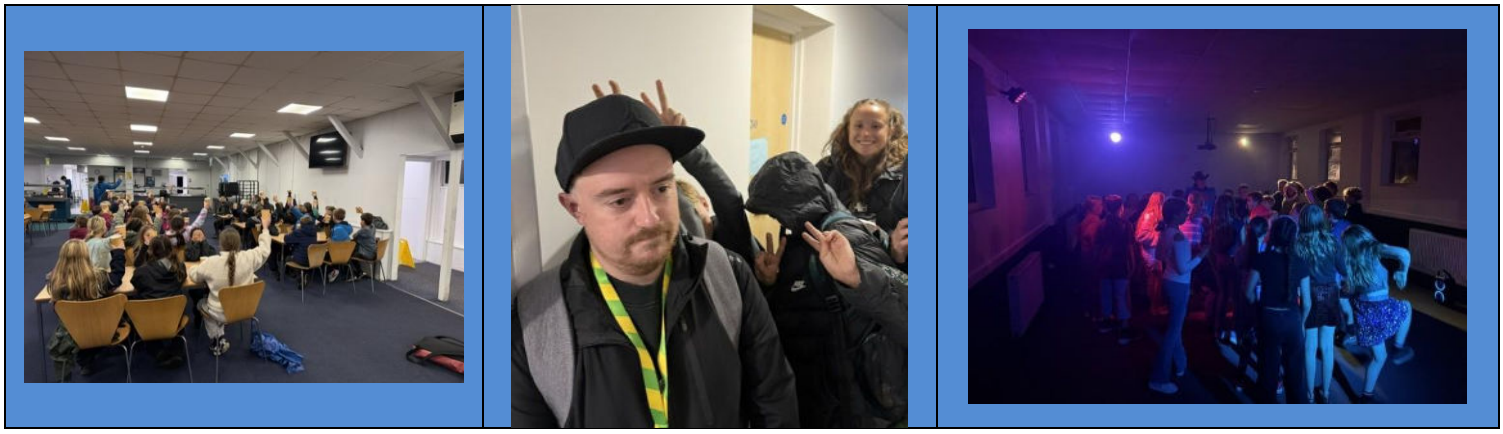
EMSWORTH PRIMARY SCHOOL

Enjoy, Persevere, Succeed

NEWSLETTER: Friday 23rd October 2026



As we reach the end of our first half term of the academic year, it is hard to believe how quickly the time has flown. It has been another busy week, with staff recruitment taking place alongside the Year 6 residential, both of which have occupied much of my time.

It is always a privilege to attend the residential and see the children enjoying new experiences, challenging themselves and supporting one another. Despite a very wet and gloomy start on Wednesday morning, we were fortunate that most of the trip was blessed with dry and bright weather. While today has been particularly wet, the children and staff have shown tremendous perseverance, resilience and enthusiasm throughout. And despite what some of the photographs may suggest, even Mr Langmore appeared to enjoy himself!

A huge thank you to our Year 6 pupils for representing the school so wonderfully. They looked out for one another, embraced every opportunity, demonstrated some impressive dance moves at the disco and, perhaps most remarkably, were all settled and asleep by 11pm on the first night and 10pm on the second night. Those familiar with residential trips will appreciate what an achievement that is!

I would also like to thank the staff who planned and accompanied the visit: Mrs Robbins, Miss Boreham, Mrs Broughton and Mr Langmore. Their commitment, hard work and willingness to give up their time away from home makes experiences like this possible. Residential visits provide invaluable opportunities for children to develop confidence, independence and teamwork, and we are incredibly grateful to the staff who make them happen.

I am looking forward to being back in school as normal after half term and catching up with everyone. We are also excited to be welcoming some new members of staff. The first, Mrs Line, will be joining us as a teacher and will be taking over Squirrels Class when Mrs White begins her maternity leave. As Mrs White's class found out this week - she is expecting a baby and we are delighted for her!

