



# 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: 5.11.21

Headteacher: Mrs H Gillingham

Value: Compassion

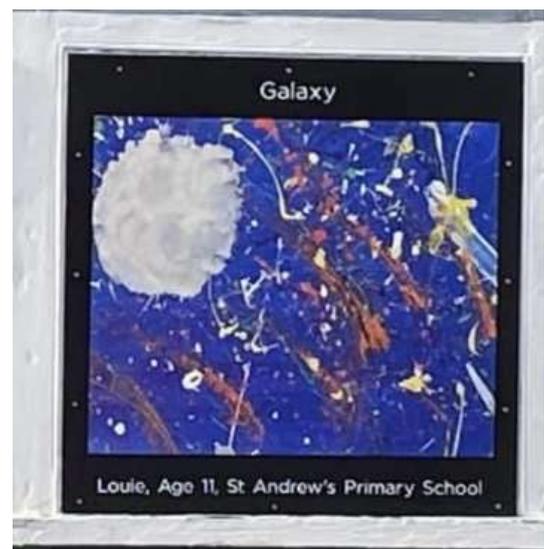
Dear Parents and Carers,

I wish you a very happy Guy Fawkes evening, which I know many of our children are very excited about. This week has been a busy start to the half term, starting with a team of Year 6 taking part in an inter-school table tennis event held at Sele School. Mr Cooper was very proud of how they tackled the event, learning new skills and playing against other schools. Indeed the boys came 2nd out of three schools and the girls came an amazing 2nd out of four schools.



### Station Art

We were very proud that over half term our ex pupil- Louie's art work was revealed at St Margaret's station. Louie had won his place as part of an art competition held last summer. Please do look out for it when catching a train- we are very proud of it and him.



### Year 6 Leadership



Our Year 6 House Captains led our first House Meeting this week, where the children discussed school based issues ranging from their thoughts on the teaching of History and R.E to school clubs and the use of the trim trail. The agenda, minutes and meeting were all organised by our House Captains and, given that this was the first House Meeting some of our younger children had attended, our House Captains were very impressed with how they went. I am sure it won't be long before the next meeting will be organised.

Our Year 6 have also been very proactive in other ways around the school, such as weeding the new garden and helping in the dining halls. Our Sport Ambassadors have started organising and timing children for our November Skipping Challenge.



### Planned Christmas Events

We are planning a number of Christmas events (please see below for dates) which is very exciting, however I feel it is important to establish that they do come with a caveat; that if we have an outbreak of Covid-19 or have further guidance from the Government and/or Hertfordshire County Council preventing larger gatherings of adults or children then we will be forced to cancel them. Hopefully this will not happen.

### Invitation to Phonics and Spelling Evening: Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> November

As part of our focus upon reading and writing, we have recently invested in a new phonics and spelling scheme. The Little Wandle Phonics scheme ties in very closely with our Little Cats reading scheme and the No-Nonsense spelling scheme for KS2 which will build upon the knowledge that the children have been taught in the earlier years. To help explain how these schemes work and our approaches to the teaching of reading and spelling we would like to invite you to a Curriculum Evening, on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> November at 6pm. More details about the organisation of this evening will follow soon.

### Mrs Davey's Corner

Attached to this newsletter is a flyer detailing a contact number if you would like to speak directly to an Educational Psychologist to discuss a child or young person's development, learning or emotional wellbeing, or just to find out more about their service. There are also SEND contact numbers for any other queries you may have.



### You Can Toucan Awards

These awards are presented each week to those children who have gone beyond the expected and done something exceptional.

#### **This week staff have chosen:**

**Nursery: Danae** for her fantastic mark making this week.

**Reception: Ava** for her wonderful attitude to her learning this week.

**Year 1: Archie** for his great effort and achievement in his maths work.

**Year 2: Joseph** for settling in so well at St Andrew's and **Rhys** for joining in with discussions and sharing his thoughts.

