



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: 9.12.24 Headteacher: Mrs H Gillingham

Value: Trust

Dear Parents and Carers,

We had a wonderful start to our week with some fantastic performances. The first was on Monday when our school choir performed at All Saints Church, Hertford in the Hertford and Ware School Christmas Carol Service. My thanks go to Miss Sewell who has given up many lunch breaks to lead the choir and has helped them sing so beautifully. I was really proud of them.



This performance was swiftly followed by the EYFS Nativity. This is always a very special event, and I am constantly amazed at how confidently the children sing and say their parts, especially as for some, this is the very first time they may have stood in front of such a large audience. I would like to thank all of the Early Years staff for their great effort in putting it all together and particularly to Mrs Bugg for overseeing the performance. It was a real delight.





Christmas Tree Festival

Many of you may have visited St Mary’s Church over the weekend to see the Christmas trees on display. If you did, I do hope you found our St Andrew’s ‘Kingly’ tree. The tree had a range of decorations, inspired by the hymn ‘We Three Kings’, which the children had created. Some of the children had also written their hopes and dreams on the back of their crowns.



This week the Christmas celebrations continue with our Key Stage 1 Nativity today and tomorrow (times can be found below) and our FOSTA Christmas Fayre on Friday. This is always a fantastic evening with Santa’s Grotto, tombola, cake and stalls to win prizes. Do please bring the family and enjoy the fun.

Attendance Matters - Every Day Counts!



Present whole school statutory attendance (2024-25)	95.1%
National statutory attendance	94.8%
Best Class Attendance: Week Beginning 2.12.24	Year R with 99.6%



Times Tables Rock Stars

This week's mini league winner: Year 5
Second Place: Year 3
Third Place: Year 2



Congratulations to Bertie (Y3) for running over 100 park runs and covering the distance of many marathons.



Winners of the Golden Boot

Last week all of Year 6 won the Golden Welly for their excellent behaviour outside and for the help and support they give to get the play equipment out and put away.

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: Archie for gaining confidence in his play and for his part in the performance.

Reception: All of Reception for their brilliant performance in the EYFS Nativity.

Year 1: Barnaby for challenging himself in his writing.

Year 2: Elena and Niamh for both working hard and improving their writing.

Year 3: Hugo for his effort and enthusiasm in all of his learning.

Year 4: Stella for her positive contributions in class discussions.

Year 5: Hattie for always trying her best and achieving well in her lessons.

Year 6: Dolly for her fantastic effort and attitude in every aspect of school life.



Our Half Term Value: Trust

Psalm 18.2: "My God is my strength in whom I trust."

This half term's Value Advocates are:

Class Value Advocate	Class Champion
Reception: Harry chose	Stella for always being trustworthy and being a brilliant role model.
Year 1: Alice chose	Eliza for always following the values and for being trustworthy.
Year 2: Emily chose	Kane for always being honest and trustworthy.
Year 3: George M chose	Olivia for trying hard and living all of the values.
Year 4: Caitlin chose	Jamie for being trustworthy.
Year 5: Robyn chose	Adaley for being a trustworthy member of the class.
Year 6: Isabelle chose	Bella for being a kind and trustworthy friend.

OFFICE UPDATE

Payments

The School Office is now reconciling accounts for the Christmas break. Please can all outstanding payments for school dinners, trips, milk, breakfast club etc. be paid as soon as possible, via WisePay, or childcare vouchers if this is applicable. Thank you.

Applications for NURSERY class for Sept 25

Applications for St Andrew's Nursery class for September 2025 are open. This is applicable to children born between *1st September 2021 and 31st August 2022*. Application forms are available on our school website and from our School Office. The application deadline is **28th February 2025**. All on-time applications must be returned to school, either directly to the School Office or via email: 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 25

Herts County Council online admissions applications for Reception class in September 2025 are open. This is applicable to children born between *1st September 2020 and 31st August 2021*. The online application deadline is **15th January 2025**. 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 – 1st Half Spring Term

Super Star Sport's clubs for next half term can now 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

Message from the Local PCSO:

After the success of last year's Christmas Hamper Project, the Ware and Stanstead Abbots Neighbourhood Policing 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 105 hampers to the most vulnerable children in our community.

We would be grateful for donations of new items such as books, toys, crafts, toiletries and selection boxes. 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 if you would like us to collect your gifts or if you have any questions.

We also have an amazon gift list, and we would be grateful for any items that you can provide. (Items will be delivered directly to Police)

<https://www.amazon.co.uk/registries/gl/quest-view/1Q2XIRWNLL667>

As always, thank you for your support.

PCSO
Ware & Stanstead Abbots
Neighbourhood Policing Team

UPCOMING DATES

- Tues 10th** Year 1 & 2 Nativity – 2.15pm
- Tues 10th** Year 1 & 2 Nativity – Evening Performance - 6pm (Year 1 & 2 children to arrive at 5.30pm)
- Weds 11th** School Christmas Dinner Day and optional ‘Christmas/Woolly Jumper Day’
- Weds 11th** Choir – Festival of Carols in Hoddesdon 2pm
- Fri 13th** Non uniform in exchange for cakes for the FOSTA Fayre
- Fri 13th** **FOSTA Christmas Fayre – 5-7pm**
- Tues 17th** FOSTA Christmas Disco
- Thurs 19th** Church Service
- Fri 20th** **Last day of Autumn Term**

Jan 2025

- Mon 6th** **Return to School**
Music lessons restart for the Spring term

