



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: 19.1.24 Headteacher: Mrs H Gillingham

Value: Joy

Dear Parents and Carers,

Number Day 2024

We are delighted to be supporting the NSPCC by taking part in Number Day on **Friday, 2 February 2024**. The NSPCC need our support more than ever. By raising money, we can help to fund their vital services such as Childline – the helpline that's always there for children and young people whatever their problem or concern. On average, a child contacts Childline every 45 seconds. Number Day is a great way to make maths fun

and bring about a positive, 'can-do' attitude towards it. We are having a fun day of maths activities, and we will be taking part in 'Dress up for Digits'. Pupils are invited to wear an item of clothing with a number or shape on it (football shirt, cap, netball shirt or even a onesie!), if they wish. Or get even more creative by dressing in a maths or numbers theme. To help raise money for the NSPCC, **we are asking for donations of £1 – cash only**, and we'd love everyone in the school to take part in this special event. Throughout the day, the children will be taking part in fun activities, set by the Number Day characters and a few celebrity friends. We hope this is a day full of fun and excitement.

Early Science Work

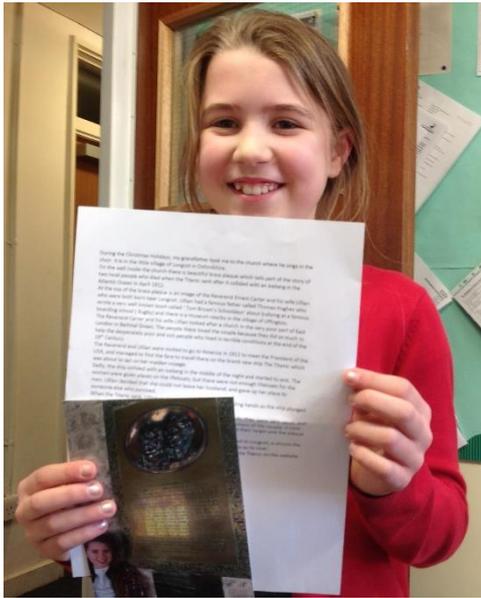


Our Nursery children have been scientists this week. They made great scientific observations, using all of their senses, when mixing ingredients to make gingerbread men. They were able to talk about the change in textures before and after the gingerbread men had been

cooked. They also experimented trying out different materials to add to water to make beautiful ice artwork, which are now proudly hanging in the EYFS garden.



Inspiring History Homework



Eliana (Year 4) brought in an account and photos of visiting a plaque, seen in a church, dedicated to a couple who lost their lives on the Titanic. She was so moved by the story that she felt compelled to write about them. She also told me about her own family link to the Titanic. Her work was of a very high standard.

Year 6 children have also been inspired to create their own responses to their research into WW2. Bobby brought family documents reaching back to WW1 and was clearly very proud of the family story they told. Eloise and Eifa had written imaginative, detailed diary accounts. Both Lela and Joseph had created detailed models. Lela's model showed a plane flying over countryside, while Joseph had recreated a trench. Emma had created a rations pack - including OXO cubes, a small chocolate package and sugar. All of the work showed real attention to detail and creativity. They were wonderful to look at.





OPAL News

This week we had the very exciting arrival of our new mud kitchen. The children have had a great time making stone soup, stir-fried leaves and many other wonderful concoctions! A big thank you to Mrs Thomas for securing a Tesco grant to purchase the new resource. If you have any old utensils or pots and pans, we would be grateful – we can add them to our kitchen!

It was also lovely to see the imaginative way that some of the children were using the old floorboards to create a slide underneath the trees.



Congratulations

Congratulations to Eloise (Y6) and Evelyn (Y3) for winning second places at their gymnastic club. They had to do a number of activities to achieve their medals, including vault and beam and are, quite rightly, very proud of their achievements.

Winter 2023/4 Cost of Living Resources

This winter, Hertfordshire County Council wants to make sure that advice and support is available to help every resident deal with the rising cost of living and to stay safe and well as temperatures drop. We have been asked to highlight the support and services Hertfordshire residents can access to help them manage. Please follow the attached link.

