



# 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: 17.9.21

Headteacher: Mrs H Gillingham

Value: Generosity

Dear Parents and Carers,



As part of our school development plan, we are continuing to improve our outside area. One of the areas we have been particularly focusing on is Copping's Corner. The garden is actually positioned where the old school swimming pool was back in the 1960s and 1970s. It has needed a bit of attention for a while, and so over the summer the rotting seats and old stage were removed. Last weekend a planting party, consisting of the Fowle and Moorcroft families and other staff members spent their weekend planting the beds with new plants. We

have also purchased new benches for the children to use during their lunchbreak and during their lesson times for outside learning opportunities. It really is being transformed and I really would like to extend our thanks to all those who gave up their time to create such a lovely space. Their generosity is really living our present school value. Once the finishing touches are completed, the garden will be opened up to the children.



**FOSTA (Friends of St Andrew's School) – we need you help!**

**CAN YOU HELP?**

Sadly, at the end of the last academic year we said farewell to many of our established and very experienced FOSTA parents. At present we have no FOSTA committee and really need your help in order to restart and refresh this vital part of our school community. Over the years FOSTA has helped purchase and pay for items which have helped develop the school or supported the children. They have helped with school trips, buying library furniture and various items which the school and children have needed. Their events such as the Christmas Fayre, School Marathon and Summer fete have also provided exciting whole school moments which the children and adults all treasure.

If you are interested in helping, supporting or being on the FOSTA committee could you please contact the school ([admin@standrews323.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@standrews323.herts.sch.uk)). We would also like to invite you to a FOSTA Friday coffee afternoon, on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> October (2.30-3.15pm) to welcome and answer any questions you may have about being part of FOSTA.

### Playground Opening

We have been asked if we could advertise this exciting event being held this Saturday. It sounds like it will be a lot of fun.

**Stanstead Abbotts Parish Council** 

**The Playground and Outdoor Gym Opening Event**

Saturday 18th September, 10:30am to 12 noon  
The Playground, Stanstead Abbotts (by the village car park off the High Street)

**Why not come along and join in?**

While the pandemic has delayed the official opening, why not come along and try our adult outdoor gym equipment – prizes on offer!

Bring your children to the playground – there will be a selection of goodie bags for younger children too!

**Looking forward to seeing you!**

Ribbon cutting at 10.30 AM  
Goodie bag treasure hunt for children under 8 at 10.40  
Gym demos and prizes 10.40 – 12 noon

**Free goodies available!**



While our partners Proludic, the excellent supplier of the gym and new playground equipment, have generously offered to provide goodies for the young and adult gym users, we can't guarantee everyone will get a prize!



### Parking Issues

I am sorry to write that we are still having a very few parents/carers trying to park in our staff carpark. This is a health and safety issue as cars are parking and reversing whilst families are using the footpath along the bottom of the carpark. We have also had the situation of staff having to leave their classes to move cars where parents have been blocked in. Please be reminded that the carpark is strictly for staff parking only, at both the start and end of the day. Our children are told that they must not exit or enter the school across the carpark and know that this is out of bounds.

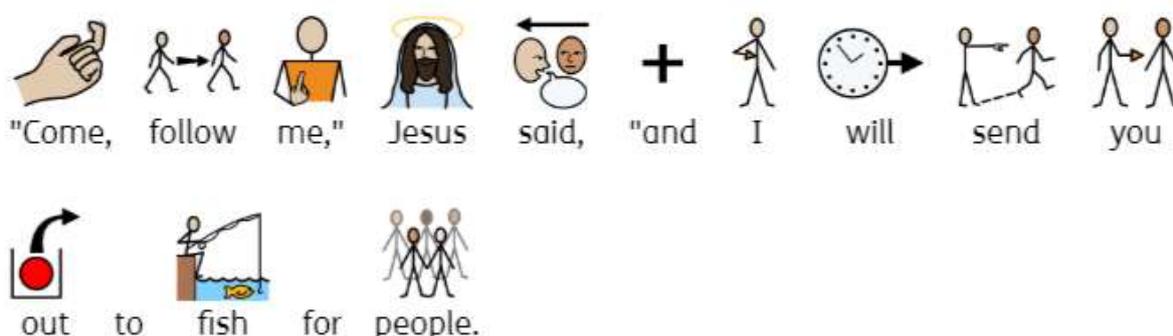
I have also been requested by our neighbours to ask that our parents park considerately on the local streets. Apparently some of the grass verges are becoming torn up through the parking. Mr King, our school crossing patrol, is also very concerned about parents reversing into Roydon Road from our Cow Barns entrance. We do appreciate that there is little room for parking around the school area and would advocate the use of the village carpark and walking the rest of the way to school.

