Padnell Post

Giving Citizen Resilient Learner Original Thinker Wise Worker

13th November 2026. Autumn Term No. 10

What an exciting and busy week we have had at Padnell! There is so much to celebrate, and we continue to be incredibly impressed by the children's hard work, positivity and achievements. Across the school, our classes have enjoyed a wealth of learning opportunities and memorable experiences. A particular highlight was our Year R children's first local visit. Their positive attitudes, enthusiasm and excellent behaviour throughout the trip made us very proud.

As we look ahead to a busy few weeks, there is plenty to share and look forward to at Padnell. Thank you for your continued kindness, generosity and support for our school community.

This week's newsletter includes important reminders and updates as we begin to prepare for the festive season. Please take a moment to check the diary dates and upcoming events to help you plan ahead.



Remembrance Day – Giving Citizens

This week, children and staff together stopped to observe the two-minute silence on Wednesday (11/11). We were very proud of the respect and thoughtfulness they showed during this moment of remembrance. Thank you to everyone who sent in money for poppy items last week.



Governors

Our Governing Body held their second meeting of the year on Monday. During the meeting, governors reviewed the responses from our recent parent questionnaire. Thank you to everyone who took the time to share their views—the feedback overwhelmingly showed that our parent community values the governors' termly updates in the newsletter and would like these to continue.

Join Our Governing Body

We currently have **one vacancy** on our board for a **Co-operative Governor**. If you are interested in supporting the strategic direction of our school and contributing to our community, we would love to hear from you. Please get in touch with the school office for more information or to express your interest.

Year R NCMP opt out

A reminder that if you wish to opt your child out of the National Child Measurement Programme, please email the School Office at admin@padnell-inf.hants.sch.uk by Tuesday 17th November. Thank you.



Presentation Evening

We were overwhelmed by the lovely responses from families who attended our first open evening this week. If you know anyone with a child due to start school next September who missed out, please let them know we are hosting a second Open Evening on **Tuesday, 24th November** from **6pm to 7pm**.

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Visitors will have the opportunity to tour our facilities, meet our teaching staff, and get a true feel for our welcoming school community. To find out more or to register attendance, please email the office (admin@padnell-inf.hants.sch.uk). We look forward to welcoming new faces.



Book Fair

📚🎄 Do Some Christmas Shopping at Our School Book Fair! 🎄📚

Our Book Fair is arriving in school next week, packed with hundreds of brand-new children's books to browse and buy—perfect for ticking off your Christmas gift list! 🎁✨

When & Where:

🌞 **Mornings:** From 8:30am in the Hall (Tuesday 17th – Friday 20th November)

🌤️ **Afternoons:** 3:10pm – 3:45pm in Woodpeckers (Monday 16th – Friday 20th November)

How to Pay & Order:

💳 Pay easily via our card machine or by scanning the QR code (attached) for electronic payments.

💵 A small cash float will also be available.

📱 Can't make it in person? Scan the QR code to create a wish list or order books online from home!

Best of all, **every book you buy helps earn FREE BOOKS for our school library!** 📖❤️ Thank you for your support!

Shoebox appeal



A message from Revd Polly from St Wilfrid's:

A massive thank you to everyone at Padnell Infant School for your wonderful response to this year's shoebox appeal. From your delivery last Friday, we have managed to pack an additional 37 shoeboxes and now have over 100 to send in time for Christmas.

Padnell Junior School Tour

If your chid is in Year 2, Padnell Junior School is holding another tour at 3.30pm on Monday 16th November. Please contact the junior school directly to book a place.

Padnell Junior School MUGA

Padnell Junior School have asked us to share the following message:

"We are fortunate to have a fantastic MUGA that our children enjoy using as part of their learning and play during the school day. To help keep the area safe and in good condition for everyone, we kindly ask that families do not use the MUGA after school or outside of school hours. Unfortunately, we have seen some damage occur as a result of increased use outside of school time, and we want to ensure the facility remains available and well-maintained for all our children.

Thank you for your understanding and support in helping us look after our school environment. We really appreciate your cooperation."



Navigating the Festive Season Together

It's the most wonderful time of the year—but we also know it is one of the busiest! We understand that there is a huge amount for families to remember over the coming weeks, especially if you are juggling events across multiple schools alongside your own Christmas shopping, planning, and celebrations.

Staying Up to Date: To help make things a little easier, all key dates, deadlines, and festive events are listed on the Padnell Infant School Calendar on our website, which you can easily link directly to your mobile device so nothing gets missed.

Our Traditional Christmas Events
Alongside keeping our daily routines calm and consistent, we are delighted to continue our much-loved Padnell Infant School festive traditions this year:

- **Whole School Christmas Service:** We will be visiting **St Wilfrid's** together for our whole school Christmas service.
- **Year R Nativities:** Each Year R class will perform their own individual Nativity.
- **Year 1 Christmas Plays:** Each Year 1 class will put on a festive Christmas play.

L*etters with full details for both Year R and Year 1 performances will be sent out next week.*

- **Year 2 Carol Singing Evening:** Our Year 2 children will come together for a special evening of carol singing.

- **Christmas Jumper Day & Christmas Dinner:** If your child would like to join us for Christmas Dinner on Wednesday 16th December (complete with crackers and festive tunes), then please ensure you pre-order their lunch as soon as possible on SchoolGrid. This is also the day we invite children to wear a Christmas jumper with their usual school uniform.
- **PIPSA Christmas Shopping Day:** Our fantastic PIPSA team will once again be running our wonderful annual Christmas Shopping Day for the children.

Supporting Our Children Through Sensory Overload: While this season brings lots of excitement, we recognise that the run-up to Christmas can also feel overwhelming and stressful for both children and parents. Attached to this message is a short, easy-to-read guide on 'The Sensory Overload', explaining how changes at this time of year can affect some of our pupils.

