



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: 23.10.20

Headteacher: Mrs H Gillingham

Value: Hope

Dear Parents and Carers,

This has been quite a long but very successful half term in so many ways. Our children have been absolutely amazing in the way that they have settled down with the new routines. The class bubbles are proving to be a success and breaktimes and lunchtimes are seamless. Hopefully they will continue to be so with the daily hot dinner choice which begins when we return to school on Monday 2nd November. Thank you to all of you for your support with the many new ways of working (soft drop offs, wearing face masks on-site, Zoom parents' consultations etc) and a huge thank you to all of my staff who always amaze me with their resilience and determination to make this a happy and safe place for your children in which to learn.

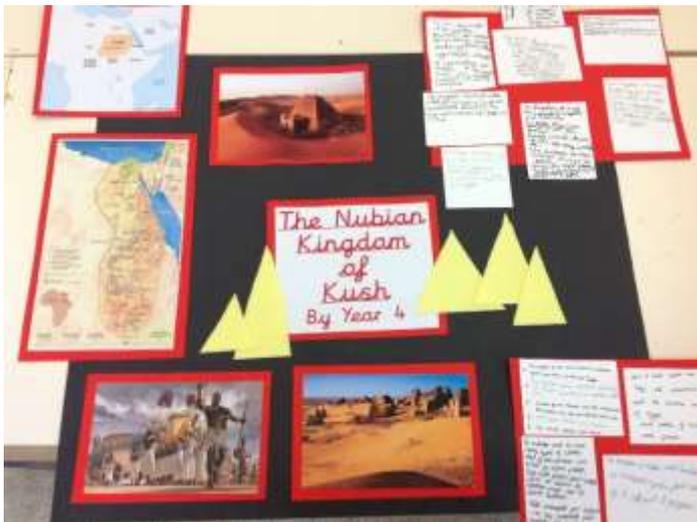
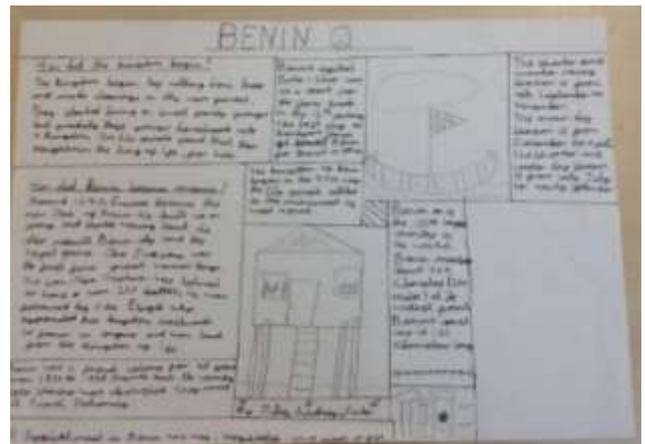
As an update to our Covid-19 organisation, we are needing to make a few changes after half term:

YEAR 6: We would like to begin **Year 6 lessons promptly at 8.45am every day**, so all our Year 6 children must arrive at school between 8.30am and 8.45am. As many of our Year 6 children walk to school by themselves, we believe that this shouldn't cause too many difficulties regarding social distancing. All other classes will continue the soft drop off from 8.30am to 9.00am.

YEAR 1: Bobtails have very kindly let us use their entrance for drop off this half term, which has been greatly appreciated. However this is causing difficulties for their children who are having to tackle quite high steps using their back entrance. We will therefore need our **Year 1 children to be dropped off using the main Reception entrance in the EYFS garden**. The Reception class will continue to use this entrance so parents will need to line up along the Reception path if we get a number of children arriving at the same time. Mr Price will welcome the Reception and Year 1 children and direct them into their appropriate classroom. Year 1 children will continue to use their classroom door, through Bobtails' garden, for collection at the end of the day. If you have any messages for your class teachers regarding the school day, please continue to contact the School Office who will pass them on to the relevant teacher.

Celebration of Black History month

Mr Chesterman led us in our study and celebration of Black History month. He began the month leading a Collective Worship suggesting individuals who have shaped and contributed to the world's history. Each class then explored different people and time periods and shared their work in another Collective Worship this week. The standard of work was really impressive and the children who shared their thoughts showed that they had learnt a great deal about their chosen individual or time period.



