



# 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*

Telephone: 01920-870097

Web: [www.standrews323.herts.sch.uk](http://www.standrews323.herts.sch.uk)

Email: [admin@standrews323.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@standrews323.herts.sch.uk)

## St Andrew's Weekly Update

Date: 22.9.23 Headteacher: Mrs H Gillingham

Value: Community

Dear Parents and Carers,

### Congratulations

Congratulations to Ava and Harriet (Year 5) and Lewis and Hattie (Year 4) who were part of a team of six, competing for the annual **Scouts Oxley Shield**, last weekend.

The competition included knowing all their knots, first-aid, orienteering and having to cook a meal and pudding as a team. They competed against ten other teams and came an amazing 2<sup>nd</sup> place. Well done to you all.



### Woodwind Assembly



On Tuesday, we had a special assembly led by Mrs Salter-Kay who performed and talked about both the clarinet and the saxophone. She is offering peripatetic lessons, through the Hertfordshire Music Service, to children in either Year 5 and Year 6.

If your child is interested in learning either of these instruments and would like to sign up, please click the following link, which will take you to Herts Music Service. If you have any queries, please contact the School Office.

<http://www.hertsmusicservice.org.uk/registeronline>

### Curriculum Evening

How we teach phonics and reading will be the main focus of our Curriculum Evening – which will be held, next week on **Tuesday, 26<sup>th</sup> September**. Each teacher will hold two identical sessions, the first starting at 6.00pm and the second at 6.30pm.



The children are very much encouraged to attend. Teachers will be encouraging children in their class to speak with their adults during the evening about how they learn to read at school. The children may even be asked to support their Class Teacher in delivering and even leading some of the sessions!



### Godly Play in Reception

On Wednesday Revd. Sarah led our Reception class through the Creation story in the Bible. The children explored what God created on each day and then thought about which might be their favourite day in the story. The children listened carefully and offered many wonderful thoughts and ideas.

### Church Events

Revd. Sarah has asked us to share with you two Church events, the posters for which are attached to this newsletter. The first is a Harvest Thanksgiving Service to be held on Sunday, 8th October at 11am. The service will be held at the beautiful St James' Church, Roydon Road, Stanstead Abbots and all are very welcome.

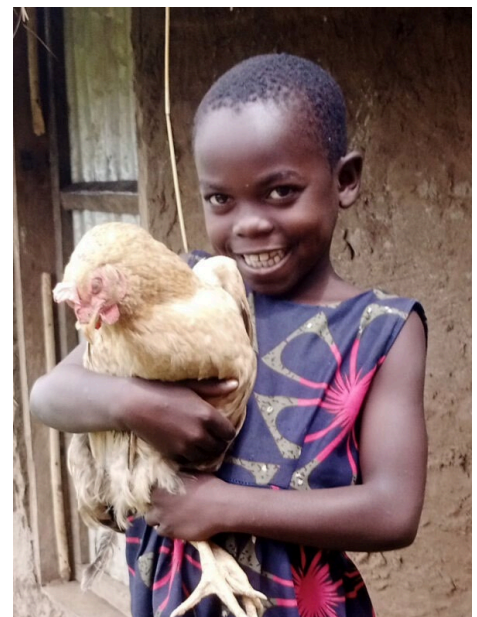
The second event is "an epic evening of poverty-beating fun" when a Big Quiz Night will be held on Saturday, 7th October at 7pm in the Wilshire Hall, St Andrew's Church. Tickets are £5. Please see the attached poster for further details and how to purchase your ticket.



### Harvest Festival Appeal

We are continuing to collect food items (cans, dry foodstuffs - such as pasta, rice, cereals etc.) and toiletries for the local food bank. Although the items will not be opened or consumed in school, as we are a nut-free school, please can we ask that any nut products (including jars of peanut butter or 'Nutella') are not brought in to school. Thank you for the items which have been donated so far.

We are also asking for **donations of books and toys** for a toy-book sale to raise money for the St Alban's Harvest appeal "Cracking Food Poverty Together." Money raised will go towards buying hens for Ugandan farmers - who



will then be able to sell the eggs and raise money for educating and supporting their families.

For more details about this cause please click on the link below.

<https://www.stalbansdiocese.org/parishsupport/growing-community/harvest-appeal-2023/>

Donations for either of these excellent causes can be brought in by the children to their classes.







### OPAL update from Mr Cooper

Thank you to everyone who donated a vehicle to our fleet. The number is ever growing and the children are loving being able to use them at playtime.

This week the children have loved creating pull along racers using the skateboards and skipping ropes!

Just a reminder that you can also stay up to date with everything OPAL by following our 'X' (formerly Twitter) account @StAndrewsOPAL

### SENDSCO News from Mrs Davey

We have information for four online courses 'Supporting Families with Protective Behaviours' for Mums, Dads and Carers. The places are free and fully funded by HCC Targeted Parenting Fund for families across Hertfordshire. The sessions run for 8 weeks. Each parent will have a course pack posted to them to use while they are on the course. Here are the details:

#### Online for Dads and male carers:

- Thursday evenings 5 Oct – 30 Nov 7.00pm - 9.00pm. [Please click here for the poster...](#)

#### Online for Mums, Dads & Carers

- Monday evenings, 2 Oct – 27 Nov 7.00pm – 9.00pm. [Please click here for the poster...](#)
- Tuesday mornings 3 Oct – 28 Nov 9.30am -11.30am. [Please click here for the poster...](#)
- Thursday mornings 5 Oct – 30 Nov 9.30am – 11.30pm. [Please click here for the poster...](#)

The Families Feeling Safe course can help parents to have more skills and strategies to:

- Understand the links between Feelings, Thoughts & Behaviour
- Understand what may be influencing their child's behaviour
- Respond to a range of feelings such as stress, anger, anxiety and worries
- Improve communication within the family and build better relationships
- Build on their own and their child's strengths
- Have strategies to help them and their family feel safe and have problem solving skills

Please speak to the School Office or to Mrs Davey if you would like any more information.

