



# Freshwater & Yarmouth

## C.E. Primary

The purpose of the Federation of the Church Schools of Shalfleet and Freshwater & Yarmouth is to educate children in an atmosphere of Christian love where all achieve the very best they can, now and throughout their lives.

<http://fosay.co.uk>

Headteacher: Mrs. E Grainger

Deputy Headteacher: Mrs. G Westhorpe

**RESPECT • RESILIENCE • RELATIONSHIPS**

### Attendance Matters



## ATTENDANCE

### WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

#### ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

Children are required by law to attend school 190 days per year. The Government states that every pupil's attendance should be at least 95%.

How do YOU measure up?

Attendance	Days Absent	Weeks Absent	Lessons Missed
95%	9 Days	2 Weeks	50 Lessons
90%	19 Days	4 Weeks	100 Lessons
85%	29 Days	6 Weeks	150 Lessons
80%	38 Days	8 Weeks	200 Lessons
75%	48 Days	10 Weeks	250 Lessons
70%	57 Days	11.5 Weeks	290 Lessons
65%	67 Days	13.5 Weeks	340 Lessons

89% & Below  
Drastic effect on  
academic achievement

95%-90%  
Cause for  
concern

100%-96%  
Excellent



### Attendance

Over a school year, we are due to open for 190 days which equates to 380 sessions with registration in the morning at 8.35am and after lunch in the afternoon.

**Attendance is affected if a pupil is not present at school for any whole session including registration.**

**Attendance Target**

**100%**

**Attendance for Last week**

**88.54%**

**Attendance This Year**

**93.8%**

## Important Information

### Dates for your Diary

**Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December** – Christingle Service 2pm

**Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December** – Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper Day

**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December** – Christmas Fair - Please see poster below

**Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December** – Christmas Party Day

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December** – Christmas Worship

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December** – Last day before we finish for the Christmas Holidays – Finish at 1.30pm

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January** – Development Day

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January** – Back to school for the new term

### Menu for the week ahead

#### Week 1

**Monday** – Cheese and Tomato Pizza or BBQ Vegetable Wrap

Crunchy Apple Slice

**Tuesday** – Christmas Dinner (pre booked only)

**Wednesday** – Beef Bolognese or Vegetarian Bolognese

Strawberry Shortcake Mousse

**Thursday** – Chinese Sticky lemon Chicken or Cheesy Vegetable Hotpot

Chocolate Ice Cream

**Friday** – Fish Fingers or Quorn Dippers

Oat Cookie

**Jacket potatoes and pasta are available every day.**

**Baguettes are available on Tuesdays and Thursdays**

### Merry Christmas!

Wishing all our wonderful parents and carers a very merry Christmas! Thank you for your continued support.

We hope your holidays are filled with joy, rest, and special moments with your families.



### Development Days

~~Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2025~~

~~Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2025~~

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026

To be confirmed

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> July 2026

### Christmas countdown!

How many weeks until Christmas Day?

**2 Weeks!**



# Our Mission Statement

We value and respect everyone within an atmosphere of Christian love. Our welcoming community builds strong relationships and is dedicated to supporting everyone to flourish academically, emotionally, socially and culturally through an excellent and engaging curriculum.

## Values

Our three R's are incredibly important to us. They represent qualities we believe everyone can identify with, regardless of age or role in our conscious community. They are the backbone to the conscious community as a whole.



**RESPECT**



**RESILIENCE**



**RELATIONSHIPS**

## Attendance

We prioritise the attendance of all children at our school and recognise the very strong link between attendance and academic success,

When you register your child at our school, you have a legal duty to ensure that your child attends every day that the school is open except in a small number of circumstances such as being too ill to attend or being given permission for an absence in advance (not holidays).

We will work together to help overcome any attendance issues.



The Federated Church Schools of  
Skelton, Freshwater & Yarmouth

# The Conscious Community

**What is the conscious community?**

Every person in our federation – including you and all adults – has an important responsibility. That is to be the best you can be. To do this you need to be aware of all that you do and feel; you also need to be aware of what others are doing and feeling too. This is what being in a conscious community is all about.

