



NEWSLETTER

Issue 12: Thursday 4th December 2025



ADVENT WEEK 1

In Collective Worship on Monday, we talked about Advent being a time of waiting and preparation. We began by learning about what the different parts of the advent wreath represent and then lit the first candle, the candle of HOPE. We took time to reflect on how significant hope is for us in our lives and thought about our hopes for ourselves, our friends and family and our hopes for the world.



St Ippolyts School PTA

JOIN US FOR OUR

CHRISTMAS

FAIR!

SCHOOL CHOIR
VISIT FATHER CHRISTMAS
SECRETS ROOM
TOYS AND BOOKS
HAMPER RAFFLE
FUN AND GAMES
REFRESHMENTS

FRIDAY 5 DEC 2025
3.30 - 5.30PM

Home time arrangements tomorrow

Children will be dismissed at their usual places at home time.

The fair will not open until 3.30pm, so please just pass the time for a few minutes after collecting your child.

The fair will be officially opened by the school choir who will be singing Christmas songs. They will be standing on the raised waiting area at the front of the school so please leave this area clear.

Thank you for your non-uniform donations last week! We now have 30 wonderful hampers up for grabs in the 2025 Hamper Raffle.

There are spare books of raffle tickets in the office if you need more.



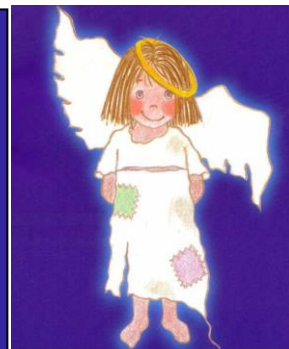
No Prams indoors Please

Just a reminder that prams and buggies cannot be brought into the school building during the Christmas Fair. Thank you!

Class 1 Nativity 2025

Class One parents and relatives are warmly invited to come and watch: Thursday 11th December at 2pm. (Please do not arrive before 1.45pm)

Bookings close tomorrow Friday 5th December.



If your child usually has a packed lunch from home and you would like them to have a Christmas Dinner, please book through the office by Monday 8th December.



CHRISTMAS LUNCH DEC

MAIN MENU

Sliced Turkey Breast with Chipolata Sausage & Sage & Onion Stuffing & Gravy

or

Roast Quorn Fillet with Plant Sausage & Sage & Onion Stuffing & Gravy (Ve)

or

Plant Sausage & Gravy (Free From*) (Ve)

SERVED WITH

Roast Potatoes with a Choice of Seasonal Vegetables

DESSERT

Choice of Christmas Dessert



@hclcatering

www.hcl.co.uk

Menus are subject to change due to supplier stock availability. * Free from the key 14 allergens and plant based/vegan



CHRISTMAS PARTY

Thursday 18th December

Class parties take place in the afternoon, but children may wear a non-uniform party/disco outfit to school that day as long as it is suitable for normal school activities in the morning. Please also ensure your child has appropriate footwear and a warm coat to wear for the day as they will still be playing outside as normal.

Party food and drink contributions (**nut free**) should be brought in that morning. Class teachers are organising this so they will be in touch soon.



Class 5 Cake Day

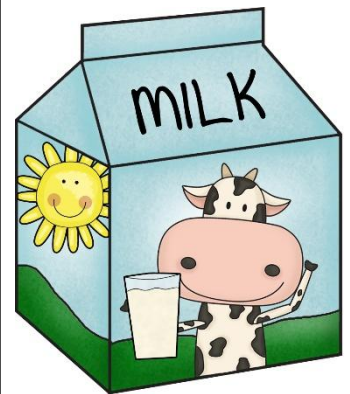
Friday 12th December



Milk orders for Spring 2026

If you wish to order milk for your child for January 2026, please visit the DairyLink website www.dairylink-uk.com. The price for Spring term will be £18.36 (for over 5s).

The deadline for ordering milk for your child to receive milk the first week of the Spring term is **Monday 29th December at 1.00pm**.



