



Dear Children, Parents and Carers,

Welcome back and I hope everyone had a lovely Christmas break. A big thank you on behalf of myself and all staff for all the lovely gifts and cards we received before the break.

28th January—Whole School Farm Trip

The whole school will be visiting two working farms following on from our assembly on sustainability. It will be during the school day so should cause no disruption. Pupils can wear their PE kits with wellies, hats, gloves and coats. They will need to bring snacks, packed lunch and water bottles.

Please complete both the consents and the payment.

Visit from an Athlete

On the 11th February we will be welcoming a world class athlete who will be completing a fitness circuit with each class before the whole school comes together for an assembly that will look at the athlete's career, lessons learnt and a focus on hard work and resilience.

FOPS

The FOPs trustees have recently advised they will be stepping down at the AGM in January; and despite a call for volunteers to fill these roles, we have had very little response. The three positions that need filling are: Chair, Secretary and Treasurer.

To register your interest or for more information please email: friendsofpittonschool@gmail.com

Weather

With the weather now turning even colder, please remember coats, hats and gloves and to take care when entering and exiting the school as it's slippery underfoot.

With Very Best Wishes

Emma Wilkinson

Dates for the Diary 2024-25

Friday 10th January—Open Morning 9-11am for prospective parents

Tuesday 28th January— Sustainable farm visit

Friday 11th February—Visit from an athlete

Friday 14th February—Inset Day

Thursday 20th March—AIM High Writing

Friday 4th April—Easter Service at St Peter's

Monday 9th June—Leavers Service (y6)

Tuesday & Wednesday 10th & 11th

June—Bikeability (Y6)

Wednesday 25th June—Trafalgar open day (y5 pupils)

Wednesday 16th-18th July—Tile Barn residential trip (Y5 & 6)

Key

Whole School

KS1

KS2

Selected participants/clubs/year groups

Birthdays



Ellie, Elliott &



Cassius

Remember you can wear your own clothes to school!

Clubs Update

Monday:

Astellra Football—All Years

Book using Astrella booking form/text service

Tuesday:

Starcast—Y2—6

Book using Starcast booking system

Wednesday:

Astellra Gymnastics—YR, 1 & 2

Book using Astrella booking form/text service

Thursday:

Netball club with Jenny—Y3-6

Book via the office, please email.

Friday:

Mad Science Club—Y1-6

Book via the Mad Science booking system



STARCAST

Musical Theatre Club

 **TUESDAY'S**
 **3.30-4.30pm**

With Star of the West End

Learn to Sing, Dance & Act in this fun after school club for the students of Pitton Primary School

£70 per 12 week term

Email to Book: starcastsalisbury@outlook.com

www.starcastperformingarts.co.uk



Thomas Sutcliffe

Credits: Tina the Musical, Wicked & Dirty Dancing





AFTER-SCHOOL CLUB

Complement Your Child's Learning Experience with a Mad Science After-School Club. Our unique approach gives children a solid scientific foundation that goes beyond the classroom, through hands-on activities and spectacular demonstrations.

Sign Up for your course today

Pitton Primary School

New Year, New Club! Discover the Awe and Wonder of the world around us!

Yr.1 – Yr.6

Day and Time: Friday 3.25 pm-4.25 pm
Dates: 10th January – 14th February
No session on 17th January

Programme Duration: 5 x 1hr-Sessions
Cost: £40
Please register by: 3rd January 25

Register ONLINE

Visit Wessex.madscience.org click REGISTER HERE

This will take you to the booking page run by Class4kids

If you are unable to access the internet, please call us to register by phone 01980 611807

Please ensure you register by this date to secure your child a place. In the interest of fairness places are allocated on a first-come first-served basis.

Please note: successful online registration with full payment secures your child's place on our After-School Club programme unless you are otherwise contacted. For further information or if you encounter any problems please don't hesitate to contact us: schools@madsciencewessex.co.uk

Due to the nature of this After School Club, all students will be expected to behave in an appropriate manner and adhere to the rules of the school and of Mad Science. Any child who consistently does not behave will be asked to leave the After School Club and will not be entitled to a refund.

Hello Dun Valley Community,

When the floodwater arrives in Pitton we are all affected by it, either directly because it has flooded our house or garden, or because the road from Dunstable Crossroads to Pitton closes, impacting everyone who relies on the bus, uses the school, visits the church or the pub, or anyone whose route involves driving through the village.