**Year 3: Bela** for her effort in every lesson and willingness to learn.

**Year 4: Alfie and Mitchell** for their fantastic English work this week.

**Year 5: Oliver** for his effort and focus with his learning throughout the week and to the **whole class** for their space homework, which was stunning. Below are just a few examples of their imaginative and creative responses. It is clear how much they have enjoyed the subject.



**Year 6: Ava and Bella** for keeping the school grounds looking neat.

## Our half-Term Value: Compassion



Our new Value Advocates for this half term are: **Noah (Reception), Ava (Year 1), Logan (Year 2), Harriet (Year 3), Joseph (Year 4), Holly (Year 5), Ollie (Year 6).**

They are now looking for children in their class who are showing our new value of compassion.

In our Collective Worship this week, we have been thinking about Compassion for the world, and have been exploring ways that we can do "our bit" to save energy and reuse,

recycle and repair rather than simply getting new things. The children, as always, have been full of ideas.



The children have also begun to reflect on next week's Remembrance Service which, Rev'd Sarah will be leading for us in school. We are presently raising money for the British Forces, by collecting donations for poppies. These are coming round to all classes each day and I have suggested that the children contribute silver, rather than copper coins. We will be continuing to collect donations next week.

Mrs Lovell has also asked me to thank everybody who has knitted or crocheted a woollen poppy in readiness for a display at St Andrew's Church.

I hope you have a "sparkly" and happy weekend.

Kind regards,

**Mrs Gillingham**

## OFFICE UPDATE

### School Dinners

Slips requesting payment for this half-term's school dinners have gone home with the children today. Payments can be made via WisePay. Please contact the School Office with any queries. Thank you.

### Car Parks – Mill Race & Roydon Road – Nursery & Daytime use

**Mill Race Car Park:** As you will be aware, we regularly remind our parents and carers to refrain from using our staff car park located via Mill Race. We are sadly finding it necessary to do so again but also with the reminder **that the exclusion applies throughout the school day. The car park is for the sole use of staff, visitors and Governors.** It is frequently in use by these stakeholders and the limited space can already be a challenge for delivery drivers. The use of the car park for collections for Nursery during the school day is not permitted for health and safety reasons.

**Roydon Road Car Park:** In observing the limitations mentioned above, we are also increasingly finding that parents and carers are trying to use the front, Roydon Road car park for drop off and collection instead. **This area has specific car spaces for the use of Bobtails staff only.** The rest of the car park is under the remit of the school and again, for health and safety reasons, the use of this area is **not** permitted by parents or carers for car parking. Instead, **this area is predominately used as a pedestrian area for parents and carers to drop off and collect for the EY building, along with Bobtails parents.**

**If you have a reason to park on the school grounds:** In reference to the above, it may on occasion be necessary for a parent or carer to request permission to use the car park due to a specific situation eg. heavily pregnant or post op etc. If this should be the case, please contact the School Office and we shall be very happy to issue a short term parking permit.

We thank you for your support of the above. We shall be monitoring the car parking situation over the coming weeks and reminding parents and carers in person, if necessary.

### **Super Star Sport After School Clubs – 2<sup>nd</sup> half Autumn Term**

A reminder to parents and carers that the after school clubs for this half term are now 'live'. Bookings can be made on the Super Star Sport website [www.superstarsport.co.uk](http://www.superstarsport.co.uk) – click on 'Book Now' and select the club your child wishes to take part in, under the heading of our school name.

As usual, children already booked onto the Super Star Sport After School Wraparound Care, will have the option of joining the sports clubs for their year group, on that evening.

**If you are a parent in receipt of Free School Meals,** we are able to offer the opportunity for your child (ren) **to take up a sports club for this half term, free of charge.** (Please note: this will apply to the club appropriate to your child (ren's) year group and is not applicable for the Art Club). Parents and carers should follow the link above and click 'Pay Later'. We ask that this is followed up by an email to [admin@standrews323.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@standrews323.herts.sch.uk) letting the School Office know that you wish the school to pay for the club on your behalf. If you have any queries or concerns, please contact the School Office on 01920 870097 or to check your eligibility.

