



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

Telephone: 01920-870097 Web: www.standrews323.herts.sch.uk Email: admin@standrews323.herts.sch.uk

St Andrew's Weekly Update

Date: 9.9.23 Headteacher: Mrs H Gillingham

Value: Thankfulness

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back from the summer holiday, I do hope you had a wonderful time. Our new academic year started off with a wonderful welcome service at St Andrew's Church for our new Reception class. They were taken to the church by their Year 6 peers, who are already showing excellent school leadership qualities as the oldest class in the school. Revd. Sarah led the service and all of the Reception class were presented with a special book from the church.



New Staff

This new term we welcome three new additions to our teaching school community. Miss Kimmett is our new Year 1 teacher and Mrs Lynch and Ms Bliss are our new Nursery teachers whilst we await the return of Mrs Mills from her maternity leave. All have settled well into our St Andrew's family and are telling me how much they are enjoying teaching their new classes – as have all of my teachers.

Meet the Teacher Meetings

Our 'Meet the Teacher' dates are listed below. This is an ideal opportunity for you to visit your child's new classroom and ask any questions you may have about your child's new school year. Teachers will talk about homework expectations, home-school agreements and the areas of work to be covered this year. The meetings will be held in the classroom; please go to your child's classroom door at 2.30pm. Your child can be collected from the class door, in the usual way, at 3.15pm.

FOSTA News

Our wonderful FOSTA have signed up to Asda's 'Cashpot for Schools', where ASDA will donate to FOSTA a percentage of each shop that our parents and carers make if they also sign up to the scheme. This money will be used for the various projects/items for school which we rely so much on FOSTA to provide. Full information and directions on how to sign up can be found via link below:

<https://www.asda.com/cashpotforschools>





Year 3 Science

Year 3 are learning about nutrition in their science lessons this half term and began their studies by sorting food items into their nutrition groups. It was a fun activity that they completed in teams.

School Cook

As you are aware, our previous School Cook left us for pastures new in July. Mrs Fielding, an experienced Cook in Charge, is covering the position whilst HCL recruit a new Cook. Please see the advert attached for information regarding the vacancy.

Attendance Matters



Every Day Counts....

Attendance Policy

As you may have heard on the news, the Department for Education has produced statutory guidance for maintained schools, academies, independent schools, and local authorities. It is called "[Working together to improve school attendance](#)" and it includes a National Framework in relation to absence and the use of legal sanctions. Accordingly, Hertfordshire County Council have updated their model policy, which, as a County Maintained School, we will be reviewing at our next Full Governor Meeting in October.

The draft policy can be found on our website for you to read. Please be aware that under this national framework there is now a single consistent national threshold for when a penalty notice must be considered by all schools in England, of 10 sessions (usually equivalent to 5 school days) of unauthorised absence within a rolling 10 school week period. The 10 sessions of absence do not have to be consecutive and can be made up of a combination of any type of unauthorised absence. The 10-school week period can span different terms, school years or education settings.

Present whole school attendance (2024-25)	96%
National attendance	95%
This week's school attendance	96%
Best Class Attendance: Week Beginning 2.9.24	Year 6 – 99%



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: All of the Nursery class, for settling in to school life so well.

Reception: Arabelle for brilliant engagement with her learning.

Year 1: Luna for a wonderful start to Year 1.

Year 2: Elena for making a great start to Year 2.

Year 3: Lui for trying hard with all of his new learning.

Year 4: Isabelle for her enthusiasm this week.

Year 5: Bella for her amazing effort in all of her learning.

Year 6: Aaliyah for her positive start and excellent effort in class.



Our Half Term Value: Thankfulness

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

Our new Value Advocates for this term are:

	Class Value Advocate
Reception	Vienna
Year 1	Gwilym
Year 2	James
Year 3	Isla
Year 4	Mimi
Year 5	Lewis
Year 6	Lilly

With kind regards

Mrs H Gillingham

OFFICE UPDATE

After School clubs – 1st Half Autumn Term

Booking for Super Star Sport's clubs for this half term is now live at: <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.



UPCOMING DATES

SEPT 2024

- Mon 9th** Individual piano lessons start
Year 3 Meet the Teacher meeting - 2.30pm
- Tues 10th** Year 2 Meet the Teacher meeting - 2.30pm
- Wed 11th** Year 5 Meet the Teacher meeting - 2.30pm
- Thurs 12th** Year 4 Meet the Teacher meeting - 2.30pm
- Mon 16th** Year 6 Meet the Teacher Meeting - 2.30pm
- Tues 17th** Year 1 Meet the Teacher Meeting - 2.30pm
- Thurs 19th** Individual & siblings (St Andrew's) photographs
- Thurs 26th** Coram Life Tent in school for all classes PSHE
- Fri 27th** Coram Life Tent in school for all classes PSHE

OCT

- Tues 1st** Year 3 – Museum Workshop - Stone Age (in school, details to follow)
- Tues 1st** Year 4 – Museum Workshop – Egyptians (in school, details to follow)
- 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)
- 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 Visit
- Tues 12th** Reception Trip – details TBC
- Fri 15th** Reception – Year 6 Nasal Flu Spray
- Thurs 21st** Y4 trip – The British Museum, London

Trip dates for other classes are to be confirmed.