**Conscious = Aware**

**Community = All together**

**How do I make sure I am part of this?**

By thinking about both your actions/feelings and the actions/feelings of others through 3 important values:

<b>Respect</b>	<b>Resilience</b>	<b>Relationships</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Celebrate your skills and talents</li> <li>- Recognise what makes you great</li> <li>- Be proud of what you achieve</li> <li>- Celebrate other people's skills and talents</li> <li>- Recognise what makes other people great</li> <li>- Be proud of what other people achieve</li> </ul>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Making mistakes are great</li> <li>- It's how we grow </li> <li>- It is important we always respect them and learn from them</li> <li>- Ask yourself these questions about your actions or the actions of others...</li> <li>- Why do I/they feel this way?</li> <li>- Did I/they handle that situation in the best possible way?</li> <li>- What could I/they do to improve the situation?</li> <li>- Did I/they do the best I/they could?</li> <li>- What can we learn from this situation?</li> <li>- How can we move forward positively?</li> </ul>	<p><i>Show a good understanding of yourself and others by knowing what inspires you both, what you want, your beliefs, your needs and what can cause you and them to feel a certain way.</i></p> <p><i>In situations ask yourself and others...</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- What is my/their point of view?</li> <li>- What are my/their reasons?</li> <li>- How am I/they feeling?</li> <li>- What am I/they bringing to this situation?</li> </ul>

***In a conscious community...***

<p><i>We are open</i></p> <p><i>We ask questions</i></p>	<p><i>We are honest</i></p> <p><i>We speak up</i></p>	<p><i>We listen</i></p> <p><i>We respect privacy</i></p>
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## Wellbeing

We acknowledge that mental health and wellbeing is of central importance and intrinsic to our lives.

We believe having a mentally healthy community is about being able to work together through any challenges and that everyone is feeling supported, heard, accepted, valued and empowered.

It is of paramount importance that if there is anything you feel is affecting your child's wellbeing or educational experience that you get in contact with us.

## After School Club

We are delighted to share some exciting updates regarding our After School Care provision.

From January:

- After School Care will now take place in our Little Stars Preschool building.
- Extended finish times:
  - Monday–Thursday: 5:00 pm
  - Friday: 4:00 pm
- The cost will remain at £5 per hour until April, when this will be reviewed.
- The booking process for After School Care will remain the same, booking via the Arbor app.

Miss Whittle will continue caring for the children, supported by members of the preschool team.

Important: Please collect your child from Little Stars Preschool at the end of their After School Care session. If you need to contact After School Care, please call 01983 760345 (Option 1).

Morning Club will remain unchanged taking place in the school from 0745-0825.

We are also pleased to announce that we plan to offer a Holiday Club starting in February half term.

- Please note that Holiday Club can only run if we have enough children to make it financially viable.
- The cost will be £5 per hour until April, when this will also be reviewed.

If you would like to register your interest for your child to attend Holiday Club, please contact Little Stars on 01983 760345 (Option 1).

### Mr Westhorpe's Golden Boot Award

Well done to **Sophia W**  
for her excellent golden mile contribution!



And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

Luke 2:10

### Outdoor learning Golden Wellie Award

Golden welly award goes to  
Shalfleet this week.



### Mr Westhorpe's joke of the week

How does a snowman lose weight?

He waits for warmer weather!



### Gold Awards for last week were:

**Beach Class:** The Whole Class

**Cove Class:** William, Poppy, Marshall and Ava B

**Bay Class:** Kara, Albie and Sophia

**River Class:** Ida, Daisie and Vera

**Coast Class:** The Whole Class

**Solent Class:** Barnabas, Sophia, Lowen and Darcie

**Ocean Class:** On a trip



#### Class Attendance last week

Well done to **Cove Class**  
for receiving **94.81%**  
**attendance** for last week.

Well done everyone!



#### Birthdays

15<sup>th</sup> Dec – 4<sup>th</sup> Jan 2026

**Jasper**

**Freddie**

**Eden**

**Emilia**

**Happy birthday to you!**

#### Sports Tokens

**Osbourne - 34**

**Lifeboat - 20**

**Needles - 37**

**Lighthouse - 78**

Well done to **Lighthouse**  
for collecting the most  
tokens this week.