Winter uniform reminders

Now that the cold weather is well and truly upon us, please note the following:

- Children should be in long trousers and long-sleeved shirts at this time of year rather than shorts and summer shirts
- A plain (non-logoed) navy tracksuit is needed for outdoor PE. Children can also wear the school fleece, waterproof jacket and hat/gloves for outdoor PE in the winter.
- All children should have a V necked navy-blue school jumper or cardigan for indoor wear
- If your child needs extra layers, a white long-sleeved T-shirt can be worn under their usual long sleeved school shirt
- Please make sure that your child has a suitable coat for playtimes



Wednesday 21st
January, 7.30pm
Pirton School

PAPAYA

PAPAYA

Let's talk about our kids and their tech

PARENT TALK WITH BEN:

PIRTON SCHOOL

DATE & TIME

WEDNESDAY 21ST JANUARY 2026 – 7:30 PM to 9:00 PM



Dr Ben Hibberd

Ben is an HCPC registered Educational Psychologist with over 15 years experience of working with children, young people and adolescents in both clinical and educational settings. Ben could be considered a 'millennial' (born 1982) and was one of the first generations to grow up as technology was becoming an integral part of all child and adolescent development.

Now with 3 young boys of his own, and having witnessed the rise of tech companies, he is passionate about empowering children to enjoy childhood and supporting teens to learn and grow in a balanced way, making thoughtful choices about their engagement with social media and online platforms.

PAPAYA

Helping families to thrive in a digital age

Parenting in the **digital age** has never been more complex, with issues surrounding screen time, social media use, and gaming.

Many parents are concerned about their children's mental health, especially the impact of screens on it.

In this interactive talk, Dr Ben Hibberd unpacks some of the **complex issues** surrounding smartphone use and, in a **non-judgemental** manner, aims to help you find solutions that work for your family.

Topics

- The link between mental health and wellbeing and spending too much time online
- Strategies for delaying the smartphone
- Strategies for families to achieve a healthy balance with technology
- Question and discussion time

"The talk is so relevant, full of insight and eye-opening. You will walk away inspired to connect, reflect, and find out more. I highly recommend it."

– Claire Curtis, parent and SFC volunteer.



PUPIL JOURNALIST

Felicity Year 6

OUR LEARNING

On Fridays, we get to see the amazing work of all the classes. Lets look at some of the fantastic learning that took place last week.

In class 5 the work that earned a place on the golden chair was RE. This is what the class 5 golden chair pupil said, "I was a bit nervous because I haven't done it in a while but I was proud of my work."

Class 5 have been making wanted posters for a Messiah. They had to include where he was born, his name and his personality features such kind and full of God's love.

In class 6, we all made Triptics, one of the sides representing Holiness, another Love and the other for Forgiveness. We drew different things to represent each aspect. For love many of us drew rainbows to show love to all people. For forgiveness some drew flowers to show new life and a fresh start, and for Holiness, lots drew a crown to represent Jesus as the King.

FACT OF THE WEEK

Trees can 'talk' to each other through a network of fungi in the soil (the wood wide web)! It connects trees at their roots, allowing them to send signals to each other.





Rural football

A big well done to all the children who took part in the Rural Schools' Football Rally this week. With 11 teams competing, St Ipps finished 5th and 6th – a fantastic effort from everyone involved!

We would also like to extend a huge thank you to Mr Jefferies, who organises all of the sports competitions and events for local rural schools. Rural Schools Sports was at risk of being disbanded until Mr Jefferies stepped in last year. Without his dedication, smaller schools would have far fewer opportunities to compete, and children across the area would miss out. It is a great deal of extra work, and we are extremely grateful for his commitment—not only to St Ippolyts pupils, but to all children in our local rural schools.



Reminder: AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS for the autumn term have now finished. New forms will be sent out after Christmas for signing up to spring term clubs.

A big thank you to all our fantastic staff, and Mrs Johnson, who offer their time to provide such a great range of extracurricular activities.



SUPPORT | CONNECT | INSPIRE

Phase Hitchin are a youth and children's charity that run well-being and resilience workshops in primary and secondary schools several times throughout the year.

Project Hope is our December matched-giving campaign. Every donation is **DOUBLED** this month thanks to our generous sponsors, up to £7,500. We would value any support you're able to give!

Check out this link to find out more:

<https://justgiving.com/campaign/projecthope25>



Double the Hope This December

Support young people's mental health with one donation – twice the impact.

🕒 Matched giving until 31st December

Donate at justgiving.com/campaign/projecthope25

phase-hitchin.org | [@phasehitchin](https://twitter.com/phasehitchin)

Charity No. 1154364