Mrs White is not the only member of staff preparing for an exciting new arrival. As many of you already know, Mrs Spencer will soon be starting her maternity leave, and we are also delighted to share that Miss Diver is expecting her first baby. This means we currently have three members of our teaching team preparing to welcome their first babies, which is a truly

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special and exciting time for our school community. We look forward to celebrating with them and sharing updates when their little ones arrive.

We will share further updates and photos of the new people joining the team after half term. Thank you, as always, for your continued support. I hope you all have a wonderful half-term break and look forward to welcoming everyone back refreshed and ready for the second half of the autumn term.

Best wishes,

Rebecca

Safeguarding Message:

For Parents - Gaming Safety for Neurodivergent Children

Online gaming can provide friendship, enjoyment and a strong sense of community for neurodivergent children, but some children may also need extra support around social cues, scams, communication, rules and recognising when an interaction is becoming unsafe.

Internet Matters has produced a practical guide for parents and carers of neurodivergent children, with advice on supporting safe and positive gaming experiences.

It is particularly useful because it recognises the benefits of gaming rather than treating gaming itself as the problem. **Link:** Internet Matters – Gaming and Neurodivergent Children

Celebrating the Children

Our Stars of the Week this week are:

Class	Name	Reason
Badgers	Mabel Michael	Mabel, you are always being kind, caring and helpful to others. You are a wonderful friend and always make our classroom a happier place.
Hedgehogs	Aronas Sargautis	Aronas you are so helpful, polite and always try your best in everything you do. What a star!
Squirrels	Elodie Kenneth	Elodie, your positive attitude and hard work shine through in all that you do. Well done and keep it up!
Rabbits	Oisín O'Callaghan	Oisin, you have shown fantastic effort with your writing this week particularly when using your phonics to sound out words. It has been wonderful to see you trying your best and taking such pride in your work. Keep up the amazing effort!
Foxes	Belle Clift	Belle, you have been working incredibly hard in your writing, using all your skills! Fantastic!
Moles	Iris Duffy	Iris, you always try your best, are super engaged in your learning and show such kindness to everyone around you. You are always willing to help others and your positive attitude makes you a wonderful member of Moles class!
Robins	Lucas Bailey-Ebner	Lucas, we are so proud of your growing confidence, independence and resilience – well done you superstar. WOW, what a fantastic half term you've had!

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Wrens	Olivia Horrocks	Olivia, you always try your best, being helpful, and contributing brilliantly in class. Well done Olivia!
Kingfishers	Imogen McKellar	Imogen, you have worked so hard this week and produced an amazing fact file about Kingfishers! You are always so kind and helpful, show resect towards your peers and enjoyment for school.
Kites	Angus Stenning-Stride	Angus, your wonderful attitude towards learning this half term has been a joy to see. Your enthusiasm, effort and determination have made us all incredibly proud – well done!
Owls	Charlotte Overton	Charlotte, you epitomise our school values every day. You always work hard and are a wonderful role model for others. Thank you for being a joy to teach.
Swallows	Lenny Pullinger	Lenny, thank you for always putting 100% into your learning and bringing a big smile to school every day. Keep it up!
Eagles	Year 6 have been away on their residential this week – their star of the week will return after half term!	
Falcons		

Award	Child or Class Receiving the Award	Reason
Headteacher's Award	Harry Arthur	Harry joined our school at the beginning of this academic year and has quickly shown what a wonderful addition he is to our school community. Since joining us, Harry has consistently demonstrated our school values and has shown remarkable perseverance and resilience. Starting at a new school is never easy, but Harry has embraced every challenge with positivity, determination and courage. He should be incredibly proud of all that he has achieved and the effort he continues to put into every aspect of school life. Harry is always polite, respectful and well-mannered, and he is a pleasure to speak to. His positive attitude and commitment to doing his best have made a lasting impression on both staff and his peers. We are extremely proud of Harry and all that he has accomplished so far. We are delighted that he has joined our school family and look forward to seeing him continue to flourish during his time with us. Congratulations Harry!
Attendance Award	Moles & Kingfishers 100%	For achieving the highest % of attendance this week meaning that all of the children have the best chance of making progress and achieving well.

