

Our Christian Vision - *Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven* - **Matthew 5:16**



Friday 5th December 2025

News from The Three Schools

A week of Rock Bands, Bradwell Abbey and Teacakes

Dear Parents and carers,

We have had another busy week across the Three Schools. **Kingfishers** have enjoyed toasting teacakes on their campfire, **KS2** enjoyed a Rock Band workshop, **Year 4** enjoyed a visit to Bradwell Abbey, **EYFS** and **KS1** had their first dress rehearsal of their Nativity performance while **KS2** pupils and musicians are readying themselves for their Christmas concert coming soon.

Please enjoy finding out more about this week's adventures in the newsletter.

David May (Executive Headteacher)

The KS2 Golden mile update - W.C 24th November 2025

Gates are open at 8.25am—COME AND JOIN US!

We have had a fantastic week of running this week and the children have managed to clock up an AMAZING number of miles. As a school collectively, we managed to clock up **263 laps – 13 miles!!**

The class that covered the most distance was **Year 3 with 103 laps – 5 miles.**

Golden Mile – Certificate Winners;

- Joshua C (Year 5) – 10 Miles
- Milly H (Year 5) – 20 Miles
- Emily C (Year 3) – 10 Miles

(Mrs Newman—Golden Mile Co-ordinator)

EYFS, KS1 & KS2 Cinema Trip 2025

On **Wednesday 17th December**, EYFS, KS1 & KS2 pupils will be visiting the **Odeon Cinema Stadium MK**. This trip will be **free of charge** and is a treat for the pupils for their hard work this term.

I am pleased to confirm we will be watching the following film;

EYFS, KS1 and KS2 – *Zootropolis 2*

An enormous 'Thanks' to The Friends of The Three Schools, for providing the coaches and ensuring all children will be provided with popcorn and sweets or vegetarian alternatives to enjoy during the film.

We will be returning to school in time for lunch.

Here's to a wonderful treat!

(Mr May – Executive Headteacher)

With **HONESTY, RESPECT, FORGIVENESS** and **LOVE**, we persevere, succeed and shine.



Penalty Notices for School Attendance Update

As we near the end of the Autumn term across The Three Schools, staff continue to have exciting plans and high expectations for your child's learning. We know that you also have many hopes and dreams for your child's success in school and beyond.



To make sure those ambitions are realised, we want to ask for your continued commitment and support to ensuring your child **attends school every day possible** this academic year.

The evidence is clear; children with good attendance are more likely to be successful in school. High attendance rates are linked to high pupil achievement. This is true for every stage of a child's educational career—EYFS, KS1, KS2, into secondary school and beyond.

Across the Three Schools we aim for excellent attendance which is at least 96%.

(To put this into perspective, 95% attendance over a school year equates to 1 day off a month).

Following the Full Governing Body meeting last week, it was agreed that due to the increase of unauthorised absences this term and the significant impact of such periods of absence from school, Penalty Notices for school attendance will now be implemented.

The Three Schools will contact the County Attendance Team who may issue a penalty notice. This is in line with Section 444 of the Education Act, Local Authority Guidelines and agreed School Policy.

Please note that information in regards to term time holidays/leave of absences is available within The Three Schools' attendance policy (attached to this email) and has been agreed by governors.

Penalty Notices will be considered when there have been **10 sessions of unauthorised absences within a 10-week period**. Schools should make a judgement based on each individual case and not have a blanket rule whether to issue or not.

A penalty notice referral can be made if there are **10 or more consecutive sessions of unauthorised absence within a 10-week period** (this can be on either side of a weekend or school holiday).

Penalty notices will also be considered when there have been **10 sessions of unauthorised absences within a 10-week period**.

Headteachers are unable to authorise leave of absence during term time unless they are satisfied that there are exceptional circumstances.

There will not be a blanket policy, and individual circumstances will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis e.g. if a family had to travel abroad in an emergency, schools can request evidence of when the flight booking was made.

All penalty Notice referrals will be sent promptly to the Buckinghamshire County Attendance Team. This will be within two weeks of the pupil returning to school.

For further information on Penalty Notices and the cost of the fines, please see the factsheet (overleaf) from Buckinghamshire Council.

