



# VERWOOD C E FIRST SCHOOL & NURSERY

## NEWSLETTER

Autumn Term

Friday 13th October 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

Yesterday we celebrated, as a whole school, Harvest Festival. Ash Base led the worship and it was absolutely wonderful to have Oak Base and Nursery join us. Thank you to Rev Nick who came and joined us and shared a lively and fun message which helped us all remember the importance of sharing. Thank you to everyone for the incredibly generous donations to the food bank. We have an enormous amount of food that we will be able to share. As I said to the school, Verwood First is a fantastic place where we care and want to make a difference.

Have a wonderful weekend and we look forward to welcoming you into school next week for parent consultation meetings on Monday and Thursday.

**Katharine Anstey**  
Executive Headteacher

### Children Celebrated in Praise Worship

	Nursery	Oak Base	Sycamore Base	Beech Base	Willow Base	Ash Base
<b>Headteacher's Award</b>	Ember H	Paisley C Eliza A	Amber C Leo S	Savannah Bodhi B	Jaxon P Emily S	Rosie S Alana PJ
<b>Fruit of the Spirit Award</b>	Archie F	Ethan W Alfie W	Edward B Ella N	Ellie A Oakly B	Lyla C Rian C	Daniel CH Mason W

### Attendance

Thank you for your support in ensuring your child's attendance in school and being on time every day. Good attendance in school is a top priority and our expectation is that pupils attend school every day for every session. We believe that regular, uninterrupted attendance secures the best possible learning achievement for all our children and we are committed to working in partnership with families to achieve this. Schools are expected to monitor all pupils' attendance records closely and to pass these on to the receiving school when pupils transfer.

### This week's attendance

Oak Base	93.83%
Sycamore Base	95.61%
Beech Base	96.59%
Willow Base	94.6%
Ash Base	95.02%

## Black History Month

October is Black History Month in the UK and we at Verwood C of E First School and Nursery are using this year's theme, which is 'Celebrating Our Sisters', to recognise and learn about the black and mixed heritage British women who have shaped history. Each week in our Worship and during our Love for Reading Time sessions, we have been honouring the contributions of a different key figure. So far, in our worship we have explored the contributions made by Trinidadian-British presenter, author and politician Floella Benjamin, headteacher Betty Campbell and author Malorie Blackman. We have also used our reading sessions to recognise and applaud the invaluable contributions of worldwide inspirational black women, including Dr Mae Jemison, Rosa Parks, Shirley Bassey and Bessie Colman, to inspire future generations, and empower them.

## Hot School Meals

These will be available for parents to book through ParentMail early next week for after Half Term. We will advise parents once this is live.

## Friends of VFS: Christmas Fair - 1st December 2023 - 5pm to 7pm

The Friends of VFS lost a lot of members when last year's Ash base graduated from the school and we are low on members and volunteers. We are going to need more help to make the Christmas Fair as good as last year.

Can you help by helping us set up on the day, running a stall, cooking on the barbecue, helping with planning? If so, please get in touch asap on [friends\\_of\\_vfs@hotmail.com](mailto:friends_of_vfs@hotmail.com) or via our Facebook page as we have to make decisions very soon about what we can and cannot cover at the event. Thank you!

## Vacancies

### Midday Supervisory Assistants

Verwood First School is seeking to recruit 2 enthusiastic and committed Midday Supervisory Assistants to join their established and experienced lunchtime team on a permanent basis. Please click [here](#) for further details and to apply.

### Teaching Assistant

Verwood First School is pleased to offer an exciting opportunity to join their established and enthusiastic team as a Teaching Assistant, to join our Early Years department on a fixed-term contract until 31st August 2024. Please click [here](#) for further details and to apply.



"Learning Values for Life"

## Parent Open Events Admissions September 2024

We are extremely proud of our children and school  
We would love you to come and join us

We welcome all families to our Open Evening on Tuesday  
7th November 2023 anytime from 6pm to 7.30pm

In addition to the Open Evening, we are offering families  
the opportunity to have a tour of the school:

Friday 13th October - 9.30am, 10.15am, 11am

Tuesday 7th November - 9.30am, 10.15am, 11am

Thursday 16th November - 9am

Please contact the school office to book your tour  
or for further information:

[office@verwoodfirstschool.org](mailto:office@verwoodfirstschool.org)

01202 822652



**initio**  
Learning Trust

[www.verwoodfirstschool.org](http://www.verwoodfirstschool.org)