



Pucklechurch Newsletter

“Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in Heaven”
Matthew 5:16

Aspire - Believe - Achieve

Issue 11: 28th November 2025
Contact: admin@pucklechurchprimary.org.uk
Website: www.pucklechurchprimary.org.uk

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week, Christmas rehearsals are in full swing and it’s been lovely to hear the corridors filled with festive singing. The children are working really hard and are so excited to bring you their performances in the coming weeks.

We know that when December comes, so too do extra events and the extra mental load that inevitably comes with it. Please take a look at the Diary dates opposite as we will put everything you need to remember in that space.

We also recognise that while some of our children love the bustle that comes with Christmas festivities, others just crave their usual, reliable routine. We do our best to prepare these children in advance for changes to their day and consider how we can make reasonable adjustments so that everyone enjoys the run up to Christmas.

It was a real pleasure to lead Collective Worship this week on our theme for the term: generosity and share the Bible Story Mark 12:41-44 – The Widow’s Offering. In the story, when making charitable donations, a poor widow gives a much smaller amount than others but gave everything she had. We discussed the idea from the story that generosity isn’t about how much we give but about how much your donation means to you. As always, it’s fascinating to hear where this discussion takes the children. We pondered over a range of topics from whether it was fair to criticise rich celebrities for making sizable donations that they can easily afford to how generosity should be measured - on the impact on the donor or recipient and the children gave thoughtful, articulate and mature responses that showed real depth of thinking. The children made it a really thought-provoking discussion to be a part of.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Mrs Jones

Key Dates for Term 2

New dates will appear in red.

- 2nd Dec – EYFS/KS1 Nativity performance 2pm
- 3rd Dec - EYFS/KS1 Nativity performance 9am
- 5th Dec - Whole School Theatre Trip
- 8th Dec – EYFS/KS1 Christmas dinner
- 9th Dec - Y3 and Y4 Christmas dinner
- 10th Dec – Y5 and Y6 Christmas dinner
- 10th Dec - KS2 Christmas Service at the church 1:30pm
- 11th December – PTA Christmas Present Sale
- 11th December – Christmas Jumper Day
- 11th Dec – KS2 Christmas service at the church 1:30pm
- 19th Dec –Christmas Parties – EYFS/KS1 – AM
- KS2 - PM
- 19th December – End of term

Key Dates for Term 3

- 5th January 2026 – Term starts
- 9th January 2026 – Talent Show
- 5th February 2026 – PTA School Disco (after school)
- 13th February 2026 – End of Term

Inset Days for 2025/26

- 30th January 2026
- 22nd May 2026
- 19th June 2026



Christmas Theatre Trip

Thank you to everyone who has logged onto Arbor this week to give consent and paid for our annual theatre trip to the WISE Campus’s Christmas production of ‘Enchanted!’. There are still a few parents who have not given consent and made their payment for the trip via Arbor. The college have subsidised our ticket prices but we still require a parental contribution of £14.57 in order to make this trip viable. Please let us know if you require any support with payment.





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Values Certificates

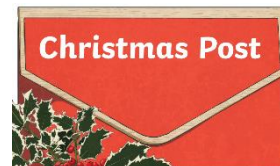
Every week, we award two children with a values certificate in our Celebration collective worship. They are children who have shown our value of the term and acted as a role model to others



Seacole SJ – Denaries and Enola
Armstrong IE – Aaron and Winnie
Armstrong BM – Eddie and Maya
Newton JB – Kiera and Immy
Newton SD – Evie and Bella
King SM – George and Romey
King AB – Zoe and Arthur
King AS – Lucy and Jonaton
A big well done to our Values superstars this week!

Christmas Postbox

From Monday 1st December, our Christmas post service will resume and the children will be able to post their Christmas cards to their friends. The postbox will be located in the main office. Children will be able to drop their cards off on their way to and from school or at break/lunch time. We ask that they do not request to visit the postbox during the school day.



School Council will help to deliver the festive mail to each class. Please could we ask that you help make their job easier by ensuring that each envelope has the recipient's name and class written clearly on the front with the first initial of their surname if you know there is more than one child with that name in the class. We want to make sure everyone's cards are delivered safely.

Welcome Back!

