



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: 27.01.25 Headteacher: Mr M Speed Value: Perseverance

Dear parents and carers,

This week, we have really enjoyed persevering with our writing at St Andrew's. With a focus on creative writing, children have traveled back in time to see BigFoot and then returned to the present day to discover unearthly creatures! You can read two examples of the children's writing below.

Year 3

In a recent science lesson, Year 3 made their own 'fossils'. Firstly, they made a salt dough and rolled it out to a 2cm thickness. Next they used pebbles and sticks to create a 'dinosaur skeleton'.

They pressed the sticks and pebbles into the dough, then very carefully removed them. Finally, the 'fossils' were baked for twenty minutes in a hot oven.



Year 4

The children in Year 4 have been 'writing to inform' and they produced newspaper reports about the famous BigFoot sighting in 1967.



BIGFOOT IN BLUFF CREEK

13.1.67

In the year 1967, two ranchers were out looking for water when they saw a monster known as BigFoot in Bluff Creek, California.



At the time, the ranchers Roger Patterson and Bob Gimlin were looking for shade. They went to get

water. In the blink of an eye, they saw the beast emerge by the river.

We interviewed one of the two ranchers called Bob Gimlin. He told us about the amazing discovery. "When I saw the beast, it's fur was black from head to toe. It was 8 feet tall."

Locals say they need more evidence before believing that BigFoot might live in Bluff Creek. The police and other people have been searching for it but no sightings have been confirmed.

By Thomas

BigFoot spotted in Bluff Creek!

16.12.67

In 1967, two ranchers were amazed when they spotted the creature known as BigFoot. The sighting was in Bluff Creek California. The news of this creature spread around the world rapidly and nearly everyone knew about this extraordinary event within a few weeks.



At around 12pm, ranchers Roger Patterson and Bob Gimlin were collecting water. It was at that moment, Patterson got a glimpse of this creature (BigFoot) sitting by a cold lake near a forest.

We interviewed one of the ranchers called Bob Gimlin. He explained, "I was shocked at the appearance of this unknown creature. This creature had thick, brownish fur and was covered head to toe in it."

We asked him what he felt like when BigFoot was chasing him and he mentioned, "I felt nervous because the beast was running really fast at that point. As I was sprinting, I felt breathless and I became tired."

Locals say that they need more evidence before believing that Big Foot might live in Bluff Creek. The police have been setting up traps for evidence. So far nothing has been reported.

By Harriet

Year 6 – creative writing by Ava

UNEARTHLY CREATURE SIGHTED!

Late last night, the remains of a ^{sea serpent} ~~mysterious~~ creature were discovered on the banks of River Lea by local residents.

At Estimated around 11:30pm, residents were left jaw-dropped when the carcass of a mysterious unknown creature washed up on the bank by the Jolly Fisherman pub. "I couldn't believe my eyes. As I approached it I thought it was just a fallen tree until I saw the teeth," explained Joan Smith, a 48-year-old pub owner.

Despite sightings being rare, locals are becoming increasingly concerned of the risk of sea serpents inhabiting the near by waters. Numerous dagger-like teeth have been reported in the vicinity of the recent incident and are believed to belong to the sea serpents. A Marine biologist, Daniel Phillips, from the University of Hertfordshire, has warned how dangerous these beasts can be. "Residents should remain cautious and restrain from entering the water. A sea serpent is capable of dislocating it's jaw in order to swallow boats and then constrict it's victim." The remains of the creature will be transported to the university for testing and examination by experts in order to discover more information about it.

Attendance Matters - Every Day Counts!



Present whole school statutory attendance (2024-25)	95%
National statutory attendance	94.5%
Best Class Attendance: Week Beginning 20.1.25	Year 4 with 99%

Times Tables Rock Star

This week's mini league winner:
Year 5 with 19,247 points.



You Can Toucan Awards

The You Can Toucan awards are presented each week to those children who have gone above and beyond the expected.

