



KS1 and KS2 CHRISTMAS EVENTS

Children are able to bring in some Christmas clothes to change in to on the day of their event. Squash and popcorn will be provided for the Movie event and a drink, a chocolate bar and a packet of crisps, will be provided for the party (dairy free option available), all thanks to the fund raising of the Friends of Trefonen School (FoTS). Thank you.

KS1 Movie event - Tuesday 17th December

KS2 Christmas Party - Wednesday 18th December

CHRISTMAS SERVICE

This year the Christmas Service will take place at All Saints Church on Thursday 19th December at 9.30am. Parents and grandparents are welcome to attend. Please take your seats by 9.20am.

'SUPERSTAR' – Wrens, Puffins and Hawks Christmas Nativity

A HUGE well done to all of the Key Stage 2 Classes who have performed wonderfully this week in their Christmas play "Superstar". The singing and acting was fantastic, all set in the lovely festive All Saints Church.

Thank you to all the parents who have been helping their child learn their lines and parts in the play. You were a fabulous audience, supporting all the children and helping them to enjoy this special event.

CHRISTMAS LUNCH

The Christmas lunch menu was posted in the newsletter last week, for Thursday 19th December; payment is via ParentPay.

This meal can be booked as a stand-alone booking, without having to book meals for the whole week.

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.

LOST UNIFORM

We currently have a lot of abandoned sweatshirts, cardigans and jackets on the trolley. If your child has lost a jumper or needs the next size up please ask on the gate, as we do not have the space to keep them and they will be removed at the end of the term.

SPORTS REPORTS

Badminton competition

Last Wednesday four Year five and six pupils represented us in a badminton competition at the Marches School. Mrs Jenkins accompanied the team and she was so proud of the effort that they put into their practise sessions and the matches. Their behaviour and sporting attitude was exemplary and their game play improved so much during the morning. They started by losing the first two matches 19- 32 and 15-40 but then went on to only very narrowly lose their last two 31-29 and 30- 27. Great progress team. Well done all.

Year 3/4 football

A team of 10 year 3/4 girls took part in a football tournament at Oswestry School last Thursday afternoon. They were so excited and loved singing Christmas carols all the way to the venue! The weather wasn't great from the start and we started the first game in rain. This did not put our girls off though, they were full of energy and enthusiasm. They settled in to their first game after a very early goal by the opposition and the game finished 1-0. This was to be our score for the afternoon as the next two games finished with the same score line. Our girls really got stuck in, defending so well and having so many great goes at scoring. Emilia had some excellent runs, but great defending by the other team prevented her scoring. Special mention to both Seren and Katie for great goal keeping. Well done to all the girls who played in some terrible weather, with such positivity. Unfortunately we had to call the tournament off early and get back to school to dry off and warm up, so we didn't get to play any more of our matches. Really well done girls, you did us proud with your behaviour, attitude and football skills.

CLASS NEWS

ROBINS

A super busy week again in Robins. This week we have been baking gingerbread men and a delicious Jewish dish called 'Charoset' to celebrate Hanukkah. This was part of our science, looking at plants.

In Squirrel School we worked with our partners to create natural Christmas Trees using twigs, leaves and wool to weave around our trees.

Year one have been looking at 2D and 3D shapes while Reception have been composing and decomposing numbers. In English we have been busy writing Christmas cards, labels and letters to Father Christmas.

Squirrel School was cold this week and we really need to remember clothing that keeps us extra warm e.g. hats, gloves and scarfs. Also bringing in an extra pair of socks would be helpful to keep our toes nice and warm.

NIGHTINGALES

I cannot believe how fast these weeks are going. Nightingales have had a good week. Year 1 children have been reviewing the phonics sounds they have covered this year. Year 2 children have been continuing learning about contractions (can't didn't etc.). In their writing, they have continued to write the story of the Nativity.

In maths, Year 1 children have been learning about 2D shapes. The Year 2 children have been learning about addition and subtraction and missing number problems. We were very lucky to watch the KS2 Christmas play. It was very good. We also used Word on the laptop and learned how to change the size and colour of the writing. In PE, we had a great gymnastics lesson.

Bring in your water bottle every day. Make sure that your jumpers/coats have your child's name in. Most importantly, **remember to read** regularly and write it in the reading record, stating what page you have read to.

WRENS

In the DT this week we explored how to make a lightbulb light up using simple circuit equipment. All groups worked well and bulbs were quickly connected up and shining. We soon realised that to turn it off we had to disconnect a wire, which wouldn't be safe in an electrical item, so we decided to put in a switch. We tried out different types of switches, toggle, rocker, light sensors and sliders. Next week we are going to learn how to program a crumble unit connected to a sparkle to light up our nightlights.

