



SHARPS COPSE NEWS

Issue 50

18th December 2025



We would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Enjoy the break & we will see you back in school on Wednesday 7th January 2026 as we have 2 Inset days the first week back.

CHRISTMAS BUNTING COMPETITION

We ran a competition where the children could colour in a piece of Christmas Bunting to be hung in our dinner hall. The competition ran across the school and over all the year groups. We have picked our lucky winners and they are:-

Year R – Remi Year 1 – Dexter Year 2 – Damon Year 3 - Ann Year 4 - Remayah Year 5 – Maisie Year 6 – Logan

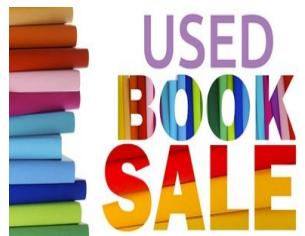
CHILDREN IN NEED

Thank you for your generous donations for our fundraising in aid of **Children in Need**. We raised a fabulous **£173.43**.



LIBRARY BOOK SALE

Thank you to everyone that bought one of our old library books, we managed to rehome lots of lovely books and raised **£234.37**.



FAREWELL & WELCOME

A big Sharpie welcome back to **Mrs Reed** who is returning from her maternity leave. We would like to thank **Miss Gervasoni** for all her hardwork and support covering in Lemon Sharks, we will miss you.



A huge thank you to Nikki and Kim in our school kitchen, who between them have worked for Hampshire Catering for over 50 years. Your work has been appreciated and you will be missed.

ATTENDANCE AND LATES

We are noticing a worryingly increased number of children arriving **late** or are **absent** without reason

and will be **focusing on reducing this in the new year**. School opens at **08.50am**, not **9.00am**; children who arrive late need to be signed in and their lunches ordered. It also delays learning for the children and disrupts the class. Please arrive with plenty of time to get your child(ren) to their classroom doors at **08.50am** for prompt registering at **08.55am**. We understand that it can be difficult if you're dropping off siblings but every minute lost is essential learning time for the children and teaching time for the teachers - this is **very important** to your child's attendance. All doors are closed at **9am**, after which only the office/reception doors are open to receive children arriving late.

Letters have gone out to those children with less than **90%** attendance with a particular focus on our **Yr 6 pupils**. We will be monitoring this closely and looking for weekly improvements so further letters and meetings will not be necessary.



CHRISTMAS TREE

A huge thank you to **Southern Co-Op Funeralcare** in Waterlooville who kindly donated our beautiful Christmas Tree again this year. It has been decorated with lanterns with the childrens wishes on them and is shining brightly in our hall.



Diary Dates 2025/2026

Christmas holidays Monday 22nd December 2025 - Friday 2nd January 2026

Monday 5th & Tuesday 6th January - 2 INSET DAY'S—School closed to all children

Wednesday 7th January - First day of Spring 1 term for all children

Thursday 8th January - Final Straw in to visit Yr 5/6

Monday 12th January - Swimming Group 2 first session (Silvertip)

Wednesday 14th January - Yr 6 Newbury Racecourse Trip

Thursday 15th January - Census Day

Monday 19th January - School Nurse in for Yr R Spring Grp

Thursday 22nd January - Yr R to Aquarium Fish Shop

Friday 23rd January - Yr R to Aquarium Fish Shop

Tuesday 27th January - Yr 3/4 Sea City Museum Trip

Wednesday 28th January - KS2 Dog Assembly

Monday 2nd February - Yr 1/2 Hants Fire Service

Tuesday 3rd February - Zebra Sharks Marwell Trip

Wednesday 4th February - Leopard Sharks Marwell Trip

Thursday 5th February - Blue Sharks Marwell Trip

Tuesday 10th February - Yr R to Staunton Farm

Friday 13th February - Last day of term

Half term Monday 16th February 2025 - Friday 20th February 2026

Monday 23rd February - First day back of term Spring 2

Yr R Balance Bikeability for 4 days (until Thursday 26th February)

Friday 27th February - Yr R Staunton Farm

Friday 6th March - Yr R to Leigh Park Gardens

Wednesday 25th March - Class Photos

Thursday 26th March - Yr R Church Visit

Friday 27th March - Last day of term

Half term Monday 30th March - Friday 10th April 2026

Monday 13th April - First day of term Summer 1



Letters issued to parents this half term via email:

Whole school letters:

Change of school meal provider and menu

Headlice letter

Household Support Discretionary Fund

Please make sure we have your up to date email and telephone details.



