



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: 23.9.23 Headteacher: Mrs H Gillingham Value: Thankfulness

Dear Parents and Carers,

Curriculum Evening

We will be holding our Curriculum Evening for Reception – Year 6 this Thursday, 26th September. The teachers will hold two identical sessions in their classrooms, the first starting at 6.00pm and the second at 6.30pm. The Nursery Curriculum Meeting will be on Thursday, 26th September from 12.00-12.30pm in the Nursery classroom.

Teachers will be discussing curricular matters pertinent to their year group:

Nursery	- Early language development and phonics (12pm in the Nursery classroom)
Reception	- Early language development and phonics
Year 1	- Phonics
Year 2 & Year 3	- Supporting your child in maths and English
Year 4	- Preparing for the statutory multiplication screening test
Year 5	- Spelling and grammar
Year 6	- Year 6 SATs

We look forward to seeing you there.

Internet Safety – 'The 2 Johns'

As parents/carers we know that supervising our children's online life can be fraught with issues. Our children are often remarkably adept at being at least two steps in front of us when accessing the digital world and keeping them safe can be quite a challenge.

To help inform you about potential dangers and how to best keep your child safe, we are really pleased to have organised a parent/carer internet safety training session with 'The 2 Johns'. This event will be held on **Monday 4th November 2024 from 5:30-7.00pm in the School hall**. Please see attached flyer for further details.

We really hope that many of you can join us for this invaluable and informative event. Please note that this evening session is for parent & carers only and not suitable for children.

The children in Year 1 – 6 will benefit from age-appropriate sessions with 'The 2 Johns' during the day.



Lost Property

Please be aware that we are getting an increasing amount of unnamed lost property, including coats, building up in our conservatory. If your child has lost any items, then please do come and check at the end of the day. Please also ensure that all clothing items are clearly named as these can then be swiftly reunited with owner if misplaced.

YEAR 3

This week, Year 3 have been exploring places of worship by taking virtual reality tours. They carefully explored the temples, churches, mandirs and mosques as well as a variety of others. The children were tasked with writing a list of any questions or observations they made as a result of virtually visiting these places. In addition to this, they learned to scan a QR code with a Chromebook!



OPAL – Outside Play & Learning

Our Nursery children loved their first session of Forest School. They explored the area, found sticks and enjoyed jumping over the large logs.

The Golden Welly was given to a group of Year 4 girls last week for their support and help during break and lunch times; Lottie, Marnie, Rosie, Isabelle and Laura.



OPAL - Your School Needs You!

We would like some help to complete our new digging area. The children have done a great job but we now need some adult muscles - this Friday (27th September) after school.

If you are able to help, Mr Chesterman will be up on the field by Forest School to coordinate. Please bring a spade and sturdy footwear! I will be joining in after the FOSTA meeting which you are welcome to attend first.....see below for details.

Thank you, Mr Cooper.



FOSTA

Our wonderful FOSTA will be holding **their first meeting of the new school year on Friday, 27th September after school – in the Year 6 classroom.**

As all of our parents & carers are members of FOSTA we encourage you to come along and meet the committee, listen to all the fundraising ideas that are being planned for the rest of the academic year. Please come to the canopy entrance for 3.20pm.



Attendance Matters - Every Day Counts!

Present whole school attendance (2024-25)	95.3%
National attendance	95.3%
Last week's school attendance	94.4%
Best Class Attendance: Week Beginning 16.9.24	Year 3 – 98.4%

You Can Toucan Awards

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

Last week staff chose:

Nursery: Huw for listening and being helpful.

Reception: Jessica for giving her very best and working hard in all areas of learning.

Year 1: Edee for always being a kind friend to others in her class.

Year 2: Danae for giving 100% effort in all she does and for always listening.

Year 3: Elsie for her endless enthusiasm and effort.

Year 4: Ava for her enthusiasm and thirst for knowledge.

Year 5: Buddy for all of his efforts to make a good start in year 5.

Year 6: Zack for being kind and understanding.



Our Half Term Value: Thankfulness

1 Chronicles 16:34: "Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever."

Our Value Advocates chose the following children who have lived the value for the week.

