



# Lewknor C of E Primary School Newsletter



Monday 5th December 2022



## CHRISTMAS LUNCH TREAT THANKS TO FOLS

If possible, please would parents make a £2 contribution so that their children can enjoy Christmas lunch at the Lambert Arms on Monday 12th December. FOLS are very generously funding, in the main, a slap-up meal for every child and staff member. But they are asking parents for a voluntary donation of £2 per child to help cover costs. Children can bring the money to school this week. The children and staff had a fantastic time at the Lambert Arms last year and £2 for Christmas lunch sounds like a very good deal indeed. FOLS have also arranged for all the children at school to make a small Christmas cake. The cakes will be baked on Wednesday and decorated next week. Thank you to Louise for organising this treat. FOLS have in addition very kindly paid for the whole school Cinderella pantomime trip to the Oxford Playhouse on Thursday. Thank you FOLS!

You can view the FOLS AGM minutes following the meeting on 10th November on the school website (under the parents tab).

## Headteacher's Welcome

### OUR LEADING LIGHTS AT CHRISTINGLE SERVICE



It was fantastic to see so many of you at our Christingle Service. Peter was on hand to explain how each part of the Christingle has a special Christian meaning. The orange represents the world, the red tape symbolises the love of Christ, the sweets and dried fruit represent all of God's creations, while the lit candle is Jesus's light in the world, bringing hope to people living in darkness.

The children, including, those who attend Krakatoa pre-school, stood very still with their lighted Christingles. They also sang the Christingle song and Silent Night beautifully.

Thank you to Basia and Charlotte for helping the children to make their Christingles earlier in the week. And thank you to all the teaching staff for organising this beautiful service.



*Our bright stars — the children of Lewknor Church of England Primary*

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# Lewknor C of E Primary School



*Their first Christingle service—the Reception class. Pictured are Felix, Jeniece, Archie, Mollie, Imogen, Olivia, Morgan, Aria, Arthur and Robin*



*Their last Christingle service at Lewknor Primary—the Year 6 children. Pictured are Heidi, Isaac, Hattie, Harley, Taylor, Charlie, Camille and Zlata*

# Lewknor C of E Primary School



It was also the first Christingle service in the church for the children in the Infants class (Year 1 and 2). The last time we celebrated Christingle in the church was pre-Covid in 2019.

***Pictured above are: Sonny, Felix, Jack, Amy, Amelie, Austin, Si-Si and Miles***



***Pictured above are: Iris, Jesse, Isla P, Clark, Amber, Harriet, Raffi, Cally, Laura, Violet, Aila, Isla W, Zaydn, Ralph and Henry***

# Lewknor C of E Primary School



The Lower Juniors (Years 3 and 4)

*Pictured left: Florence, Francis, Jasper, Ruby Tuesday and Devon*



*Lilly with her Christingle*



*Above: Wyatt, Ned, Halima and Ariana*

*Right: Harry, Ollie, Jack, Charlie, Archie and Charlie*



# Lewknor C of E Primary School



*Left: Georgie, Lily, Tilly and Rubie, who are also pupils in the Lower Juniors class*



The idea of Christingles came from Germany in the 1740s. At a service, a lighted candle with a red ribbon around it was given to the children to represent Jesus being the light of the world. The custom went around the world with the church. The Christingle Service is usually held in churches on the Sunday before Christmas or on Christmas Eve.

Christingles had become popular in England by in the late 1960s. The custom has spread through to all kinds of churches and is one of the most common and popular Christmas services in the UK, especially among children.



*The Year 5 children: Elexia-Rose, Lexi, Georgina, Jack, Stanley, Emrys, Izzy and Mia*

# Lewknor C of E Primary School



## WANTED...NEW PARENT GOVERNORS!

We currently have vacancies for two parent governors on the Governing Body, which is open to all parents of children at Lewknor Church of England Primary School. Being a governor will give you the opportunity to help shape and guide the ethos and development of Lewknor Primary.

For the past eight years, Oxfordshire County Council has said we are an outstanding school. The Oxford Diocesan Board for Education also agreed that we are an outstanding school following an inspection in June 2017. This could not be achieved without the ongoing active engagement of parents and governors.

Below you will find some useful information about being a governor. We are especially looking for people with any of the following skills: financial, analytical and /or strategic, as well as an interest in special educational needs and safeguarding.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact us via the school email. Mr Pearce and Mr Hall, our current parent governors, would be more than happy to talk to you about the role of parent governor.

If you would like to stand as a candidate, please complete and return the nomination form in a sealed envelope to the school office (marked Parent Governor Nomination Form) to arrive no later than 3.15pm on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December. The nomination form is available on our school website under the vacancies tab and with this newsletter. Please also include a short statement about yourself including reasons why you wish to become a school governor and how you can contribute to the work of the governing body.

If more than one parent applies then we would hold an election and all parents would be invited to vote for a candidate.

All new governors are required by law to undergo a safeguarding check on their suitability to serve. This will be a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check.