Please see the attached the flyer from Hertfordshire Constabulary for further guidance on safe parking.

## SEND and INCLUSION Corner - Mrs Davey

At the heart of a lot of special educational needs is learning how to communicate with each other. One of the many ways is to use more visual information to tell the picture story of what we are trying to express. This is, in fact, helpful for all learners. The notion of finding pathways of communication is built into our school ethos and vision wherein we want everyone to be included and loved. This is at the heart of the Gospel message of learning to love as well as loving to learn.

Below is an example of the use of widgits. We use Widgits to help construct social stories, visual timetables, signs and symbols and an array of communication avenues to enable children to understand their day and their learning.



### 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: Emily** for following the classroom rules and being an example to others.

**Reception: Elsie** for always going out of her way to help others.

**Year 1: Frankie** for always working hard and showing a positive attitude to his learning.

**Year 2: Lexi and Noah** for their excellent attitude in class

**Year 3: Ava** for her effort and attitude across the week.

**Year 4: Blessing** for his willingness to edit and improve his writing.

**Year 5: Kai** for his focus and enthusiasm towards his learning.

**Year 6: Lily** for her excellent attitude and fantastic effort in all lessons.

## Poppy Patterns

The following has been sent to us by a parent as a simpler crochet pattern for our Poppy appeal.

We have a poppy box, at the main entrance for you to pop in any of your contributions.



Thank you for all those we have received so far.

### Pattern:

UK crochet terms: ch = Chain, dc = double crochet (US = single crochet), tr = treble crochet (US = double crochet)

#### Round 1 in black yarn:

Chain 6 and join to first chain with a slip stitch to form a loop. Or make a magic loop.

Chain 2 (counts as your first double crochet dc), Work 11 dc into the centre loop. Makes 12 stitches in total. For a larger black centre you can work

treble crochet instead of double crochet

#### Round 2 in red yarn:

1. Start with any stitch and ch2 (counts as first double crochet). Work 1 dc into same stitch.
2. Continue working 2 dc into every stitch = 24 stitches.
3. Join with a slip stitch into the second chain stitch you did at the beginning of the round.

#### Round 3 make petals in red:

1. Ch 2 (counts as a dc),
2. Work 2 tr into next stitch x 4 = 8 tr
3. 1 dc into next stitch = 10 stitches = 1 petal
4. 1 dc into next stitch is the start of your next petal - repeat steps 2 - 4 three more times

#### Round 4 (optional):

1. Into each tr stitch from previous round work 2 dc
2. Work a slip stitch in between the two dc from previous round. This gives the 'dip' between the two petals clear definition.

### Our half-Term Value: Generosity

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

As part of our preparation for our SIAMs inspection, we are reviewing all aspects of our school life. On Thursday a consultant visited our school and as part of that she observed our Thursday Collective Worship. She was very impressed with how reflective and engaged the children were and highly praised all that we are doing at school. Next week, Rev'd Sarah will be supporting me in collecting pupil voice about our Collective

Worship and considering ways of improving it further.



Please have a lovely weekend.

Kind regards,  
**Mrs Gillingham**

## **OFFICE UPDATE**

### **Individual & Siblings in school photographs**

We are pleased to be able to invite our school photographer back again this term and welcome her this coming Monday, 20<sup>th</sup> September. Children will have their individual photographs taken along with any siblings on roll at the school.

**PE KITS:** As the school photographs are being taken this coming Monday, parents are requested to ensure that all children come to school in their full uniform on Monday – and not their PE Kit.

**UNIFORM:** We are aware that some of our parent orders for new uniform are still yet to arrive. Mapac was due to recommence their free, term time delivery service from today, but due to the massive increase in orders over the summer, this will now be delayed by one week.

Mapac have again sent their apologies for the inconvenience caused to parents. The combination of delayed shipping, increased order levels and various Covid related issues have meant that despite completing on more than 25,000 pieces of uniform this summer, some orders are still to be finalised.