Class Value Advocate	Class Champion
Reception: Vienna chose	Stevie for living all of the Values every day and for being a fantastic member of the class.
Year 1: Gwilym chose	Sebby for living all of the Values every day.
Year 2: James chose	Stanley for remembering to say thank you at all times and for his positivity.
Year 3: Isla chose	India for her excellent manners and happy smile.
Year 4: Mimi chose	Archie for being a polite member of the class.
Year 5: Lewis chose	Alby for always being kind and caring.
Year 6: Lilly O chose	Lilly R for always being a kind and caring friend.

With kind regards

Mrs H Gillingham

OFFICE UPDATE

After School clubs – 1st Half Autumn Term

Super Star Sport's clubs for this half term can be booked:

<https://superstarsportuk.classforkids.io/term/526>

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.

Local news:

Diocesan news - we have been asked by St Albans Diocese to pass on the following news:

The Diocese is advertising for two part-time administrators to work with the Education Team at Holywell Lodge. Further details are available on our website at: <https://www.stalbansdiocese.org/vacancies-role/diocesan-roles/>. Both roles have an application deadline of 24th September.

'Cups on a String' - Wednesday 16th October at 7.30pm at St Andrew's Church

TLG / Riding Lights team will be performing their new production – CUPS ON A STRING by Bridget Foreman – that explores the work of Early Intervention Coaches in schools, and explores how God is able to use these relationships to bring change in the lives of vulnerable young people and families. The play is suitable for teenagers and adults but not recommended for younger children.



What's it all about?

Joe's eleven and home is hard. School is even harder. He breaks stuff: pencils, chairs, rules. One thing he won't break is his silence. Heather's fifty-seven. She's got a comfortable life and a comfortable home. But her



comfortable world is about to be turned upside down as she and Joe spend an hour a week together. Every week. For a year. Where will this journey of hours and weeks take them?

'Cups on a String' is a warm-hearted and moving new play, developed from remarkable true stories. Challenging, surprising and beautifully hopeful, 'Cups on a String' takes you into the heart of the friendship between Heather and Joe, and the profound impact it has on them both.

To book your tickets, please visit: <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/booking/select/RdiEJKhzXNnT> or call the Box Office on 01904 613000.

News from Beezee Bees:

We are Beezee Families, and our team deliver FREE heathy lifestyles programmes to hundreds of families across Hertfordshire. We're excited to announce our Free Online **Supporting Your Child with Emotional Eating Masterclass** 30th September 2024 at 6-7pm. See the flyer attached to this newsletter.

UPCOMING DATES

SEPT

- Thurs 26th** Coram Life Tent in school for all classes PSHE
- Thurs 26th** Nursery Curriculum Meeting: 12 -12.30pm
Reception to Year 6 Curriculum Evening: 6pm -7pm – all welcome
- Fri 27th** Coram Life Tent in school for all classes PSHE

OCT

- Tues 1st** Year 3 – Stone Age Themed Day
- Tues 1st** Year 4 - Ancient Egypt Themed Day
- Wed 2nd** Governor Day
- Thurs 3rd** Church Service – Harvest Festival
- Thurs 3rd** Year 3 Development Day – Wodson Park PM (details to follow)
- Weds 9th** Choir – St Albans Cathedral - during the day (details to follow)
- Thurs 10th** Year 6 School Journey Meeting – 3.15pm
- Weds 16th** Year 6 trip – Stansteadbury Farm
- Tues 22nd** Parent Consultation Meetings 3.30pm – 7.00pm
- Thurs 24th** Parent Consultation Meetings 3.30pm – 7.00pm
- Fri 25th** **Inset Day**
- Mon 28th Oct – Fri 1st Nov – Half term holiday**



NOV

Mon 4th The Two Johns – Internet Safety Day for Year 1 – Year 6
The Two Johns – Internet Safety Talk for parents & carers - 5.30pm-7.00pm

Tues 12th Reception Trip (details to follow)

Fri 15th Reception – Year 6 Nasal Flu Spray

Thurs 21st Year 4 trip – The British Museum, London

Trip dates for other classes are to be confirmed.

