



# St Botolph's C of E Primary School

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Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2025



## **NEWSLETTER – December 2025**

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been a lovely end to the term this week. The children are certainly ready for the festivities and it has been wonderful to see all of their joy when carrying home advent calendars, dancing at the disco and singing in the carol concert and during the Christingle. Of course, the pantomime has been a huge success again this year – oh yes it has!

### **Friends of St Botolph's Need You**

The Annual General meeting takes place at 7.30pm on the 8<sup>th</sup> January. We really need some volunteers to step up to the committee. We are very worried if we don't get the help needed that we won't have a 'Friends' at all next year. If you can help then please contact the school office and we will get a message to Kirsty Barber, our current chair.

### **SENDCo role**

After Christmas Mrs Rossi will be working part time and not able to continue with the SENDCo role as a result. Mr Knightley will take on this role and will be supported by Mrs Rayner and Miss Noble. Mrs Rossi will continue to teach in the Rainbow Room and will teach Derby class on a Monday and Tuesday afternoon.

### **Houses**

Our house system has been a great hit with the children and Red Kites earned themselves a hot chocolate or squash and an extra playtime on Tuesday because they had collected the most points. We're looking forward to some inter-house activity after Christmas.

### **Booking lunches**

Remembering to book school lunches is particularly important during school holidays. We fully understand & expect the school breaks to be filled with fun and laughter and because of this it can be hard to remember our everyday admin tasks but it would be much appreciated if they could remember to do this. The return from the October half term was particularly bad where roughly 55 children had not had their meals pre-booked for them. This meant we spent a lot of time calling those parents, putting extra strain on the kitchen to accommodate more meals that were not planned for and this caused some children to be very upset that they did not have their preference for lunch. Perhaps make a note on the calendar or set an alert so that you are not caught out. The deadline for booking meals for the first week back is **Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> December**.

### **Early collections and late drop offs**

Where possible, please email to notify us of any early collections or late drop offs for appointments for example ensuring the email is accompanied with the appointment confirmation.

### **Great behaviour**

Our children are regularly praised for their behaviour and as ever we have had many lovely comments from visitors to the school. One of the things that really surprises them is the way your children greet them and make them feel welcome. We also hear exclamations about how calm it is and peaceful. It's something to be really proud of for all of us. The school has a great reputation as a result and we are now pleased to say we will be leading on a 'great

behaviour' project within the Trust. Obviously, our children are still learning and we do expect that from time to time they will make mistakes. In these moments we have sometimes had occasion to reach out to you as parents and want to thank you for the support you provide.

### Transforming Lives for Good

Services for children and especially primary age children have reduced or are overstretched and difficult to access. To help with this we reached out to a charity called Transforming Lives for Good and to our local churches. This has led to a new partnership where some parishioners have been trained to provide coaching support for some of our deserving young people. We are looking forward to this beginning in the Spring term and are so grateful to the members of the local parishes for taking the time to both train and work with selected children. We will continue to seek new avenues to provide the help our families deserve.

### Fundraising

The spotty Children in Need day raised £381 which was 108% of our £350 target. It was a lovely day here in school – very colourful.

The Rosella family and staff members Mr Matthews and Mrs McGranahan also raised more than £2,200 for the Peterborough Area Down Syndrome Group, in a 24-hour relay. You can see an article about their efforts in the Trust magazine for December [here](#).

### Respect towards staff members

Please remember that our staff are human too and deserve respect. Even if you have had a stressful morning, we don't deserve to be spoken to rudely. It is a very few people but it does leave a sour note.

### Christmas Fayre

The Christmas Fayre was a really fantastic event again this year. It was really well supported by our community. Thank you to the Friends of St Botolph's, staff and volunteers who made it possible. We're very grateful that Father Christmas was able to make it too.

### Finally...

All that remains for me to say is have a lovely Christmas break and Merry Christmas to you all. We will welcome all families back on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026.

Kind regards,



Headteacher

### Dates

19 <sup>th</sup> December 2025	Last day of Autumn term!
5 <sup>th</sup> January 2026	Children return for Spring term
8 <sup>th</sup> January 7.30pm	FOSB AGM
WC 12 <sup>th</sup> January	SEN meetings
15 <sup>th</sup> January	Census School Lunch – Please book!
22 <sup>nd</sup> January	Parent Café – Knowing the dangers online for children
28 <sup>th</sup> January	Y3 Family Church (1:30pm Holy Trinity Church)
3 <sup>rd</sup> February	Salisbury Class Start Swimming Lessons
5 <sup>th</sup> February	Reception Vision Screening
16 <sup>th</sup> – 20 <sup>th</sup> February	Spring Half term Holiday
25 <sup>th</sup> February	Y2 Planetarium in school
25 <sup>th</sup> February	Y2 Family Church (1:30pm Holy Trinity Church)
18 <sup>th</sup> March	Y1 Family Church (1:30pm Holy Trinity Church)
26 <sup>th</sup> March	Family Café – Dealing with Anxiety and Friendships
27 <sup>th</sup> March	Last day of Spring term
13 <sup>th</sup> April	Children return for Summer term