

Headlines

Issue 06 - 28.11.25



MESSAGE FROM MRS FORD, HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents/Carers

It seems impossible that we are almost approaching the start of our Christmas celebrations. We have the much anticipated Infant Christmas Production on Wednesday 10th and Thursday 11th December in the school hall. We will also be celebrating Christmas Jumper Day on Friday 12th December.

Children in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 are currently preparing and practicing songs for a special Christmas Concert, which will be performed on Tuesday 16th December at 9:30am. This year the performance will be at St Peter's Church in Chertsey and we are very grateful to them for inviting us.

Wednesday 17th December is a very festive day in school - we have our Christmas lunch and Pantomime, along with a very important visitor. Santa will be visiting Stepgates and, once again, the children will receive a free gift as a thank you to all parents from FOSS for your help and contributions.

On Tuesday 2nd, Wednesday 3rd and Thursday 4th December FOSS will be running their very popular Gift Stall 'Elfridges', during school hours. I would like to say a very big thank you to FOSS for organising these events.

I would like to thank all the children in Kites Class who were, once again, outstanding ambassadors for the school during our Prospective Parents Open Evening on Tuesday 18th November. Our Open Mornings and Open Evening have been very well attended and we received some wonderful comments from our visitors. Well done Kites!

RUNNYMEDE JUNIOR CITIZEN

I am delighted that our Year 6 children were able to take part in Junior Citizenship activities at Thorpe Park on Thursday 13th November. The children worked in three groups making their way around a carousel of activities, which included: St. John's ambulance life-saving, mental health, online safety, water safety, railway safety and recycling. This is an invaluable opportunity for the children and their behaviour was exceptional. Well done Kites Class - you were a credit to Stepgates Community School!

REMINDER - INSET DAY MONDAY 1ST DECEMBER 2025

Don't forget school will be closed on Monday, 1st December for an INSET Day.

Finally, I would like to say a huge thank you to all parents/carers for your 'Bottle' donations to support the planned Stepgates stall at the Chertsey Goose Fair on Saturday, 6th December.

Mrs T Ford
Headteacher

ATTENDANCE
Congratulations to Kites
and Grasshoppers classes
for the best attendance in
the last two weeks.

	10th-14th November	17th-21st November
WHOLE SCHOOL	93.6%	95.1%
Ladybirds	95.5%	97.0%
Butterflies	95.5%	95.8%
Grasshoppers	95.5%	98.8%
Falcons	87.6%	95.5%
Hawks	94.3%	94.9%
Owls	88.5%	87.9%
Kites	97.0%	95.2%

PROUD CORNER

Well done to:

- ◆ Crystal B, Year 3 - Cheerleader of the Week Certificate

Thank you for sharing your success with the children at our Whole School Assembly.

HEADTEACHER AWARDS

Well done to the following children who have been presented with Headteacher Awards:

- Lara C, Year 5
- Danny S, Year 5

GRASSHOPPERS CLASS ASSEMBLY

Grasshoppers Class were proud to present their first assembly of the year all about 'Nurturing Nurses' we have been studying throughout the term. We split into 3 groups and talked about Florence Nightingale, Mary Seacole and Edith Cavell; telling the audience all about the changes they made to the world of medicine and care.

We really enjoyed writing our script and performing it to all our family and friends!

CHILDREN IN NEED MUFTI DAY



Thank you to all parents for supporting our BBC Children in Need Mufti Day on Friday 14th November. We raised a total of £213.50 for this very worthy cause.



Thank you for your generosity.

**WINTERSHALL NATIVITY
(AN INTERACTIVE EXPERIENCE OF THE CHRISTMAS STORY)**



The Ladybirds, Butterflies and Grasshoppers children were kindly invited to take part in a live Nativity experience at St Anne's Catholic Primary School on Monday, 24th November. The children were presented with a gift bag, and travelled around a carousel of activities that involved meeting characters from the Christmas story, including Mary, a wise man, a shepherd, and an angel.

More excitingly, there were live animals to meet, and a trinket from each character to collect!

The children had a wonderful time: the experience started our Christmas curriculum brilliantly.




ROBINS SPARKLE AT THE THEATRE!

What a morning! On Wednesday 26th November, Robins headed to Polka Theatre, Wimbledon, for *The Firework Maker's Daughter*. The show was packed with amazing special effects, and the children loved every minute - especially their vanilla ice cream treat at the interval!

One child summed it up perfectly:
"It was epic!"

