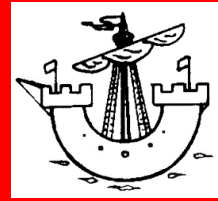


Cherbourg Primary School Newsletter

Thursday 18th December 2025 Number 7



Dear Parents and Carers

I cannot believe that we are at the end of the Autumn Term! It has been great to see you attending our events over the last couple of weeks: music concert, carol concerts, and year R nativity.

I know the children enjoyed the Christmas dinner/party afternoons last week. The atmosphere in the hall was lovely with all children enjoying their lunch, regardless of what they had chosen to eat. A huge thank you to our kitchen team, led brilliantly by Pauline, who prepared christmas lunch plus other options to a very strict timetable.

We will be saying goodbye to Mr Brook as he begins a new role with his local church. Mr Brook has taught across all year groups and will be a loss to our team. We all wish him well with his new career. We are also saying goodbye to Miss Ward who works within our Resource Provision.

I do hope you manage to stay healthy over the Christmas break as there are so many bugs currently on the loose. I wish you a happy break with your family and look forward to seeing you all in 2026!

School returns on Monday 5th January.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Wendy Smith
Headteacher

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A reminder that the last day of term is Friday 19th December - early finish at 12midday or 1pm if your child is staying for a school dinner

Safeguarding - Smartphones and use of social media

As a cluster of Eastleigh schools, we have been working together reviewing research related to the use of social media and smartphones on children's wellbeing. Only last week Australia took the initiative to ban children under the age of 16 from having social media accounts.

We know the pressure around smartphones is growing – for families, for schools, and for children themselves. Most of our issues at school tend to be around out of school peer to peer communication via apps like Whatsapp and we can see the issues this is causing with self-esteem and mental health.

On Wednesday 7th January 2026 at 7pm there will be an online parents' session around smartphone use including: children's mental health, setting boundaries and making informed choices led by Papaya. Please see the attached flyer.

We really encourage you to attend and the information will help you make an informed decision for when you give your child a smartphone. Further details to follow in the New Year.

Attendance

As we are approaching the end of this term, we will be looking at the attendance patterns from this term. Some areas of concern from this half term have been the lack of first day phone calls from families to let us know that your child is not coming to school. It is a **safeguarding concern** when we don't hear from you, so please do make sure you keep in contact with us. A further concern has been the amount of requests for holiday absence. In line with our attendance policy, absence will only be authorised in exceptional circumstances and you may be subject to a penalty notice or a referral to the attendance legal panel. Finally, the number of children arriving at school late in the morning is increasing. Please look at your morning routines and make changes to ensure that your children are in school on time every time. Thank you for your continued support.

CAMHS

Please find attached a flyer from CAMHS which details resources for anyone who needs support over the Christmas break.

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Martial Arts

Thank you to Mr Griffiths who has run Martial Arts after school club for a few years. Children have enjoyed the club but unfortunately Mr Griffiths is no longer able to continue providing the club after school. The children have thoroughly enjoyed learning the sport.



Parent Teacher Association – Friends of Cherbourg

We are always keen to hear ideas of ways that we can fundraise for our school so if you have any inspiration or good ideas please contact Friends of Cherbourg by emailing them on friends.admin@cherbourg.org.uk

Please also contact Friends on the above email if you would like to join the PTA. Thank you.

Congratulations to Ada in Year 6 who is the lucky winner of the colouring competition. Well done Ada.

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Sports News

Well done to our KS2 cross country team who took part in our @sgo_new event recently at Places Leisure. The children did brilliantly in very muddy conditions and ran as hard as they could! Big shoutout for those making their first appearance for a school team. Well done Team Cherbourg!

Well done to our two dodgeball teams who took part in a dodgeball competition recently. The children did very well in a tough competition. Both teams showed great resilience and determination. Well done to Cherbourg yellow team who picked up the silver medal in the competition by finishing 2nd. Big shout out to those making their first appearance for Cherbourg today as well. Well done Team Cherbourg!

Last weekend was a wonderful weekend of sport for Team Cherbourg! With our first ever U10s boys and girls' teams playing in the Portsmouth Force Basketball League! The boys played their game first against Suns Basketball, who were full of experience and great technical ability! Through determination, resilience and fire, Cherbourg managed to secure a win with an ignited performance in the final quarter. The girls played next, with the girls playing their first ever match! The girls played absolutely amazingly, with team work and resilience. A genuinely brilliant performance from the girls, even though they narrowly lost their game. Amazing performances from both teams. Well done to Kylah and Alex for receiving MVP! Well done Team Cherbourg!

Well done to our two U12 basketball teams who played in their league fixtures a few days ago. Both teams played with great team work and determination to keep scoring. It was the pink teams debut game the yellows 2nd game of the league. Both teams did extremely well and for another outstanding performance our U12 Yellow have been promoted to the next league up. Well done Team Cherbourg!

Well done to our Year 5/6 football teams who took part in a football match on Monday night against The Crescent. Both teams played in great spirit and team work throughout the matches. Amazing to see so many children playing in their first football matches for our school. Well done Team Cherbourg!

And Finally!

*Cherbourg staff would like to wish all our families a
Merry Christmas
and a
Happy New Year*

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Term Dates

IMPORTANT DATES

Inset Days

Friday 30th January 2026

Monday 1st June 2026

Friday 3rd July 2026

School Holiday Dates

Monday 22 nd December – Friday 2 nd January 2026	-	Christmas Holidays
<i>School finishes on Friday 19th December @ 12midday or 1pm if your child is staying for lunch</i>		
Monday 16 th February – Friday 20 th February 2026	-	Half Term
Monday 30 th March – Friday 10 th April 2026	-	Easter Holidays
Monday 4 th May 2026	-	Bank Holiday (May Day)
Monday 25 th May – Friday 29 th May 2026	-	Half Term
Thursday 23 rd July 2026	-	Start of the school summer holidays

Diary Dates

Year 1 Tudor House Trip	-	Tuesday 13 th January 2026
Class 4P Beaulieu Residential	-	Mon 19 th Jan – Weds 21 st Jan 2026
Class 4M Beaulieu Residential	-	Mon 26 th Jan – Wes 28 th Jan 2026

