



# 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: 8.12.23 Headteacher: Mrs H Gillingham

Value: Hope

Dear Parents and Carers,

### Key Stage 1 Nativity



We had a spectacular start to our week with the Key Stage 1 Nativity performances.

The children did so well, remembering all of their words, songs and dances. It really was a joyful and entertaining event and really does mark the build up towards Christmas.

Our school choir has also been very busy this week.

On Tuesday evening they performed with other local schools at the Hertford and Ware Schools' Carol Service at Christchurch, Ware. The children sang beautifully, performing their individual song confidently.



On Wednesday Miss Sewell and Mrs Davey took the choir to Hoddesdon as part of the community carol singing. Mr Emerson joined them, playing the keyboard and the group really helped to bring early Christmas cheer to the shoppers.





Next week we have our EYFS Nativity to look forward to and our Christmas Church Service. Dates and times are below.

### Christmas Tree Festival - St Margaret's Church

We have also put up our school tree for the Christmas Tree Festival being held over the weekend at St Margarets church, from 2pm to 6pm Saturday and Sunday. The church looks beautiful and there are lots of trees celebrating local groups to admire.



## Christmas Tree Festival

St Margarets' Parish Church  
2-6pm  
Saturday 9th & Sunday 10th December

**FREE ENTRY**  
Come and see the beautiful trees decorated by local groups, organisations and businesses

**Festive fun for all the family!**  
★ Seasonal Refreshments ★ Raffle ★

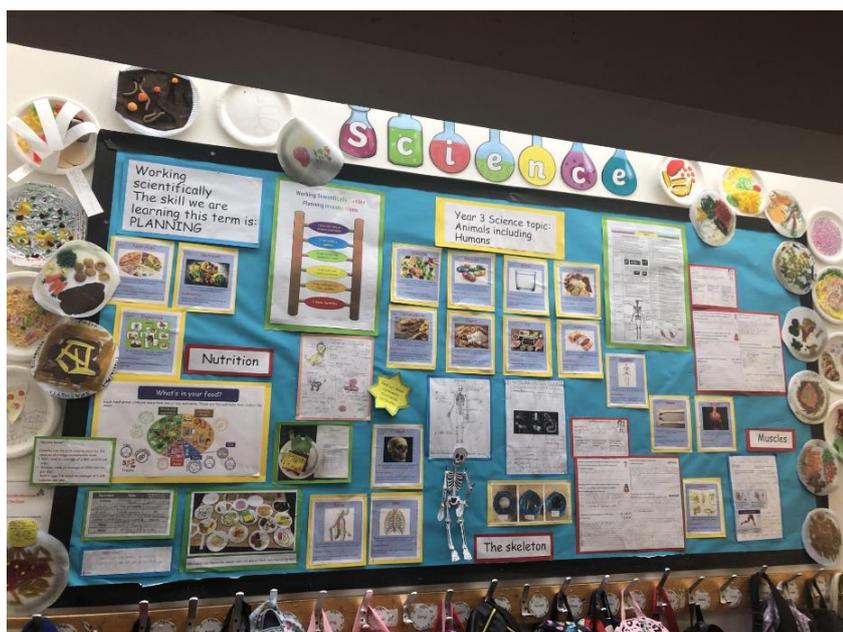
Any proceeds will go towards the work and upkeep of the church



The 3 Churches Benefice



## Spectacular Science



This wonderful science display showcases all of the wonderful investigations and lines of enquiry Year 3 have been pursuing this term. Dr. Collins is our science curriculum lead and has already had a huge impact on this area of the curriculum. As you can see, from the display, there is an expectation that the children should be working scientifically in their lessons, as they research and question. This helps to make all of our science lessons engaging and practical throughout the school.

## Poppy Appeal - Thanks



We have received a lovely note from the local British Legion organisers to thank us for our contribution towards this appeal.

In total the school raised £237.81, which is amazing.