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Early Years (EYFS)

This week, we enjoyed reading *Pumpkin Soup* by Helen Cooper, which inspired lots of exciting pumpkin-themed activities. We explored pumpkins in many different ways, developing our creativity, curiosity and early learning skills along the way.

The children carefully observed the shape, colours and textures of pumpkins before creating their own pumpkin paintings. They loved investigating the inside of real pumpkins, scooping out the flesh and searching for seeds. We even had the opportunity to taste pumpkin soup, with many children keen to share their thoughts on the flavour!

To help develop our counting and fine motor skills, the children enjoyed hammering golf tees into pumpkins, showing great concentration and determination as they worked.

It is hard to believe how quickly this first half term has flown by. The children have settled in wonderfully and we are so proud of how much confidence and independence they have already shown. Thank you for all of your support in helping them make such a positive start to school life.

We hope you all have a restful half-term break and look forward to welcoming everyone back for another exciting term as we explore woodland animals, owls, space and Christmas! 🎃 🦉 🚀 🎄

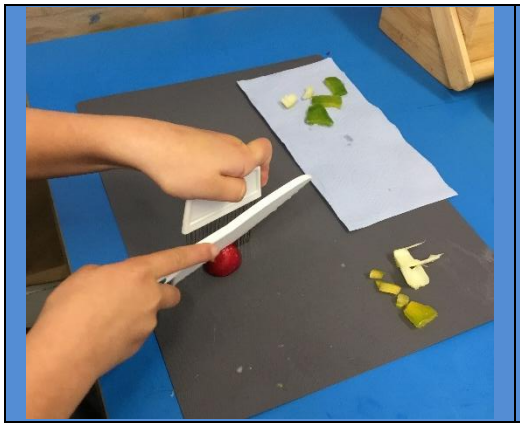


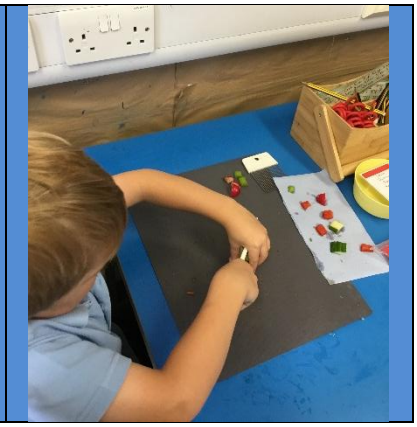
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Years 1 and 2 (Key Stage One)

This week in English, we have been enjoying the story *The Rainbow Fish*! The children have been exploring the story and practising adding the -ing suffix to verbs to describe what the characters were doing. They have done a fantastic job of applying this new learning in their own sentences. We have also been working hard to remember our capital letters, full stops and finger spaces to help make our writing clear and easy to read. We are so proud of the effort the children are putting into their writing and the progress they are making.

In DT this week, we have been learning all about fruits and vegetables and how to prepare them safely. The children explored the idea of 'eating a rainbow' and discovered how eating a variety of colourful fruits and vegetables helps us to stay healthy. They have enjoyed learning about the different colours, textures and types of fruit and vegetables and why it is important to include a variety in our diets.

Thank you for your continued support at home with our new phonics home learning! We have loved seeing and hearing about all the fantastic work the children have been doing. As a reminder, phonics home learning will be tucked inside your child's phonics reading book every Friday. There is no expectation for this work to be returned to school; however, taking part in these activities at home will help to reinforce and embed the phonics learning taking place in the classroom. Thank you again for your support in helping the children grow in confidence with their reading and writing!

Keep up the fantastic work, Year 1!

We have had a fantastic week in Year 2, filled with lots of brilliant learning!

In maths, we have enjoyed practical lessons to help us understand how to add and subtract across the tens. We then had the opportunity to apply these skills in a variety of different ways.

