



St Andrew's Church of England (VC) Primary School

'Learn to love and love to learn; in God's love each one will shine.'

St Andrew's Weekly Update

Date: 15.10.21

Headteacher: Mrs H Gillingham

Value: Generosity

Dear Parents and Carers,

Governor's Day

On Wednesday, the school hosted a Governor's Day where all of our Governors were invited in to see the school in action. Our School Captains and Deputy Captains provided guided tours around the school and very proudly showed off all of the recent improvements. Governors attended our Collective Worship, visited classrooms and had opportunities to talk to the children about their learning.

As always, our children behaved impeccably and were very keen to show off their work. In the afternoon, most of the classes completed an R.E lesson and this helped the Governors to see the sequencing of this area of the curriculum. They were impressed with the depth of the children's understanding and reflections on the themes being covered this half term and also by the range of different activities being completed. These ranged from building Sukkots in Year 2 and eating their snacks in them, to painting expressions of God in Year 5. It really was a lovely day.



Harvest Service

On Thursday, we held our Harvest Service in St Andrew's Church. This was another lovely event and the first time in the church for many of our younger children. Each class presented either a poem, song or prayer which they had prepared, while Faith Factory led the prayers at the end. All the children said how much they enjoyed being back in the church.



As well as leading the Harvest Service, Rev'd Sarah also came into school that afternoon to talk to the Nursery and Reception classes about their R.E unit. The children have been exploring the wonder of creation and the beauty of our earth. Both classes have produced stunning displays and, I am told asked Rev'd Sarah some difficult questions.



Year 6 Young Shakespeare Company Visit

On Friday afternoon, Year 6 explored the story of Romeo and Juliet, having the opportunity to act out many of the scenes. It was clear as the afternoon progressed that we have a number of budding thespians.

Toy and Book Fair –Thursday 21st October 2021

Our Faith Factory have been hard at work, encouraging our children to have a clear out and donate any unwanted toys or books. The sale will be held, in school time **next Thursday** where the toys and books will be on offer for either 20p, 50p or £1. Every class will have an opportunity to buy during the morning. For ease of sales, please could we request that the children **only come to school with coins to the amounts above** and not notes as these will be difficult to change. Ideally their money should be in a named bag/ purse so that we do not have any lost coins. Please note that this is one of the very rare occasions where the school can accept cash.

Ruby, from the Faith Factory asked me to publish the following:

“Just a reminder that the Toy and Book Sale is happening next Thursday 21st. The deadline for collection is Monday 18th October. We have already got a generous amount of toys but it would be amazing if we could get even more to sell.”

The proceeds from the sale will go towards both the Helping Charity in The Gambia

<http://helpingcharity.org.uk/Fundraising.html> and to the Bishop of St Alban’s Harvest appeal, which is aiming to provide clean water in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

<https://www.stalbans.anglican.org/faith/bishop-s-annual-harvest-appeal/>



Football and Netball matches

We had our first friendly Football match with Mill Mead School on Thursday after school and our children did tremendously well. Our football team had an 8:3 victory, which was an amazing start to their season.

Relationship and Sex Education

As a school it is our statutory duty to share and gain your thoughts on our Relationship and Sex Education Policy on an annual basis. Attached to this newsletter is our reviewed Relationship and Sex Education Policy for you to read which outlines how as a school we teach Relationships and Sex education across the school. Our PSHE page on our website provides further information about what is covered by our scheme in each year group.

<https://standrews323.herts.sch.uk/curriculum/subjects/pshe/>

If you have any questions about this policy or the content of our school’s scheme of work, please do contact the school through admin@standrews323.herts.sch.uk

You Can Toucan Awards



These awards are presented each week to those children who have gone beyond the expected and done something exceptional.

This week staff have chosen:

Nursery: Niamh for her fantastic effort with everything in class.

Year R: George for always having a fantastic attitude towards his learning.

Year 1: Laura for always making good choices and doing the right thing.

Year 2: Grace and Louie for their positive attitude in maths and English and always wanting to learn.

Year 3: Ava for her fantastic attitude to her learning and always producing immaculate work.

Year 4: Micah for his focus in class and hard work throughout the week.

Year 5: Amelia R for her effort in every lesson.

Year 6: Esme for always living the values and being generous to others.

Our half-Term Value: Generosity

Jesus said; "Love your neighbour as yourself" (Mark 12.31)



This half term our Value Advocates are:

Bonnie (N), Jax (R), Stella (Y1), Samuel (Y2), Ava (Y3), Millie F (Y4), Tommy (Y5) and Esme (Y6)

This week our Values Advocates selected the following children to receive their values certificate:

Nursery: Ezra for being generous at all times in class.

Reception: Florence for helping others to do the right thing.

