



St Andrew's Church of England (VC) Primary School

'Learn to love and love to learn; in God's love each one will shine.'

"Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people." Matthew 4:19

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St Andrew's Weekly Update

Date: 3.11.23 Headteacher: Mrs H Gillingham

Value: Hope

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to a very busy half term. Not only do we have all of our Christmas events to look forward to, we also have our Remembrance Service to prepare for. Revd. Sarah will be leading our service, in school, on Thursday 9th November at 9.00am, which you are very welcome to join us for. Our Year 6 Prefects are presently taking poppies round to the classes to collect donations for the Royal British Legion. This collection will continue into next week.



Maths

Whilst we continue our focus and emphasis on reading for all children, we are also looking closely at our provision in maths. Next week we have our School Improvement Partner coming in to conduct an Ofsted-type 'Deep Dive' in maths. He will be looking at the teaching throughout the school and talking to Miss Muncey, our Maths Subject Lead. These days are always really good opportunities for the school to gain outside expertise to monitor what we are doing.

Please do look at our subject pages on our school website for further information about maths and all other taught subjects.

<https://standrews323.herts.sch.uk/curriculum/subjects/maths-2/>

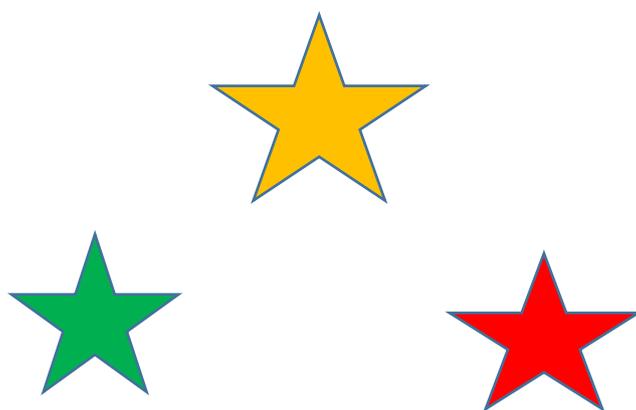
Table Tennis Tournament



On Wednesday afternoon, seven Year 6 children went to Sele School for the Hertford and Ware Table Tennis tournament. The girls' team of Eloise, Rebecca and Annabelle finished 5th out of 10 teams having won 4 out of 5 matches. The boys' team of Bodie, Evan, Raphael and Noah finished 4th out of 9, having won 2 out of 4 matches. The children all loved the experience. It has set us thinking about getting some table tennis tables for the school!



Attendance Ladder



Best Class Attendance Award
Week beginning: 30.10.23
Year 3

Times Tables Rock Stars

This week's winner is: **YEAR 5**



You Can Toucan Awards

The You Can Toucan awards are presented each week to those children who have gone above and beyond the expected.

This week staff have chosen:

Nursery: Mario for his excellent drawing using the iPad.

Reception: Harry for having a wonderful attitude to all he does.

Year 1: Jaxson for his positive attitude toward his learning.

Year 2: Noah for his enthusiasm in our maths lessons.

Year 3: Daisy for her good work in maths.

Year 4: Joseph for his improved focus this week.

Year 5: Austin for his enthusiasm in poetry lessons.

Year 6: Owen for his contributions to class discussions.



Our Half Term Value: Hope



"May the God of Hope fill you with joy and peace."

Romans 15:13

Our new Value Advocates for this half term are:

Nursery	Arabelle
Reception	Olivia
Year 1	Kane
Year 2	Tommy
Year 3	Harriet
Year 4	Robyn
Year 5	Jude
Year 6	Millie F

With kind regards

Mrs H Gillingham

OFFICE UPDATE

After School clubs – 2nd Half Autumn Term

Booking for Super Star Sport's clubs for next half term is now available at <https://superstarsportuk.class4kids.co.uk> – Superstar Sport also continue to provide after-school care from 3.15pm – 5.45pm, Mon-Fri. Further information is available at www.superstarsport.co.uk. For any queries: email info@superstarsport.co.uk or phone 01992 766 707.

Applications for NURSERY class for Sept '24

Applications for St Andrew's Nursery class for September 2024 open on 1st November 2023. This is applicable to children born between 1st September 2020 and 31st August 2021. Application forms are available on our school website and from our School Office. The application deadline is **29th February 2024**. All on-time applications must be returned to school, either directly to the School Office or via email: admissions@standrews323.herts.sch.uk. Prospective Nursery class parents are encouraged to book a tour with Mrs Gillingham for an opportunity to look around the school and ask any questions. Please contact the School Office to book an appointment.

Applications for RECEPTION class for Sept '24

Herts County Council online admissions applications for Reception class in September 2024 open on 1st November 2023. This is applicable to children born between 1st September 2019 and 31st August 2020. The online application deadline is **15th January 2024**. Prospective Reception class parents, including our current Nursery class parents, are encouraged to book a tour with Mrs Gillingham for an opportunity to look around the school and ask any questions. Please contact the School Office to book an appointment.



Local News:

Ware Library Winter Reads initiative



Winter Reads is a reading challenge the whole family can take part in. The challenge will run from Saturday 4th November 2023 until Saturday 24th February 2024.

To take part, just visit a Hertfordshire library to collect a challenge card and choose 12 challenges from a choice of 24. Join the library, it's free, to take part.