### **Eligibility to stand**

All parents at the school are eligible to stand as candidates except:

If s/he is an elected member of the local education authority (county councillor);

If s/he is paid to work at the school for more than 500 hours in any 12-month period beginning on 1<sup>st</sup> August and finishing on 31<sup>st</sup> July (during one academic year);

### **What is the composition of the governing body?**

The governing body consists of parent governors, a staff governor, the head teacher, foundation governors, co-opted governors, a local authority governor and an associate governor. Our school currently has two parent governors. Parent governors have all the same powers and duties as other governors. Governor information, which includes a list of governors and their roles, is available on our school website. The clerk to the governors is Imogen Baker.



## **How much time will it take up?**

The full governing body meets five times a year. Most meetings run from 7pm to 9pm except for the July meeting, which is held straight after school. If possible, every governor joins at least one of our committees, for example, resources or curriculum. The resources committee meets five times a year, while the curriculum committee meets three times a year. Both committees meet in the afternoon during the school day. We invite governors to come into school occasionally during the school day so they can see how the school operates. Governors also help out at school events such as parent evenings.

## **What do governors actually do?**

Governors are responsible for the strategic direction of the school: they make long-term decisions about the progress and the development of the school. Governors may help to appoint senior staff, they make decisions about the school's budget, they decide on policies for every aspect of the school, and they set targets for pupil attainment, progress and attendance. Governors ensure that the school provides the highest standard of education for every child.

## **Can I get help to understand what happens at meetings?**

Yes. The Chair will meet new governors before their first meeting to talk through the agenda. New governors would be expected to attend the induction course provided by Oxfordshire's Governor Services so that they are fully aware of their role.

## **Can I talk to parents or other people about what goes on in meetings?**

You can talk about matters in a very general way, but you must not identify any individual member of staff or any child. As the governing body acts as a 'corporate body' you cannot talk about any differences of opinion during the meeting, you can only report the final decision of the governing body. Part of the agenda is strictly confidential (it might cover special educational needs or exclusions) and you must not talk about anything discussed during these sessions. Governors are asked to agree to a Code of Conduct that will be explained at your first meeting.

## **What are the benefits of becoming a governor?**

You will learn how the school manages its budget, personnel and buildings, and how school policies are developed.

## **What are the restrictions on becoming a governor?**

Governors must be over 18 years of age; not be bankrupt, nor have served a long prison sentence, nor have been disqualified from working with children.





# Lewknor C of E Primary School



## **NOMINATION FORM FOR PARENT GOVERNOR**

**Name:**

**Address:**

**Children in Year(s)**

**I am willing and eligible to stand for election as a parent governor at Lewknor Church of England Primary School. I confirm that I am able to fulfil the role including attending meetings as required, and by contributing to governance work outside formal meetings.**

**Signed:**

**Date:**

***Nomination forms are available on our school website under the vacancies tab.***





Every week in our school newsletter, we will include a prayer and a Bible reading. These are taken from our new Jigsaw scheme of work for PSHE (Personal, Social, Health Education) and RE (Religious Education) and are shared with the children in class and at whole school assemblies.

## PRAYER OF THE WEEK

**Celebrating Difference**

**(use kind words)**

**Lord Jesus**

**Thank you for your example of treating people with kindness. Make me kind when I am tempted to act harshly rather than speak gently, when I try to take control rather than letting others have their turn, when I am angry and bitter rather than mindful and calm.**

**Amen**



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## THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

**Proverbs 16:24**

**Gracious words are a honeycomb, sweet to the soul and healing to the bones.**

**COLLECTIVE WORSHIP THEMES  
FOR SPRING 2022**

**CELEBRATING DIFFERENCE**

## WORD OF THE WEEK

**Indignant**

**Adjective**

**If you are indignant, you  
feel angry about something  
that is unfair.**



# DIARY DATES

## DECEMBER

Thursdays: After-school football club run by Exposure Sport.

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December: Whole school trip to see the Oxford pantomime Cinderella. **Many thanks to FoLS for funding this trip.**

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December: Christmas dinner at the Lambert Arms. **Parents are asked to make a £2 contribution per child—FoLS have very kindly offered to fund the rest!**

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December: Afternoon performance of the Nativity and Christmas concert at 1.30pm.

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December: Evening performance of the Nativity and Christmas concert at 6pm.

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December: school closes at 1.30pm for the Christmas break.

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> December: INSET Days.

## JANUARY 2023

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January: Back to school—new term begins.

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> January: Lewknor Primary celebrates the Chinese New Year through dance and art.

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> January: Whole school trip to the Sheldonian Theatre in Oxford to watch Oxford Youth Orchestra perform. **Many thanks to FoLS for funding this trip.**

Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> January: Travelling Book Fayre visits school until Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> February.

## MARCH

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March: World Book Day. Come to school dressed up as your favourite book character.

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March: Mother's Day Assembly

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March: World Poetry Day Celebration Assembly

# Lewknor C of E Primary School

## Friends of Lewknor School



Registered Charity No: 1045910

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