



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: 17.11.23 Headteacher: Mrs H Gillingham

Value: Hope

Dear Parents and Carers,

Staffing News

We are very pleased to announce that Miss Murray has decided to stay and continue working with our children. She had been offered a wonderful job working in support of children across the area but on reflection has presently decided that St Andrew's is the right place for her to be. We are overjoyed at the news, as her expertise would have been sorely missed.

Unfortunately, at the other end of the school Mrs Nelson-Turner has made the difficult decision to resign. We will be very sad to see her leave us. She has loved working at St Andrew's but, as we all know, balancing home-life with work commitments is not always easy. We are presently advertising her post.

Hertfordshire County Council SEND Ofsted Report

We have been sent the following from HCC about their SEND Inspection, which happened last July.

"Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission (CQC) have published their Area SEND inspection report of the Hertfordshire Local Area Partnership.

The [inspection report](#) identified 'widespread and / or systemic failings' across the local area partnership led by Hertfordshire County Council and the NHS Hertfordshire and West Essex Integrated Care Board (ICB), leading to 'significant concerns about the experiences and outcomes of children and young people with SEND'.

The Hertfordshire local area partnership, led by the County Council and NHS Integrated Care Board, accept the findings of the report. We recognise that too many children and young people with SEND and their families have not received the service and outcomes they need and deserve.

We are all, across the whole partnership, sorry for this and are taking urgent action to address the priority."

The report does highlight many areas which we as a school and many of our parents have been battling against over the past few years; i.e. delays in identification of SEND, lack of funding and a lack of appropriate resources and support. Despite all of these ever increasing challenges, we have



always championed all of our children, including those with SEND, and we will continue to always do so. We are looking forward to reading the HCC SEND action plan which will be published later this month and hope that there will be a tangible change in how SEND is supported by the Local Authority.

Tag Rugby

On Tuesday a team of Year 4 and a team of Year 5 children played in the Hertford and Ware Rugby Festival. Despite the inclement weather, Year 4 played really well as a team and managed to win all of their games. Unfortunately, Year 5 were only able to complete two games before the tournament had to be cancelled due to the weather. A big thank you to Mr McNaughton, who accompanied the children and survived the wind and rain!

Year 4 Trip to the British Museum



The week started with a trip out for Year 4 to learn all about the Egyptians at the British Museum. The children were given a talk about how to be historical detectives – looking for clues about the past through studying historical artefacts. They then toured the Egyptian galleries, which included galleries of monumental sculptures as well as the everyday objects discovered by archaeologists, including food stuff, shoes and jewellery.



Magic Maths!

In maths, Year 1 have been learning about 3D shapes. We have been learning the names of different shapes and exploring the properties of them by building towers to see which shapes are best to build with. We also experimented with which shapes can roll!



Children's Commissioner for England - "The Big Ambition" survey

We have been sent the following link for you and your children to take part in the 'Big Ambition' project. www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigambition

The Children's Commissioner for England, has a statutory duty to protect and promote the views and interests of children. The Big Ambition provides a much-needed opportunity for the children of England to tell political decision makers what is important to them ahead of the General Election. The Commissioner will be sharing their responses with Government to ensure that children's voices are heard.

This survey is for all children and young people aged 0 to 18. Children aged 6 to 18 can complete the survey themselves. For those who may need additional support or for children under six parents and other adults can complete the survey on their behalf. The survey can be completed here:

www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigambition

Further resources are available on their [website](#)



Attendance Ladder



Best Class Attendance Award

Week beginning: 6.11.23

Year 3

Times Tables Rock Stars



This week's winner is:
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: Sophie for working hard at learning to draw.

Reception: Blake for showing us his wonderful creative side.

Year 1: Elena for being a kind friend to everyone

Year 2: Coming next week!

Year 3: Bronte for her super work in science.

Year 4: Adaley for growing in confidence and sharing ideas in class.

Year 5: Bela for her superb work ethic.

Year 6: George for his hard work and enthusiasm all week





Our Half Term Value: Hope

*"May the God of Hope fill you with joy and peace."
Romans 15:13*

Our Value Advocates have selected the following Value Champions for the week.