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS


 **INSET DAY**

**PLEASE NOTE THAT SCHOOL
WILL BE CLOSED ON
MONDAY 1ST DECEMBER 2025
FOR AN INSET DAY**

BOOK FAIR

Thank you to all parents/carers who supported the Book Fair.

We raised a fantastic £756.74, 40% of which will go towards books for the children.



Huge selection of 3 - 14ft freshly cut trees from £10. See website for price list.

Find us by the Ottershaw roundabout (near Chertsey & M25 Jct 11) Postcode KT16 0PJ

Open 27th November until 23rd December 2025

Weekdays 9am - 7.30pm / Weekends 7.30am to 7.30pm
(Father Christmas times differ - see website)

Visit Father Christmas for FREE with purchase of any tree (or £10 without tree purchase)

Please see website for his visiting times & T&Cs

Website mauricemandry.com

Instagram [@ottershawchristmastreefarm](https://www.instagram.com/ottershawchristmastreefarm)



Thank you

We would like to say a huge thank you to Maurice Mandry who has, once again, very kindly donated a Christmas tree to Stepgates Community School, which will be displayed in our Reception area.

Is your child starting school in September 2026?

If your child was born between 1st September 2021 and 31st August 2022 you will need to apply for a school place between **3rd November 2025 and 15th January 2026.**

Apply online at www.surreycc.gov.uk/admissions

DATES - 2025/2026

UPCOMING EVENTS - AUTUMN TERM 2025

Monday 1st December	INSET Day - School closed
Tues 2nd to Thurs 4th December	FOSS 'Elfridges' Gift Shop
Friday 5th December	Butterflies (Year 1) Class Assembly
Saturday 6th December	Chertsey Goose Fair
Wednesday 10th December and Thursday 11th December	Infant Christmas Production (<i>Please see letter dated 17th November for further details</i>)
Friday 12th December	Christmas Jumper Day
Tuesday 16th December	KS2 (Junior) Christmas Concert at St Peter's Church
Tuesday 16th December	FOSS Christmas Market - From 3pm in the school hall
Wednesday 17th December	Christmas Lunch followed by Pantomime
Friday 19th December	Last day of Autumn Term - Children finish at 1pm
Friday 19th December	FOSS Christmas Sweet Sale - 1pm on the playground
Mon 22nd Dec to Fri 2nd Jan	Christmas Holidays

SPRING TERM 2026

Monday 5th January	Children return to school
Friday 16th January	Kites (Year 6) Class Assembly
Friday 23rd January	Ladybirds (Reception) Class Assembly
Friday 30th January	Owls (Year 5) Class Assembly
Friday 6th February	Hawks (Year 4) Class Assembly
Thursday 12th February	Children finish at normal time for half term
Friday 13th February	INSET Day - School closed
Mon 16th to Fri 20th Feb	Half Term
Monday 23rd February	Children return to school
Friday 27th February	Grasshoppers (Year 2) Class Assembly
Friday 6th March	Falcons (Year 3) Class Assembly
Mon 9th and Tues 10th March	Parent-Teacher Consultation Evenings (<i>Details to follow in due course</i>)
Friday 13th March	Butterflies (Year 1) Class Assembly
Friday 27th March	Last day of Spring Term - Children finish at 1pm
Mon 30th March to Fri 10th April	Easter Holidays

SUMMER TERM 2025

Monday 13th April	Children return to school
Monday 4th May	Bank Holiday - School Closed
Mon 11th - Thurs 14th May	SATs (Standard Assessment Tests) Week
Wednesday 20th May	Class Photographs
Thursday 21st May	Sports Day (Weather Permitting)
Thursday 21st May	Children finish at normal time for half term
Friday 22nd May	INSET Day - School closed
Mon 25th to Fri 29th May	Half Term
Monday 1st June	Children return to school
Monday 8th June	INSET Day - School closed
Wednesday 22nd July	Last day of Summer term - Children finish at 1pm

FOSS NEWS AND EVENTS



CHRISTMAS TIMES

AT STEPGATES COMMUNITY SCHOOL
DECEMBER 2025 NORTH POLE EXTRA



SPOTTED! FATHER CHRISTMAS SPOTTED AT THE CROWN

Welcome to another exciting Christmas season at Stepgates Community School 2025. Every year FOSS organise several events and activities for the children to get involved with during the Christmas period. This year is no different with an

action-packed festive calendar to look forward to.

In addition to all the fun that will take place at school, FOSS invites your children to take part in three merry events in December...