Thank you for your support in this matter.

(Mr May – Executive Headteacher)

Attendance update from the Governing Body

The Governors of The Three Schools review the attendance figures for all pupils on a regular basis to ensure that this is in line with national figures. Mr May and Mr Thorp have worked hard to ensure that families are made aware of the need for consistent attendance and where this falls short of expectations how families can be helped to improve.

However the schools' data is not where we want it to be and after much debate and deliberation, Governors have reluctantly felt it is necessary to add the right to refer families to Buckinghamshire Council (BC) to be fined where appropriate. We would wish to make it clear that should a family be fined by BC the school do not receive any of the money from the fine incurred.

(The Governing Body of The Three Schools)



Penalty Notices for School Attendance

With the introduction of the new National Framework for Penalty Notices, the following will come into force for absences that start after 19th August 2024. This is nationwide and across borders if you move school or house. **Term Time Leave is only allowed in exceptional circumstances when communicated in advance with evidence provided as soon as possible to the Headteacher.**

FIRST OFFENCE

The first Penalty Notice issued for Term Time Leave of Absence or Irregular Attendance, the amount of the fine will be £160 per parent, per child if paid within 28 days and reduced to £80 per parent, per child if paid with 21 days

In law only the headteacher of a school can authorise a child's absence. A pupil's attendance forms part of their official school record.

Parents do not have an automatic right to remove their child from school during term time for the purpose of a leave of absence and are strongly advised not to do so.

Headteachers are unable to authorise leave of absence during term time unless they are satisfied that there are exceptional circumstances.

The fundamental principles for defining 'exceptional' are rare, significant, unavoidable and short. 'Unavoidable' implies that an event could not reasonably be scheduled at another time.

SECOND OFFENCE

For the second Penalty Notice (within three years of the first offence) issued for Term Time Leave of Absence or Irregular Attendance, the amount of the fine will be £160 per parent, per child if paid within 28 days. No reduced rate will be offered

THIRD OFFENCE AND SUBSEQUENT OFFENCES

The third time an offence is committed for Term Time Leave of Absence or Irregular Attendance, a Penalty Notice will not be issued, and the case will be presented straight to the Magistrates' Court. If found guilty there could be up to a maximum fine of £2,500 or a term of imprisonment not exceeding 3 months.

10 sessions in 10 weeks

Penalty Notices will be considered for any 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in 10 weeks.

5 consecutive days of term time absence can trigger a Penalty Notice.

**PLEASE ENSURE YOU
COMMUNICATE WITH YOUR
CHILD'S SCHOOL**

Do not forget that Penalty Notices are issued Per Parent. Per Child.
i.e. Two siblings absent would result in each parent receiving 2 fines. This could amount to £640

Local Village Updates

Mursley Village Sports Association Santa Float and Christmas Carols!



Drayton Parslow Christmas Carols and Light Switch on!

Come and join us in the Greenacre Hall for Carols this **Sunday 7th December at 3.00pm** with the Giocosso Concert Band and the Drayton Parslow Singers, followed by tea and cake.

Everyone is welcome and entry and teas are free.

Donations welcome for Helen & Douglas House Children's Hospice.

Following this, don't miss the Fedoriw Festive Lights 'Switch On' with the amazing 'G' Elvis at 34 Main Road. Mulled wine and sausage rolls will be on sale **from 5.30pm with 'Lights On' at 6.00pm**, in aid of Dementia UK.

(Susan and Linda – Drayton Parslow Village)

Kingfishers Pre-School Update

We have had a lovely week at Kingfishers and we have really started to get into the festive spirit.

We started our week by putting up our Kingfishers Christmas tree, making sure we carefully hung all of the sparkly baubles on the tree before we placed our gold star on the top.

We have also put up our Kingfishers advent calendar and each day one of the children gets to take home a chocolate and a special book.

We have started to practice our songs for our Kingfishers Christmas Extravaganza this week. The children are learning the songs and actions incredibly well and we are all getting very excited for our performance on the 17th December.

At forest school this week we decided to move away from smores even though they are delicious and instead we toasted some tea cakes. It was great to see how by holding our tea cake over the fire we were able to toast the bread. We all very much enjoyed these with butter on, alongside our lovely hot chocolate.