## OPAL – Mr Cooper

Thank you to all the parents and carers for their support and understanding with the changes being made with regards to the OPAL project so far.

We are very lucky that Mrs Thomas has obtained a grant from Tesco to help us purchase a mud kitchen to add to our outdoor provision. In order to make the area as exciting as possible we are looking for;

- large planters/containers for planting herbs (and any excess herb off-cuts!)
- wooden tables/units and wooden chairs to extend our mud kitchen further
- old pots, pans, sieves, utensils etc.
- toy cars and small world toys (dinosaurs, animals, dolls)
- Apron



## SEND – Mrs Davey

Mrs Davey would like to make you aware of the following support hub for parents and carers of children with a range of needs.

# Neurodiversity Support Hub

## For Parents, Carers and Professionals

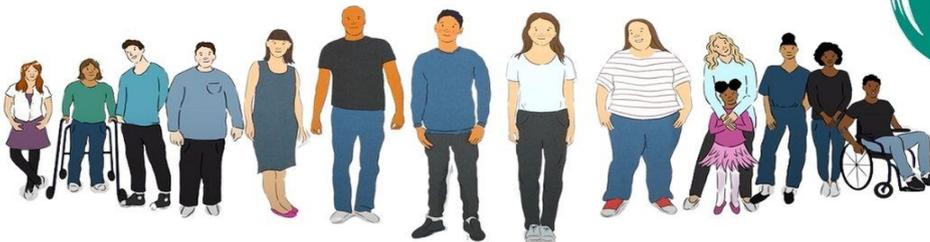
We can offer support, signposting and guidance about a whole range of things including but not limited to:

No  
Diagnosis  
Required

- Understanding ADHD/Autism
- Distressed Behaviours
- Anxiety
- School

The phones are answered by our team of parents and carers of neurodivergent children and young people

Are you a  
Parent, Carer  
or  
Professional?



# 01727 833963



[supporthub@add-vance.org](mailto:supporthub@add-vance.org)

Open Monday-Friday  
9 AM - 1PM



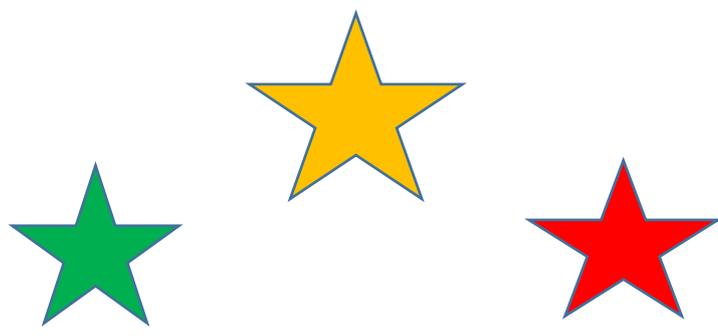
We Can't :

- Give updates/ fast track places on waiting lists
- Recommend specific private assessors

Here to support, reach out for a listening ear 



### Attendance Ladder



### Best Class Attendance Award

Week beginning: 4.12.23

Year 2



### Times Tables Rock Stars

The winner of this week's 'head to head':

Year 5

The mini league winner:

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: Lottie** for excellent effort and progress in her writing.

**Reception: Phoebe** for her fantastic progress and effort in phonics.

**Year 1: All of Year 1** for their fantastic Nativity!

**Year 2: All of Year 2** for their fantastic Nativity!

**Year 3: Jamie** for being a great student and friend and **Thomas** for being on fire in class!

**Year 4: Adaley** for her perseverance in maths.

**Year 5: Lilia Mae** for her perseverance in learning her tables.

**Year 6: Oscar** for his excellent effort in maths all week.





## Our Half Term Value: Hope

*“May the God of Hope fill you with joy and peace.”*

*Romans 15:13*

Our Value Advocates have selected the following Value Champions for the week.

