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# SHIPBOURNE SCHOOL

**Mrs T Daters**  
**Headteacher**



**STUMBLE HILL**  
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Monday 17th December

Dear Parents, Grandparents and carers,

What a fabulous few weeks we have enjoyed! This year's Nativity was the best yet, and we were so impressed with the quality of the performances: thanks must go to all the hardworking staff and children involved. The choir have also been very busy, performing beautifully at the West Kent Bell Ringers' Carol Service at St Giles's Church last weekend and at the Farmers' Market last Thursday. Our next performance will be at the O2 at the end of January. Once again we are all very excited to be joining hundreds of other school choirs at such an exciting event. Last week also saw our annual trip to the pantomime, this year at the Assembly Hall in Tunbridge Wells, where we saw an entertaining performance of Sleeping Beauty. This was followed by a lovely afternoon sharing a range of board games together. Our term finishes with our Christmas Party and PTA Film Night tomorrow, with a special guest booked to attend, and our Christmas Service at St Giles's on Wednesday at 1.30pm. All children will be free to leave at 2.30pm.

Term 3 begins on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> January, when we shall all join together for a Creative Day focusing on art and poetry. Please help your child prepare for the new term by checking uniform, PE kit and pencil cases to ensure they are fully resourced, particularly for the colder weather that awaits us. Please may I also remind you that nail varnish should not be worn in school and that long hair should remain tied up. Earrings, if worn, should be small studs and no other jewellery is permitted.

Attached to this letter, you will find information about our plans should we experience severe winter weather. Should the school close, work for children will be set on our website and emailed to you. It is expected that all children will complete this work to ensure learning is not interrupted. Many thanks in advance for your co-operation.

Finally, a huge thank you to you all for your continued support and involvement with our school community. We continue to go from strength to strength and have been really encouraged by the enthusiastic involvement of many of our new families in the PTA. It has been a pleasure getting to know so many new people, and we now look forward to our new intake who will be offered places at the end of term 4. I have received very positive feedback from the families that I have shown around, who all comment on how warm and friendly the school feels when they visit. It is thanks to every single adult and child that our school continues to thrive and be such a unique and inviting place to learn.

Have a fantastic Christmas.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs T. Daters

Interim Headteacher

**Term 3:****Composers of the Term - Edward Elgar and Rachel Portman****Creative Focus - Art inspired by Poetry**

First day of term and Creative Day– Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> January

Hampton and Fairlawne Steps In Time: Romans – Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> January

Choir at the O2 – Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> January (10.30am start on Friday for choir if required)

Whole School Outdoor Day – Friday 1<sup>st</sup> February OLD WARM CLOTHES AND FOOTWEAR REQUIRED

Versatility Netball Tournament at Kent College by invite – Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> February from 8.30am to 12.30pm

Whole School Skipping Workshop – Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February

Last day of term – 15<sup>th</sup> February

**Term 4:****Composers of the Term – Henry Purcell and Mylene Klass**

First day of term – Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February

DT week – Monday 25<sup>th</sup> January to Friday 29<sup>th</sup> January

Whole School Ten Pieces Music Day – Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March

Fairlawne trip to Tonbridge Castle and Parish Church – Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March

Fairlawne trip to Carrotty Wood: Orienteering – Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March

Parent Consultation Meetings – Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April and Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April

Easter Egg Hunt – Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> April

Last day of term and Easter Service at St Giles's – Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April at 1.30pm

Hampton Class Trip to a Garden Centre TBC

Tinley Class Space Day TBC

**Advance Notice:**

Year 6 SATS testing week – 13<sup>th</sup> May to 16<sup>th</sup> May

Year 2 SATs assessment week 20<sup>th</sup> May (provisional)

Year 1 Phonics Screening – week beginning 10<sup>th</sup> June