



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: 26.1.24 Headteacher: Mrs H Gillingham

Value: Joy

Dear Parents and Carers,

We started this week with a visit by a group of local head teachers who watched lessons, looked at the children's work and talked to the children about their learning experience at St Andrew's. This is part of our participation in a local school peer review project which is aimed to share good practice and help school improvement. The feedback I was given at the end of the day echoed our recent Ofsted report about the children's positive work ethic and learning behaviours. One of our children told them that St Andrew's was a 'joyful' school to come to, as indeed it is!



Showing their joy of learning, I have been visited by more Year 6 children sharing their WW2 models, completed at home. George had created a stunning model of a bombed home, complete with a flying bomber and exploding bomb. Owen had created a bomb shelter and was able to talk knowledgeably about the different types of shelters used during the war.

Year 3 Rock Investigation

To help Year 3 class understand the different types of rock formation, Dr Collins used different types of chocolate. They compacted milk, dark and white chocolate with pressure and warmth from their hands to create 'sedimentary' rock. Then they put their 'sedimentary' rock into plastic bags and continued to knead it with their hands to create 'metamorphic' rock. It was inspired, and rather tasty, teaching.





Inspired by their examination of different rock formations, Year 3 have been coming into school with some wonderful home learning about volcanoes, two of which literally erupted in the playground. Well done to Jack, Caitlin and Evie for your inspired homework.



• IN PRINT • ONLINE •

The Three Villages

COVERING GREAT AMWELL, ST MARGARETS AND STANSTEAD ABBOTTS

The Three Villages Magazine

Revd. Sarah has asked us to advertise and make you aware of the Three Villages magazine which publishes quarterly and is a community based newsletter. Each issue includes a roundup of news, stories and special features. Copies can be purchased from school, as well as other local businesses. All the schools, including St Andrew's usually write an article in it and it also has adverts of local companies and tradespeople. Attached to the newsletter is further information about the newsletter and an opportunity for contributions and volunteers to distribute.



OPAL News - Forest School

This week we have opened up our Forest School area at break times for the children to explore. They have loved the extra space to play in and for being able to run, hang and swing in our fantastic environment.



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:

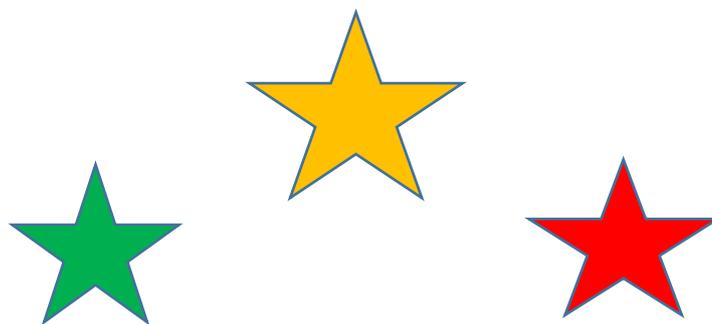
- school milk (aged 5 and over)
- food vouchers during school holidays
- SaverCard which gives half-fare bus travel to 11-19 year olds (usually £20)
- help with music lesson fees
- free school holiday activity camps (www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/happy).

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: 22.1.24

Year 1



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: Arabelle for working hard to learn to write all the letters in her name.

Reception: Miller for having a fantastic week and making lots of effort in all aspects of school life.

Year 1: Mia for her wonderful English work when writing an invitation.

Year 2: George S for his insightful contributions.

Year 3: All of Year 3 for their explosive output!

Year 4: Harry for his excellent focus in maths lessons.

Year 5: Ethan for his great thinking and enthusiasm in history this week.

Year 6: Bodie for his fantastic effort in spelling 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	Edie for bringing joy to the Nursery class
Reception: Gwilym chose	Mia-Rose for being a joy in class and giving her all this week
Year 1: Olivia chose	Emily for always being joyful in class
Year 2: Florence chose	Isla for bringing joy to the class
Year 3: Evie chose	Lottie for living the value of Joy
Year 4: Alby chose	Adaley for bringing joy to others by being a good friend
Year 5: Dolly chose	Austin for bringing joy and also his kindness to others
Year 6: Annabelle chose	Joseph for always bringing joy to his classmates

With kind regards

Mrs H Gillingham

OFFICE UPDATE

School Car Park

Please can we remind parents and carers again, 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/standrewscofevcprimaryschoolsg128bz>

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.



UPCOMING DATES - 2024

Fri 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.
Tues 6th Feb:	Safer Internet Day
Wed 7th Feb:	Year 2 Trip to St Albans Cathedral Year 3 & 4 Parents' Multiplication Workshop 3.20pm - 3.45pm
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
Friday 15th Mar:	World Book Day in school – details to follow
Wed 20th – Fri 22nd Mar:	Year 5 Hudnall Park Residential
Thurs 28th Mar:	Last day of Spring term
Mon 15th Apr:	Return to school – Summer Term
Fri 26th Apr:	'Chance to Shine' Cricket Day Y2-6 school workshops – in school
Mon 13th – Thurs 16th May:	Year 6 SATs week
Sun 19th - Weds 22nd May:	Year 6 PGL Residential trip

