

# SMSC Diary Summer Term 2024

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

***‘Learn to love and love to learn; in God’s love each one will shine’.***



***“St Andrew’s is an Excellent School” SIAMS report January 2023***

***“A deeply Christian vision is the golden thread that weaves through every aspect of school life. Everyone is enabled to develop within the life-changing, transformational, and loving culture that permeates the school.”***



***“St Andrew’s Church of England (VC) Primary School continues to be a good school.”  
Ofsted Nov 2023***

***“Pupils enjoy attending St Andrew’s Primary. They look forward to the interesting and exciting learning the school offers. The school’s vision of ‘learning to love and love to learn’ links successfully to everything that happens at the school. This creates a caring and nurturing environment where pupils feel happy and safe.”***

Here are just some of the **spiritual, moral, social and cultural activities** we have enjoyed this term. Please read and enjoy!

## *Our Values this term have been:* *Dignity and Peace*

### **Exploring the Value of Dignity**

Year 1 have been exploring the value of Dignity and what this means. We came up with some words to describe the value and some examples of people behaving with dignity.

The children made some beautiful posters to show their learning about this half term's value and some are on display in the school hall, a selection is show above.



## *Special Days – Visits and visitors*

### **Year 6 Trip**

As part of their World War II and Art curriculum, Year 6 visited The Henry Moore Foundation in Perry Green. The day started with a guided tour to find out more about the life and works of Henry Moore. After lunch, Year 6 had some time to sketch some of their favourite sculptures. Having gained some inspiration, Year 6 will complete their Art unit by creating their own sculptures in the style of Henry Moore.





### **Bishop of Hertford's Visit**

We had a special visitor when the Rt. Revd. Dr Jane Mainwaring, who is the Bishop of Hertford, came to see our wonderful school. She joined us for our Collective Worship, had a guided tour of the school and was then questioned by children from Year 1 to Year 6 about her role as a Bishop. She has been in the role for over a year and we were surprised to learn that she is the only female Bishop in the Diocese. Bishop Jane was extremely complimentary about the school and the children. She said she could really feel the warmth and heart in the school.



### **OPAL – Stay and Play**

Lots of parents and carers came to our OPAL Stay and Play session. It was lovely to see the children wanting to show off all of the different play opportunities they have. The adults enjoyed it too!





### Year 6 Residential Trip PGL

Our Year 6 had a wonderful time at Liddington, Wiltshire on their Residential trip. They were given the opportunity to try out a great variety of activities. Highlights on their first day were; Archery Tag, Giant Swing and Laser Tag. After a very early breakfast time of 7:00 am, their second day activities included; Aeroball, Abseiling and Trapeze activities. The weather wasn't as kind to them on this day but they still managed to have a rather damp campfire where the children enjoyed singing, dancing and marshmallows. Their final activities, before coming home, were Problem Solving and Vertical Challenge. All of the children (and staff) came home understandably exhausted. My thanks go to our wonderful staff, who made this all possible; Mr Cooper, Mrs Davey and Mr Chesterman and to our amazing children - who made it such an enjoyable experience.







### Year 3 Roman Baths Trip

Year 3 had an amazing day learning about the Romans at Welwyn's Roman Baths. They looked at the different rooms in the bath house and had an opportunity to dress up like a Roman, handle and study Roman artefacts and complete a quiz.

They then went to the museum and took part in three activities; an archaeological dig where the children were able to use trowels and brushes to locate and clean artefacts, handling artefacts- which included a bowl 1800 years old and learning to play two Roman games.



### Year 5 Local Field Studies

On a walk through the village, Year 5 collected data about the different shops and businesses along the High Street and compared this to the shops that were there seventy-five years ago.

They then had a tour of the Maltings and learnt all about the process of turning barley into malt. Thank you to Mr King, the Managing Director of French and Jupps, who kindly gave up his time to show the children around The Maltings and explain the processes.







### EYFS – Superheroes

Completing their 'Superheroes' topic, the Early Years children had two sets of important visitors. Firstly, they had a visit from two police officers who work in the local area. The children were absolutely fascinated and were delighted to be able to explore of the police equipment. The impact of this visit could be seen later in the morning, when children dressed up as police.

They began writing up notes in the little notepads provided and handing out parking fines!



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A huge thank you to the crew from Hoddesdon fire station who brought their fire engine to show the children in the EYFS classes, as part of their learning about 'real life superheroes'. The children learnt lots about all the equipment the engine carries and how fire officers help people.

### EYFS Garden

Another recent addition to the Early Years outside area is a small shop. This is encouraging some wonderful imaginative play, especially around the shocking cost of fruit and vegetables!