Year 1: Marnie for being generous with her time and helping others.

Year 2: Alby for including others in his games.

Year 3: Abigail for being generous and making friendship bracelets for the whole class.

Year 4: Jasmine for being kind and generous.

Year 5: Ella for being really kind to everyone.

Year 6: Billy for helping others catch up after being away and being generous with his time.

I hope you have a peaceful and happy weekend.

Kind regards,

Mrs Gillingham

OFFICE UPDATE

REMINDER: Parent Consultation Evenings

Booking is now open on ParentMail for our Parent Consultation Evenings on Tuesday 19th and Thursday 21st October. **If you have not already signed up, please do so as soon as possible.** If you are having any difficulties accessing the bookings, please contact the School Office.

Individual School Photographs

Earlier this week, we were pleased to have been able to send home the processed orders for school photographs. If your child was present on the day the photographs were taken (Monday, 20th September) and you have any queries – please contact the School Office.

Request for outstanding payments ASAP

As we head next week, for the end of this half term, parents and carers are reminded to ensure that their child (ren's) accounts are up to date. **Any outstanding payments for dinner money, breakfast club, 30hr Nursery provision, trips etc are to be paid by Wisepay, by next Wednesday, 20th October at the very latest.** (A reminder we are no longer able to accept any payments via cash/cheques). Please contact the School Office if you are unsure of what may be owing or if you have any queries. Thank you.

SuperStar Sports After School Clubs – 2nd half Autumn Term

We are delighted to announce the forthcoming block of after school clubs for after half term are now 'live'. Bookings can be made on the SuperStar Sports website www.superstarsport.co.uk – click on 'Book Now' and select the club your child wishes to take part in, under the heading of our school name. The clubs will continue as per this half term, but will need to be re-booked to continue.

As per usual, children already booked onto the SuperStar Sports After School Wraparound Care, will have the option of joining the sports clubs for their year group, on that evening.

If you are a parent in receipt of Free School Meals, we are able to offer the opportunity for your child (ren) **to take up a sports club for the coming half term, free of charge.** (Please note: this will apply to the club appropriate to your child (ren's) year group and is not applicable for the Art Club). Parents and carers should follow the link above and click 'Pay Later'. We ask that this is followed up by an email to admin@standrews323.herts.sch.uk letting the School Office know that you wish the school to pay for the club on your behalf. If you have any queries or concerns, please contact the School Office on 01920 870097 or to check your eligibility.

The after school clubs will be offered first-come, first served via the booking website.

Year 6

Reminder: Secondary school applications will close on 31st October

We have been asked by the HCC Admissions Dept to contact all our Yr 6 parents who are yet to apply for a secondary school place for September '22. The deadline to make an online application is 31st October. HCC Admissions would like to make parents aware that the deadline is both in half term and at a weekend, when their staff will not be available to assist if you have any queries. Please may we suggest that applications are completed as soon as parents have made their decisions and ideally before we break for the half term holiday.

Nasal Flu Immunisation

Our school nurse team from NHS England have completed their first round of nasal flu immunisations last Tuesday, 12th October. If your child has not received their nasal flu immunisation eg. if they were

unwell or absent on the day – a further catch up session will follow in school. We have been told the local doctor surgeries do not undertake these sessions. Please ensure a permission form has been completed and returned to the School Office to enable the NHS Nurse Team to include your child in their catch up rota. Further copies are available on request. Thank you.

Vaccinations

We have received communication for circulation to parents and carers from Jim McManus, Director of Public Health. The attached information requests that parents and carers check their children's vaccinations against the also attached Routine Childhood Immunisation Programme, to ensure their child (ren) have received all the vaccinations they are due, age dependant and if they are up to date. Further information can also be found on www.nhs.uk/vaccinations

REMINDER: New Inset Date: Due to the Queen's Jubilee celebrations

As you may be aware, an extra bank holiday has been announced for Friday, 3rd June 2022 for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. As we, in line with many other schools, are on half term break at the time of this celebration we have been directed to identify another day of 'holiday' in the year, on which the school will be closed. In order to keep close to the Platinum Jubilee date, our school will close on Monday June 6th 2021. We will therefore also be closed on Tuesday 7th June 2022 for the staff Inset Day, previously set for Monday 6th June.

and finally... we are delighted to announce Ware Fireworks Display is back! Saturday, 6th November at High Oak Road, Ware – Gates open at 5.30pm and the event starts at 6.30pm – details attached.

Upcoming dates:

19th October Parent Consultation Evening via Zoom

20th October: Yr 2 trip to Duxford Museum

21st October Parent Consultation Evening via Zoom

22nd October: **INSET DAY**

25th October – 29th October: **HALF TERM**