Class Work

Many classes have asked me to share some of their outstanding work, which they have been producing in different areas of the curriculum. Year 5 have put up a lovely display of facts about the Amazon rainforest, which they have been researching.



Year 2 have completed some terrific homework based on their study of WW1. This is Jack's exploration of life as a soldier, whilst other children made baked soldiers or made models of the trenches. Jude's model was even made of cake. The model of a trench shown was made by Abigail.



Internet safety

Our E-Safety adviser, has sent the following as a reminder for us all about keeping our children safe online.

“The current Covid situation may have forced many families to stay together for more time than usual, and it is natural that many of you might feel online activity time limits for your children could be relaxed or extended to help pass the time. Whilst this is a parental decision, we would advise that you still ensure a balance of online and real-world activity. It is important to ensure consistent supervision, to ensure that children remain safe during their time online, whether gaming, searching, watching videos/sound/images, or communicating with others. Naturally there will be some suitable activities for children of all ages but equally, there are many risks associated with unlimited and/or unrestricted access. Please monitor their online activity and check that all options, on each accessible device within the home, are age appropriate. For example, Whatsapp is age 16+, Twitter, Instagram and many other social media apps are age 13+ . Gaming has a PEGI age rating system just like the DVD classification system and it is easy to find out what is and what is not appropriate by visiting <https://pegi.info/page/pegi-age-ratings>

If you need further help locking a device down, do check out the following.

General advice: www.internetmatters.org

Apple: <https://support.apple.com/en-gb/HT201304>

PC: <https://www.microsoft.com/en-gb/microsoft-365/family-safety>

Android: https://families.google.com/familylink/?utm_source=google&utm_medium=cpc&utm_campaign=families_google&utm_term=android_parental_controls&&gclid=CjwKCAjwlbr8BRA0EiwAnt4MTsKFxUOt-WoZtMLWokCbM7TmaU2guPJPcdMivdH5u5n4zhHw10asmRoCgegQAvD_BwE

Covid-19 Safety Information

If your child has to be isolated or tested for Covid-19 during half term, we request that you still inform the school. Please email to admin@standrews323.herts.sch.uk

MENTAL HEALTH & WELLBEING

Updated advice for parents and carers on looking after the mental health and wellbeing of children or young people during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak can be found on the following link.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-on-supporting-children-and-young-peoples-mental-health-and-wellbeing>



There is also updated advice for parents of our youngest children in EYFS:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak>

Self-Isolation

Hertfordshire County Council has requested that schools clarify the rules about self-isolation. They are as follows:

If you are a parent or carer and have been asked to self-isolate as part of a bubble at work or because you have come into close contact with someone who has tested positive for coronavirus – you must follow the national self-isolation guidance and stay at home for 14 days:

www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/self-isolation-and-treatment/how-long-to-self-isolate/

- This applies even if you have no symptoms and/or you have received a negative test result as it can take 14 days for transmission
- **Self-isolation rules do not apply to the rest of your household, they can still attend work or school and complete day to day tasks in line with Government guidance**
- If you develop symptoms while self-isolating, your entire household must begin self-isolating immediately
- If you would normally travel with your child(ren) to nursery, school or college, alternative arrangements should be made
- If you cannot make alternative travel arrangements for your child(ren), then they too must stay at home. Please contact your school or education setting directly for advice on remote learning in this situation

Please do not send child(ren) to school if they have any symptoms of coronavirus. If you're not sure, consult the online NHS symptom checker at: www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/

Only book a test if you or your child(ren) develop symptoms, book at www.nhs.uk/coronavirus or call 119 if you do not have internet access.

Friday 13th November – Children in Need

A reminder from our Year 6 Sports and Fund Raising Teams that we will be supporting Children in Need on Friday 13th November by inviting the children to wear something yellow or spotty for a £1 donation on that Friday. As we are unable to take cash in school, parents are requested to make their donation via Wisepay.



This week's You Can, Toucan awards, chosen by the staff, go to:

Nursery: Dudley for always being a kind and caring friend.

Reception: Ava for being a superstar. She is always doing the right things and is an example for others.

