



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: 12.1.24 Headteacher: Mrs H Gillingham

Value: Joy

Dear Parents and Carers,

We wish you a 'Happy New Year' and thank you for all of our cards and presents at the end of last year.

Ofsted Report

"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." (Ofsted November 2023)

I hope that you have had time to read our recent Ofsted Report. We are very proud of it and know that we continue to be a 'Good' school. Indeed, we were verbally told by the Inspector that we are a very strong Good. We are already working on the action the inspector gave us, both sharing the expertise we have in school and looking at recent research.

Year 4 Development Day at Wodson Park

Year 4 had a healthy start to their new year by taking part in the Wodson Park Development Day facilitated by the students at Presdales school, supported by the Hertford and Ware School Sports Partnership. The afternoon involved a range of activities including javelin, cricket, running and Bollywood dance! The children represented St Andrew's brilliantly and enjoyed the opportunity to try out all the different activities.



Key Stage 1 Police Morning

On Thursday, Year 1 and 2 were visited by Hertfordshire Police to learn about how the police service protects citizens and solves crimes. They looked for evidence in a crime scene, which the PCSOs set up on the playground. The children were taught how DNA helps to catch criminals, and how the police protect evidence from contamination with evidence bags. Each class also learned about police cars and got the chance to sit in one. They looked over the equipment that the police carry with them daily, and in their car, including a shield, traffic



accident signs and first aid equipment. The children really enjoyed their experience and were tasked with writing a report based on the evidence they collected.

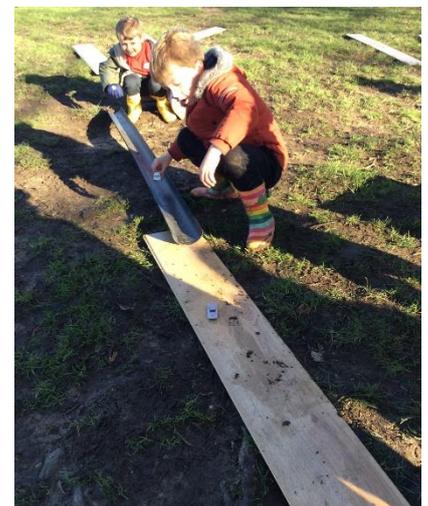


This inspiring visit gave the children a chance to experience being in the police service and the children were overheard discussing how much they wanted to become police officers afterwards. Thank you to Hertfordshire Police for their time.

OPAL News



This week the children have been having great fun being creative with some old floor boards and guttering. They have loved making race tracks and seeing who can get their car to go the furthest!



If you are having a post-Christmas clear-out, please think whether or not you have something that we might be able to utilise as part of our outdoor play provision. We would love any old toy vehicles or small world animals, old bikes or scooters, tarpaulins to cover our vehicles and anything else that might make our playtimes more fun!

Here's a reminder of our OPAL account on X: @StAndrewsOPAL



Red Certificates

Our end of term Red Certificates were given to two children per class who had shown outstanding behaviour and attitude towards learning throughout the term.

These were given on the last day of term in December and I would like to share the names with you.

Last term our Red Certificates were presented to:

Nursery	Zoha for her excellent attitude towards school life and for her positivity. Jacob for his excellent progress and wonderful attitude to learning.
Reception	Poppy D for her increased confidence and for giving things a go even when unsure. Jonah for his wonderful attitude to all aspects of school life.
Year 1	Fiadh for excellent listening and working hard on all that she does. Jaxson for being kind, caring and always trying hard.
Year 2	Tommy for his excellent positive attitude to his studies and kindness towards others. Isla for her hard work and friendship.
Year 3	Jack R for constantly trying to make each piece of work better than the last. Isabelle for her positive mind-set and achievement, especially with her reading fluency.
Year 4	Robyn for spreading joy and happiness amongst the class. Louie for his positive attitude towards school and his enthusiasm in class.
Year 5	Sariban for her positive attitude towards her learning and being kind and caring at all times. Thomas for always wanting to challenge himself in his learning and being a kind and considerate member of the class.
Year 6	Millie A for her fantastic attitude and effort in all areas. George for his positive attitude in class and his hard work throughout the Autumn term.