### Art Day

Mr Cooper led the whole school 'Art Day' where the children created and took part in art activities with the theme of 'up-cycling cardboard'.

Using the artist Darrell Wakelham as inspiration, the classes used paper plates, cardboard boxes, toilet rolls and anything else made from cardboard to create Saxon helmets, animal masks, expressive faces, Roman centurions, mechanimals, pirate ships, chameleons and animals!







### Shepreth Wildlife Park

The Nursery and Reception children thoroughly enjoyed their visit to Shepreth Wildlife Park. The children thoroughly enjoyed the whole experience; the coach trip, having lunch together, the habitats workshop and finding lots of unusual animals. These animals included; bats, red pandas, snowy owls, an iguana, and tigers! The education officer commented on how well behaved and engaged our children were – so well done to all of our EYFS children.





**Year 2 experienced a Great Fire of London Workshop**, during which the children explored what life would have been like in those days as well as learning about the cause and impact of the fire.



#### Year 4 Greek Day

Year 4 were also transported back to Sparta and the time of the Ancient Greeks, where they completed many Greek tasks to conjure up what life would have been like then. The children made Greek tiles, headdresses and pottery necklaces. They also learnt about the stories of conquest and wars. It was all very exciting and the children loved the day.



Year 1 had a trip to Capel Manor Gardens where they had a guided tour around the grounds, being told about the various plants and insects to be found there. The children were amazed to see the shed skins of a dragonfly and learnt that the larvae live in water before becoming an adult with wings. The children also saw a preserved bee, hornet and stag beetle. They made natural collages out of different flowers and found their way in and out of the maze! In the afternoon they looked at the animals, including meerkats, lemurs and snakes!





## Nursery News

The children in the Nursery class learnt about Eid. They worked together to measure ingredients, mix and shape biscuits ready to be baked and all agreed that the end product was delicious when we ate them at our Eid party.

The children also spent time planting seeds and plants around the EYFS garden, which are being looked after and watered with great enthusiasm! A big thank you to Wickes in Waltham Cross (via Mrs Felstead's daughter and her Operations Manager, Philena!) for donating not only the compost and plants but also some much-needed gardening equipment.



Inspired by their book of the week, 'Whatever Next' the children decided to act out the story using props from all around the classroom. They also used junk materials to make models of rockets, some of which are now on proud display in the windows of their classroom.





## Science Work



Whilst learning about forces Year 3 measured, in Newtons, how much force it took to move their shoes. The children gradually added more mass to the shoes (water in a bottle) and recorded their results. They were surprised how much force they needed.

Meanwhile as part of their Science unit on 'Light', Year 6 created periscopes. They then used the finished product to spy on their friends and their teacher.

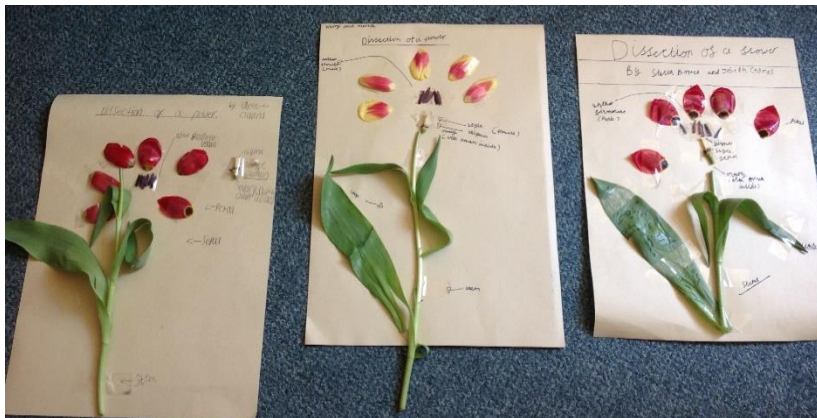


As part of their study of 'Living Things' Year 5 set up worm farms. The class collected the worms themselves and enjoyed studying how the worms moved through the soil.

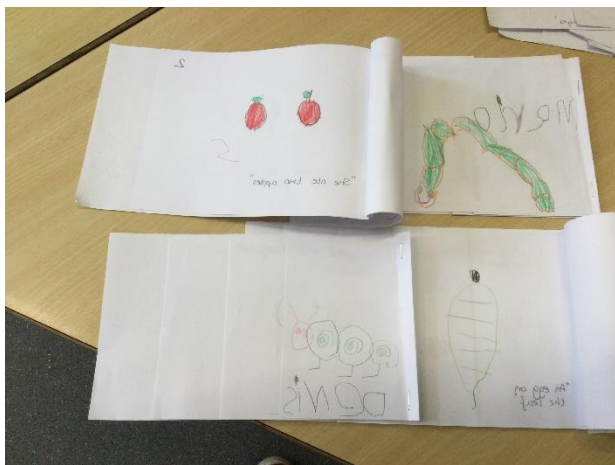




Year 3 studied the different parts of a flower by carefully dissecting tulips. A group came to show me their presentations and were able to describe and explain all of the parts of the flower.