- Chertsey Goose Fair
- Elfridges Gift Stall
- Santa's Visit (free gift for all children again this year as a thank you for all your support)



ELFRIDGES

2nd - 4th December
Please purchase by 21st November latest



GOOSE FAIR (+ MUFTI)

Fri 28th Nov (Mufti with bottle donation)
Sat 6th Dec (Fair), 10am - 3:00pm



SANTA'S VISIT

Wed 17th December
(during school hours)

STEPGATES CHRISTMAS TIMES

ELFRIDGES

Let your child experience the gift of giving! A selection of items will be available for your child to choose as a gift for that special person(s) in their life. Mum, Dad, Grandparent, sibling, friend, pet? Elfridges has it covered!

The cost is £3.50 per gift and can be paid either online using the link below OR sending cash into school with the form overleaf, or in an envelope with the same details on. Please organise in advance so that we can make sure the shop is fully stocked. Orders handed after the start date may not be fulfilled.

The shop will be open from 2nd - 4th December, with each gift lovingly wrapped by the elves and will take place during school hours. Be aware there may be some food gifts, so please bear in mind for any inquisitive pets!



What athlete is the warmest in winter?
A long jumper!

Online payment option:

<https://friends-of-stepgates-school.summo.link/products>

For online payments, please remember to add your child's name and class in the "Message to the Merchant" field on the last page at check-out (it is above the 'discount code' box).

GOOSE FAIR



The annual Chertsey Goose Fair will take place on Saturday December 6th with all the regular fun - festive food, gifts & games, rides, pipers and jazz bands.

Festivities begin at 10am in Guildford St, Chertsey and finish around 3:00pm.

Stepgates is once again looking to shine within our community and will be running our own FOSS stall so come down and support us! Better still, please let us know if you can help on the stall for an hour. (link on next page)

MUFTI DAY:

There will be a 'wear-what-you-like' mufti day on Friday 28th November for a donation of a "bottle" for the Stepgates tombola stall at the Goose Fair.

CHRISTMAS MARKET

JOIN FOSS FOR SOME LAST MINUTE GIFTS PLUS HOT CHOCOLATE, MINCE PIES & MUSIC

TUESDAY 16 DECEMBER FROM 3PM SCHOOL HALL

FOSS CHRISTMAS SWEET SALE

FRIDAY 19TH DECEMBER
1.00PM
IN THE PLAYGROUND

MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM FOSS

ADVERTISEMENTS

We are regularly asked if we can advertise a variety of external organisations in the form of flyers/posters etc. The following page(s) contain advertisement requests we have received from external organisations.

Please note - The advertisements are provided for your information only; they do not constitute an endorsement or an approval by Stepgates Community School of any of the products, services or opinions of the corporation or organisation or individual. Stepgates Community School bears no responsibility for the accuracy, legality or content of the external site, or for that of subsequent links. Contact the external site for answers to questions regarding its content.

You're invited!
Join us for Christmas
 at St Peter's Church
 Windsor St. Chertsey

Joy To the world

30 Nov 6.30pm Women's Advent Retreat
 Thu 11th 10am Toddlers Nativity
 Thurs 11th, & 18th 7pm Quiet Reflection Space
 8pm Compline Prayer
 Sun 14th 9am Blue Christmas
 (for those who find Christmas time difficult)
 Sun 14th 10.30 Nativity Service
 Wed 17th 6pm Carols Round the Tree
 with Chertsey Orchestra & Addlestone Singers
 Fri 19th 11.45am Coffee Break Carols
 12.30pm Community Christmas Dinner
 (Sign up office@stpeterschertsey.org.uk)
 Sun 21st 6.30pm Carols by Candlelight

Christmas 4pm Christingle
 Eve 11.30 Midnight Mass
 Christmas 9am Traditional service
 Day 10.30 Informal all-age service


ST. PETER'S CHURCH
www.stpeterschertsey.org.uk
 2025. Registered Charity No. 1159207

BOYS FOOTBALL

1 Day Christmas Camp



Abbey Rangers F.C.
 TA SPORTS
 In partnership with

WHAT?
 Technical development/1st touch/receiving the ball.
 Team games / combinations / 3v3, Defensive techniques and understanding.
 Finishing & 4 aside transitions – attacking and defending.

WHERE?
 3G Pitch
 ABBEY RANGERS FC
 Addlestone
 KT15 2QH

WHEN?
 Tuesday 23rd December
 8.30am – 4.00pm

AGE?
 Under 5 (Reception)
 Under 6 (Year 1)
 Under 7 (Year 2)
 Under 8 (Year 3)
 Under 9 (Year 4)
 Under 10 (Year 5)

COST?
 £35.00

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