Value Advocates	Value Champions for the week
<b>Nursery: Arabelle chose</b>	<b>AJ</b> for his wonderful, positive attitude to singing
<b>Reception: Olivia chose</b>	<b>Oskar</b> for living all the values every day
<b>Year 1: Kane chose</b>	<b>Amelia</b> for her impeccable behaviour and living the school values
<b>Year 2: Tommy chose</b>	<b>Finn</b> for being a hopeful and a good friend
<b>Year 3: Harriet chose</b>	<b>Darcy</b> for being a ray of hopeful sunshine!
<b>Year 4: Robyn chose</b>	<b>Lewis</b> for supporting others in class
<b>Year 5: Jude chose</b>	<b>Abigail</b> for being hopeful and living the values
<b>Year 6: Millie F chose</b>	<b>Eifa</b> for her positive attitude to all areas of her learning

I look forward to seeing many of you at tonight's FOSTA Christmas Fayre.

With kind regards

Mrs H Gillingham

### OFFICE UPDATE

#### Payments

Please can all outstanding payments for school dinners, trips, milk, breakfast clubs etc be paid as soon as possible, via WisePay. Thank you.

#### Help with small emergencies!

Schools try to keep a supply of children's underwear: tights, socks, pants, skirts and trousers.... Just in case! Sizes need to fit Nursery - Year 3 children.

Our supply at St Andrew's is currently running quite low. Please think of us if your children outgrow any of these items and they are still fit for purpose. A child will be very pleased to have use of them one day, if you are able to donate to school. Thank you.

#### Applications for NURSERY class for Sept '24

**Applications for St Andrew's Nursery class for September 2024 are now open.** This is applicable to children born between *1<sup>st</sup> September 2020 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021*. Application forms are available on our school website and from our School Office. The application deadline is **29<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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 is now open.**

This is applicable to children born between *1<sup>st</sup> September 2019 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2020*. The online application deadline is **15<sup>th</sup> 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.

### **After School clubs – 1<sup>st</sup> Half Spring 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](http://www.superstarsport.co.uk). For any queries: email [info@superstarsport.co.uk](mailto:info@superstarsport.co.uk) or phone 01992 766 707.s

### **Local News:**

**The Ware & Stanstead Abbots Safer Neighbourhood Team have asked us to send the following message:**

After the success of last year's Christmas Hamper Project, the Ware and Stanstead Abbots Safer Neighbourhood Team are asking for donations to run this initiative again.

With the generosity of our community, local businesses and a grant from Ware Town Council, we were able to gift over 100 hampers to the most vulnerable children in our community.

This list is now exhaustive, and we would be grateful for other items such as books, crafts, edible goodies and toiletries. These can be collected by your local Police team, taken to Ware Police Station or dropped to Keith Ian Estate Agents on Ware High Street. Please email [Kristine.ward@herts.police.uk](mailto:Kristine.ward@herts.police.uk) if you would like us to collect your gifts or if you have any questions.

Below is our Amazon wish list and we would be grateful for any items that you can provide. (Items will be delivered directly to Police).

As always, thank you for your support.

[https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/1HHBMP5E0ELCC?ref =wl\\_share](https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/1HHBMP5E0ELCC?ref =wl_share)

### **UPCOMING DATES**

#### **DEC**

- 11<sup>th</sup> Dec:** EYFS Nativity 9.30am  
FOSTA Disco Ticket Sale – in canopy after school
- 12<sup>th</sup> Dec:** EYFS Nativity 9.30am  
FOSTA School Christmas Disco – details sent home this week
- 13<sup>th</sup> Dec:** School Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper Day
- 14<sup>th</sup> Dec:** School Christmas Church Service – St Andrew's Church - 9:30am
- 19<sup>th</sup> Dec:** End of term – 1.30pm finish
- 20<sup>th</sup> Dec:** INSET Day

#### **JAN 2024**

**8<sup>th</sup> Jan:** RETURN TO SCHOOL

