



# 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)

## St Andrew's Weekly Update

**Date: 17.10.19**

**Headteacher: Mrs H Gillingham**

**Value: Generosity**

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you may be aware all schools are constantly monitored through a variety of different methods to ensure that the provision for your children is the best that it can be. So far this half term we have had a number of visitors from the County assessing different aspects of the school and I am very proud to announce that all subsequent reports have highly commended St Andrew's.

These have included the County Council's Health and Safety Officer, who has just awarded us an **Outstanding** for all of the work we do to keep your children safe. This care and attention to detail was also reflected in the "green rag rating" (the best grade) for our safeguarding records, given by our local Safeguarding Officer.

Our renewed Early Years provision was monitored as part of the local authority's review of all schools. The report commented on how well our very youngest children were "confident to talk about routines and expectations" and how our provision "offers a wide range of learning opportunities and was enhanced with very engaged adults who extended children in their learning and thinking, whilst also playing alongside them sensitively." Our Hertfordshire Improvement Officer has continued to assess our school as Good in all areas whenever he has visited. Finally the Governors who shared a day with us last week stated how warm and friendly the school is and said "we saw a very strong and highly motivated team at St Andrew's who are all working hard to ensure the highest quality of education for our children."

However, we never remain complacent. We know that our overall attainment levels are high and equal to local and national figures but we are always striving to do better. Our Vision is for all of our children to develop into caring individuals who love learning, and who also "shine", by achieving the very best that they can. And this is what the Governors, my staff and I are all working tirelessly towards, in partnership with you. Next week's Parent Consultation Meetings are so important in this process as it is both an opportunity for you to hear about your child's progress so far in this academic term and also to share your thoughts about what best helps them to learn.

I look forward to seeing you then.

Kind regards,

Mrs H. Gillingham



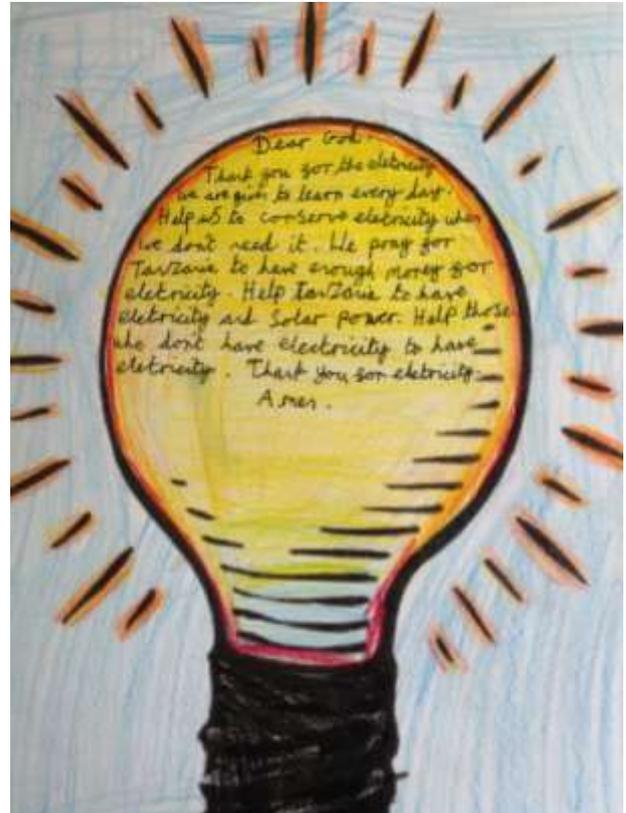
**Harvest Service**

**John 8 verse 12** *Jesus said, "I am the light for the world! Follow me, and you won't be walking in the dark. You will have the light that gives life."*

Thank you to everyone who joined us for our Harvest

Service at the Church this Thursday. It was a lovely service where the children reflected upon all of their uses of electricity and gave thanks for having all of these opportunities. Mrs Woodall led the sermon by demonstrating how life would be difficult without both physical and spiritual light. The children shared some wonderful prayers and reflections around their "No Electricity Day" and showed real compassion for the needs of the families in Tanzania.

As you can see from the photo below, our collection for the food bank is growing. We will continue collecting, either for the food bank or for Diocese Tanzanian Electricity Harvest Appeal, until the end of this half term.



**Generosity**

*"God loves a cheerful giver."*

2 Corinthians 9.7

Our **Values Advocates** met with Mr Price and have selected the following children to be this week's Value Champions as they have all shown our value of generosity.

- Year 1: Olivia** for making things for others and sharing.
- Year 2: Mitchell** for being generous with his smiles.