**UNIFORM FOR PHOTOS:** At school, we are holding on to a selection of sample uniform and newly washed items ready for a FOSTA second-hand uniform sale. If your child has not been able to obtain a school jumper or cardigan for the school photograph – we are happy for them to use one of these items in the interim, so they have a uniform on for the photograph. Your child will be given a jumper/cardigan on Monday morning to wear for the occasion.

If you do not have a cardigan / jumper ***and do not wish for your child to borrow an item*** – please let the School Office know by Monday morning. They would be able to wear a plain red item for the occasion instead.

We shall be sending information shortly with regard to a second-hand uniform sale.

### **Year 6**

**Secondary school applications are now open.** During September and October, secondary schools will be holding their open events for children in Year 6. Further details have been sent home this week – or can be obtained from: [www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/schoolsdirectory](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/schoolsdirectory) **Deadline: Applications must be made online by 31<sup>st</sup> October.** If you require assistance, please ask at the School Office.

### **Head Lice**

It's that time of year again! Now the children are back in school, please take time to regularly check your child's head for head lice. Please see the attached link for further up to date information from the School Nurse Team, Hertfordshire. <https://www.enhertscg.nhs.uk/head-lice>

### **Nasal Flu Immunisation Consent Form**

All parents of children from Reception to Year 6 have now been sent a copy of the current Nasal Flu Immunisation Consent Form from NHS England. Please complete the form and return to the School Office for collation. The information will be collected by the NHS Nursing Team prior to their visit in mid October. Children will not be administered the nasal spray without permission.

## **Reports**

Reminder: Please could any families who have **report slips** from the end of the summer term send them back into school as soon as possible. Thank you.

## **Wisepay / Parentmail**

As mentioned last week, we are aware that some of our new parents and carers are currently unable to access WisePay and ParentMail. With our apologies to these families, we are continuing to work on this issue and expect them to be up and running by next week. In the meantime, Wisepay have produced an updated 'Parents' Guide' which we have attached for your convenience.

## **Rightstart Breakfast Club**

Mrs Randall and Mrs Hoskin are pleased to welcome our children in Reception to Year 6 to our mornings breakfast club. Bookings can be made via [rightstart@standrews323.herts.sch.uk](mailto:rightstart@standrews323.herts.sch.uk) or by calling 07762 439703. Doors open at 7.15am and breakfast will not be a disappointment!

## **Super Star Sport Wraparound Club: OPEN 5 DAYS A WEEK FROM 3.15 – 5.45PM**

Super Star Sport wraparound care club runs every weekday afternoon from 3.15pm – 5.45pm and costs £9 per session. If you would like to book your child a place, please go to their website: <https://www.superstarsport.co.uk/sports-club/> and click on 'info & booking' under our school name.

If you would like to contact the company directly, please call 01992 766707 or email at: [info@superstarsport.co.uk](mailto:info@superstarsport.co.uk). Payments can be made by childcare vouchers if this is preferred.

## **After School Clubs**

We are delighted our after school clubs are now up and running for this half of the autumn term. Please see previously sent information via Parentmail / or check out the posters around the school. The clubs can be booked via the above link with Super Star Sports. If you require any further information, please contact Super Star Sports directly on the number above, or pop in to the School Office.

## **Local Events**

Finally, if you are free on Saturday, 2<sup>nd</sup> October, Hatfield House Chamber Music Festival are holding a family concert! See attached leaflet for booking details.

## **Upcoming dates:**

<b>20<sup>th</sup> September:</b>	Individual and sibling school photos
<b>23<sup>rd</sup> September:</b>	Evening Catch up 'Meet the Teacher' @ 6.30- 7.30pm
<b>1<sup>st</sup> October:</b>	FOSTA Friday Coffee Afternoon 2.30 – 3.15pm
<b>12<sup>th</sup> October:</b>	Rec – Yr 6 Flu Vaccinations – details to follow
<b>13<sup>th</sup> October:</b>	Governor Day in school
<b>15<sup>th</sup> October:</b>	Yr 6 Young Shakespeare Workshop in school
<b>20<sup>th</sup> October:</b>	Yr 2 trip to Duxford Museum
<b>22<sup>nd</sup> October:</b>	<b>INSET DAY</b>

**25<sup>th</sup> October – 29<sup>th</sup> October:** HALF TERM