

The Federation of the Church Schools of Shalfleet and Freshwater & Yarmouth

Together for a Brighter Future

3rd September 2026

Dear Families,

Welcome back! I hope you all had a wonderful summer—the weather was incredible, although the rain was certainly welcomed when it finally appeared (albeit briefly) to water the garden! As we step into the Autumn term and look ahead toward the festive season, I want to extend a warm and heartfelt welcome to all our returning families and those joining our school community for the first time.

Mission Statement

We aim to make everyone welcome, valued and respected in an atmosphere of Christian love. Our community builds strong relationships and is dedicated to developing and supporting everyone to flourish academically, emotionally, socially and culturally through an excellent and engaging curriculum.

Our Mission Statement is lived through our three Core Christian Vales – Respect, Resilience and Relationships and underpinned by our well-being culture - the 'Conscious Community.'

At the Federation of the Church Schools of Shalfleet and Freshwater & Yarmouth, the happiness, safety, and wellbeing of your children are at the heart of everything we do. We know that children thrive best when they feel secure, valued, and understood. Please rest assured that we are fully committed to keeping our schools safe, nurturing environments where your children can flourish. We view education as a true partnership, and through our "Federation Welcome," we are always here to support you and your family every step of the way.

Staffing - Mrs Westhorpe is the Federation Deputy Headteacher with responsibility for Inclusion, ably supported by Mrs Eggleton. Mrs Westhorpe will work closely alongside me to drive Federation improvement.

We are also pleased that our School Leader positions will remain in both schools across the Federation. The School Leaders will drive aspects of Federation improvement and be on call in the absence of the Head teacher and/or Deputy Head teacher to ensure the smooth running of our schools. Mrs Thompson is Shalfleet's School Leader and Mr Cook is the School Leader at Freshwater and Yarmouth.

We are very excited about the new year, the teams across the Federation and the skills set we have secured. We would be very pleased if you would like to meet new or existing members of staff-and would like to invite you to a Meet and Greet session after school on the 8th of September from 3.00pm – 4.00pm. Please pop in after the school day. This will give the opportunity to come and meet the teachers and ask any questions. Even if your child is going to be taught by the same teacher, please do come in and find out about the topics your child will be enjoying this year.

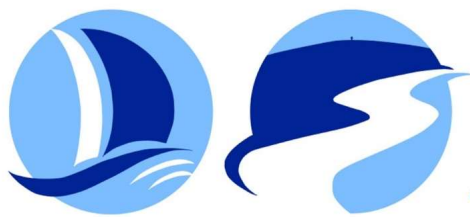
Collective worship - Celebration Collective Worship will take place each Friday morning beginning at 9.00am in each school. We will provide further details about Collective Worship in due course. This will give us the opportunity to celebrate the children's achievements and efforts and provide us with the chance to be together as a community. If your child achieves something they are proud of outside of school, please do bring in any certificates or awards and put them in the school office, we would very much like to celebrate all of the children's achievements and praise them for their efforts. Please note, we will not be celebrating out of school achievements on the Christmas, Easter and End of Year worship.

Headteacher: Mrs Elizabeth Grainger BED English (Hons) NPQEL

Shalfleet Church of England Primary School,
Station Road, Ningwood, Newport. PO30 4NN
Tel: (01983) 760269 Email: admin@shalfleetceprimary.co.uk
Freshwater & Yarmouth Church of England Primary School,
79 School Green Road, Freshwater, Isle of Wight. PO40 9AX
Tel: (01983) 760345 Email: admin@freshwater&yarmouthceprimary.co.uk
Federation Website: www.fosfy.co.uk

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Pick up and drop off reminder:

Shalfleet:

Shalfleet operates a 'Drop Off Scheme' thanks to kind parent volunteers and the wonderful Mrs Swift. The "Drop-Off Scheme" operates each morning, using the dedicated car pull-in spaces within the school grounds, the children will be greeted and accompanied to the playing field or classroom.

Shalfleet also offer an Early Morning Club from 7.45am – 8.15am which can be booked through Arbor.

Freshwater and Yarmouth:

Early Morning Club 7.45am – 8.20am. If you are using this service, please book the children a space via Arbor.

Year 5 and 6 children are able to walk home independently provided written permission has been received.

In the lead-up to Christmas, our team is focusing on several exciting priorities from our Federation Development Plan to make learning engaging, challenging, and joyful for every child:

- **Inspiring Curriculum & High Expectations:** Through our Promise to the Children, we are bringing fresh energy and high levels of challenge to Maths and English, with step-by-step modelling, reasoning, and problem-solving.
- **Reading, Spelling & Presentation:** We are embedding our phonics scheme and targeted interventions to build strong early reading, introducing a new consistent spelling programme with Oak National Academy, and introducing Kinetic Letters so pupils take immense pride in their handwriting.
- **Early Years & Preschool Connections:** We are aligning our preschool curriculum and hosting shared play sessions and joint events to give our youngest learners a wonderful start on their educational journey.
- **Positive Habits & Outdoor Learning:** We are continuing to promote strong attendance across our schools, embedding positive behaviour choices linked to our core values, and embedding the OPAL approach to enrich our outdoor play spaces.
- **Unifying Our Community:** We are revisiting our Christian Mission, Values, and "Conscious Community" ethos alongside our Home School Agreement so every child and family feels a deep sense of belonging.

We have a wonderful, busy term ahead, full of learning, progress, and community spirit. Thank you for your continued trust, partnership, and support. Please do talk to us if you have any concerns about your child or suggestions that you would like to make. We very much want to work in partnership with you to create a positive school experience for your child and look forward to working with you over the coming year.

Warmest regards,

Mrs Grainger

Headteacher

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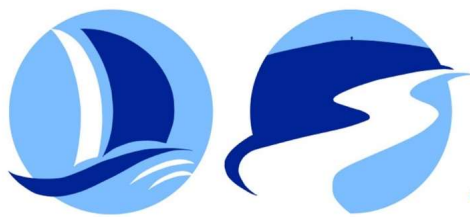
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