In English we have been working really hard on writing reports about the Stone Age Times. We have been writing in paragraph, using fronted adverbials and conjunctions to make our writing really interesting for the reader!

Next week notices...

Autumn homework - we would love the children to bring their Activity Passports and Autumn Reading challenges in next week to share with us. We look forward to seeing which activities were chosen.

Christmas Santa run- next Tuesday Wrens will celebrate their last Daily Mile of the year by making it festive! The children can bring something Christmassy to wear on their head- Santa hat, head band, tinsel etc. We will take some photos to pop onto our class page.

PUFFINS

This week, the Year 5s have been busy measuring accurately and sawing and sanding their dowel, to create the structures for their motorised vehicles.

It has been fantastic to perform our Christmas play - Superstar - to pupils and parents this week. The pupils have been brilliant, singing so enthusiastically and delivering their lines with confidence. We were all very proud of them.

We have been having fun with our I-moves Active Advent this week, including mountain biking, boxing and Latin dance! We have also enjoyed opening and sharing lovely messages from our class advent and learning more, through the JIGSAW Advent calendar.

Thank you for sharing the wonderful Activity Passports and Reading Bingo Challenges, it has been lovely to see and hear about all their brilliant activities and their favourites too.

Year 4 pupils have all been shown how to go on timestables.co.uk to learn and practise their times tables. Times tables are great for all the children's confidence and 10 minutes a day, at home, would give them a fantastic boost! Thank you

HAWKS

First and foremost, a huge well done to our Hawks children who performed in the Christmas play - they were amazing and we are so proud of them! If you were fortunate enough to see them, I'm sure you share our praise for them.

In the build-up to Christmas, we have been opening a door every day on our physical class Advent calendar for a lucky child to receive a little treat. We have also, as part of our RE, been opening a door daily on a digital Advent calendar and behind each door we have learnt how Advent and Christmas is celebrated in different ways around the world. The children have enjoyed finding out about these different celebrations.

In English, the children have been continuing to write their formal letters, trying to include some of the literary devices which we cover in Year 5 & 6, i.e. use of varied punctuation, relative clauses and parenthesis. We have looked at various models so the children have been able to see what good letters look like and the kinds of features we should include.

In Computing, the children have been discussing what video is and how it varies depending on its purpose, as well as filming techniques, i.e. long shot, close up, high angle, low angle. We looked at a professionally made video and analysed it before having a try at filming in pairs using our iPads.

In D&T we have been thinking about our project - making mechanical toys with cams - and looking at how different cams can create different movements. We observed different toys and how they move, before beginning to plan and design our own toy.

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 15th – Morning Worship - 9.30am

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

Note: The scaffolding for the work being carried out, will remain in place till approximately 15th December. There will be workman on the scaffolding at times, which could mean access through the Church Grounds being restricted at times.

Please ensure that everyone especially children keep well clear at all times. There will be ladders on the scaffolding but these will be secured and the area light during the hours of darkness.

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	
Tuesday 17th December	KS1 Movie Event
Wednesday 18th December	KS2 Christmas Party
Thursday 19th Dec	Christmas Service at All Saints Church - 9.30am, Christmas Lunch
Friday 20th Dec	Carols round the tree and Christingle 2pm, End of Autumn Term
Monday 23rd Dec – Friday 3rd Jan	Christmas Holiday
2025	
Monday 6th Jan	PD Day
Tuesday 7th Jan	Start of Spring Term
Monday 17th Feb – Friday 21st Feb	Spring Half Term Holiday
Friday 11th Apr	End of Spring Term
Monday 14th Apr – Friday 25th Apr	Easter Holiday
Monday 28th Apr	Start of Summer Term
Monday 5th May	Bank Holiday
Monday 26th May – Friday 30th May	Summer Half Term Holiday
Friday 18th Jul	End of Summer Term
Tuesday 22nd – Friday 29th Aug	Summer Holidays
Spring Term	
Monday 1st Sept	PD Day
Tuesday 2nd Sept	Start of Autumn Term
Monday 27th – Friday 31st Oct	Autumn Half Term
Friday 19th Dec	End of Autumn Term
Monday 22nd Dec – Friday 2nd Jan 26	Christmas Holiday
2026	
Monday 5th Jan	PD Day
Tuesday 6th Jan	Start of Spring Term

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

Unusual Christmas traditions around the world:

In Venezuela there is a tradition known as “las patinatas”, it began in the 1950s and has become a beloved Christmas tradition. From 16 to 24 December, people will roller skate all night and then make their way to church for a 5am or 6am Mass. This mass is known as Misa de gallo, also know as “the cockerel's mass”.