The Nursery children have also studied the natural world while taking great care of five, very hungry caterpillars. The children were fascinated when the caterpillars spun their chrysalises. Later, the children wrote their own versions of 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar'.



Year 1 also had a very busy week writing *What am I?* riddles, linked to their science topic on animals. They tried not to make the clues too obvious to start with and remembered to use a question mark.





## *Musical Opportunities during the term.*

Our school choir performed beautifully at the Hertford and Ware Music Association's performance of 'Along Came Man'. Our school song was a special highlight of the evening as the children stood and sang confidently in front of a large audience. Well done, too, to Eliana and Rebecca who had solo singing parts and Eloise for being one of the narrators. Thank you to Miss Sewell who has spent a great deal of time, not only in helping to pull the whole performance together but also gave up many lunchtimes to rehearse with the children.



### **Rogation Sunday Service**

Miss Sewell was joined by a few of the school choir to sing at the Rogation service held at St James' Stanstead Abbots. The parishioners really appreciated their singing and I would like to thank the children and Miss Sewell for supporting the church in this way.





### Choir Performance

Some of our school choir went with Miss Sewell, to take part in a Musical Fairytales concert with the Hertford Symphony Orchestra. They sang a newly written piece of music based on the story of Hansel and Gretel. It was an amazing opportunity for the children to hear an orchestra and sing with them as well.



### Piano Assembly

Towards the end of term Year 3 to Year 6 performed short pieces in our end of term piano assembly. There were some children who had only just begun having lessons and there were children who were tackling grade 1 and above pieces. They all performed well in front of a large audience, which takes considerable bravery. The assembly concluded with our older children accompanying Mrs Barone, their piano teacher, on a final piece of music. It was a lovely assembly and I would like to thank Mrs Barone for all that she does to help our children to have this opportunity and her care of the children during the lessons.





# *Sporting News*

## **Football Celebrations**

Our school football team played many matches over the term and ended in the final against Hertingfordbury. In a very tight contest, Hertingfordbury took a 1-0 lead in the first half and made it 2-0 just after half-time. St Andrew's showed good fighting spirit and continued to play some great football. Just before the final whistle Joseph scored a fantastic free-kick to make the score 2-1. Unfortunately for St Andrew's time ran out and the game finished 2-1. A huge well done to all of the children who represented St Andrew's as part of the football team this season.



## **Park Run**

Mr Cooper thanked all the children and families who joined him on the Sunday morning Junior Parkrun. It was so lovely to see more than 20 children from St Andrew's take part.'





### Chance to Shine Cricket

Years 2 - 6 participated in a 'Chance to Shine' cricket workshop, where they practised throwing, catching, fielding and batting skills through a range of fun games and activities.

The children had a thoroughly good time and it was a great opportunity for them to experience the game of cricket.



### Badminton Fun

Some of our Year 3 and Year 4 children attended a badminton workshop at Wodson Park. They were taught a number of skills and played a few matches. The children came back to school full of enthusiasm for this sport.



A group of Year 4 children went to Wodson Park to experience Tri-Golf, which is an energetic and fun version of golf in which the children complete a variety of activities, many of which include attempting to hit targets.





Year 5 also went to Wodson Park - this time to take part in the WWW Games. During their afternoon they had the opportunity to take part in a variety of activities; rounders, dance, cricket and athletics. They were taught skills and had enjoyed several games.

In their swimming lesson, Year 6 had the excitement of developing their life-saving skills and learning to swim whilst fully clothed.



### Free Style Martial Arts

Years 1 to 6 had an energetic start to their week with the classes having a Free Style Martial Arts Taster Day.



The children learnt about the very important skill of practising self-control as well as being introduced to a number of different moves. They all enjoyed it enormously.



Another sporting opportunity for our Year 6 was an **Ultimate Frisbee Challenge**. This was a competitive activity where the children played as a team aiming to pass the frisbee to the touchline to score a point. Our children did very well and came fifth out of the sixteen schools participating.



Children from Year 3 to Year 6 took part in local **District Athletics** and participated in a range of athletic events including long jump, javelin, shot put, long distance, sprints and relay. Our children did very well and, although we didn't win, our excellent sporting behaviour was commented on.





## Sports Day

All of our year groups had great fun competing during our sports day. The house points for all of the different activities were totalled up resulting in the winning house being Stort.