Last week staff chose:

Nursery: Teddy for being kind, friendly and caring towards everyone.

Reception: Jacob for his excellent ideas about life in the past.

Year 1: The whole class for their incredible work, writing a story to entertain in the style of 'Stanley's Stick'.

Year 2: Tuesday for working hard on her writing.

Year 3: Jax for working hard on his touch-typing.

Year 4: Thomas for his excellent writing.

Year 5: Emily for her amazing effort in her learning.

Year 6: Bela for her fantastic group work in science.



Our Half Term Value: Perseverance

This week our Value Advocates chose:

Class Value Advocate	Class Champion
Reception: Stella chose	Sophie for her excellent perseverance with reading.
Year 1: Cece chose	George for showing perseverance in all areas of his learning.
Year 2: Hadley chose	Mia for her positive attitude and perseverance in her learning.
Year 3: Noah chose	Joshua for persevering with his typing skills.
Year 4: Noah chose	Isabella for persevering in science this week.
Year 5: Emily chose	Robyn for persevering with her writing.
Year 6: Jude	Lilia-Mae for giving 100% effort in maths.

Best Wishes,

Mr M Speed

OFFICE UPDATE

Applications for NURSERY class for Sept 25

The application deadline for St Andrew's Nursery class for September 2025 is **28th February**. This is applicable to children born between *1st September 2021 and 31st August 2022*. Application forms are available on our school website and from our School Office. 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 for an opportunity to look around the school and ask any questions. Please contact the School Office to book an appointment.

After School clubs – 1st Half Spring Term

Super Star Sport's clubs for this half term can be booked:

<https://superstarsportuk.classforkids.io/term/526>

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.

Local News

The Hertfordshire Symphony Orchestra have asked us to share the following:

*We are getting in touch to tell you about our children's concerts on Sunday Feb 2nd (two performances 2.30pm or 4.15pm) at BEAM (as was Hertford Theatre). We are offering **15% off with the code HSO15** (valid until midday on 29th Jan).*

The concert is designed to be really engaging for primary school children with short excerpts of inspiring classical and film music introduced by professional animateur, Ruth Rosales. Ruth will lead audience participation and make it really fun for children and their families!

The concert is Superhero themed, lasts approximately 50mins and includes the following:

Superman Theme John Williams

Beethoven's 5th symphony (opening)

Sally Kee's Superhero song (involving the audience!)

Mars from Holst's The Planets



Children and adults are very welcome to wear superhero outfits: most of the orchestra players will be in fancy dress so you won't be alone!

Hertford Symphony Orchestra has a great reputation for excellent performances and a track record of exciting and inspiring concerts for children. Our players include local semi-professional musicians many of whom teach in local primary schools and music centres.

BEAM is a wonderful venue – if you haven't yet been there, this is your chance to see it. It's the orchestra's debut at BEAM – come and support us, inspire your children and have fun at Classical Superheroes with Hertford Symphony Orchestra.

Many thanks

Katie Neilson and everyone at Hertford Symphony Orchestra

UPCOMING DATES

February

- Tues 11th** Reception to Year 6 Parent Consultation Meetings: 3.30pm – 6.30pm
Nursery Parent Consultation Meetings: 12.30pm – 2.30pm
- Thurs 13th** Reception to Year 6 Parent Consultation Meetings: 3.30pm – 7pm
Nursery Parent Consultation Meetings: 12.30pm - 2.30pm

Mon 17th – Fri 21st - Half Term Holiday

Mon 24th Return to school

March

- Tues 11th** Bayford Observatory Mobile Planetarium for Reception - Year 6 (details to follow)
- Wed 12th - Fri 14th** Year 5 & 6 trip to Aylmerton
- Wed 19th** Year 2 trip to St Albans Cathedral
- Mon 24th** Year 3 & 4 Easter Production – Matinee – times TBA
- Tues 25th** Year 3 & 4 Easter Production – Matinee – times TBA
- Tues 25th** Year 3 & 4 Easter Production – Evening Performance – times TBA