Year R letters:

Maidenhead Aquatics Visit

Leigh Park Gardens Visit Feb 2026

Staunton Farm Visit Feb 2026

Year 1/2 letters:

Marwell Trip Feb 2026

Year 3/4 letters:

Swimming letter Group 2

Year 5/6 letters:



Children in Need



Poppy wreaths made by the children and a special assembly for Remembrance Day



Books donated to our library after our Book Fair

All our letters and important information are available on our website

www.sharpscoseprimary.co.uk



STATIONARY STORE

As a school we currently sponsor two children in Tanzania as part of a Grassroots scheme, Rosie and Dominic. To try and raise funds to help with the cost of the sponsorship we are reopening the Stationery Store at school on a Tuesday and Thursday during morning break from the school office. Prices range from **10p – 50p** for a variety of items, pens, erasers and rulers to name a few. We will also have some new items available in the new year!

Please allow your child to bring a small amount of cash in a named envelope and we thank you for your continued support.



SCHOOL PLACES

Applications opened on **midnight on Saturday 1st November** for children due to start school **September 2026**. If you have a child due to start school next year or know somebody that has a child due to start school next year here are a few guidance notes for making your application: You need to name 3 schools on your application to maximise your chances of being offered a place at one of your preferred schools.



Submit your application on-time, before the **15th January 2026 deadline**. Use the County Councils [school catchment area finder](#) to check the catchment school for your address.



Christmas at Sharps Copse





Runaways End Adventures

DINNER PROVIDER AND MENU FOR 2026

We are pleased to be able to share some exciting news!

When we return to school after the Christmas break, Chartwells will be our new provider of school meals and at the reduced price of £2.75 per day, £13.75 per week.



If your child is currently registered with us as having a special menu due to medical needs, the details will simply transfer over to them from Hampshire Caterers; for any child with a newly diagnosed medical condition there is an online application for you to complete. Please also note the following information issued by Chartwells:

So, what is different for you? Not a lot; we will still be able to offer a choice of 3 meals, **meat**, **vegetarian** and **jacket potato/pasta** option with the meals still being ordered in class, by the children, at registration time; payment £2.75 per day/£13.75 per week is payable in advance via your **Scopay** account.

A new menu, starting in January 2026, is attached for you to share with your children.

Please encourage your children to try these new school meals; our children love their 'Better & More Respectful' dining experience.

Week 1 Commencing 05/01/26, 26/01/26, 16/02/26** & 09/03/26

DAY	RED CHOICE	GREEN CHOICE	BLUE CHOICE
Monday	Cheese and Tomato Pizza with potato wedges	Veggie Feast Pizza with potato wedges	Tomato Pasta
Tuesday	Beef meatballs in tomato sauce with pasta	Meatless balls in tomato sauce with pasta	Jacket Potato with Cheese
Wednesday	Roast Chicken with roast potatoes and veg	Roast Quorn with roast potatoes and veg	Tomato Pasta
Thursday	Chicken and sweetcorn pasta bake with veg	Macaroni Cheese with veg	Jacket Potato with Beans
Friday	Battered fish with chips	Veggie fingers with chips	Tomato pasta

Week 2 commencing 12/01/26, 02/02/26, 23/02/26 & 16/03/26

DAY	RED CHOICE	GREEN CHOICE	BLUE CHOICE
Monday	Macaroni cheese with veg	Veggie Burrito with rice	Jacket Potato with Beans
Tuesday	Pork Sausages and mash and veg	Vegetarian sausages and mash and veg	Tomato pasta
Wednesday	Roast Chicken with roast potatoes and veg	Vegetarian Shepherds pie with veg	Jacket Potato with Cheese
Thursday	BBQ chicken with rainbow rice	Cheese and tomato pizza with potato wedges	Tomato pasta
Friday	Battered fish with chips	BBQ vegetable wrap with chips	Jacket potato with salmon mayo

Week 3 Commencing 19/01/26, 09/02/26, 02/03/26 & 23/03/26

DAY	RED CHOICE	GREEN CHOICE	BLUE CHOICE
Monday	Cheese and tomato pizza with wedges	Potato and lentil curry and rice	Tomato Pasta
Tuesday	Beef Bolognese with pasta	Vegetarian Bolognese with pasta	Jacket Potato with Beans
Wednesday	Roast Gammon with roast potatoes and veg	Roast Quorn with roast potatoes and veg	Tomato Pasta
Thursday	Chicken and vegetable pie with mash and veg	West African rice and veg	Jacket Potato with Cheese
Friday	Fish fingers with chips	Quorn Dippers with chips	Tomato Pasta

** Please note 16/02/26 is our half term so we will return to Week 2 after that break 23/02/26