



# Shepton Mallet Community Infants' School & Nursery



## NEWSLETTER



Our nativities this week were wonderful - I'm sure you will all agree the children did an amazing job as did the staff with making the performances so enjoyable. So much hard work went into the running of the plays and we are grateful for all of your support.

Friday was our Christmas lunch day and last day of term. Everybody ate lots and looked great in their party hats. A big thank you to our lunchtime team and particularly to Mrs Baker, who cooked a delicious lunch.

This week the children had a fantastic time at their Christmas parties. They all looked amazing in their party outfits, and thoroughly enjoyed all the games that were played.

I would like to say a big thank you to everyone who has supported us this term and for your generosity in your donations. The Parents and Friends Association worked so hard with our Christmas events.

The Christmas holidays are now upon us where the children and staff can have a well-deserved break! We hope you all have a fantastic time celebrating with family and friends and we are looking forward to welcoming you back in the New Year!

Honorina Thompson - Headteacher



*From all the staff at  
Shepton Mallet Community Infants' School and  
Nursery*

### **Congratulations**

to one of our pupils who won the Shepton Mallet Town Council Design a Christmas Card Competition 2023.



Reminder that if your contact details have changed, please let the office know as soon as possible as this enables us to have the correct information in case of an emergency.



**Paper copies are available on request, please contact the office.**

Shepton Mallet Community Infants' School & Nursery

Waterloo Road, Shepton Mallet. BA4 5HE





# Home Challenge

This terms challenge was:

To design a decoration for a Festival.

It could be for Bonfire Night, Diwali, Eid al-Fitr, Hanukkah or Christmas

You could make a card saying Happy..., or a decoration to hang up in your home or on a tree. You could even make an edible decoration. It is really up to you! Your grownups at home can help you put your home challenge together.

Did they accept the challenge?

Yes, the children rose to the challenge, see below for a photo of their creations.



To order books or see more books for sale please contact:

**Samantha Maddaford-Higgs**

**E: [sam.riversidereads@gmail.com](mailto:sam.riversidereads@gmail.com)**  
**or Facebook: Riverside Reads**



## Safeguarding Statement

We recognise our moral and statutory responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of all pupils. We endeavour to provide a safe and welcoming environment where children are respected and valued. We are alert to the signs of abuse and neglect and follow our procedures to ensure that children receive effective support, protection and justice. The Senior Designated Officer (SDO) is the Headteacher, Mrs Thompson. For a copy of the School's Child Protection and Safe guarding Policy please click on the policies link at the bottom of the page. The procedures contained in this policy apply to all staff and governors and are consistent with those of the Somerset Safeguarding Children Board (SSCB).

### Report a concern

If you are worried about a vulnerable child and would like help, please don't stay silent.

Contact: **Children's Social Care** on: **0300 123 2224**

or

E: [childrens@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:childrens@somerset.gov.uk)



# Parent & Family Support



## Merry Christmas Everyone

### Activities available in your area

We hope everyone is excited for the Christmas holiday. Check out this link for

The 'raring 2 go' website for activities in your area over the Christmas break:

<https://magazines.raring2go.co.uk/bath/winter2023/2/>



## Sadly, we say goodbye to Heather

Many of you have been supported by Heather since April and we are sad to be saying goodbye. Heather has shared her knowledge and skills to help empower families, offering tailored advice and support to those in need.

Don't worry, you will see Heather around in January where we are planning to organise our first coffee morning.

## Reminder that Christmas is not about overspending!

There is an increased pressure to over spend and over indulge at Christmas. Here are some small reminders on how to show you care this Christmas without breaking the bank.

- Spending quality time with family and friends
- Shop second hand
- Create a realistic budget and stick to it
- Free personalised gift vouchers: this could be an act of service such as baby sitting, cooking a meal, spending time together etc. (see template below)
- Think about how much food you can reasonably consume to prevent excess waste.
- Try making handmade gifts and cards for loved ones.