Well done!



## School Details

**Email** – yarmouth@fosay.co.uk

**Phone** – 01983 7603456

**Website** – fosay.co.uk



## WE ARE A NUT FREE SCHOOL

Please can we remind you that we are a nut free school.

Please do not give your child any nut containing products for their snack or in their lunch box. This includes Nutella or any other chocolate nut spreads and Kinder Bueno bars.

## Central Discos

"Entertainment that hits the target every time"

State of the art lighting effects  
Full Public Liability Insurance  
All events covered  
Wedding Specialists

Tel: 01983 754050

[www.centraldiscos.net](http://www.centraldiscos.net)

## 24 APPS PARENTS NEED TO KNOW ABOUT

*This list is not exhaustive, and will be updated each year to reflect new risks and dangers*

**THESE APPS CAN EASILY BE USED AS GROOMING TOOLS BY ONLINE PREDATORS LOOKING TO MEET UP & SEXUALLY ABUSE CHILDREN. (UPDATED 2021)**



### FACEBOOK

**FACEBOOK** allows you to connect with others and share comments, photos and videos. You can add friends, write on people's pages and posts, join groups and play games.

### SNAPCHAT

**SNAPCHAT** is one of the most popular apps in recent years. Whilst the app promises that photo's, videos and stories disappear, others can take screenshots of private photo's.

### INSTAGRAM

**INSTAGRAM** Kids are creating fake accounts to hide content from their parents, according to police. Messages are also deleted once a user leaves a conversation.

### WHATSAPP

**WHATSAPP** allows you to send messages, images and videos in 121 and group chats with your contacts. You can choose to share your live location for up to eight hours with one contact or a group.

### KIDSCCHAT

**KIDSCCHAT.NET** is a free online messaging app for children. You can talk to people you don't know on public forums and via private message. You can access the site as a guest.

### SKYPE

**SKYPE** is a platform and app that lets you make audio and video calls to other people around the world. You can also send instant messages.

### WHISPER

**WHISPER** is an anonymous social media app that promotes sharing personal secrets with strangers. (new people). It reveals a users location so people can meet up

### CALCULATOR %

**CALCULATOR %** is only one of SEVERAL social media apps disguised as a calculator, the app is actually a secret photo vault to hide photos, videos, files and browser history.

### HOT ON NOT

**HOT ON NOT** Strangers rate a user's 'attractiveness' with the aim of real-world meet ups in your local area.

### ASK.FM

**ASK.FM** An app where users can anonymously ask questions and receive answers. The app has been featured in a number of cyber bullying cases.

### YUBO

**YUBO** Similar to Tinder, the app is designed to allow teens to flirt with each other.

### KIK MESSAGING Kik

**KIK MESSAGING Kik** is a messaging app that allows content normally filtered on a home computer.

### BURN BOOK

**BURN BOOK** Anonymous rumours can be posted about people through audio messages, texts and photos.

### WISHBONE

**WISHBONE** This app allows users to compare kids and rate them on a scale.

### GRINDR

**GRINDR** is a dating app geared towards gay, bisexual and transgender people. The app allows people to chat, share and meet up in person based on a GPS location.

### SKOUT

**SKOUT** is a location based dating app and website. Whilst people under 17 are unable to share private photo's. Children can easily create fake accounts.

### MEET ME

**MEET ME** is a dating social media app that allows users to connect with people based on geographic proximity. The app encourages people to meet in person.

### TIK TOK

**TIK TOK** is one of the most popular apps in recent years used for sharing short videos with very limited privacy controls users are vulnerable to explicit material.

### TELOLYMN

**TELOLYMN** anonymous messenger app. It calls itself "the most honest place on the internet." Age controls are inconsistent and sexual explicit material can be found.

### Zoomerang

**Zoomerang** is a popular app that looks like a harmless messaging app however it allows private anonymous messaging and is location enabled.