We are excited to welcome Mrs Child back after her maternity leave. She will return as a Year 2 teacher and job-share with Mrs McCarthy on Mondays, Tuesdays and alternate Wednesdays. She's returning at a great time of year and we're sure she'll love watching the Nativity dress rehearsal on her first day back!



Safeguarding

This week, we have spoken to the children about how they stay safe in school. As usual, they showed a good understanding and offered suggestions such as safe behaviour, making sure they kept things tidy so people didn't trip and making sure they didn't leave the classroom without permission.



As well as being one of our school rules, safeguarding is our top priority as a staff. We receive refresher training annually and frequently review our safeguarding practices to ensure that our safeguarding procedures and processes are robust. All safeguarding practices are based on the statutory government safeguarding guidance documents [Keeping children safe in education 2025](#) and [Working together to safeguard children 2023: statutory guidance](#)

Our current safeguarding leads in school are Mrs Jones (Designated Safeguarding Lead) and Mrs Brooker (Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead). All members of our safeguarding team receive additional training to hold this role. If you have any concerns about safeguarding and the welfare of a child/children who attend our school, please do speak to one of them. In addition, we have nominated governors: Our Chair of Governors, Duncan Light and Laura Sutton who are responsible for safeguarding and can be contacted via our Clerk to the Governors, Hollie Brooker who works in our main school office.

Our school has a clear whistleblowing procedure and we encourage staff/visitors/governors to 'whistleblow' if they feel that Pucklechurch Primary is putting children at risk. If they have concerns about a child's welfare in their



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workplace, they know to inform the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) for South Gloucestershire or via the NSPCC Whistleblowing Advice Line. If parents have concerns about the welfare and safety of children within school, we encourage them to talk to a member of a safeguarding team in the first instance.

There are also a range of other numbers, websites and apps that might prove useful if you have concerns about the welfare of a child. At times, you may wish to report something that you are aware of happening outside of school. You can report anonymously to the Access and Response team if you have concerns about a child or, if you have concerns about your own personal circumstances, you can self-refer.

For safeguarding concerns about children:

[Access and Response Team \(ART\) | South Gloucestershire](#)

Access and Response Team – 01454 86 6000 (during working hours)

Emergency duty team – 01454 615165 (out of hours)

Police – 101 for non-urgent issues & 999 if urgent and an immediate response is needed

Domestic Abuse Concerns:

Next Link South Glos domestic abuse telephone help lines are open 8:30am – 5:30pm Monday to Friday and 9:30am – 1:00pm on Saturday 0800 4700 280

Mental health support - CAMHS (if young person is currently under CAMHS) – 01454 862431 or if you are concerned that you are not able to keep your child safe or they are not able to keep themselves safe then take them to the Accident & Emergency department at Bristol Children's hospital or call for an ambulance.

Mental health apps approved by NHS - <https://www.nhs.uk/apps-library/category/mental-health/>

PTA Present Sale

The PTA present sale is a Pucklechurch tradition! The children love picking out presents for parents and they particularly enjoy the fact that it's a secret. Please support our PTA event and click on the link below to book **by midnight on 30th November**.

[Pucklechurch PTA](#)

**PUCKLECHURCH PTA
CHRISTMAS PRESENT SALE**

Every year the PTA runs a Christmas Present Sale which gives pupils the opportunity to choose gifts for their parents/carers. The children get lots of enjoyment from choosing their own presents and keeping it a secret until Christmas Day! (We wrap and label the presents for them)

The choosing of gifts takes place during a school day in December.

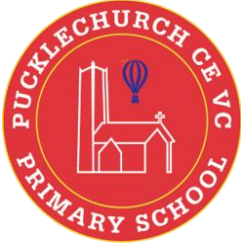
Pupils who take part choose one gift for each parent/carer, however we allow each child the opportunity to choose up to 4 gifts in case they have step-parents or other significant people in their life that they'd like to buy for. (Please note the gifts are bought for adults in mind and not suitable for children/siblings)

If you would like your child to take part, please book online at:
www.pta-events.co.uk/pucklechurch

If you are new to the PTA website, you will need to register the first time you use it.

