<https://www.shropshire.gov.uk/free-school-meals/are-you-eligible-for-free-school-meals/>

COMMUNITY CAFÉ - TUESDAYS

Due to rapidly declining attendances, the Village Hall Community Cafe will now be open between 9.45 (not 9.00am as before) and 11.30am. Tea, Coffee and various cakes etc. All are welcome.

PARENTING HELP AND SUPPORT LINE

We are here for you with a friendly listening ear and practical advice on everything from behaviours that challenge to sleep issues. No judgment, just support, through this anonymous and confidential service. Call 01743 250950 Monday - Thursday, 9.30am - 4.30pm or Friday, 9.30am - 3.30pm or email: parenting.team@shropshire.gov.uk

SHROPSHIRE FAMILY INFORMATION SERVICE

The Shropshire Family Information Service (FIS) is a brilliant universal service, which your families (and possibly you) may not know about.

The FIS brings together loads of useful, local information for families, to help take the stress out of things like finding:

- Childcare or baby and toddler groups
- Holiday clubs, events and things to do as a family
- Parenting, relationships, and emotional health and wellbeing support
- Cost of Living info and advice

Families can subscribe to our newsletter <https://orlo.uk/5RvZN>

EMERGENCY CLOSURE INFORMATION

In the event of an emergency closure, we will alert you through ParentPay email alert. We will also post information on our school website and through the Shropshire Council website: <https://shropshire.gov.uk/school-closures/primary-schools/>

Information will also be shared on Radio Shropshire 96FM

Trefonen School - Holiday and Event Calendar 2024/2025

2024	
Monday 23 rd Dec – Friday 3 rd Jan	Christmas Holiday
2025	
Monday 6 th Jan	PD Day
Tuesday 7 th Jan	Start of Spring Term
Monday 17 th Feb – Friday 21 st Feb	Spring Half Term Holiday
Friday 11 th Apr	End of Spring Term
Monday 14 th Apr – Friday 25 th Apr	Easter Holiday
Monday 28 th Apr	Start of Summer Term
Monday 5 th May	Bank Holiday
Monday 26 th May – Friday 30 th May	Summer Half Term Holiday
Friday 18 th Jul	End of Summer Term
Tuesday 22 nd – Friday 29 th Aug	Summer Holidays
Spring Term	
Monday 1 st Sept	PD Day
Tuesday 2 nd Sept	Start of Autumn Term
Monday 27 th – Friday 31 st Oct	Autumn Half Term
Friday 19 th Dec	End of Autumn Term
Monday 22 nd Dec – Friday 2 nd Jan 26	Christmas Holiday
2026	
Monday 5 th Jan	PD Day
Tuesday 6 th Jan	Start of Spring Term

www.trefonenschool.co.uk
parentcontact@trefonen.shropshire.sch.uk

Unusual Christmas traditions around the world:

In addition to the standard tinsel, fairy lights and baubles, Ukrainians like to throw an artificial spider and webs on the tree as well.

The tradition has its origins in an old tale of a poor woman who couldn't afford to decorate her tree and woke on Christmas morning to discover a spider had covered it in a glorious, sparkling web.

It's for good luck. It's not about poor housekeeping



HAPPY CHRISTMAS
FROM ALL THE TEACHERS AND STAFF AT TREFONEN PRIMARY