Our writing has blown our teachers away this week. If you need instructions on how to be a pirate, then look no further! We particularly enjoyed rehearsing their sentences with a partner before writing them down and checking our work.

We have absolutely loved our pirate topic this half term and have had so much fun exploring the world of pirates. After the holidays, we are excited to begin a new topic all about castles and local history. We can't wait to discover more about the past and learn about the history right on our doorstep!

We hope you all have a wonderful and restful half-term break. Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to seeing everyone back for another exciting half term of learning!

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Years 3 and 4 (Key Stage Two)

We cannot believe that our first half term in Year 3 is already complete! The children have made a fantastic start to the year and have shown great progress across all areas of learning. We are incredibly proud of their efforts, perseverance and positive attitudes towards their work.

This week, we spent time completing our current units of work linked to the Stone Age. The children have thoroughly enjoyed learning about this fascinating period in history and have produced some excellent work. We are now looking forward to beginning our new topic after half term, 'Where We Live and Dream', and cannot wait to start our new learning journey together.

We are also looking for parent volunteers to join us on our trip to Chichester Festival Theatre to watch Hey Christmas on 15th December. If you would be interested in helping, please get in touch with us. We would greatly appreciate your support.

Over the half term break, please continue to support your child by reading regularly at home and practising their times tables.

Thank you for your continued support this half term. We hope you all have a wonderful and restful half term break, and we look forward to welcoming the children back refreshed and ready for another exciting term of learning.

The children in both Kites and Kingfishers have had a fantastic half term and have worked incredibly hard. We are so proud of their effort, enthusiasm and positive attitude towards their learning. They have shown great determination and should be very proud of everything they have accomplished.

A special congratulations goes to our Kingfishers class, who have completed their final swimming lesson this half term. The children have been amazing throughout the programme, demonstrating excellent perseverance, confidence and progress in the pool. Well done, Kingfishers!

We are also looking forward to Kites beginning their swimming lessons next half term. We know they will approach this exciting opportunity with the same enthusiasm and excellent behaviour they show in school every day.

This half term we have been delighted to welcome several Mystery Readers into our classrooms. The children have thoroughly enjoyed these surprise visits and it has been wonderful to see a love of reading shared with them. Thank you to all the parents and carers who have already volunteered their time. We look forward to welcoming even more Mystery Readers next term.

We wish you all a wonderful half term and hope you enjoy a well-earned break. We look forward to welcoming the children back next term for another exciting half term of learning.

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Years 5 and 6 (Key Stage Two)

Time has certainly flown by this half term, and we are incredibly proud of the fantastic way the children have settled into Year 5. They have covered a huge amount of learning across the curriculum, taken great pride in their work, and impressed us with their growing resilience and enthusiastic participation in lessons. It has been a pleasure to watch their confidence and independence develop, and we are looking forward to an exciting and successful Christmas term ahead. We hope you all have an enjoyable and relaxing half term and look forward to seeing what Autumn 2 has in store for us all.

Our Year 6 children have had a wonderful time on their residential trip and have been incredibly brave, resilient and determined throughout their adventure.
During their stay, they embraced every challenge with enthusiasm and courage, taking a real leap of faith as they pushed themselves beyond their comfort zones. They put their map-reading skills to the test during an orienteering challenge and demonstrated excellent teamwork, trust and communication while guiding one another around a blind obstacle course using only their senses.
The children also enjoyed trying their hand at archery, soaring down the zip wire and finishing their adventure with the thrilling giant swing. Each activity provided opportunities to build confidence, develop resilience and celebrate personal achievements.
Alongside the exciting activities, the children have been very well fed and have thoroughly enjoyed spending quality time with their friends and teachers, creating memories that will last a lifetime.
We are incredibly proud of the way Year 6 have represented our school. Their positive attitudes, perseverance and willingness to support one another have been outstanding. Well done, Year 6! 🌟



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✨ EPSA Newsletter ✨

🎉 **IT'S BINGO TIME...BUT WITH A TWIST!!**

Parents' Bingo Night is coming, and you won't want to miss it!