After our tasty treat we made tree decorations with sparkly pipe cleaners and special treasures we found around forest school. We are looking forward to hanging them on our trees at home.

As Frankie was poorly when we did our celebration food tasting she brought in her favourite food this week which was yummy cheesy pasta. Frankie loves cheesy pasta and all of the Kingfishers children agreed that it was very tasty.

As some of you have asked for our updated Kingfishers wish list - please find the link to this here https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/3L46EZVDJN79K?ref=wl_lfu_nav_8

(Kelly Hall – Pre-School Leader)



Christmas Jumper/Headwear Day 2025

On **Friday 19th December** across the Three Schools, we will be holding our very own Christmas Jumper and/or Headwear day to support the **MK Foodbank Charity**. Children will have the opportunity to wear a Christmas jumper and/or Christmas headwear of their choice in exchange for a voluntary food or produce donation to the MK Foodbank (see suggestions below). Also please see details of the MK Foodbank's Reverse Advent campaign below!

We look forward to a day of tinsel, Christmas hats and some fantastic jumpers on display! Children are to wear a Christmas Jumper and/or Headwear and **NORMAL SCHOOL UNIFORM** please.

Can we please request that all donations are to be brought in on the day of the Christmas Jumper and/or Headwear day;

- Suggested items;
- Long life Whole milk
- Spaghetti (Tinned)
- Long life juice
- Spread (E.g. Jam)
- Cup A Soup/Noodles
- Rice pudding (Tinned)
- Vegetables (Tinned)
- Biscuits
- Dried Pasta
- Baked Beans (Tinned)
- Dried Rice
- Pasta sauce
- Tea bags
- Soup (tinned)
- Sugar
- Meat (Tinned)
- Tomatoes (Tinned)
- Tuna (Tinned)
- Breakfast Cereals



 **Reverse Advent Campaign**

- Find a box & decorate it or borrow one of our crates
- Fill it with long life food items and Christmassy treats throughout November
- Deliver it back to us beginning of December
- We will distribute food to people in need in time for Christmas! ❤️



mkfoodbank.org.uk/latest_appeals/reverse-advent-appeal/
01908 322800

 **Reverse Advent Shopping List**

• Long Life Milk	• Tea/Coffee	• Pasta
• Juice or Squash	• Tinned Vegetables	• Cereal
• Jam	• Tinned Fruit	• Dried Rice
• Biscuits	• Rice Pudding/Custard	• Pasta Sauce
• Tinned Meat/Fish	• Tinned Tomatoes	

And don't forget to include....

- Small Chocolates/sweets
- Christmassy snacks
- Mini Christmas cakes
- Crisps and Nuts



10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

ELECTRICAL SAFETY AND DEVICES

Electrical safety is a vital topic for parents and educators, especially with the growing use of devices like smartphones, laptops, and power banks. Electrical fires are a major risk and are the cause of many deaths and injuries each year. There are reportedly nearly 20,000 accidental fires of electrical origin each year in the UK. This guide offers practical advice to help families and schools prevent electrical hazards, and promote safety when using everyday devices.

1 CHECK FOR OVERHEATING

Devices such as laptops, tablets, and smartphones can overheat if used for long periods or when charging. Ensure that children don't use devices on soft surfaces like beds or sofas, which can block ventilation. If a device becomes unusually hot, turn it off and unplug it. Overheating can lead to fire hazards if left unchecked.

2 INSTALL RESIDUAL CURRENT DEVICES

Ensure that homes and schools are equipped with Residual Current Devices (RCDs). These devices cut off the power if an electrical fault occurs, preventing electric shocks and reducing the risk of fires. RCDs should be tested regularly to ensure they are working properly. More information about RCDs is available from Electrical Safety First.

3 AVOID OVERLOADING SOCKETS

Plugging too many devices into one socket can overload the electrical system and cause a fire. In schools and homes, ensure extension leads are not overloaded and never 'daisy chain' multiple extension cords together. Educate children on the dangers of connecting too many devices to a single outlet.

4 POWER BANKS: SAFE USE

Power banks are a handy way to charge devices, but they can also pose a risk if misused. Ensure power banks are of high quality and comply with UK safety standards. Teach children never to leave power banks charging unattended, and to avoid placing them under pillows or bedding where they may overheat.

