



# 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: 30.9.24 Headteacher: Mrs H Gillingham

Value: Thankfulness

Dear Parents and Carers,

### FOSTA

Thank you to all who attended FOSTA's AGM last Friday. The following members were re-elected;

Chair: Mrs Nash

Vice-Chair: Mrs Brinkley and Mrs Simpson

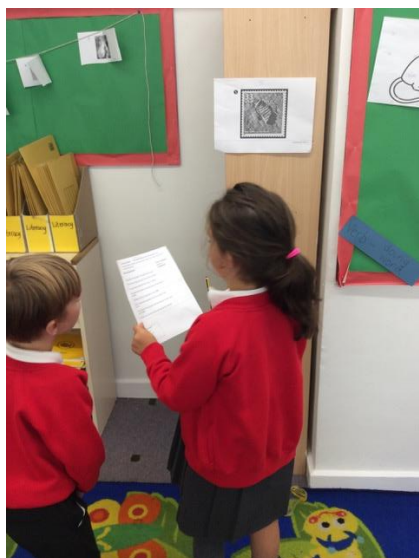
Treasurer: Ms Washbourne

Ideas for fund raising events were discussed, the dates for which will be shared very soon. However, FOSTA desperately needs new parents/carers to come forward to help support and perhaps begin to take over the reins.

The demands upon school budgets are ever increasing, whilst the actual income the school is receiving is decreasing. As a consequence, the school is increasingly dependent upon the funds raised by our FOSTA.

### Curriculum Evening

Thank you to all of the parents/carers who came to our Curriculum Evening last Thursday. We hope you found the information interesting and felt that you had the opportunity to ask any relevant questions.



Our children have continued being very busy in all parts of the curriculum. In their history, Year 2 have been on a treasure hunt using newspaper articles and photos as sources to prove that the moon landing really happened!



Meanwhile, Year 3 were creating their own skeletons in science, making sure that they had all the bones in the right place!





Year 4 children have been learning about tooth decay in their science work. They designed and conducted an investigation into the effects of different liquids on their teeth. Eggs were used for the investigation as their shell shares some properties with the enamel in our teeth. The children had to consider how to keep it a fair test by measuring each liquid carefully. They are now eagerly waiting to observe changes over time.



Year 6 have been exploring how to create different effects with water colours in their art work. They added fine and coarse salt, bubble wrap, cling film and used toothpicks to create interesting textures and then created graduated the washes.



Our Reception class is full of budding authors. They created clear narratives in the books they made, illustrated their work and read their stories to the class.





### PSHE: The Coram Life Tent

On Thursday and Friday all of our children had a PSHE session in the Life Tent with the SCARF presenter. The sessions covered a range of topics from how to keep their body strong through exercise and diet (Y1) to taking care of their brains (Y3) and being able to make important decisions (Y6).



### Harvest Appeal

We launched our Harvest Appeal last week with the children. We are collecting food items (cans, dry foodstuffs - such as pasta, rice, cereals etc.) and toiletries for the local food bank. Although the items will not be opened or consumed in school, as we are a nut-free school, please can we ask that any nut products (including jars of peanut butter or 'Nutella') are not brought in to school.



### Internet Safety – 'The 2 Johns' – a reminder

To help inform you about potential dangers and how to best keep your child safe in their online world 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 4<sup>th</sup> 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.



### Attendance Ladder



### Attendance Matters - Every Day Counts!

Present whole school attendance (2024-25)	95.4%
National attendance	95.4%
Last week's school attendance	96%
Best Class Attendance: Week Beginning 23.9.24	Year 1 – 98%

### 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: Rayne** for looking out for her friends and being kind.

**Reception: Mario** for working extremely hard on his phonics.

**Year 1: Eliza** for ensuring that she takes her time to produce her very best work in her English.

**Year 2: Emily** for always listening to instructions and working hard in all areas.

**Year 3: India** for her kindness to others and enthusiasm for learning.

**Year 4: Evie** for her positivity towards all aspects of her learning.

**Year 5: Louie** for his excellent effort in his writing.

**Year 6: Lilly O** for her excellent contributions during the Life Tent session.



Congratulations too to Austin (Y6) who brought in a stunning piece of metal art which he had created with his father. He was able to describe all of the processes which he and his father had completed to create their ram's head - which was quite beautiful.

## 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	Edie for using all of the values everyday- what a star!
Year 1: Gwilym chose	Kasper for helping another child with their wellies.
Year 2: James chose	Fiadh for living the value of thankfulness.
Year 3: Isla chose	George M for his impeccable manners.
Year 4: Mimi chose	Bronte for always living the school values.
Year 5: Lewis chose	Noah for his bravery and thankfulness.
Year 6: Lilly O chose	Isabelle and Olivia for doing some litter picking, helping to keep our grounds looking great.

With kind regards

Mrs H Gillingham

### OFFICE UPDATE

#### **After School clubs – 1<sup>st</sup> 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](http://www.superstarsport.co.uk). For any queries: email [info@superstarsport.co.uk](mailto: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.stalbandsdiocese.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*



**Achievement for All**



*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.

## **UPCOMING DATES**

### **OCT**

- Tues 1<sup>st</sup>** Year 3 – Stone Age Themed Day
- Tues 1<sup>st</sup>** Year 4 - Ancient Egypt Themed Day
- Wed 2<sup>nd</sup>** Governor Day
- Thurs 3<sup>rd</sup>** Church Service – Harvest Festival
- Thurs 3<sup>rd</sup>** Year 3 Development Day – Wodson Park PM
- Weds 9<sup>th</sup>** Choir – St Albans Cathedral - during the day
- Thurs 10<sup>th</sup>** Year 5 & 6 School Journey Meeting – 3.15pm - TBC
- Weds 16<sup>th</sup>** Year 6 trip – Stansteadbury Farm
- Tues 22<sup>nd</sup>** Parent Consultation Meetings  
**Nursery:** 12.30pm – 2.30pm  
**Rec – Year 6:** 3.30pm – 7.00pm
- Thurs 24<sup>th</sup>** Parent Consultation Meetings  
**Nursery:** 12.30pm – 2.30pm  
**Rec – Year 6:** 3.30pm – 7.00pm
- Fri 25<sup>th</sup>** **Inset Day**

**Mon 28<sup>th</sup> Oct – Fri 1<sup>st</sup> Nov – Half term holiday**

### **NOV**

- Mon 4<sup>th</sup>** 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 12<sup>th</sup>** Reception Trip (details to follow)
- Fri 15<sup>th</sup>** Reception – Year 6 Nasal Flu Spray
- Thurs 21<sup>st</sup>** Year 4 trip – The British Museum, London

*Trip dates for other classes are to be confirmed.*