Year 1: Alby for working hard with his reading. **Daisy** for her endless enthusiasm.

Year 2: Harriet and Lilia-Mae for their continued hard work with their learning. **Olivia** for her enthusiasm and effort in all subjects.

Year 3: Micah for making an effort to improve his handwriting

Year 4: Joshua for being motivated and willing to improve in all aspects of his learning.

Year 5: Sadie for her effort and enthusiasm across the curriculum.

Year 6: Keyaan and Charley for excellent effort in their maths this week

Our Value: Hope



“He will be called wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, and Prince of Peace.” Isaiah 9.6

Our final week thinking about our Value, Hope, led us to think more about the story of John the Baptist and the amazing moment when the Holy Spirit was revealed and God spoke as John baptised Jesus. We imagined what that must have felt like for the observers; how they knew that they were being offered a way to say sorry for things that they had done and how they could start of a new hopeful way of living.



Both Reception and Year 1 have been extremely creative, designing and making new role-play areas. It is clear that the Reception class are all ready to join in with their Class Worship, while Year 1 have been modelling their own church in preparation for a proper visit next half term.

And with that, I wish you all a safe and happy half term break and look forward to us all being back together on Monday, 2nd November.



Kind regards,

Mrs Gillingham

Office Update

Right Start Breakfast and SuperStars After School Clubs

The registers for the Breakfast and After School clubs for next half term have now been compiled.

If your child already attends either club, we have anticipated that their attendance will remain the same unless we have been notified. We have contacted all parents who have requested an amendment directly. Please email the School Office at admin@standrews323.herts.sch.uk if you have any queries.

If your child has not attended the clubs before and would like to start next half term, please email the School Office and we will be able to inform you if there is any availability within our COVID arrangements.

Dinners

Dinner slips, detailing the amount due for next half term will be sent home during the first week back.

Payments

Outstanding payments for dinners, the Breakfast and After School Clubs, Year 5 trip and Nursery 30 hours etc are all now due. Please can all outstanding monies be paid as soon as possible. As we unable to accept cash and cheques, please can all payments be made via Wisepay. Thank you.

If parents know the amount that is due for the coming half term and wish to pay for their child's Breakfast Club, Afterschool Club or Nursery 30 hours before receiving an invoice, ad-hoc amounts

can be paid to Wisepay, at your discretion, under the corresponding payment area for your child. We will then be able to reconcile any payments made in advance.

Sickness

Parents are reminded that when your child has a stomach upset and/or sickness you must still allow a period of 48 hours after the last incident of vomiting or diarrhoea to elapse before sending him/her back to school. This will help to contain any infection. Thank you.

Individual School Photos

All photos that parents requested to be delivered to school have now been sent home with the children. As we used a new company (same photographer), we will be sending home a questionnaire, via Parentmail today, asking for feedback on the ordering process and quality of photographs.

Reminders:

Secondary School Applications:

Our Year 6 parents need to apply for a secondary school place via the HCC website: www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions by the deadline of 31st October 2020. Please refer to information sent in earlier newsletters for details of the secondary school open events.

At the request of HCC, we have contacted those parents who have not yet completed their applications and reminded them of the deadline. The School Office is happy to help if you have any concerns / queries.

Community News:

Ware Museum have asked us to communicate that the museum will be open during the half term holiday on Sunday 25th October, Tuesday 27th October and Sunday 1st November. There will be a free quiz for the children to enjoy.

Hertford Theatre have asked us to let you know that they are screening films for all the family to enjoy this half term and we attach a flier for information.

FORTHCOMING DATES:

October

23rd **Inset Day**
26th - 30th Half Term Holiday

November

2nd Return to school
13th Non Uniform Day – in aid of Children in Need (Contributions via Wisepay)
13th Yr 6 Shakespeare Workshop in school – details to follow

Finally, we would like to take this opportunity to thank all our parents and carers for your support over the last half term. It's amazing how quickly the new normal becomes 'normal' and we adapt to new procedures and routines. Thank you for your patience with the Parents' Evening procedures and even the move to Wisepay for all our transactions – we appreciate it can be difficult and we are very grateful for your perseverance. Thank you!