5 REGULAR DEVICE INSPECTIONS

Regularly check devices for signs of wear and tear. Frayed charging cables, cracked device casings, or devices that are slow to charge may indicate electrical problems. If any issues are noticed, stop using the device until it can be repaired or replaced by a qualified technician. This proactive approach helps prevent fires caused by faulty devices.

6 UNPLUG DEVICES WHEN NOT IN USE

Encourage children and pupils to unplug devices when not in use, particularly overnight. Devices left plugged in unnecessarily can overheat or become fire hazards, especially if left charging unattended for long periods. Simple habits like unplugging can prevent serious incidents.

7 USE GENUINE CHARGERS

Always use chargers supplied by the manufacturer or from a reputable retailer. Faulty or counterfeit chargers can cause devices to overheat, short-circuit, or even catch fire. Teach children the importance of avoiding poor-quality chargers, and regularly inspect charging cables for signs of wear or damage. More tips on safe charging can be found at Electrical Safety First.

8 WATER & ELECTRICITY DON'T MIX

Teach children that water and electricity are a dangerous combination. Devices should never be used near sinks, bathtubs, or swimming pools. Parents and educators should ensure that any electrical appliances near water sources have proper waterproof casings and are plugged into RCD-protected outlets.

9 KEEP DEVICES VENTILATED

Devices need proper ventilation to avoid overheating. Avoid stacking items on top of plugged-in devices like laptops or gaming consoles, and make sure there is enough space around devices to allow for airflow. Proper ventilation helps prevent dangerous heat build-up, reducing the risk of fires.

10 SUPERVISE YOUNG CHILDREN

Younger children may not understand the dangers of electricity, so it's important to supervise them when they are using devices. Keep electrical cords out of reach and always remind children never to put objects into electrical outlets.

Meet Our Expert

James Whelan is an experienced health and safety expert who is a Chartered Member of the Institution of Occupational Safety and Health. He provides services to educational settings as well as many other industries to help them maintain a safe working environment.



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See full reference list on our website



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/www.thenationalcollege



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Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 03.12.2025



Aylesbury Music Centre Timetable: Autumn 2025

MONDAY

16:00-16:45	Flute Choir	Fay Hayhurst	Youssou N'Dour	Grade 1+
16:15-17:00	Advanced Improvisation	Ralph Wyld	Roblin Hall	Email rwy@bucksmusic.org
17:00-17:45	Percussion Ensemble	Ralph Wyld	Roblin Hall	Grade 2+ Any instrument
18:00-19:15	Big Band	Ralph Wyld	Roblin Hall	Grade 7+
19:30-20:30	Hi-Gain	Mappleby	Roblin Hall	Grade 2+

TUESDAY

16:00-16:45	MusiKids	Fay Hayhurst	Roblin Hall	Ages 5-8
16:45-17:15	Tuesday Choir	Fay Hayhurst	Roblin Hall	Ages 5-11
17:15-18:00	Prep Orchestra	Lauren Hollis-Hill	Roblin Hall	½ term's lessons – Grade 1
18:00-19:00	Brass Ensemble	Nigel Gibbon	Roblin Hall	Grade 3+

WEDNESDAY

17:00-17:45	Classical Guitar Group	Jaime Zaldua	Roblin Hall	Grade 1+
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THURSDAY

16:15-17:00	Training Big Band	Alex Dani	Roblin Hall	Grade 1-3
16:30-17:00	Grade 5 Theory Crash Course	Fay Hayhurst	Youssou N'Dour	Grade 4-6
17:00-18:00	Intermediate Big Band	Sam Roberts	Roblin Hall	Grade 4-6
18:00-19:00	Intermediate Band	Peter Fisher	Roblin Hall	Grade 4-6