💙 **Friday 13th November at 7.30pm**

The excitement is building, preparations are well underway, raffle prizes are piling up, and we've got plenty of secret twists and surprises up our sleeves! 👀 ✨

Get ready for a fantastic night packed with laughter, friendly competition, fabulous prizes and a few unexpected surprises along the way! Whether you're a bingo pro or a complete beginner, it's the perfect chance to get together with fellow parents, let your hair down, have some fun and help raise some much-needed funds for our school. 🏫 💛

🍾 **BRING YOUR OWN DRINKS!** 🍹

Bring along your own alcohol or soft drinks, gather your friends, and leave the rest to us! We're taking care of the organising so you can simply turn up, relax and enjoy the fun.

🎁 Exciting raffle prizes...CHECK!

🎲 Bingo fun...CHECK!

😲 Secret surprises...ABSOLUTELY!

💰 Raising money for our school...YOU BET!

So, rally your friends, spread the word and get ready for a brilliant night of fun, surprises and community spirit. The more, the merrier — and every ticket helps support our wonderful school!

🎟️ **BOOK YOUR TICKETS NOW!**

👉 http://www.pta-events.co.uk/epsa

Don't miss out — grab your tickets, bring your drinks, and let's make it a night to remember! There are a limited number of tickets available so book now!!



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💚 **Exciting news! EPSA has joined the Co-op Local Community Fund!** 🎉

We're absolutely delighted to announce that **Emsworth Primary School Association (EPSA)** has been selected to take part in the **Co-op Local Community Fund!** 🎉

This is a fantastic opportunity to raise valuable funds for our school, and we need your help to make the most of it!

🛒 **ARE YOU A CO-OP MEMBER? YOU CAN SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL!**

Co-op Members can now choose Emsworth Primary School Association as their local cause. The more members who choose us, the greater our share of the funding could be!

💰 **HOW DOES IT WORK?**

- **March 2027:** An initial payment to help get our project off the ground.
- **November 2027:** Our final grant payment.

The amount we receive will depend on how many Co-op Members choose to support us during the funding phase, which closes on **17 October 2027**.

💚 **HOW CAN YOU HELP?**

Step 1: Become a Co-op Member
If you're not already a member, you can join here:
👉 Join the Co-op

Step 2: VOTE FOR EPSA! 💚
Already a member? Open the Co-op App, head to the wallet section and choose **Emsworth Primary School Association**.
🎉 💚 **VOTE FOR OUR SCHOOL NOW!** 💚 🎉
Every vote counts — please choose us today!

Step 3: SPREAD THE WORD! 📣
Please share our voting link with friends, family, neighbours and your wider community. Every Co-op Member who chooses us could help make a real difference!

📲 **COPY, SHARE & HELP US SPREAD THE WORD!**

💚 Emsworth Primary School Association is part of the @coopuk Local Community Fund! Download the Co-op App, become a member and choose EPSA as your local cause.

👉 **VOTE HERE: https://membership.coop.co.uk/causes/105503**

Please share far and wide to help us raise as much as possible for our school! 🏫 💚

A HUGE THANK YOU for your continued support!

Together, we can make a real difference to our school community. Let's get voting and make every membership count! 🎉

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🎄 ❤️ **Help make our Christmas Market magical!** ❤️ 🎄

Our popular school Christmas Market is coming, and we'd love your help to make it a huge success for all the children! 🎅 ✨

We're looking for kind donations of the following items:

- 🎁 **Cut-up wrapping paper** – perfect for festive crafts
- 🫙 **Clean, empty jam jars** – please ensure they haven't contained nuts
- 🍫 **Boxes of wrapped chocolates and sweets**
- 🎄 **Old Christmas cards** – cut into tags
- 🧸 **Small new gifts** – ideal for our Christmas Market stalls

Every donation, big or small, will help us create a wonderful festive experience for the children to enjoy. ❤️

📍 **Please drop off your donations at the school office.**

Thank you so much for supporting EPSA and helping us make this much-loved school tradition extra special. Your generosity really does make a difference! 🎄 🎁