[Help to manage the cost of living | Hertfordshire County Council](#)



Free School Meal Eligibility

Over 6,000 households in Hertfordshire could be eligible for free school meals but so far haven't applied (Oct 23). By district, that breaks down as:

- Broxbourne – 753
- Dacorum – 861
- East Herts – 637
- Hertsmere – 679
- North Herts – 554
- St Albans – 488
- Stevenage – 535
- Three Rivers – 345
- Watford – 601
- Welwyn Hatfield – 715

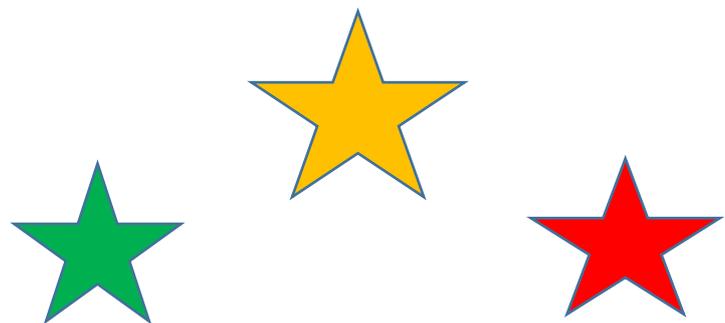
As well as missing out on a free school meal, households could be missing out on:

- school milk (aged 5 and over)
- food vouchers during school holidays
- SaverCard which gives half-fare bus travel to 11-19 year olds (usually £20)
- help with music lesson fees
- free school holiday activity camps (www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/happy).

For each child that is eligible for a free school meal (through low income), their school will benefit from additional pupil premium which will help to improve education for pupils.

Please follow the attached link www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals to see if your family is eligible.

Attendance Ladder



Best Class Attendance Award

Week beginning: 15.1.24

Year 3





Times Tables Rock Stars

This week's mini league winner:

Year 5

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 working hard on her counting.

Reception: Kasper for never rushing his work, for doing it to the best of his ability and giving 100%.

Year 1: Ronnie for 100% effort in everything and for going the extra mile in maths.

Year 2: Darcy for her continued efforts with her learning.

Year 3: Conor for working so well this term.

Year 4: Louie for his engagement and enthusiasm with his learning this week.

Year 5: Jack H for his enthusiasm and desire to challenge himself with his learning.

Year 6: Eloise for her effort and contributions in class this week.



Our Half Term Value: Joy

"Rejoice with those who rejoice."

Romans 12:15

Our new Value Advocates chose the following class Value Champions.

These are children who have lived the value during the week.

Class Value Advocate	Class Value Champion
Nursery: Brooke chose	Tommy for a joyful attitude to his learning
Reception: Gwilym chose	Lola bringing joy to our class
Year 1: Olivia chose	Fiadh for spreading joy to everyone with her lovely smile
Year 2: Florence chose	India for living all the values every day
Year 3: Evie chose	Caitlin for bringing joy to us with her wonderful self
Year 4: Alby chose	Noah for his kindness and the way he brings joy to others
Year 5: Dolly chose	Bela for being joyful and a kind friend to others
Year 6: Annabelle chose	Emma for being a kind and caring person to her friends

With kind regards

Mrs H Gillingham



OFFICE UPDATE

School Car Park

Please can we remind parents and carers that the children should not be walked up or down through the school car park via the upper gate. Please use the designated path and gate along the bottom of the car park.

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.

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/standrewscofevcprimaryschools128bz>

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

UPCOMING DATES - 2024

- Friday 2nd Feb:** NSPCC Number Day - wear an item of clothing with a number/ shape on it (football shirt, cap, netball shirt or even a onesie!), if children wish to take part. Suggested donation of £1 (cash only) for NSPCC.
- Wed 7th Feb:** Year 2 Trip to St Albans Cathedral
Year 3 & 4 Parents' Multiplication Workshop 3.20pm - 3.45pm – 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**
- Monday 15th April:** **Return to school – Summer Term**
- Friday 26th April:** 'Chance to Shine' Cricket Day Y2-6 school workshops – in school
- Mon 13th – Thur 16th May:** Year 6 SATs week
- Sun 19th - Weds 22nd May:** Year 6 PGL Residential trip