The after school clubs will be offered first-come, first served via the Super Star Sport booking website.

### **Ear Piercing**

Please be reminded that all earrings must be removed before any sports activity, including swimming. Please provide your child with a small box and teach them how to remove their own earrings. (Staff cannot accept responsibility for removing or replacing earrings or for their loss).

In the initial 6 week period when earrings cannot be removed, or if your child cannot manage to remove them themselves, parents must provide their child with tape to cover their studs, for safety during PE, swimming and games.

### **Nasal Flu Immunisation**

If your child has not received their nasal flu immunisation e.g. if they were unwell or absent on the day – **a further catch up session will follow in school on Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup> November.** We have been told that the local doctors' surgeries do not undertake these sessions. Please ensure a permission form has been completed and returned to the School Office to enable the NHS Nurse Team to include your child in their catch up rota. Further copies are available on request. Thank you.

### **Applications for Reception class for Sept '22**

**Herts County Council online admissions applications for Reception class in September 2022 is now open!** This is applicable to children born between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2017 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2018. The application deadline is 15<sup>th</sup> January 2022. Prospective Reception class parents, including our current Nursery class parents, are encouraged to book onto 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. Thank you.

### **REMINDER: New Inset Date: Due to the Queen's Jubilee celebrations**

As you may be aware, an extra bank holiday has been announced for Friday, 3rd June 2022 for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. As we, in line with many other schools, are on half term break at the time of this celebration we have been directed to identify another day of 'holiday' in the year, on which the school will be closed. In order to keep close to the Platinum Jubilee date, our school will close on Monday June 6<sup>th</sup> 2021. We will therefore also be closed on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2022 for the staff Inset Day, previously set for Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June.

### **Community News**

- We are delighted to announce Ware Fireworks Display is back! Saturday, 6<sup>th</sup> November at High Oak Road, Ware – Gates open at 5.30pm and the event starts at 6.30pm.

### **Upcoming dates:**

- 9<sup>th</sup> November:** Yr 1 St Andrew's Church visit
- 15<sup>th</sup> November:** Yr 3 Development Day at Wodson Park
- 16<sup>th</sup> November:** Catch-up nasal flu vaccine
- 17<sup>th</sup> November:** Curriculum Evening – 6pm, details to follow
- 22<sup>nd</sup> November:** Yr 4 Development Day at Wodson Park
- 25<sup>th</sup> November:** Yr 3 trip to St Albans Cathedral
- 29<sup>th</sup> November:** Yr 4 trip to The British Museum
- 30<sup>th</sup> November:** Nursery & Reception trip to Audley End Miniature Railway
- 1st December:** Choir - Herts & Ware Music Partnership Carol Service - Christchurch, Ware – details to follow
- 3<sup>rd</sup> December:** Outside FOSTA Christmas Fayre (weather permitting) – 3.30pm-6.00pm
- 6<sup>th</sup> December:** KS1 Nativity (Yr 1 parents) – two performances 10.00am and 2.00pm (maximum capacity 30 adults to each performance – 1 ticket per child, per performance)
- 8<sup>th</sup> December:** KS1 Nativity (Yr 2 parents) – two performances 10.00am and 2.00pm (maximum capacity 30 adults to each performance – 1 ticket per child, per performance)

- 9<sup>th</sup> December:** Yr 5 STEM trip  
11.00am - Nursery Christmas Carols and Cake (maximum capacity 30 adults – 1 ticket per child)
- 10<sup>th</sup> December:** Choir - Festival of Carols, Hoddesdon High St - details to follow  
11.00am - Nursery Christmas Carols and Cake (maximum capacity 30 adults– 1 ticket per child)
- 14<sup>th</sup> December:** Reception Nativity – two performances 10.00am and 2.00pm (maximum capacity 30 adults to each performance – 1 ticket per child, per performance)
- 15<sup>th</sup> December:** Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Dinner
- 16<sup>th</sup> December:** Christmas Church Service (children and staff only)
- 17<sup>th</sup> December:** Panto (am)  
End of Term - Finish Early 1:30pm