



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: 9.2.24 Headteacher: Mrs H Gillingham

Value: Joy

Safer Internet Day

We know that our children have far greater opportunities to have fun, explore and learn new things, whilst online. This would have been unimaginable when I was their age. However, as with so many opportunities, we have to teach our children how to navigate safely through their online life. On Tuesday, therefore, all classes reflected upon internet safety as part of the National Internet Safety Day. Classes made posters, explored age restrictions for computer apps (they were surprised by a few!) and discussed how to keep themselves safe. A really useful site, which we briefly looked at in Collective Worship, was the BBC collection of materials which may help discussions at home about internet safety: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/safer-internet-day-resources/z6bbhbk>.

Attached to the newsletter is the Spring HfL Online Safety Newsletter. This has many links to games and resources which can help our children become, as the newsletter says, 'confident digital citizens'. I hope you find it useful.

Wellbeing Week

Running alongside our thoughts about internet safety, we have also been exploring how to ensure positive wellbeing as part of National Mental Health Week. In today's celebration assembly we shared some of the techniques, strategies and suggestions the children came up with:

Nursery: sensory awareness. Name things you can see, hear, touch, smell and taste around you? **Reception:** breathing. Breathe like a whale and a snake. **Year 1:** Thinking about happy places. Unsurprisingly, the happiest places were the beach and Christmas celebrations. These were represented in drawings. **Year 2:** The Zones of Regulation: What strategies can I use to get to green? The children made personalised pamphlets with their own go to strategies to help them when they are overwhelmed. **Year 3:** Yoga: Some year 3 children demonstrated the downward dog, cobra, cat, chair, tree and mountain pose. **Year 4:** What are the ways in which you find inner peace and wellbeing, explored through art and mind-mapping.

Year 5: Discussions about mindfulness followed by

mindful colouring. **Year 6:** What are the things I need to be happy? The children made posters addressing aspects of wellbeing such as feeling safe and secure, having a network of support and taking time to enjoy favourite activities.



Zones of Regulation			
Blue	Green	Yellow	Red
Bored Lonely Sad Tired Unwell	Calm Content Focused Happy Ready to learn	Anxious Confused Excited Frustrated Worried	Angry Aggressive Terrified I need time and space



Year 4 led our Wednesday Collective Worship sharing their artwork and thoughts about '5 Ways to Wellbeing'. Their ideas and posters have made a beautiful display in the hall.

Year 2 St Albans visit



Year 2 had a day of awe and wonder as they visited St Albans Cathedral. The children learnt about the special symbols and places within the cathedral and visited different areas in this beautiful building. They listened carefully to the tour guides who told them many interesting facts about the history and purpose of the building. In the afternoon, the children had a chance to make clay tiles, inspired by the morning's tour. The children behaved impeccably and their knowledge and enthusiasm was praised by the staff.



Visit to EYFS

Rev. Sarah visited EYFS this week to help the children explore how Christians are often welcomed into the church. The children helped to baptise many of the baby dolls in the setting.



Parent Consultations

We look forward to seeing you all next week at our Parent Consultation evenings. The children's work will be available for you to see in the following locations: Year 2, 3, 5 and 6 classrooms will be open. EYFS, Year 1 and Year 4's work will be in the dining room.

Refreshments will be available from our Governor tea/coffee stall. Please do have a chat with them about the school.

FOSTA

FOSTA are running a new and exciting fundraising initiative: '**Fun & Funky Friday**', next Friday 16th February in school. Children are able to take part in a list of fun & funky activities in exchange for a donation of 50p per activity.

FOSTA are also holding a cake sale after school, outside the canopy.

Please see the ParentMail sent home today with all the details. We hope that your child is able to take part in the fun and by doing so, supporting FOSTA and the school.

OPAL

In a rather wet week, OPAL has carried on regardless. It has been great to be able to still get the children outside so much despite the rain.

