



# 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: 7.1.22

Headteacher: Mrs H Gillingham

Value: Courage

Dear Parents and Carers,

I wish to start by thanking you for all of the many kind gifts you gave to my staff and myself just before the Christmas break. They were all very much appreciated and, looking at the pile of goodies still in the School Office, I think they will help the team continue working well into the New Year.

Covid-19 unfortunately is still with us, and we have had a cautious start this week as we monitor the cases in each cohort. We are following all advice from both the Government and County Council, which is being regularly updated. We sent out the following information earlier this week but I feel it worth repeating, as it covers important changes around isolation and testing requirements.

### Information on the changes to the self-isolation period for individuals who test positive for COVID-19

Since Wednesday 22 December, the 10-day self-isolation period for people who record a positive PCR test result for COVID-19 has been reduced to 7 days in most circumstances, unless you cannot test for any reason.

Individuals may now take LFD tests on day 6 and day 7 of their self-isolation period. Those who receive two negative test results are no longer required to complete 10 full days of self-isolation. The first test must be taken no earlier than day 6 of the self-isolation period and tests must be taken 24 hours apart. This also applies to children under 5, with LFD testing at parental or guardian discretion. If both these test results are negative, and you do not have a high temperature, you may end your self-isolation after the second negative test result and return to your education setting from day 8.

### Daily testing for close contacts of COVID-19

People who are fully vaccinated, or children and young people aged between 5 and 18 years and 6 months and identified as a close contact of someone with COVID-19, should take an LFD test every day for seven days and continue to attend their setting as normal, unless they have a positive test result or develop symptoms at any time.

Children under 5 are not being advised to take part in daily testing of close contacts. If a child under 5 is a contact of a confirmed case, they are not required to self-isolate and should not start daily testing. If they live in the same household as someone with COVID-19 they should limit their contact with anyone who is at higher risk of severe illness if infected with COVID-19, and arrange to take a PCR test as soon as possible. They can continue to attend an education or childcare setting while waiting for the PCR result. If the test is positive, they should follow the [stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed COVID-19 infection](#).

## Our Curriculum



When I was a class teacher, I always loved the start of a new term with the beginning of exciting, new areas of study. Overlooking the topics about to start throughout the school, it is clear that the children do have some wonderful areas of study to look forward to this term. EYFS have launched into an exploration of Traditional Tales, which will include; “Three Little Pigs”, “Goldilocks” and “Jack and the Beanstalk”. Mr Price and his Nursery children have already begun building the clock for the mouse to run up!

Year 1 have begun their historical focus of castles and William the Conqueror. Year 2 are becoming explorers in a variety of ways such as researching historical explorers and exploring a Kenyan village. Year 3’s topic has a geographical bias, where they will be finding out about our “Extreme Earth.” This topic will cover volcanoes, earthquakes and extreme weather. Year 4 also have a geographical slant, with their study of rainforests and the Amazon. Year 5 and Year 6 both have a historical study. As well as their residential trip to Stibbington, Year 5 will be learning about the Anglo-Saxons and the Vikings. Year 6 will be studying a less ancient time as they discover life during World War II.



For a full overview of all of the curriculum areas for your child’s year group, do have a look at the long term plans on our website:

<https://standrews323.herts.sch.uk/curriculum/long-term-plans/>

## You Can Toucan Awards

Although we have had a short week, we would still like to recognise the following children for their positivity on returning to school.

**This week staff have chosen:**

**Nursery: Louie and James** for being excellent listeners on the carpet.

**Reception: Tommy** for such a positive, focussed start to the new term.

**Year 1: Jamie** for consistently working hard.

**Year 2: Logan Go and Caytlynn** for their excellent start at the new term.

**Year 3: Olivia** for her beautifully presented work.

**Year 4: Oscar** for his greatly improved handwriting.

**Year 5: Sofia** for her positive attitude towards her maths learning.

**Year 6: Mia A** for taking ownership of her learning and having a positive “can-do” attitude.





## Our half term Value: Courage

In our first celebration assembly of the New Year we announced the new **Value Advocates** for this half term;

They are: **Emily (Nursery) Florence (Reception), Frankie (Year 1), Daisy (Year 2), Abigail (Year 3), Rebecca (Year 4), Annabelle (Year 5) and Dolly (Year 6),**

I hope you have a happy weekend.

Kind regards,

**Mrs Gillingham**

### OFFICE UPDATE

#### **Applications for Reception class for Sept '22 – DEADLINE APPROACHING!**

**Herts County Council online admissions applications for Reception class in September 2022 closes on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2022.** This is applicable to children born between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2017 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2018. 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.

#### **Applications for Nursery class for Sept '22 – NOW OPEN!**

**Applications for the Nursery class starting in September 2022** are now open. The closing date for on-time applications is Monday, 28<sup>th</sup> February. Further details are available on our school website. Application packs are available from the School Office or can be emailed as requested. Prospective Nursery class parents are encouraged to book onto a tour with Mrs Gillingham or with Mr Price, for an opportunity to look around the school and ask any question. Please email [admissions@standrews323.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admissions@standrews323.herts.sch.uk) or contact the School Office for more information.

#### **Super Star Sport – Spring term 2022**

Super Star Sport are advertising their clubs for the first half of the Spring term. Their flyer is attached to this newsletter. Please book online at [www.superstarsport.co.uk](http://www.superstarsport.co.uk)

#### **School Dinners payments slips - Key Stage 2**

Payments slips have been sent home today with the children. Please make payment via Wisepay. Thank you.

#### **Upcoming dates:**

##### **Spring Term**

**4<sup>th</sup> February:** Number Day

**7<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> February:** Year 5 Bikeability week

**7<sup>th</sup> February:** International Languages Day

- 8<sup>th</sup> February:** Parent Consultation meetings
- 10<sup>th</sup> February:** Parent Consultation meetings
- 11<sup>th</sup> February:** Year 6 Bletchley Park visit
- 11<sup>th</sup> February:** End of term - school closes 3.15pm
- 21<sup>st</sup> February:** Inset day
- 22<sup>nd</sup> February:** Children back into school
- 2<sup>nd</sup> March** St Albans Cathedral
- 3<sup>rd</sup> March:** World Book day (Character costumes welcomed)
- 9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> March:** Year 5 Stibbington residential trip
- 1<sup>st</sup> April:** End of term
- 19<sup>th</sup> April:** Children back in school

#### **Summer Term**

**First Half Summer Term: Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> April to 27<sup>th</sup> May 2022**

- 2<sup>nd</sup> May:** May day Bank Holiday
- 22<sup>nd</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> May:** Year 6 PGL residential trip
- 30<sup>th</sup> May-3<sup>rd</sup> June:** Summer Half Term
- 6<sup>th</sup> June:** Additional Bank Holiday- Queen's Platinum Jubilee
- 7<sup>th</sup> June:** Inset day

**Second Half Summer Term: Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> June to Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2022**