## Although school is closed for Christmas, support is available if you need it, numbers that may help are:

**Samaritans** provide someone to listen 24/7 on 116 123  
**Somerset Children's Social Care** can offer family advice in a crisis 0300 123 2224

**Citizens Advice Bureau** can access food parcels if anyone is struggling 01749 343010

**Somerset Domestic Abuse** line 0800 694 9999

**Somerset Mindline** offer mental health and emotional support 0800 138 1692

Learn more about Energy Bills Support Scheme - <https://www.gov.uk/get-help-energy-bills/getting-discount-energy-bill>

Shout UK – Text 85258 24/7 in a crisis (mental health support)



**Remember we are also here to help.**

**Pick up a leaflet from the school office for more details.**

**Take care, Heather and Ellie.**



# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

To Lexi-May, Daniel, Jesse, Louie, Darcie, Imogen, Nathaniel, Adelyn, Ava, Alteo, Mateo, Hanna, Rebecca, Patryk, Ralph, Oakley, Caden, Daegun, Roxy and Amelia

*Who all have birthdays in December .*

*From everyone at Shepton Mallet Community Infants' School & Nursery*



## Dates for your Diaries

*All dates subject to change/cancellation depending on any restrictions*

### December

Friday	15th	Christmas Lunch
Friday	15th	Christmas Party
Friday	15th	Break up for Christmas Holidays 2.20pm

### January 2024

Tuesday	2nd	INSET Day - School & Nursery Closed
Wednesday	3rd	Back to School
Wednesday	3rd	Woodpecker Class Sports Club STARTS

### February 2024

Thursday	1st	Reception Vision Screening
Wednesday	7th	Woodpeckers LAST Sports Club
Wednesday	21st	Goldfinch Sports Club STARTS

## Parent & Friends Association (PFA)

### UPDATE

Christmas Games raised £190.50

Movie Night raised £305.00

Thank you for your continued support

From the PFA Committee



## Still need to buy your Christmas presents.. ?

**Why not use this website to raise funds for our School & Nursery.**

**Please check it out and join using the link below or scan the QR code.**

This is an easy way to help support the school by using this website/app to do your online shopping. If you need any help please contact the office.

**[www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/fosmi](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/fosmi)**





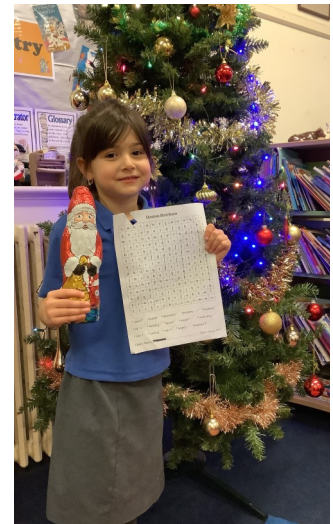


# Christmas Competition Winners

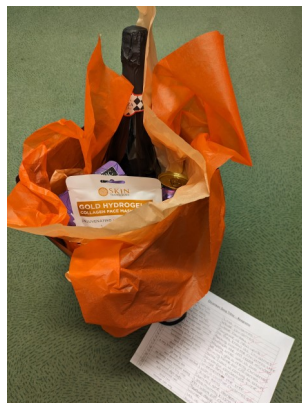


Well done to everyone who entered our Christmas games competition, below is a photo of the winners.

**CONGRATULATIONS**



Congratulations to a Starling Class Parent who won the Christmas Song Anagram.



**Literally Shepton**  
a celebration of words

**Meet Author Andy Seed**  
**Interview with a Panda & other tales**  
at Shepton Mallet Library  
Saturday 16th December 2023  
11.15 - 12.15pm



Andy will introduce his lively "Interview" non-fiction animal fact books. Aimed at children up to age 9 yrs  
A fun and interactive session ensuring that parents also have a good time.

For full details and to book visit our website  
[www.literallyshepton.co.uk/events](http://www.literallyshepton.co.uk/events)

Literally Shepton would like to thank  
Somerset Community Foundation  
for their sponsorship

**somerset**  
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION





# Merry Christmas

*To all the pupils at Shepton Mallet Community Infants' School and Nursery,*

*We wish you all a Merry Christmas and New Year.*

*From*

*Mrs Baker, Mrs Lucas, Mrs Warren, Mrs Aldworth, Mrs Joce,  
Miss Clements, Mrs Cockle and Mrs Cox*

*We hope you all enjoyed your Christmas Lunch*







## The Parent & Friends Association Needs YOU!



### Vacancies - Chairperson and Vice Chair, and Volunteers

Would you like to be part of something, meet new people, whilst helping a good cause. If so then please contact the office (details below). Without these roles being filled we may be limited on the number of fundraising events that we will be able to hold in this next coming year.

Some of the events that we would like to hold in 2024 are: Mulberry Purse Raffle, Bingo, Quiz, Easter games/ raffle and a summer fayre.