Value Advocates	Value Champions for the week
Nursery: Arabelle chose	Harry for his wonderful, positive attitude to learning
Reception: Olivia chose	Damon for being a hopeful and cheerful member of our class
Year 1: Kane chose	Mia for her positive attitude
Year 2: Tommy chose	Hugo for being an all-round hopeful and caring child
Year 3: Harriet chose	Marnie for bringing the spirit of hope into our classroom
Year 4: Robyn chose	Buddy for being a caring friend when others are upset
Year 5: Jude chose	Thomas for being a happy and hopeful member of the class
Year 6: Millie F chose	Millie A for her kind and caring behaviour when a friend was upset.

With kind regards

Mrs H Gillingham

OFFICE UPDATE

Vaccination UK have asked us to forward the following information:

Flu Vaccination Final Reminder

Please note this is NOT the Covid vaccination.

Dear Parent/Carer,

If your child has missed having their Flu vaccination at school, please click on the link below to book a catch-up appointment at a local clinic. You can book for both the Flu Nasal Spray and the Porcine free IM Vaccine. During last year's flu season the flu virus caused children and young people to be admitted to hospital, and some into intensive care, at increasing rates to previous years. The flu virus could make your child extremely unwell and can lead to severe ear infections and bronchitis and pneumonia (chest infections) in children and young people.

Flu vaccines are safe and very effective at reducing the risk of contracting flu. Children who have the flu vaccine are less likely to pass the virus on to friends and family, especially those who may be at greater risk from flu, such as young babies, elderly people or friends and relatives with a serious health condition.

To Book an appointment please click [HERE](#)

(if you are using a PC/Laptop, please right click and then select open link)

Area	Venue	Date
Welwyn	Whitehill Centre	2 nd December
Watford	Meridan Community Centre	16 th December
Hemel Hempstead	Leverstock Green Village Hall	25 th November 9 th December
Bishops Stortford	Bishops Park Community Centre	16 th December



After School clubs – 2nd Half Autumn 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.

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

Herts County Council online admissions applications for Reception class in September 2024 is now open.

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

TT Rockstars Parent webpage launch

TT Rockstars have created a parent/carer webpage to help you to support your Y2 –Y6 child with their multiplication and times tables. Please follow the link below:

ttrockstars.com/parents/

What's included?

- Importance of times tables
- TTRS intro video
- Parent guide PDF
- FAQs answered
- Free downloadables



Local News:

Herts Music Service – local music groups

Herts Music Service are on a recruitment drive for pupils to attend groups within the East Herts and Broxbourne area - so much can be gained by attending groups -musically and socially. Attached are posters for the groups that HMS run at their centres in Bishops Stortford, Broxbourne and Hertford.

Hertfordshire's Community Risk Management Plan

Sent on behalf of Herts Fire and Rescue Service: Please support Hertfordshire Fire and Rescue Service to understand how prepared people who live and work in Hertfordshire are for dealing with emergencies, building a picture of the barriers there are to people joining the fire and rescue service, and learn how it can better engage with the local community



You can participate in this survey by clicking <https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/> . The survey takes less than 10 minutes to complete and the deadline to complete is 19th November 2023. Should you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact us on SafeandResilient@hertfordshire.gov.uk

UPCOMING DATES

NOV

24th Nov: Non-uniform - Sweets donations for the FOSTA Christmas Fayre
FOSTA Pre-loved uniform and Christmas jumper sale - 3.15pm outside the Canopy

DEC

1st Dec: Non-uniform - Bottles donations for the FOSTA Christmas Fayre

4th Dec: KS1 Nativity matinee - 2.30pm

5th Dec: KS1 Nativity matinee – 2.30pm
KS1 Nativity evening performance - 6.00pm
CHOIR – The Herts and Ware Schools Carol Service – Christchurch Ware

6th Dec: CHOIR – The Festival of Carols – Hoddesdon town centre – (9.30 – 11am - details to follow)

8th Dec: Non-uniform – Cakes donations for the FOSTA Christmas Fayre
FOSTA Christmas Fayre – 5.00pm – 7.00pm

11th Dec: EYFS Nativity 9.30am

12th Dec: EYFS Nativity 9.30am
FOSTA School Christmas Disco – details to follow

13th Dec: School Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper Day

14th Dec: School Christmas Church Service

19th Dec: End of term

20th Dec: INSET Day

JAN 2024

8th Jan: **RETURN TO SCHOOL**