SATURDAY

09:00-10:45	Youth Orchestra	Tom Horn	Roblin Hall	Grade 7+
09:00-10:45	Intermediate Orchestra	John Wilkinson	Harding Hall	Grade 4-6
10:00-10:45	Training Strings	Fay Hayhurst	Main Hall	Grade 1-3
10:45-11:15	Theory	Naomi Jacob	Youssou N'Dour	Grade 1-5
10:45-11:20	Saturday Youth Choir	Fay Hayhurst	Harding Hall	Open to all
10:45-11:30	Training Band	Kate Nathan	Main Hall	Grade 1-3
11:30-13:00	Concert Band	John Wilkinson	Roblin Hall	Grade 7+
11:30-13:00	Training Orchestra	Tom Horn	Harding Hall	Grade 1-3
11:30-12:30	String Ensemble	Julian Trafford	Main Hall	Grade 4+
By request	Advanced Aural	Jonathan Rowe	Youssou N'Dour	Grade 6-8



Mental Health
Support Team
Buckinghamshire



FREE

**FOR PARENTS
AND CARERS**

LIVE WEBINARS

CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH



**DATES:
JAN – APRIL
2026**



**TIME:
6PM – 7.30PM**

To register, scan the QR codes on the next page!



01865 901566



bucksmhst@oxfordhealth.nhs.uk

*PLEASE NOTE: YOUR CHILD MUST ATTEND AN MHST SCHOOL FOR ACCESS TO THE WEBINARS. IF YOU ARE UNSURE, PLEASE CONTACT US.

SCAN THE QR CODE TO SECURE YOUR PLACE:

Topic	Date	Link	QR code
Exam Stress	Monday 12th of January 2026	<u>Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams</u>	
Awareness and understanding of eating disorders	Monday the 26th of January 2026	<u>Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams</u>	
Understanding childhood development and behaviour	Tuesday the 10th of February 2026	<u>Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams</u>	
Understanding Low mood	Monday the 9th of March 2026	<u>Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams</u>	
Understanding adolescent development and behaviour	Monday the 9th of March 2026	<u>Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams</u>	

The Three Schools Calendar and Important Dates (2025-2026)		
Monday 8 th December 2025	Mursley & Drayton Parslow	Nativity Dress Rehearsal – Grandparents & Younger Siblings to watch (2.00pm)
Tuesday 9 th December 2025	Swanbourne (KS2)	Author Workshop (11.00am)
Wednesday 10 th December 2025	Mursley & Drayton Parslow	Nativity Performance (2.00pm)
Thursday 11 th December 2025	Mursley & Drayton Parslow	Nativity Performance (2.00pm)
Monday 15 th December 2025	Mursley & Drayton Parslow	Christingle Services
Wednesday 17 th December 2025	All Three Schools	Christmas Cinema Trip
Wednesday 17 th December 2025	Kingfishers Pre-School	Christmas Party
Thursday 18 th December 2025	Swanbourne (KS2)	KS2 Christmas Concert (9.30am & 2.00pm)
Friday 19 th December 2025	All Three Schools	Christmas Jumper/Headwear Day
Friday 19 th December 2025	All Three Schools	Break up for Christmas
Monday 5 th January 2026	All Three Schools	INSET DAY
Tuesday 6 th January 2026	All Three Schools	Spring Term 1 Starts
Wednesday 14 th January 2026	Mursley & Drayton Parslow (Year 1)	ZSL Tring Museum Trip
Monday 2 nd February 2026	Swanbourne (Year 5 & Year 6)	Young Voices Concert
Friday 13 th February 2026	All Three Schools	Dare to be different day
Friday 13 th February 2026	All Three Schools	Break up for February Half Term
Monday 23 rd February 2026	All Three Schools	Spring Term 2 Starts
Friday 27 th March 2026	All Three Schools	Break up for Easter Holidays
Monday 13 th April 2026	All Three Schools	INSET DAY
Tuesday 14 th April 2026	All Three Schools	Summer Term 1 Starts
Wednesday 15 th April 2026	All Three Schools	Parents Evenings (3.30pm – 8.00pm)
Thursday 16 th April 2026	Swanbourne (KS2)	Parents Evenings (3.30pm – 6.30pm)
Monday 4 th May 2026	All Three Schools	Early May Bank Holiday
Saturday 16 th May 2026	All Three Schools	Colour Run
Thursday 21 st May	All Three Schools	Break up for May Half Term
Friday 22 nd May 2026	All Three Schools	INSET DAY
Monday 25 th May 2026	All Three Schools	May Bank Holiday
Monday 1 st June 2026	All Three Schools	Summer Term 2 Starts
Monday 8 th June – Friday 12 th June 2026	Swanbourne (Year 6)	Skern Lodge Residential Trip
Wednesday 17 th June 2026	All Three Schools	Book Look
Friday 19 th June 2026	All Three Schools	Summer Disco
Friday 26 th June 2026	All Three Schools	INSET DAY
Wednesday 1 st July 2026	All Three Schools	Transition Day
Thursday 2 nd July 2026	Swanbourne (Year 6)	Transition Day 2 (Year 6 only)
Friday 10 th July 2026	All Three Schools	Speech Cup Final
Monday 13 th July 2026	Swanbourne (Year 6)	Year 6 Production (7.00pm)
Tuesday 21 st July 2026	Mursley & Drayton Parslow (Year 2)	Year 2 Leavers' Services (2.30pm)
Wednesday 22 nd July 2026	Swanbourne (Year 6)	Year 6 Leavers' Services (9.30am)
Wednesday 22 nd July 2026	All Three Schools	Break up for Summer Holidays