Gifts are £5 each
The **DEADLINE** for bookings is **MIDNIGHT on 30th November**

Present sale to take place on 11th December
Please ensure your child has a carrier bag on the day to take presents home in



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Times Table Rock Star

Apologies to anyone who could not login in to Timestable Rockstar over the last week. We've been experiencing technical difficulties which we are confident are now resolved. To log on to TTRS, please use your child's login. If you are unsure of their login, please ask their teacher. You can get the app from your Apple or Android app store or login to the TTRS website [Times Tables Rock Stars: Play](#)



Book Club

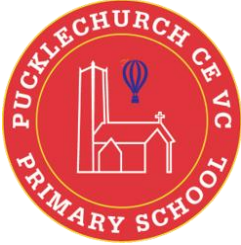
This is your last chance to order from our new Scholastic Book Club! Please place your order online by **midnight on November 30th 2025**. Get **free P + P to school** and help us earn more free books by shopping now.



Your child has brought home a catalogue full of fantastic books to order a few weeks ago but you can also go to [Pucklechurch Primary School - Scholastic Shop](#) to browse the latest books and order online. Please **do not** use the generic website link published in the catalogue as we will not receive our school rewards.

For **every £1 you spend** on this month's Book Club, **our school will earn 20p** in Scholastic Rewards.





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NHS Notification

As the temperature continues to drop and we move undeniably into winter, the NHS The NHS, in collaboration with the British Burn Association, have circulated this notification to schools to be shared with families urging the public to avoid using **steam inhalation as a remedy for coughs and colds**, following a rise in burn injuries linked to the practice.

NHS

PUBLIC SAFETY ALERT

STEAM INHALATION CAUSES BURNS

Don't risk burns for coughs and colds

The risk

- ! Steam inhalation can lead to serious burns
- ! Children are most at risk
- ! Hot water spills suddenly, causing burns on the face, chest, tummy and legs

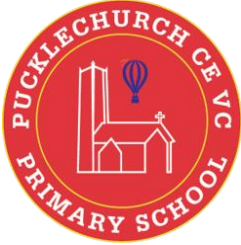
The evidence

- ! No strong evidence that steam inhalation helps colds or blocked noses
- ! Any relief is temporary and doesn't speed recovery

Safer alternatives

- ✓ Drink plenty of fluids
- ✓ Consider decongestant sprays, vapour rubs, salt water nose rinses
- ✓ Rest and allow your body to recover

The NHS admits patients with burns from steam inhalation every winter
Steam inhalation does more harm than good



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Community Notices

St. Thomas à Becket - Pucklechurch

BS16 9RB

Christmas Tree Festival



Sat 29th November - Fri 5th December

Sat 10 - 4 Sun to Fri 2 - 4

A beautiful display of trees decorated by the Pucklechurch pubs, clubs and organisations.

Their theme is:

'A Christmas Carol'

Sales Tables ★ Cakes ★ Refreshments

St Thomas a Becket Pucklechurch

Pucklechurch REVEL Sparkle
Raffle Fundraiser
 PUCKLECHURCH REVEL SPARKLE
 Sunday 30th November, 2025
 4-6:30pm
 The Millennium Stone
 and then to the Pucklechurch Village,
 Sports and Social Club
 St Aldams Drive
 Festive Refreshments



A musical treat for the festive season!

Holiday Singing Days

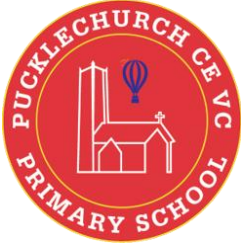
Two fun and engaging singing days during the Christmas Holidays. One for children in years 3-6, and one for those in years 7 upwards. With WEMA musician, composer and conductor Joe Galuszka.

Monday 22 December: KS2 Singing Day

Tuesday 23 December: Secondary Singing Day

More Information:
wema.org.uk/music-activities-and-workshops





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All of the below articles and notices have been shared in previous newsletters so that if you've missed it or want to check something again, you can catch up below.

CATCH UP!

Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Activity Sessions

If your child is registered as eligible for free school meals, they are able to access **free** holiday activity sessions through the Holiday Activities & Food (HAF) programme, delivered by Junior Adventures Group (JAG) in partnership with South Gloucestershire local authority this Winter Holidays.

See below for booking details:

Venues:

[Bradley Stoke Lifestyle Centre - BS32 9BS](#)

- Dates: 22nd & 23rd 2025 and 2nd Jan, 2026
- Times: 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

[Kingswood Active Lifestyle Centre – BS16 4HR](#)

- Dates: 22nd & 23rd 2025 and 2nd Jan, 2026
- Times: 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

[Thornbury Active Lifestyle Centre – BS35 3JB](#)

- Dates: 22nd & 23rd 2025 and 2nd Jan, 2026
- Times: 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.