Please contact the school office if you would like to know about the roles and how you can help PFA .

E: [office@sheptoninfants.co.uk](mailto:office@sheptoninfants.co.uk) or 01749 342322.



### Parent & Friends Association (PFA)

## 6 reasons why your PTA really matters

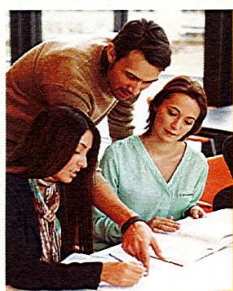


*"I love to see my mum in school helping at the fun events the PTA run for us."*



#### 1. For the kids

Being active in the PTA not only improves your child's school but makes you an excellent role model. Research confirms what we've always known: when children see us involved in their school and learning, it encourages them to do their best.



*"Through being a part of the PTA I've really got to know the school and have confidence in how to fit in."*



#### 2. It builds trust

Becoming part of the PTA is a great way to get to know other parents and teachers while gaining an insight into the workings of the school. With parents and teachers striving towards the same goals, the parent group is instrumental in making a real difference in the school life of all children.



*"It's great that we finally have some decent kit at school for a change."*



#### 3. It raises welcome funds

Whether it's creating an outdoor classroom, stocking the science lab with new Bunsen burners or arranging a visit from a top author, the funds raised from your activities impact massively on the opportunities and experiences of all the children at school.

## 6 reasons why your PTA really matters



*"It felt great when the head teacher asked the PTA for our views on the new school uniform policy. It made me feel listened to."*



#### 4. It gives you a voice

Many PTAs already act as a consultative group for the school leaders and governors. So whether it's deciding on where PTA funds are spent or getting parent views on wraparound care, you can make sure parents have a voice in how your school operates.



*"We've been able to really grow the scale of the PTA with some great local contacts."*



#### 5. It forges connections beyond the school gates

PTAs are brilliant for building relationships with the local community, from events, sponsorships from local businesses, and mentions in local press. Some Parentkind members have worked with local employees to run career fairs.



*"I've been able to use my design skills to help the school, it feels great to be able to make a difference."*

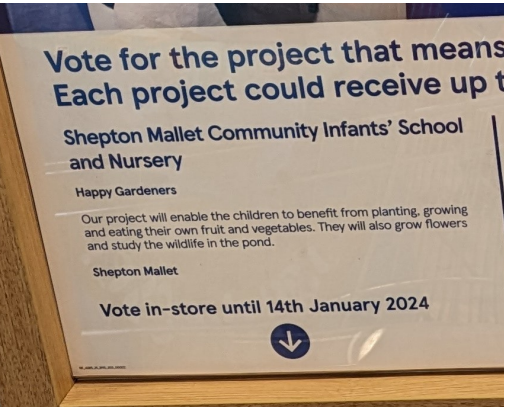


#### 6. It's good for you!

Every parent has plenty to offer a PTA, and whether it's being on the committee, helping out at events or organising meetings, your talents will be put to good use. As well as being enjoyable and satisfying, you can build your confidence and learn new skills too.

**Parentkind**  
Member Association





Shepton Mallet Community Infants' School & Nursery

Is asking for votes to get a share of Tesco's Stronger Starts fund

Please support us!

Running from 2nd October - January 2024

We are one of the three in for a Tesco Stronger Starts Grant!.

Project Name: Happy Gardeners

About our Project: Our project will enable the children to benefit from planting, growing and eating their own fruit and vegetables. They will also grow flowers and study the wildlife in the pond.

Shepton Mallet Community Infants' School & Nursery are bidding for a cash boost from the Tesco Stronger Starts initiative. Tesco works with community charity Groundwork to run its community funding scheme, which sees grants of up to £1,500, £1,000 and £500 awarded to local community projects, with a particular focus on children and young people.

Three groups in every community have been shortlisted to receive the cash award and shoppers are being invited to head along to Tesco stores to vote for who they think should take away the top grant.



Tesco's Stronger Starts – previously Tesco Bags of Help and Tesco Community Grants - has already provided over £100 million to more than 50,000 projects across Britain.