To help every child feel calm, safe, and settled at Padnell Infant School, we take a thoughtful approach to the festivities by:

- Waiting until Christmas Shopping Day to put up the school tree and decorate the classrooms.
- Saving most Christmas craft activities for the final week of term.
- Maintaining normal daily routines for as long as possible.

We want to work alongside you to support your family however we can—please don't

hesitate to reach out to us if your child is finding the build-up to Christmas tricky.

Please note we ask the Elves not to visit us in school, as this is also an added pressure on many families and over stimulates the children. If the Elves do visit you, please discuss with your child that this is something just for home.



Water Bottles

Please ensure your child brings a named water bottle to school every day. While we do keep spare cups available for emergencies, we would be grateful if you could do your best to remember their water bottle each morning and make sure it is clearly labelled with their name. Thank you for your support.



INSET Day

A reminder that our next INSET Day is Monday 23rd November. School will be closed to children.

Food Habits Survey

Hampshire County Council, in partnership with the Hampshire Food Alliance, are looking for people to complete their survey on food and cooking habits.

The results of this survey will be used to inform work around access to food and sustainability. It should take about 10 minutes to complete and will close on Monday 30th November at 11.59pm.

Please follow the link to complete the survey: https://www.hants.gov.uk/aboutthecouncil/haveyoursay/consultations/ow-food-management

Cowplain Church – Cinderella

As shown in the attached leaflet, Cowplain Church will be welcoming the Saltmine Theatre Company for a performance of *Cinderella* on 11th December.



Parking

Once again, we would like to ask all parents and carers to please be mindful of where they park when dropping off and collecting children from school. We have received complaints from local residents that their driveways are being blocked by vehicles during these busy times. We understand that parking can sometimes be challenging, but it is important that we show consideration and respect for our neighbours and the wider community.

Thank you for your co-operation and support.
Kind Regards,

Mrs Paula Young
Headteacher



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Diary Dates 2026 – 2027

Date	Event	Year Group	Info
Monday 16th November 3.30pm	Padnell Junior School Tour	Year 2 Parents	
Tuesday 17th November	Deadline to opt out of NCMP and Vision Screening	Year R Parents	See letter emailed on 3/11/26 for details
Monday 16th November to Friday 20th November	Book Fair	Whole School	Travelling Book Fair will be in the school from the afternoon of Monday 16th November until the afternoon of 20th November
Thursday 19th November	School Nurse Clinic in Hub		All parents invited to make an appointment
Thursday 19th November	Year 2 trip to Sea City Museum	Year 2	Details to follow Cost will be approx. £18
Monday 23rd November	INSET Day	Whole School	School closed to children for staff training
Tuesday 24th November	Deadline for volunteering for Christmas Shopping Day	Whole School	If you are able to help with our Christmas Shopping Day on 4th December, please complete and return the form by Tuesday 24th November.
Tuesday 24th November 6 – 7pm	Prospective Parents evening		Is your child 4 before 31st August 2026? If so, they will start school in September 2026. Come along to one of our two parent meetings
Thursday 26th November	SCARF Visit	Whole School	
Friday 27th November	SCARF Visit	Whole School	
Friday 27th November	Deadline for Father Christmas forms	Whole School	Please return the form by Friday 27th November, indicating whether your child would like to see Santa. If your child would like to take part, please include payment with the completed form.
Tuesday 1st December	Christingle Service	Children only	
Thursday 3rd December	School Nurse Clinic in Hub	Whole School	Please email Jo Foster to make an appointment
Friday 4th December	Christmas Shopping Day	Whole School	Please ensure your child has their 'Shopping list', money, wrapping paper and a named bag to bring the gifts home in
Friday 4th December	Father Christmas visiting	Whole School	Please return the form by Friday 27th November, indicating whether your child would like to see Santa. If your child would like to take part, please include payment with the completed form.
Wednesday 9th December. Doors open at 2.15pm for 2.30pm Performance	Rabbits Nativity	Rabbits Parents	
Thursday 10th December. Doors open at 8.45am for 9.15am Performance	Squirrels Nativity	Squirrels Parents	
Thursday 10th December. Doors open at 2.15pm for 2.30pm Performance	Foxes Nativity	Foxes Parents	
Monday 14th December Doors open 2pm for 2.15pm start	Butterflies Christmas Show	Butterflies Parents	
Tuesday 15th December Doors open at 8.45am for 9.15am start	Ladybirds Christmas Show	Ladybirds Parents	
Tuesday 15th December Doors open at 2pm for 2.15pm start	Dragonflies Christmas Show	Dragonflies Parents	
Wednesday 16th December	Christmas Jumper Day	Whole School	
Wednesday 16th December	Christmas Dinner	Whole School	Must be pre-ordered on SchoolGrid before the day

Wednesday 16th December 5 – 6pm	Year 2 Carol Service	Year 2 children, parents & carers	
Thursday 17th December 1.30pm	Whole School Church Service	Children only	St Wilfrid's
Friday 18th December	Last day of term		
Friday 18th December	Kids club (afternoon session) Closed	Kids Club	Please be aware that on the last afternoon of each term, the after-school session of Kids Club is closed
Monday 21st December to Friday 1st January	Half Term – Christmas holidays		School Closed
Monday 4th January	Return to School		

Parent Hub with our Parent Partner

Wednesday, Thursday & Friday
8.40am – 10am

Help & Advice on sleep, eating, behaviour, support, relationship, food bank info, community events.

Pre-loved Uniform, Coat Swap, Coffee and Chat

School Nurse Clinics: 3rd December, 7th January, 4th February, 25th February, 15th April, 6th May, 10th June, 1st July