Flu Immunisations

Last week, most children received their flu vaccination in school. If your child did not receive their vaccination at school, there is the opportunity for community catch ups. If you would still like to book your child's vaccination in the community rather than at school, please click the below link to book an appointment.

<https://imms.sirona-cic.org.uk/flu/2025/book?v=4>

If you have any queries please contact the Immunisation Team directly on 0300 124 5515 or email sirona.sch-imms@nhs.net





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Spanish Activities at Home

Our Language provider, Language Angels has made some resources available for children to do at home. These include games and songs. Each class has a single login – you will see it in the children’s homework packs over the next couple of weeks. In a similar fashion to Timestables Rockstars, classes have been assigned modules that they have previously been taught. This is a completely optional homework activity but we see in our Spanish lessons just how much children enjoy the Language Angels content and enjoy practising new vocabulary so we wanted to give those that wish to do so, the opportunity to continue to practise their language skills at home.



School admin systems

Over the last few weeks we’ve reviewed the effectiveness of some of our admin processes such as donating to Children in Need, registering for Christmas Nativity/Church Service tickets and e-mail communications with teachers. We’ve had positive feedback from parents and staff who feel that by making these adjustments, these admin tasks have become more efficient. We do recognise that asking parents to send all e-mails to the admin inbox rather than directly to the teacher is a change in practice but please be assured that your queries, questions and concerns are all important to us. By running the admin inbox as a ‘triage’ for all e-mails, it means that anything that the office staff can address is done so promptly but if your e-mail requires a teacher or a member of SLT, it will be passed to them. E-mails sent directly to a member of staff’s personal inbox (including SLT and office staff) will no longer be responded to. There is no need to cc them into the e-mail as, if it requires their attention, we assure you, our office staff will pass this to them for their response.

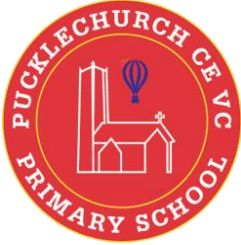


Thank you if you have engaged with these processes as they have undoubtedly contributed to making our school office run more smoothly.

We also thank everyone who continues to engage with Arbor to book learning meetings as well as pay and consent to school trips. Also, by taking ownership for updating your own contact details, you are helping us hugely!

We recognise the issues that engaging with new technology and processes can sometimes create and know that some people have encountered problems with logging on to Arbor. Please do come into the office so that we can help resolve these issues so that things are smoother for you moving forward.

We continue to review and strengthen the way in which we make share and receive information, make bookings, take payments and gain permissions as well as general communication so that all of these systems are as efficient and stress-free for everyone as possible.



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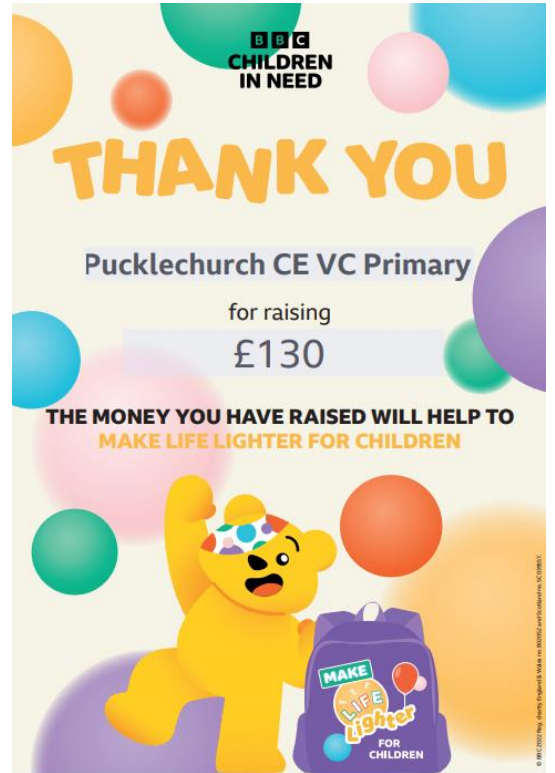
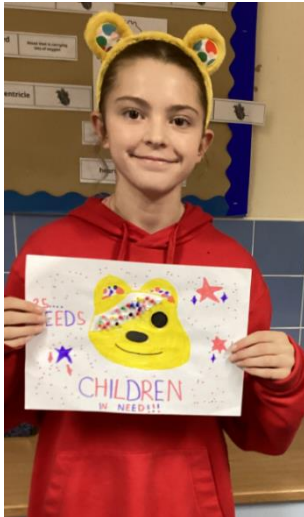
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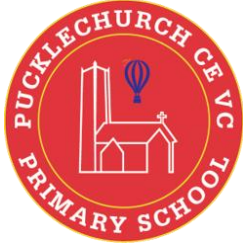
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Children in Need