Thank you

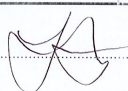
For more information please visit: [tescoplc.com/strongerstarts](https://tescoplc.com/strongerstarts)

Raffle prize form

Event Details: CHRISTMAS RAFFLE FRIDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2023 - £1 per ticket

Prize details	Winner's name	Winning ticket no.	Prize awarded: Yes/No
1 <sup>st</sup> - Family Portrait	Gary Hill	753	Yes
2 <sup>nd</sup> - Tea for Two Charlton House	Sophie	894	Yes
3 <sup>rd</sup> - 4 Ball Golf Voucher	Christy Kallan	889	Yes
Tesco Hamper	Nicola Denning	1057	Yes
Badminton Court Voucher	Elenor Ring	677	Yes
Bottle of Brandy	D Delve	610	Yes
Bayliss & Harding Set	Zoe Wiltshire	416	Yes
Bottle of Sherry	Wayne Townsend	611	Yes
Box Biscuits	Piotr	126	Yes
Box Celebration	Sarah Wilson	741	Yes
Cans of cider x 4	Teresa	624	Yes
Childs Puzzle	Theo Hill	1062	Yes
Christmas Soft Toy	Sophie Corbett	892	Yes
Denelas Bakery Voucher	Des Coates	179	Yes
Gym Membership 1 month	Rachel Shingler	121	Yes
Hive Voucher	Sam Maddaford	192	Yes
Interactive UFO	Zoe Wiltshire	417	Yes
Lakeside Swimming Session	Holly Hunter	667	Yes
Lyons Seafood Voucher	Ella Goff	662	Yes
Mad Hatters Voucher	Jadwiga Rozmus	1176	Yes
Picture Frame	Kristie Gallagher	881	Yes
Planet Volt Voucher	Daniel Burakras	1045	Yes
Return Ticket to London	Juliette Falay	1048	Yes
Toiletry Hamper	Karen Emery	919	Yes
Sean the Chef Cakes	Rachel Shingler	122	Yes


Fundraiser

Signed: 

Print name: WAYNE

Date: 6/12/23

Witness

Signed: 

Print name: Nicola Burakras

Date: 6/12/23



2023 SOMERSET SAINT FLU VACCINATION WALK IN CLINICS

All clinics below are for the FLU Nasal spray vaccination and are walk ins (No appointment needed). If your child requires the FLU inactivated injection please contact 0300 323 0032 to arrange an appointment.

DAY	DATE	TIME OPEN	LOCATION
Monday	18 December 2023	10:00 - 14:00	Frome Community Hospital, Enos Way, Frome BA11 2FH
Tuesday	19 December 2023	09:30 - 15:00	Victoria Park Health and Wellbeing Hub, Victoria Park Drive, Bridgwater TA6 7AS
Wednesday	20 December 2023	12:30 - 15:00	Holly Court, Summerlands Hospital, Preston Road, Yeovil. BA20 2BX
Thursday	21 December 2023	13:15 - 15:00	Shepton Community Hospital, Old Wells Road, Shepton Mallet BA4 4PG
Thursday	21 December 2023	09:30 - 11:30	Wincanton Community Hospital, Dancing Lane, Wincanton BA9 9DQ
Friday	22 December 2023	09:30 - 15:00	Community Families Hub East Reach House, East Reach, Taunton TA1 3EN
Wednesday	27 December 2023	09:30 - 11:30	Bridgwater Hospital, Bower Lane, Bridgwater TA6 4GU
Wednesday	27 December 2023	13:15 - 15:00	Burnham Community Hospital, 6 Love Lane, Burnham-on-Sea TA8 1ED
Thursday	28 December 2023	09:30 - 11:30	Chard Hospital Site, Upper Floor, Bracken House, Crewkerne Road, Chard TA20 1YA
Thursday	28 December 2023	13:15 - 15:00	South Petherton Community Hospital Bernard Way, South Petherton TA13 5EF
Friday	29 December 2023	09:30 - 11:30	Minehead Community Hospital Luttrell Way, Minehead TA24 6DF
Friday	29 December 2023	13:30 - 15:00	Community Families Hub East Reach House, East Reach, Taunton TA1 3EN
Friday	29 December 2023	09:30 - 11:30	West Mendip Community Hospital, Old Wells Road, Glastonbury BA6 8JD
Friday	29 December 2023	13:30 - 15:00	Holly Court, Summerlands Hospital, Preston Road, Yeovil. BA20 2BX

If you are planning to attend a clinic and have not already done so you may find it easier to complete a consent form a day or so beforehand, please use the link <https://www.somersetssaint.co.uk/Forms/Flu> using your schools SM Code that would have supplied in the original letter. If this is not possible you will still be able to complete a consent form on the day, but it may take a bit longer.