It is really important that the children do manage to burn off some energy at break and lunchtime as it helps their concentration for the rest of the day. Even the rain didn't manage to stop our Friday DISCO!



Attendance Ladder

Attendance



Equates to:

Attendance certificates will be given out during the Consultation Evenings for you to be able to check the present percentage of attendance for your child.

As we know, as well as being a legal requirement, attending school is vital for educational success and St Andrew's aims for all of our children to have a 95-100% overall attendance to help maximize their learning opportunities.

Children with an attendance of between 90% and 95% are regarded as 'Potential Persistent Absentees'. Children with an attendance of 90% or below are regarded as 'Persistent Absentees'. Children in both categories will have missed a significant number of days from school and this will impact upon their learning – not only in terms of the lessons missed but also the amount of time that is subsequently spent in order to catch up on this lost learning.

counts.'

As the quote goes: 'Attendance matters and every day

Analysis of our data shows us that 14% of all absences are due to holidays being taken through term time so far this academic year. If holidays were not being taken, our overall absence rate would stand at 95.3%.

Present whole school attendance (2023-24)	94.6%
National attendance	94.3%
This week's school attendance	95.5%
Best Class Attendance: Week Beginning 5.2.24	Year 3 - 98.2%

Times Tables Rock Stars



This week's mini league winner: **Year 5**

Thank you to all the parents & carers who came to the Year 3 and 4 Multiplication Tables Check Information session after school on Wednesday, led by Mr Chesterman. We hope you found the meeting informative. We certainly rely on our parents & carers to help our children learn their tables, which are invaluable tools to help them have success in Key Stage 2 maths work.



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: Brooke for being a wonderful member of the class. Good luck in your new school.

Reception: Olivia for her fantastic work and effort in phonics this week.

Year 1: Lily for being a superstar helper.

Year 2: All of Year 2 for their good behaviour and enthusiasm on their school trip.

Year 3: Jack P for being enthusiastic about his learning.

Year 4: Logan Gr for being a part of the St Andrew's family. We wish him the very best.

Year 5: Aaliyah for her effort and determination to improve her times tables knowledge.

Year 6: Eloise for her fantastic work on mental wellbeing. **Aydin** for his hard work in maths 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	Zoha for bringing positivity and joy to our class
Reception: Gwilym chose	Henry for bringing joy to the class
Year 1: Olivia chose	Tuesday for showing joy and pride in her reading
Year 2: Florence chose	Olivia for showing joy to her friends
Year 3: Evie chose	Isabella for her joyous fun and antics with platypus and echidna
Year 4: Alby chose	Joseph for bringing joy to others on the playground
Year 5: Dolly chose	Jude for being kind and helpful to everyone in the class
Year 6: Annabelle chose	Bodie for looking out for a friend when they needed help

With kind regards

Mrs H Gillingham

OFFICE UPDATE

Payments

Please can all outstanding payments that are due for this half term be paid as soon as possible, via WisePay.

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.



After School clubs – 2nd 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

Tues 13th Feb:	Parent Consultation Meetings
Thurs 15th Feb:	Parent Consultation Meetings
Fri 16th Feb:	FOSTA Fun & Funky Friday – details sent home today FOSTA Cake Sale – outside canopy after school
Mon 19th – Fri 23rd Feb:	Half Term
Wed 28th Feb – 6th Mar:	Scholastic Book Fair – after school in hall
Mon 4th– Fri 8th Mar:	Year 5 Bikeability
Mon 11th Mar:	Shooting Star Circus Science Workshop in school (Yr 1 - Yr 6) - details to follow
Tues 12th Mar:	Year 1 Hertford Museum Workshop in school - details to follow
Fri 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 school workshops (Yr2 - Yr6) in school
Mon 13th – Thurs 16th May:	Year 6 SATs week
Tues 21 May:	Year 3 Trip to Welwyn Hatfield Museum
Sun 19th - Weds 22nd May:	Year 6 PGL Residential trip

