



Newsletter 5 2nd October 2026

‘Let us love one another, for love comes from God’

1 John 4:7



Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

Lydia's (Snow Leopards) impressive victory in the J.P. Morgan 'Design an App' competition last term has reached an exciting milestone! As promised, her winning concept has been fully developed into a playable app. We invite our school community to experience her creation firsthand. Test your skills with Lydia's app, Space Food Escape, by visiting the link below:

<https://x.thunkable.com/projectPage/69bc16c4c34312caciaa834ec>

We are excited to announce that we are taking part in "Christmas At Our Place", an original charity Christmas song written by Chris White and performed by local choir Vocalize alongside band Cadence. The project is raising money for Amelia's Rainbow, a Dorset charity that creates happy memories for children who are very unwell.

We have already started learning our short, festive vocal section. Chris White will visit us to record the children's singing and film footage for the music video. The final song and video will be officially released across streaming platforms and social media on 16th November. Please note that details regarding parental consent and permission for children to appear in the music video will be sent in a separate communication shortly.

St John's is full of fantastic role models, and I am thrilled to share that Rosie has been chosen as the Year 3 (Pandas) school ambassador! I was thoroughly impressed by the high standard of letters submitted by the Pandas and I have written to each of them individually to express my thanks.

Bella, Nella, Arya, and Alice have been chosen as our new Year 4 playground leaders! To prepare for this role, they will be taking part in a training session later this term.

I look forward to seeing many of you at tomorrow's The Extra Mile event. Have a lovely weekend!

Best wishes
Miss Michelle Prince
Headteacher

Congratulations to these children who have gone above and beyond and **sparkled** this week:

Elephants: Mia and Poppy
Giraffes: Delilah and Luke
Dolphins: Dylan and Harrison
Pandas: Evie and Jess
Snow Leopards: Josh and Oliver



Half Term Value - Thankfulness



During worship this week, we reflected on the value of thankfulness and how it links to tomorrow's Extra Mile event. We were delighted to welcome Tim, who gave an inspiring talk about our amazing bodies and introduced the obstacles awaiting us. It served as a wonderful reminder of how our school community unites to support and encourage one another through every challenge. Taking part in The Extra Mile allows us to raise funds for Friends of St John's while expressing our heartfelt gratitude for everything the school provides for our children.

Clubs for Reception (Elephants)

We are excited to share an update regarding our after-school clubs. While Reception children have historically needed to wait until the Summer term to join, this year we are inviting pupils from all year groups to participate right away. The only exception to this is Spanish Club, which remains for children in Years 3 and 4 only. If you would like your child to take part in any of our after-school clubs, please book directly with the provider using the links on our website [Extra-Curricular Clubs](#)

Christmas Cards

The children have already been busy creating a Christmas card this term in a project organised by the Friends of St John's. The cards will be professionally printed with your child's unique artwork on the front and their name printed on the back. Every pack of cards ordered helps raise vital funds for our school. Your child will be bringing home their individual proof card today, which includes full details and simple instructions on how to place your order online. Please make sure to get your orders in early—the final deadline for ordering is **midnight on Sunday, 11th October**.

Wimborne Minster Christmas Lights Children's Poster Competition

Wimborne Minster Town Council are inviting children to get creative and design the poster for this year's Christmas Lights Switch-On! The winning entry in each age category will receive a prize, and the winning posters will be used to help promote the 2026 Christmas Lights Switch-On in Wimborne Minster. There are two categories: Ages 5–7 (KS1) and Ages 7–11 (KS2). All the details, including how to enter and what information needs to appear on the poster, are included on the flyer at the end of the newsletter. The deadline for entries is Friday 30th October 2026.

Attendance



Well done Snow Leopards!

 	
Class Weekly Attendance	
for Week beginning 28th September 2026	
Elephants	97.3%
Giraffes	90.7%
Dolphins	94.8%
Pandas	95.6%
Snow Leopards	98.3%
Whole School	95.4%

New Dates Added

Dates for your diary

What's on this week

Saturday 3rd October

The Extra Mile Event

Tuesday 13th October

Books at Bedtime 6pm

Thursday 15th October

'Christmas at Our Place' Song Recording

Friday 16th October

Five Loaves Bakery

Tuesday 20th October

Parents' Consultations 3:30pm - 6:30pm

Wednesday 21st October

Y4 Trip to Ancient Technology Centre

Thursday 22nd October

Parents' Consultations 3:30pm - 6:30pm

Monday 26th - Friday 30th October

Half Term Holiday

Monday 2nd November

INSET Day (No children in School)

Friday 20th November

Disco

YR and Y1 3:15pm - 4:00pm

Y2, Y3 and Y4 4:15pm - 5:00pm

Tuesday 1st December

Flu Immunisations (for invited children)

Friday 11th December

Five Loaves Bakery

Privacy Notice Initio Learning Trust is committed to protecting the privacy and security of personal information. The privacy notice describes how we collect and use personal information about pupils, in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), section 537A of the Education Act 1996 and section 83 of the Children Act 1989. Please find the document [here](#) on the school website.



WIMBORNE
MINSTER
TOWN COUNCIL



Calling all
young artists!



Children's Christmas Lights Poster Competition

Can you design our **2026** Christmas Lights
Switch-On poster?

The winner from each category will win a prize
and your poster will be used to advertise the event!



Entry Requirements

All entrants must live in the
parish of Wimborne Minster,
and all posters must contain
the following event information:



Location:
Town Square,
Wimborne Minster



Date & time:
Saturday 28 November 2026
1pm – 5pm



If you have any queries
please contact the office on
01202 881 655 or email
gary.mason@wimborne.gov.uk



Categories

There are two age
categories available to enter:

Ages 5-7
(KS1)

Ages 7-11
(KS2)



How to Enter

Create your poster on A4
portrait oriented paper
using pencils, pens,
paint or crayon and write
your name, age and address
on the back.



Send your finished poster to:
Wimborne Minster Town Council,
The Town Hall,
37 Westborough,
Wimborne Minster,
BH21 1LT



Deadline for entries is
Friday 30 October 2026



Christmas Lights Switch-On

Saturday 28 November 2026
1pm – 5pm

Let your imagination light up Wimborne!