On completing the challenges, the challenge card is stamped & on completion of all the challenges a certificate is awarded. Challenge completers will then be entered into a prize draw to win a Hertfordshire Library prize of an iPad & if the Winter Reads Challenge was completed at Hoddesdon Library, completers will also be entered into a prize draw to win a family ticket for 4 at Willows Activity Farm.

Hertfordshire's Community Risk Management Plan

Sent on behalf of Herts Fire and Rescue Service:

Please support Hertfordshire Fire and Rescue Service to understand how prepared people who live and work in Hertfordshire are for dealing with emergencies, building a picture of the barriers there are to people joining the fire and rescue service, and learn how it can better engage with the local community.

You can participate in this survey by clicking <https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/>. The survey takes less than 10 minutes to complete and the deadline to complete is 19th November 2023. Should you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact us on SafeandResilient@hertfordshire.gov.uk

HAPpy holidays

For our school families who are entitled to benefits-related free school meals and who receive government delivered food vouchers:

Looking for something to keep your children entertained this Winter Holiday?

Through DfE funding, Hertfordshire County Council and Herts Sports Partnership have co-ordinated a huge range of activities running at different venues across the county.

Each activity will offer a nutritious meal and all of this is free for young people in receipt of benefits-related free school meals.

As an eligible family, you can book for free using your unique HAPpy Booking Code.

When prompted, please make sure you enter the whole code, which includes the £ symbol which is found in the middle of the code.

Your unique code is: DS3£AK

You will be able to search for activities using your postcode or child's age – places are limited and strictly on a first come basis so be quick and **book online from NOON on Wednesday 22nd November 2023**

<https://www.sportinherts.org.uk/booking>

'Supporting Links' – Support groups for parents and carers

Supporting Links offer Parenting Support Groups countywide and ONLINE for the **Spring term 2024**.

There are **7 online** courses starting in in the new year, as well as **2 face to face** groups. Each group runs over 6 weekly sessions and is offered **FREE of charge** to parents and carers thanks to funding from Herts County Council:

Talking Additional Needs (1 Three Rivers course)



Talking Families (1 online / 1 Welwyn/Hatfield course)

Talking Teens (2 online courses)

Talking Dads (2 online courses)

(NEW) Talking Anger in Teens (1 online course)

(NEW) Talking Anxiety in the Family (1 online course)

BOOKINGS ARE NOW OPEN

Further information on course content and suitability, along with details on dates and times, can be found in flyers available from the School Office.

Herts Food Survey

Help us to find out how people's access to food is being affected by the rising cost of living. Herts County Council is inviting one adult from every household in Herts to complete a 15-minute, anonymous survey that will help them to understand how access to food, for financial or other reasons, is being affected and where support needs to be directed to help residents. The survey will close on Sunday 5 November. Have your say:

https://melresearch.co.uk/hertsfoodsurvey_0

Children's Commissioner for England - "The Big Ambition" survey

The following has been received from Children's Commissioner for England:

The Children's Commissioner recently launched The Big Ambition to hear directly from children and young people across the country about what they need to make their lives better. Thousands of children have already had their say. Now, as we approach the General Election, it is a crucial moment to take children and young people's voices to policymakers and the Government, to make sure they are heard. That is why, through The Big Ambition survey, we want to hear from children and young people about their schools, communities, family life, and the wider world, as well as what they want for their future, their hopes, dreams, and aspirations.

This survey is for all children and young people aged 0 to 18. Children aged 6 to 18 can complete the survey themselves. For those who may need additional support or for children under six parents and other adults can complete the survey on their behalf. The survey can be completed here:

www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigambition

Through this link there is an easy read version and different questions based on the age of the child or young person. By completing 'The Big Ambition' you'll be ensuring children's voices are reflected in the decisions that will affect them in years to come."

UPCOMING DATES

NOV

- 6th Nov:** Remembrance Week
- 8th Nov:** Y5 trip – STEM Discovery Centre, Stevenage
OPAL presentation - 3.30pm – parents and children all welcome
- 9th Nov:** Choir – Rehearsal at Sacred Heart Primary School – details to follow
- 13th Nov:** Y4 trip – The British Museum, London
- 15th Nov:** Reception – Year 6 - Flu vaccinations in school
- 16th Nov:** Year 5 - Residential Trip March '24 – parents' meeting 3.15pm Y5 classroom
- 24th Nov:** Non-uniform - Sweets donations for the FOSTA Christmas Fayre



DEC

- 1st Dec:** Non-uniform - Bottles donations for the FOSTA Christmas Fayre
- 4th Dec:** KS1 Nativity matinee - 2.30pm
- 5th Dec:** KS1 Nativity matinee – 2.30pm
KS1 Nativity evening performance - 6.00pm
CHOIR – The Herts and Ware Schools Carol Service – Christchurch Ware
- 6th Dec:** CHOIR – The Festival of Carols – Hoddesdon town centre – (9.30 – 11am - details to follow)
- 8th Dec:** Non-uniform – Cakes donations for the FOSTA Christmas Fayre
FOSTA Christmas Fayre – 5.00pm – 7.00pm
- 11th Dec:** EYFS Nativity 9.30am
- 12th Dec:** EYFS Nativity 9.30am
FOSTA School Christmas Disco – details to follow
- 13th Dec:** School Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper Day
- 14th Dec:** School Christmas Church Service
- 19th Dec:** End of term
- 20th Dec:** INSET Day

JAN 2024

- 8th Jan:** **RETURN TO SCHOOL**