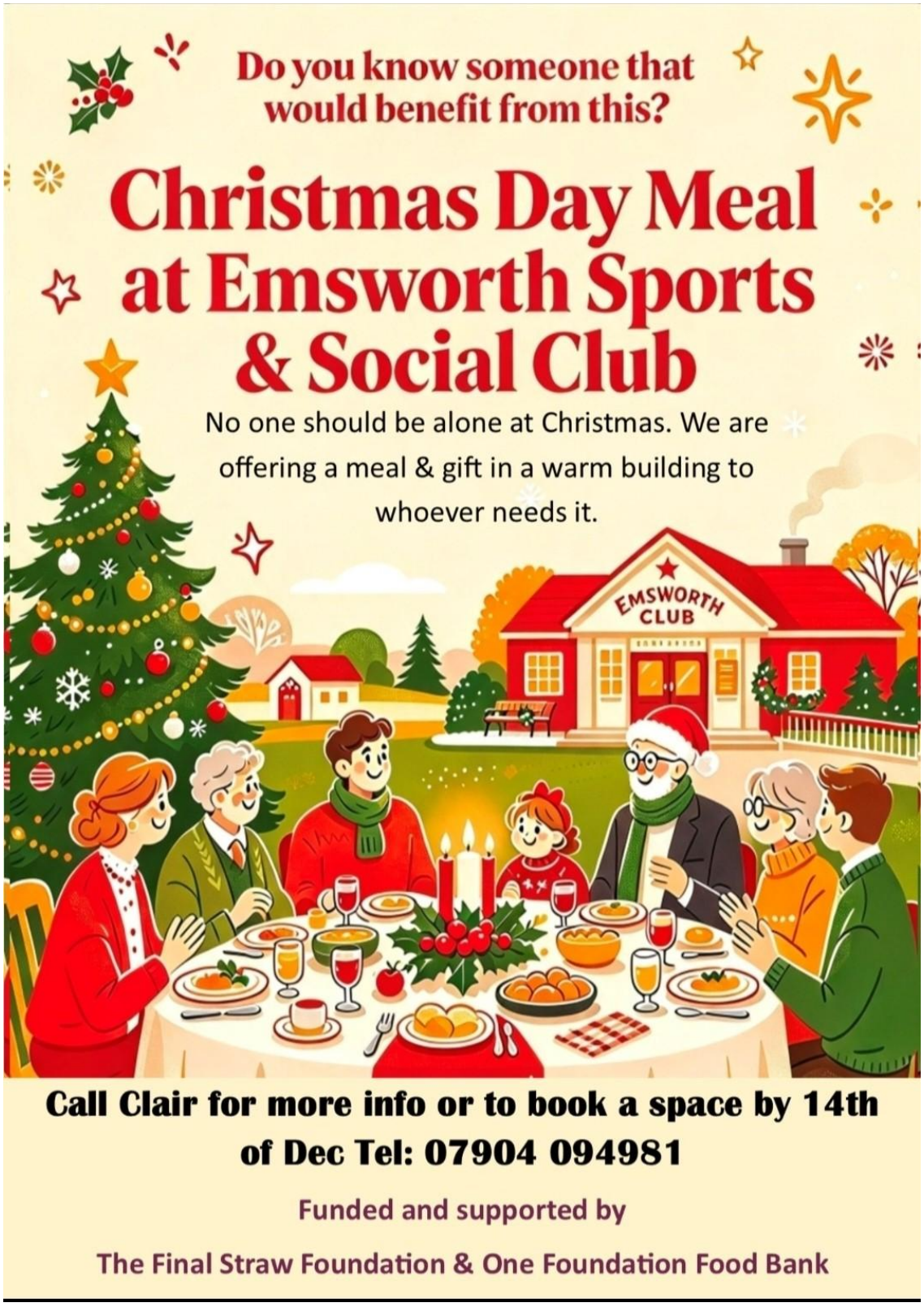


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