

4<sup>th</sup> November  
2024

## Diary Dates coming up

4<sup>th</sup> December –  
Community Café  
1.30-3.00  
Wk beg 9<sup>th</sup> Dec EYFS  
and year 1  
nativity & Nursery  
nativity  
17<sup>th</sup> December Year  
2/3/4 Christingle  
with parents  
17<sup>th</sup> December KS1  
Christmas Lunch  
18<sup>th</sup> December KS2  
Christmas lunch  
18<sup>th</sup> December –  
Elves Grotto –  
children can buy a  
gift for a family  
member.



Year three have been busy designing and making castles. I am very impressed with their skill and imagine we have some budding architects in the class.

### Attendance

We started the year off incredibly well. However our attendance has started to reduce with families taking holidays and increased levels of sickness. 60 children were off on Friday!

Currently our attendance is 94.42%.

The DfE and Ofsted expect our attendance to be 96% and will downgrade the school if attendance is poor.

We have 118 children enjoying 100% attendance and 195 children above 96%. This is fantastic. We are so proud of all these children and know they will do well at school.

However, currently 59 children have attendance below 90%. If a child continues to miss 10% of their education they will have missed over a year of their education by the time they leave school.

These 59 children are not receiving a high quality education, they risk friendship difficulties as friendships breakdown when children cannot rely on a child coming to school. They make friends with others. This can lead to the missing child having issues around anxiety and poor well-being.

We send letters out each half term to those who have attendance below the DfE's expectations. We don't want to punish families but do want to understand why your children are not coming to school and how we can help you to improve their attendance and give them the very best chance of doing well in their future exams.

If we can help you to support your child to attend better, please contact the school office.

In the news this week..

Attendance

Poppies

Safety

Visits



Breakfast Club were up to their creative tricks again, creating another scarecrow for the Thorpe woodland. They created a bishops from The Bishops. If you are in the woodland – keep an eye out for him. One of our families found him at the end and sent a photograph.

Thank you to the Breakfast club children, Mrs. Thompson and Mrs. Arndt for their creativity.



### Naming competition

Children will be asked to choose a name for our attendance lamb this week. A name will then be chosen and the winner announced. We are excited to find out what is chosen.



### Poppies

Children and families will be able to buy poppies at the start and end of the day in the run up to the 11<sup>th</sup> of November. We also have a school wreath to donate to the Thetford war memorial.

There is not a set amount for a poppy but we would suggest 20-50pence.

The children will learn about why people wear poppies in worship.

### A polite request

We are delighted with behaviour at The Bishops. Our children are polite, work hard and care for each other. We have seen a reduction of the number of incidents per term from nearly 900 per term in 2023 to around 200 per term in 2024. This equates to one incident for every two children every 12 weeks – clearly very low. We have reduced swearing and racism to almost zero.

However children and parents are reporting that some parents are swearing when on the school site. This is upsetting the children who know these are ‘bad’ words. While we would not tell you what to do at home, could I politely ask parents to not swear while at school to help us stamp it out on site? Thank you for your help.

### DATE CHANGE

Please note the change of date for the children’s Christmas lunches. This has changed from the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> to the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> December.

### KEEP US UP TO DATE WITH YOUR CONTACT DETAILS

Please ensure the school office has your most up to date contact details to ensure we can contact you in an emergency and so you do not miss updates.

For questions and queries, please contact:

**Tel No: 01842 754 902**

**E-mail: [office@bishop.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:office@bishop.norfolk.sch.uk)**

### Sporting Success

Football

We recently entered the year 5/6 football competition locally.

The teams played incredibly well. After a shaky start they soon found their stride winning 4 matches. They came 3<sup>rd</sup> overall.

Everyone commented on Christian’s skills, making him man of the match.

There were girl’s matches for teams who wanted to have a go at playing football too. This was an excellent opportunity for girls to see how they felt about playing without worrying about results. The girls had a great time and said that they would love to start playing football.

A special award was given to Lacey B for her sportsmanship.

### Safety in the Playground

Might I remind parents about safety in the playground at the start and the end of the day.

Could we please ask you not to cycle or scoot while on the playground. Could we also remember not to bring any dogs on site whether in arms or on a lead.

We have around a thousand people on the playground at the same time including a number of toddlers who could very easily be hurt.

Could we also ask parents to stick to paths and have little children’s hands while crossing the road and carpark as we have been notified of near misses with children running out in front of cars.

### Attendance

Maple (Yr2) 96.3% 2.1%

Willow (Yr6) 96.1% 2.2%

Pine (Yr6) 95.8%

Pine Class have enjoyed having our attendance lamb for the past two weeks and have now handed it over to Maple class. It has had fun attending the ancient house and the school disco.

I wonder where it will end up this week.

