

# Alton Infant School

*Sowing the seeds of learning*

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I just want to take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy and peaceful Christmas. It has been a very busy and productive term and it has been a delight to see the children enjoying school and making such great progress.

I am sure that you will also join me in thanking the staff for all their hard work and dedication when working with your children. They are an amazing team and so passionate about the education and well-being of your children.

A real highlight of this term was this week's outside nativity and singing event and the broadcasting of it on BBC South Today. Although I couldn't be there as I was unwell, I felt extremely proud of all the children and staff whilst watching the South Today News. A big 'well done' to all the children and a huge 'thank you' to all the staff and volunteers for putting the afternoon together. It really was a great success and something that staff and children will remember for a long time. Indeed, I had a lovely message from the news reporter after the event to say what an enjoyable day she had filming and working with the school.

## MERRY CHRISTMAS

### Diary Dates

**Thursday 16th December** - Break up for the Christmas holidays.

**Tuesday 4th January** - The children return to school for the start of the Spring Term.

**Friday 18th February** - Break up for the February Half Term Holiday.

**Tuesday 1st March** - The children return to school after the Half Term Holiday.

**Thursday 7th April** - Break up for the Easter Holidays.

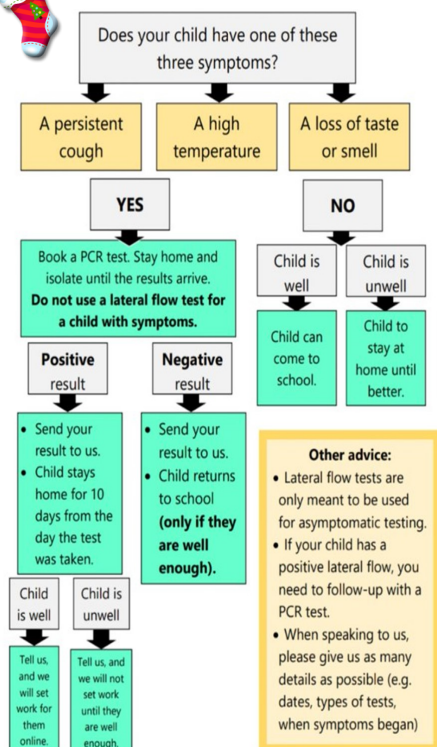
**Monday 25th April** - The children return to school after the Easter Holidays.

#### INSET days for 2021/2022

**17th December 2021**

**28th February 2022    8th April 2022**

**24th June 2022**



### Extra Bank Holiday!

In lieu of the extra bank holiday to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, Hampshire school's (including Alton Infant School) will be breaking up a day early for the Summer Holidays. Therefore, the last day of the Summer Term will be **Thursday 21st July 2022**.



#### Starting school in September 2022

If your child is 4 or will turn 4 before 1 September 2022, they can start school in September 2022.

For more information go to [www.hants.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.hants.gov.uk/admissions) Applications open for Hampshire residents on 1 November 2021

**THE NATIONAL CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS IS SATURDAY 15 JANUARY 2022**



Hampshire County Council

[www.hants.gov.uk](http://www.hants.gov.uk)

**Don't forget that if you, or someone you know, has a child starting at Alton Infant School in September 2022, applications must be made by Saturday 15th January 2022.**

**For more information go to [www.hants.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.hants.gov.uk/admissions)**

**If you know someone who is interested in their child starting at Alton Infant School, please ask them to contact the school office to arrange a tour of the school.**

## Governor's Corner - A message from Ben Newton.

Well, as we career towards the end of another year, the sense of excitement for Christmas is building almost minute by minute in our house, and judging by the deluge of Christmas cards coming home, we're not alone. I know the team at AIS, and it is very clearly a team, will welcome the opportunity to catch their breath and relax with a well earned coffee (or very possibly something stronger).

Hopefully we'll all be able to have the Christmas we want this year despite the best efforts of COVID, and with that in mind its worth reflecting on the extraordinary hard work of the staff, and achievements of the children over this term. Part of my role as a governor is to ensure the educational needs of all children are met irrespective of their background and ability; in this regard the school has been working very hard to make best use of the available catch up funding for those children who benefit from additional support. The results speak for themselves and we have a thriving community where levels of attainment are exceeding expectations.

All the best for Christmas and the new year and I hope Father Christmas brings you everything you've asked for. Just remember the naughty or nice list doesn't close until Christmas Eve, its still all to play for!

Ben Newton



## H.S.A Hampers.

Thank you all so much for your generous donations towards this year's Christmas hampers. Sam Hill (Rosie's mum in Willow Class), our HSA chairperson, has worked so hard to put the hampers together.

The raffle was drawn on Tuesday and you would have had a phone call if you had won one of the hampers. Congratulations to all the winners!



## The Christmas Story.

The 'Open the Book' Team from Churches Together in Alton came to school yesterday to share and act out the Christmas story with the children.