Thank you to everyone who donated to this year's Children in Need appeal. As a school we collected a total of £130 through cash and online donations through Parent Pay.





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Arbor Details

In a bid to remain as paperless and efficient as possible, we will no longer be issuing a paper contact details check sheet or updating child contact details via our school office.

Instead, we invite all parents to access their online Arbor account to check and, where necessary, update the details we hold for your child/ren.

It is crucial that we hold up to date information for all children, particularly relating to medical information and next of kin. These are the details that we use to contact you in case of an emergency but also for e-mail correspondence such as newsletters etc. **Please ensure you check and edit your own details so that we always have the correct information to contact you on.**

Click on the link to see how to check and update your child's details on Arbor:

[Seeing and updating my child's information on the Parent Portal or Parent App – Arbor Help Centre](#)

Please be aware that, for security reasons, each parent can only access their own contact details so, even if shared details such as home address change, this may need to be changed for both parents by logging in separately.

Thank you for your co-operation in continuing to ensure the smooth and efficient running of our school office.



Parenting Courses

An increasing number of parents are requesting information about local parenting courses and workshops. Below are a selection of different offers from South Glos Parents and Carers that anyone is able to attend.

South Glos Parents and Carers are an organisation that are available in our community to give support to any parents and carers across South Glos who are navigating their child's SEND journey. Parents and carers can access their support in many different ways.



Drop ins

Parents can receive support and signposting from their peer support team every **Tuesday and Thursday 10am – 1.30pm (term time only)** at their Community Base in Kingswood.

[SGPC Community Base in Kingswood - Tuesdays and Thursdays](#)

Early Years Support

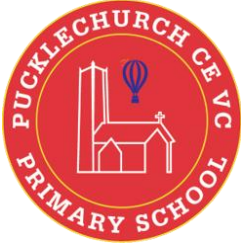
This is a dedicated session for parents of young children aged 0-5 years (including Reception year) to receive information and signposting from their peer support team and ask questions about your child's early development.

Children are welcome at the drop-in sessions, open every **Wednesday in the Patchway Children's Centre between 10am – 11.30am (term time only)**

[Early Years SEND support - Patchway Children's Centre](#)

Workshops

South Glos Parents and Carers also run workshops on a range of different themes throughout the school year.



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- Understanding and Supporting Anxiety (10 Dec)

Click below to book a place on any of the workshops. **Most are online but occasionally they are face-to-face so always check the location.**

[Online workshops to empower you on your child's SEND journey](#)

We have also been made aware by Families Plus of a regular 6 week long program that parents can access with a referral. Parents are able to self-refer. Just scan the QR code for more details.

FREE Triple P and Stepping Stones Parenting Programmes



Parenting is one of the hardest jobs in the world - our free parenting courses are designed to support parents to be the best they can be

Our regular 6 week programmes will not tell you how to parent, but give you a toolbox of ideas to improve your confidence in:

"The staff are amazing! Friendly, great communication and make you feel at ease."

- Boundaries
- Routines
- Behaviour management techniques
- Looking after yourself as a parent



Our programmes are:

- Free to access
- For parents of children aged 0-12
- Run by professionals with SEN Experience
- Friendly and Non judgemental
- A chance to meet like minded people who understand your situation
- Flexible - run across the year, at different venues across South Gloucestershire, with day, evening and online options to attend

"We've seen a huge improvement in our confidence as parents. Since implementing strategies learned on the course, our family life is much calmer and happier."

For more information, get in touch via family.referrals@ccp.org.uk, or to book a place please scan the QR code