<b>Stort</b>	87
<b>Ash</b>	86
<b>Millstream</b>	85
<b>Lea</b>	76





## Platinum Award

We are very proud to announce that Mr Cooper has led the school to achieve our Platinum School Games Mark, which is the highest award we can get.

As the Schools Games Mark team said, 'It is a true reflection of all the hard work you put in to PE & Sports Provision within your school.' Mr Cooper had to submit a case study around the impact of sporting opportunities we are providing. I would like to thank Mr Cooper for all of his hard work in this important area of the school.

## *FOSTA*

Our wonderful FOSTA have continued to organize a range of wonderful

activities, which have raised much needed funds and have been great fun too. These have included a sponsored bounce, freezer Fridays(Ice lolly sales), second hand uniform sales, school discos and our Summer FOSTA Fayre.





# *OPAL - outside Play and Learning:*

## **OPAL - New Additions**

Mrs Randall was busy over the Easter holidays as she came in to school to add a little bit of drama to our outside stage area. The end result was stunning and now provides lots of exciting dramatic opportunities for the children. Meanwhile, Mr Griffin installed our very own boat under the trees allowing the children to sail off in their imaginations.



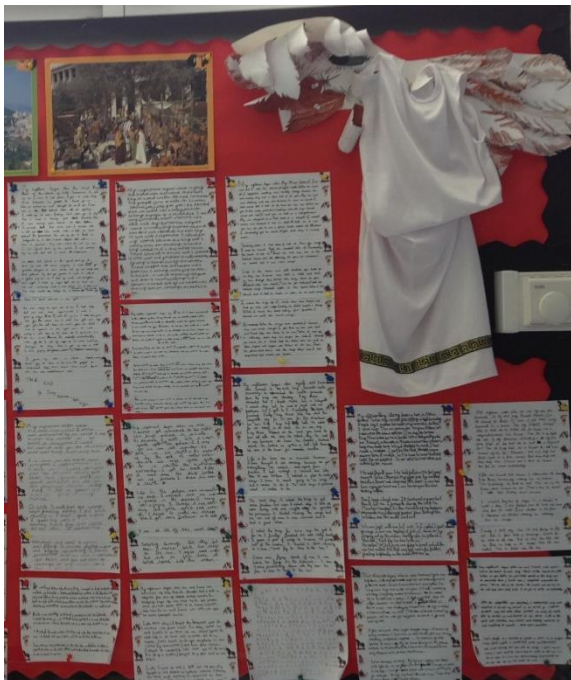
The children have loved role-playing pirates, rowing across the ocean using oars (large sticks!) and making each other walk the plank (some old floorboards!).





## Open Evening

Thank you for everyone who came to visit on our Open Evening. I am sure that you had a wonderful time looking around at the variety of work on show in all of the classrooms. Thank you to our Governors for manning the refreshment stall and keeping us all going with delicious scones and cream. Here are some examples of the work on display.





## Year 5/6 Production- Pirates of the Curry Bean

What a production this was! The children sang and performed brilliantly and it was lovely to see such confidence shining out from them all. Well done to Mr Cooper, Miss Sewell, Mrs Hoskin, Miss Kumm and Mrs Murray for pulling it all together.





## *And Finally.....*

### **Farewells**

I know that the school will continue in September, as special as it always is, however it does feel that we are marking the end of an era as we wave goodbye to Mrs Davey, Mrs Hoskin and our newer members of staff Mrs Dear, Miss Nolan and Miss Karahasan.



Mrs Davey and Mrs Hoskin have worked so long at St Andrew's that they have become part of the fabric of the school and we will all miss them terribly. However, we also know that Mrs Davey is quite rightly going on to become a new Headteacher and we are really proud that we have helped and supported her to take this important step. Mrs Hoskin, after nineteen years with us, is now ready to see what life offers her after doing some travelling.

I would like to thank them all for everything that they have contributed to the school and I am sure they will take a little bit of St Andrew's away in their hearts.



The school would also like to say an enormous goodbye to our Year 6 as they leave us to go to their new schools. I am sure, they too, will take our St Andrew's values with them and will shine at their new schools. They have been a brilliant Year 6 and wonderful role models to our younger children in terms of their behaviour, work ethic and leadership. We wish them all the very best as they take the next step in their education.





During our Year 6 Leavers' Assembly, we awarded our **Value Champion Award** to **Joseph** (Y6). This award is given annually to someone who the staff feel has "lived the values" throughout their time at St Andrew's and who has had a major impact upon the school. Whilst this award could have been given to many of our Year 6 children, the staff felt that Joseph embodied all of the values throughout his time at St Andrew's.