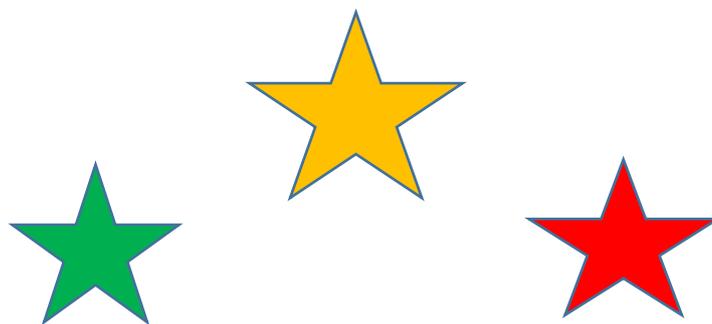
Staffing News



Mrs Mills is expecting a baby! This is wonderful news for her and her family. It does sadly mean, for us, that she will be taking her maternity leave from Easter. We are presently advertising the post and will inform you when we have appointed the new Reception teacher covering her maternity leave. I am sure you will join me in congratulating Mr and Mrs Mills and we look forward to meeting this new member of the St Andrew's family, when he or she arrives.



Attendance Ladder



Best Class Attendance Award
Week beginning: 8.1.24
Year 5



Times Tables Rock Stars

This week's mini league winner:

Year 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.

This week staff have chosen:

Nursery: Lottie for her beautiful singing.

Reception: Oskar for having a wonderful attitude to school life.

Year 1: Freddie for giving 100% in phonics and super sounding out.

Year 2: George M for being a role model in class and a helpful learning partner.

Year 3: Joey for a brilliant start to the new term.

Year 4: Jermaine for representing the school brilliantly at the Wodson Park Development Day.

Year 5: Olivia for her fabulous effort and enthusiasm in maths.

Year 6: Charlie for his great contributions to class discussions.





Our Half Term Value: Joy

“Rejoice with those who rejoice.”

Romans 12:15

Our new Value Advocates for this term are:

	Class Value Advocate
Nursery	Brooke
Reception	Gwilym
Year 1	Olivia
Year 2	Florence
Year 3	Evie
Year 4	Alby
Year 5	Dolly
Year 6	Annabelle

With kind regards

Mrs H Gillingham

OFFICE UPDATE

Dinners

Payment slips for Year 3 – 6 were sent home with the children today. Payments are requested to be made as soon as possible via WisePay. Thank you.

Burger Day

If your child usually has a home packed lunch on a Thursday and wishes to take part in the Burger Day next Thursday, 18th Jan, but hasn't yet returned the permission slip, please email or hand it in to the Office by Monday, at the latest, so that the kitchen can be notified of numbers.

Applications for NURSERY class for Sept '24

Applications for St Andrew's Nursery class for September 2024 are now open. This is applicable to children born between 1st September 2020 and 31st August 2021. Application forms are available on our school website and from our School Office. The application deadline is **29th February 2024**. 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 '24 close on Monday!

This is applicable to children born between 1st September 2019 and 31st August 2020. **The online application deadline is THIS MONDAY - 15th January 2024.**



School Uniform – MAPAC

Our school uniform provider, MAPAC, are offering a 10% discount off uniform and bags until 31.1.24.

Quote: JS2024 for 10% OFF. Please see their website for ordering:

<https://www.mapac.com/education/parents/uniform/standrewscofevcprimaryschoolsg128bz>

After School clubs – 1st Half Spring Term

Booking for Super Star Sport's clubs for next half term is now available at <https://superstarsportuk.class4kids.co.uk> – 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.s

Local News:

Hertfordshire County Council 2023 Residents' Survey Results

HCC invited you to have your say, and now they are delighted to share with you the results of their annual Residents' Survey.

HCC thank everyone who took part. Your views will be invaluable in informing our delivery of work from public health to sustainability, growth to community protection, and adult care to children's services.

You can find the results at www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/residentsurvey

If you have any questions, please contact Corporate.Policy@hertfordshire.gov.uk

Beezee Bodies

Our FREE BZ Families in-person programmes run in several locations across Hertfordshire, and our new programmes begin **NEXT WEEK - the closest one to your school is on Thursday, 18th January at Pinewood School Academy Trust, SG12 9PB**. Families can sign-up to these FREE sessions NOW 😊

Please see flyer attached to this newsletter for more details.

UPCOMING DATES - 2024

- Mon 15th Jan:** Applications for RECEPTION class for Sept '24 - deadline
- Wed 7th Feb:** Year 2 Trip to St Albans Cathedral
Year 3 & 4 Parents' Multiplication Workshop – details to follow
- Tues 13th Feb:** Parent Consultation Meetings
- Thurs 15th Feb:** Parent Consultation Meetings
- Mon 19th – Fri 23rd Feb:** Half Term
- Mon 4th– Fri 8th Mar:** Year 5 Bikeability – details to follow
- Wed 20th – Fri 22nd Mar:** Year 5 Hudnall Park Residential
- Thurs 28th Mar:** Last day of Spring term