Glow in the Dark Tournament

**11th December
6-8pm**

Come and learn how to
play handball!



U12

U10

U8



£3 per player





SEND Peer Support

Drop-ins for parent/carers

Buckinghamshire Council in partnership with YC2 Young Carers, Forever Colours Children's Hospice and Verdetto Lounge are offering a drop-in session for parents and carers of children with SEND. The sessions will provide the opportunity to meet informally and build support networks.

Professionals will be on hand to provide information and signposting support. Children are welcome to attend with parents/carers.



**Verdetto Lounge,
Buckingham**



Tuesdays



**10:00am to 12:00
midday**

Please note we cannot comment on individual EHC Plan queries or outcomes.



**Buckinghamshire
Council**

Proud to be part of

Family Hub Network

Buckinghamshire



Buckinghamshire Healthcare
NHS Trust

BHT THERAPY LINK

THERAPY ADVICE AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

Confidential messaging service for parents, carers, young people and professionals.

Get advice and support from the Trust's Children and Young People's Integrated Therapies team.

- Occupational Therapy
- Physiotherapy
- Speech and Language Therapy.



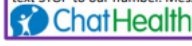
Send a text message to **07312 263754**.
Or scan the QR code.

A Children and Young People's Integrated Therapy Link Worker will reply to the message within 2 working days.

The messaging service is available Monday to Friday 9am to 4pm (excluding bank holidays).

<https://chathealth.nhs.uk/start-a-chat/h/TherapyLink>

Disclaimer: We might inform someone if we were concerned about your safety but we would usually speak to you first. Your messages are stored and can be seen by other health care staff who follow the same confidentiality rules. We aim to reply to you within one working day and you should get an immediate message back to confirm we have received your text. Text will only be seen between (9am and 4pm). If you need help before you hear back from us contact your GP, nearest walk in centre or dial 111. Our text number does not receive voice calls or MMS picture messages. We support messaging from UK mobile numbers only (which does not include messages sent from landlines, international mobile numbers and some 'number masking' mobile apps). To prevent the health professional from sending messages to you, text STOP to our number. Messages are charged at your usual rates.



OUTSTANDING CARE

HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

AND A GREAT PLACE TO WORK



Does your child love to sing?

The Mursley Singers are back for their Christmas concert in the church on Sunday 14th December. As it is always oversubscribed there will be two concerts, one at 2.30pm and then again at 5.30pm. As in previous years we would like to have a children's choir to sing two songs as well.

If your child is in school years 1 - 7 and enjoys singing, we would love to welcome them to the choir. We will have four rehearsals in the weeks leading up to the concert, provisionally booked for 4.00pm on 23th & 30th November, 7th & either 12th or 13th December. Rehearsals will last approximately 45 minutes. We will need the children to be able to attend all the rehearsals.

Please ensure your child is keen and happy to practise, and also that they are prepared to stand and sing at the front of a packed church.

If interested please contact me at k.m.rouse@btinternet.com

Also, if you want to see your child/children perform please be aware that you will need to buy tickets for the performances and they sell out quickly! See Open Gates for details.