## Attendance Matters



*Best Class Attendance Award*

*Week beginning: 18.9.23*

*Year 3 with 100 % Attendance!*

## 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: Zoha** for showing great persistence in learning new skills.

**Reception: Alice** for having a wonderful attitude to all aspects of school life.

**Year 1: Emily** for always doing her best.

**Year 2: Amelia** for her conscientious attitude.

**Year 3: Connor** for being brave and **Archie** for doing his best.

**Year 4: Noah** for his effort in all his lessons this week.

**Year 5: Dolly** for trying hard in all her learning and being helpful to others.

**Year 6: Jasmine** for her service to St Andrew's.



## Our Half Term Value: Community

*"Live in harmony with one another."*

*Romans 12.16*

Our new Value Advocates for this half term chose the following Class Champions for the week. These are children seen living the value for the week.

Class Value Advocate	Class Champions
<b>Nursery: AJ</b> chose	<b>Edith</b> – for being such a kind and friendly member of the class
<b>Reception: Teddy</b> chose	<b>Zachary</b> – for being a kind and polite member of our community
<b>Year 1: Valentina</b> chose	<b>Phoenix</b> – for comforting friends if they are upset



<b>Year 2: Jax chose</b>	<b>Jeremy</b> – for being kind to everyone
<b>Year 3: Archie chose</b>	<b>Harriet</b> – for her community spirit
<b>Year 4: Daisy chose</b>	<b>Adaley</b> – for being a supportive friend at break time
<b>Year 5: Lily R chose</b>	<b>Ava</b> – for looking out for others and being caring
<b>Year 6: Joseph chose</b>	<b>Oscar</b> – for playing with and supporting the younger children at lunchtime

With kind regards

Mrs H Gillingham

### **OFFICE UPDATE**

#### **School individual and sibling photos**

The children have all brought home their photo slip this week after their photos were taken on Thursday. The photos should be ready to view from this evening. If you order by the deadline of 8<sup>th</sup> October, you will receive free delivery of your photo to school. If you miss this deadline you are still able to order, however a delivery charge will be made to send to your home address.

#### **Bag 2 School**

A reminder that a leaflet was sent home with all our children this week for Bag 2 School - a company that specialises in the reuse and recycling of good quality second hand clothing. The school will be paid for the total weight collected and there is no limit, so the more bags we send, the more money we will receive!

Bag 2 School have not provided bags but you are able to use your own, disposable bags.

Any filled bags can be dropped off with a FOSTA representative, who will be at the FOSTA shed every day at drop off (around 8.50am) and pickup (around 3.15pm), until the deadline of 9am on Thursday, 5th October. Supporting this initiative will also support our FOSTA, and therefore all our children in school. Thank you!

#### **Local Offer**

The Local Offer website lets parents, young people and professionals know what special educational needs and disabilities services are available in Hertfordshire, and who can access them. There is so much more than that, too. Please see the following link for more information: [www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/localoffer](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/localoffer)

#### **After School clubs – 1<sup>st</sup> Half Autumn Term**

Booking for Super Star Sport's clubs for this half term is 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](http://www.superstarsport.co.uk). For any queries: email [info@superstarsport.co.uk](mailto:info@superstarsport.co.uk) or phone 01992 766 707.

#### **Local News:**

##### **Community Alliance – Community Day**

See flyer attached to this newsletter for a Community Day on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> October from 9am-1pm, giving support and information for families in rural areas.

### **UPCOMING DATES**

#### **SEPT 2023**

**Mon 25<sup>th</sup>** Coram Life Tent in school for all classes PSHE

**Tues 26<sup>th</sup>** Curriculum Evening - see this newsletter for details



**Wed 27<sup>th</sup>** International Language Day

**Fri 29<sup>th</sup>** Year 3 trip - Celtic Harmony Camp

**OCT**

**Tues 3<sup>rd</sup>** Year 6 – PGL Residential trip – Launch meeting for Parents – 3.15pm

**Thurs 5<sup>th</sup>** Church Service – Harvest Festival

**Wed 11<sup>th</sup>** Governor Day

**Fri 13<sup>th</sup>** Year 6 – Stanstead Bury Farm

**Tues 17<sup>th</sup>** Parent Consultation Meetings 3.30pm – 7.00pm

**Thurs 19<sup>th</sup>** Parent Consultation Meetings 3.30pm – 7.00pm

**NOV**

**Wed 8<sup>th</sup>** Y5 trip – STEM Discovery Centre, Stevenage

**Mon 13<sup>th</sup>** Y4 trip – The British Museum, London

**Wed 15<sup>th</sup>** Reception – Year 6 - Flu vaccinations in school