### BUMBLE

**BUMBLE** is a location based dating app and website. Whilst people under 17 are unable to share private photo's, Children can easily create fake accounts

### FACEBOOK MESSENGER

**FACEBOOK MESSENGER** is one of the most popular message apps in the world. It has already heavily been used by predators and the end-to-end encryption will make it even more unsafe.

### BAD00

**BAD00** is a location based dating app and website. Whilst people under 17 are unable to share private photo's, Children can easily create fake accounts.

### OMEGLE

**OMEGLE** is a video chat website where users are matched randomly with strangers.

**#CHILDAUSEHELP**  
CHILD ABUSE RESOURCES  
[WWW.CHILDAUSEHELP.ORG.UK](http://WWW.CHILDAUSEHELP.ORG.UK)

**NSPCC HELPLINE**  
**0800 800 5000**

**NNECA**  
NATIONAL NETWORK TO END CHILD ABUSE  
[WWW.NNECA.ORG.UK](http://WWW.NNECA.ORG.UK)



## CHRISTMAS FAIR

CHRISTMAS GAMES | SANTA'S GROTTO | STALLS | FOOD & DRINKS |  
LIVE MUSIC | RAFFLE & MORE!

**WEDNESDAY 17TH DEC | 3-5PM**

FRESHWATER AND YARMOUTH  
PRIMARY SCHOOL

**WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU FOR A  
HOT CHOCOLATE, PIG IN BLANKET OR  
SOME CHRISTMAS FUN!**

# SPOTLIGHT ON SAFEGUARDING

Working together to keep our young people safe

Primary | December 2025



As Christmas approaches, many families are planning to surprise their children with a new phone, tablet, or gaming device under the tree. It's an exciting time - new technology opens doors to creativity, learning and connection. But it also brings a fresh set of questions about what apps and online spaces children might explore.

With so many options available, it's natural to wonder which apps are suitable for children and how to ensure they have positive experiences online. To help families navigate these decisions, here is a closer look at some of the most concerning apps and platforms.

## In this issue:

- New devices, new apps
- New devices, safe starts



Reddit

### What is it?

Reddit is an extensive online discussion platform with 'Subreddits' on various topics.

### What are the risks?

It features unmoderated or explicit content, including adult themes and misinformation. Users can privately chat with others through comments or direct messages.



Kik

### What it is?

A messaging app that allows users to send texts, photos and videos without linking to a phone number - only a username is needed.

### What are the risks?

Kik has minimal age verification and a reputation for anonymous interactions. Children can be contacted by strangers and messages can't easily be monitored.



Telegram

### What it is?

A messaging service known for encrypted chats and large group channels, often used for community discussions or file sharing.

### What are the risks?

Telegram's 'secret chats' and disappearing messages make it difficult for parents to supervise activity. Some public groups share mature or illegal content.



Vault apps

### What they are?

Apps designed to hide photos, videos or other apps behind a disguised icon or password. Some look like calculators or utilities.

### What are the risks?

Used to conceal messages or content. If you notice one installed, it's worth having an open conversation rather than assuming wrongdoing - curiosity often drives their use.

Before your child dives into their new device, it's worth taking a moment to explore which apps are right for them. Here are a few simple ways to make sure the apps they use are age-appropriate and child-friendly.

## How to choose child friendly apps:



### Explore together

Look at new apps with your child before downloading. Ask what they like and talk about what feels safe to use.



### Check beyond the age rating

App store ratings aren't always enough - read reviews and see what kinds of chats, ads or purchases are involved.



### Choose creative options

Favour apps that help children build, draw, learn or create rather than just scroll or chat.



### Set up safety tools together

Turn on privacy settings, block in-app purchases and set screen time limits as a team.



### Keep talking

Ask regularly what apps they're using and how they feel about them. Open chats build trust and awareness.



# SPOTLIGHT ON SAFEGUARDING

## Giving devices safely this Christmas.

Getting a new device for Christmas is exciting - it can open a world of learning, creativity and connection. But it also introduces children to a digital world that isn't always designed with their safety in mind. Setting clear boundaries and protective measures early on helps children learn to use technology in healthy, balanced and age-appropriate ways.