There are a couple of things we can do immediately to alleviate the problem, and we are raising funds for this. **We need your help to reach our target of £7000.** We are nearly halfway there. The 1st Priority is to remove a tree root and that means cutting down an enormous tree. There is more information below or you can access the details and see the increasing contributions at this location: <https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/help-pitton-reduce-risk-of-flooding>

Please give at least £20 or ideally more so we can get on with this important work. This work will not stop all the flooding but it will have a significant impact on reducing the volume of flood water. Further work is being planned and will be implemented.

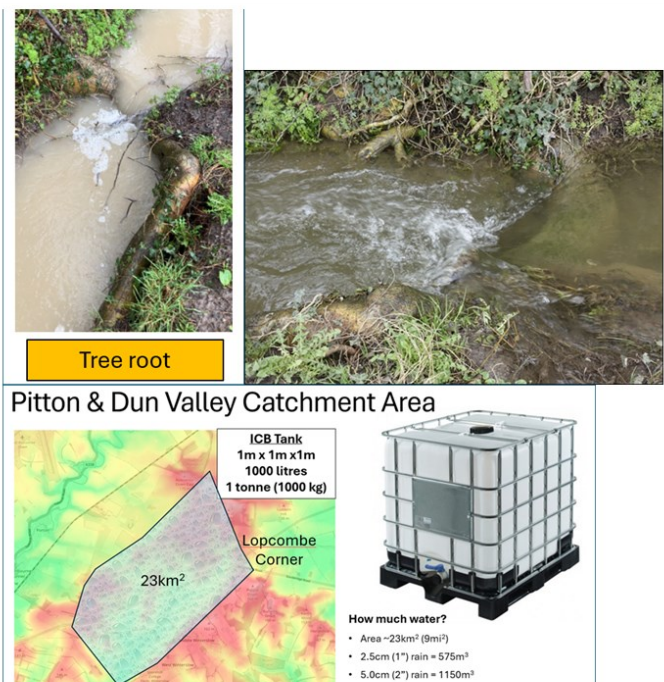
I have shared this email with the people of Firsdon, Winterslow and Lopcombe Corner, Pitton & Farley all of whom will have been disrupted by floods over the years. I have also approached local businesses and service providers, Pitton School, Pitton Church, The Silver Plough, The Lord Nelson, The Hook and Glove, so please share more widely with other individuals and organisations.

Full details below:

- The tree root (2 x image below) is holding back the free flow of water from the River Dun catchment area (image below).
- The River Dun catchment area above Pitton is ~23km² (9mi²). That means a HUGE volume of water flows through a VERY SMALL ditch.
- The Environment Agency has given approval to the Parish Council to remove the root and restore the ditch (image below).
- The ash tree (with root firmly attached) is ~200 years old, it has ash die back and will take ~20-30 years to die naturally.
- The Parish Council will (I hope) fund the grinding out of the root and ditch restoration. The Parish Council will not pay for cutting down the tree as they say it is landowner responsibility.
- The Tree Preservation Order (TPO) on this beautiful but dying ash tree has been granted and will expire in Sep 26.

My view is that it is a community responsibility to reduce flooding and that sharing the cost is the fairest way to deal with the natural dam caused by the tree root.

I am very happy to explain the detail of the flood mechanism in the valley and to share further information. I will upload more videos at this location when I have time: <https://www.youtube.com/@PittonFlood>. Feel free to contact me at timv444@gmail.com or pittonflood@gmail.com.



Please contribute here: <https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/help-pitton-reduce-risk-of-flooding>

Before and After School at Pitton Deputy Play-Worker

Before and After School at Pitton provides wrap around care for the children from Pitton Primary School **SP5 1DT**. The setting is rural and the ability to travel independently is essential.

We are looking for a Deputy Play Worker, Before and After School at Pitton to start 3rd February 2025;

- qualification preferred (playworker, Early Years Educator, NVQ 3 or equivalent)

The post is term time only.

- Before School: 7:50 - 8:50am
- After School: Mon - Thurs 3:15pm - 5:30pm;

Pay depending on qualifications and experience.

Please contact us on **07785 933966** for further details and to apply, or email **admin@pittonpreschool.com**

We are committed to Safeguarding children and young people. This post is subject to an enhanced DBS check and satisfactory references. It is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974.