Without guidance, young users can stumble into areas of concern: social media platforms that encourage comparison and oversharing gaming chats that expose them to strangers or apps that collect more personal data than you might expect. These risks don't mean children shouldn't enjoy their new devices - they simply mean they need structure and support to navigate them confidently.

Here are some ways to make sure your child's first steps with a new device are positive ones:



### 1. Set it up before it gets wrapped.

Before gifting the device, take time to install updates, set parental controls and review privacy settings. This includes switching on filters, limiting app store access and setting up family accounts. Doing this ahead of time keeps Christmas morning focused on joy rather than set up stress - and gives you peace of mind from the start.



### 2. Agree on clear expectations.

Talk as a family about when and where the device can be used. For example, no phones at the dinner table or gaming at bedtime. These routines help children learn balance and prevent screen time from creeping into every moment of the day.



### 3. Talk about social media early.

Many social platforms have age limits (typically 13+), but children often feel pressure to join sooner. Keep the conversation open about why these limits exist, what 'friends' really means online and how to handle content that feels uncomfortable or unkind.



### 4. Guide them through gaming safely.

Games are fun and social, but online play can include chats with strangers or in-game purchases. Encourage your child to only play with people they know, keep personal details private and tell you if something doesn't feel right. Use built-in parental settings on consoles and gaming apps to manage time and communication.



### 5. Keep passwords and downloads shared.

Agree that you'll know passwords and approve new apps or purchases, at least while your child is learning to manage their own digital choices. This helps you stay involved without needing to hover.



### 6. Encourage balance.

Screens are just one part of a child's world. Make sure there's time for outdoor play, reading and family time too. Children learn from what they see, so model healthy habits by unplugging together.

As technology becomes a bigger part of childhood, staying informed and involved makes all the difference. With a few clear boundaries and open conversations, you can help your child enjoy the best of their new device - safely, confidently and with balance. Small steps now set the foundation for healthy digital habits that will last well beyond the Christmas holiday.



# Santa's Grotto and Winter Wonderland

**Friday 12th, Saturday 13th, Sunday 14th December**  
**3:30 - 6:30pm**

**Yarmouth Guide and Scout Hall,  
Mill Road, Yarmouth**

**£5  
per  
child**

**+All funds raised go to the running of the Guide and Scout Hall+**

## CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS CRAFT

**December 13th**  
**1.30-3.30 pm**  
**Church Hall**  
**Colwell Baptist**  
**Church**

**Free craft activities for  
accompanied primary age  
children**

**FREE REFRESHMENTS**


## FESTIVE FOOTBALL FUN!

- Saturday 20th December
- 12-3pm
- Barton School
- 5-a-side fun tournament
- Girls only, Years 4-7
- £5 donation - all  
proceeds to Isle of  
Wight Youth Trust  
([www.iowyouthtrust.co.uk](http://www.iowyouthtrust.co.uk))

## FESTIVE FOOTBALL FUN!

To book:

<https://ucanplay.classforkids.io>

 UCanPlay

[info@ucanplay.org](mailto:info@ucanplay.org)



[ucanplay\\_sports](https://www.instagram.com/ucanplay_sports)

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





# The Footprint Trust

Isle of Wight's Energy Charity

**Want to cut your  
home energy bills?**

**FOR FREE HELP:**

✉ [info@footprint-trust.co.uk](mailto:info@footprint-trust.co.uk)

🕒 01983 82 22 82

🌐 [www.footprint-trust.co.uk](http://www.footprint-trust.co.uk)

Drop in: Newport Library every Monday  
10:00am - 1:00pm

Reg. Charity No. 1106024



## Christmas Pebble Hunt



Explore the Wellow Millennium Green and hunt for pebbles.  
Look high, look low, have some fun and have a go!



**Open  
to  
all**

**1st ~ 31st December 2025**

Pebble Forms are available from the  
**Wellow Bus Stop**

Help yourself to a Pebble Form in the Wellow Bus  
Stop and find **25** decorated pebbles around the  
Wellow Millennium Green!

Post your completed Pebble Form back in the Bus  
Stop Post Box before the end of 31st December.

We will contact everyone in the new year ~ prizes for  
all forms completed correctly from  
Sunday 11th January 2026