**Year 3: Maya** for helping others.

**Year 4: Sky** for sharing her pencils in class.

**Year 5: Sid** for being kind and helpful-giving his time for others.

**Year 6: Henry D** for being a good friend and being generous by letting others play.



This week's **You Can, Toucan** awards, chosen by the staff, go to:

**Reception: Buddy N** for fantastic effort with his handwriting.

**Year 1: Hugo** for excellent speaking in class and **Aaliyah** for excellent effort with her reading.

**Year 2: Isabelle C** for working hard in class and at home.

**Year 3: Annabelle** for really good maths work and **Ruben** for the beautiful presentation of his work.

**Year 4: Mia A** for always wearing a smile to school.

**Year 5:** class were out on a trip today.

**Year 6: Emilie** for being a good learning partner and helping a classmate with her Literacy.



## Top Table

The following children sat with Mr Price to have their lunch. They were chosen by the Supervisors for their excellent playtime behaviour. They are:

**Year 1: Bela** for being brave and not crying when she fell over in the playground

**Year 2: Eifa** for volunteering to do a job for Cook (Cook's choice)

**Year 3: Martina** for helping her classmate to medical at break time.

**Year 4: Ethan** for being calm and careful when he did not feel well.

**Year 5:** class were out on a trip today

**Year 6: Laura** for her good manners and **Josh** for his honesty.

## House Points

Ash - 170

Mill Stream - 158

Stort - 148

Lea - 187

**Attendance Award: Y4**

**Tidiest classroom: Y2**

**Well done to these classes.**

## Office Update

- **Parent Consultation Evenings:** Our Parent Consultations will be taking place next Tuesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> October and next Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October from 3.30 – 7.00pm for all our children from Nursery to Year 6. *(Please note: due to training commitments Ms Bowie will have reduced availability on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup>).* The online booking procedure opened on Monday, 7<sup>th</sup> October via ParentMail. If you are unsure if you can access ParentMail, require assistance, or if you have no internet access, please call or pop into the School Office and we will be able to make a booking on your behalf. Thank you.
  
- **FOSTA's Manic Ceramics event:** The FOSTA committee are in the process of finalising numbers for this event though due to the capacity of the hall and staffing arrangements, children will be offered a place on a first-come, first-served process via the School Office. If your child has been unsuccessful this time, their name will be retained by the FOSTA Committee for priority in future bookings. The FOSTA Committee will be sending home allocation of place letters on Monday with further information. For those children who have been unsuccessful this time, parents can sign for full refunds from the School Office from Tuesday. Thank you.
  
- **FOSTA** – as part of the ongoing fundraising events organised by the Committee, FOSTA will be holding a **'Runaround Rascals Party** at the Drill Hall in Ware on Thursday, 31st October (in half term) for children in **Nursery, Reception and Year 1.** Please see information and application form attached. Slips should be returned to the School Office, with a £5 payment by next Thursday, 24th October.
  
- The **invoices for the Nursery children's 30 Hr afternoon provision** have now been sent home with the children. Please note that payment should be made **by today, Friday, 18th October.** If you have any queries, please speak to the School Office. Thank you.
  
- Parents are requested to make any **outstanding payments** for trips, school dinners or clubs, etc ASAP or by next **Monday, 21st October at the latest** as the Office will be banking from the start of next week. Thank you for your help with this. Music invoices for the autumn term will be circulated at the beginning of next half term and will need to be paid by Friday, 6th December.
  
- **The NHS Herts Community Trust** is pleased to launch an **integrated Children and Young People's Therapies Service Advice Line.** This is for parents, carers and professionals who may have a concern about a child or young person and wish to discuss a potential referral to either Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy or Speech & Language Therapy. Please see attached flyer highlighting further information.

### Quick Reminder

- Year 6 parents – last chance to order **SATs books** at a good discount through the school. Please complete the order form and hand it into the School Office **by Monday morning at the very latest** along with payment by cash or cheque by this. Thank you.
- **Year 6 parents – The NHS height and weight programme** run by the School Nurse team will take place this coming Thursday, 24th October. If you do not wish your child to take part, the ‘opt out’ procedures previously circulated must be completed ASAP. Thank you.
- Year 6 parents – the **online application for a secondary school place** from September 2020 **deadline to apply is in half term – Thursday, 31<sup>st</sup> October 2019**. We have received notification from HCC that only 12 applications have been submitted to County from this school so far. Applications are made via [www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions). Please let School Office know if you have any queries.
- **Free School Meals Service** - a reminder that any parents who have a child in Year 3 or above could be eligible for their child to receive school meals for free if they are in receipt of certain allowances – please visit the website below for full details:  
<https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/schools-and-education/at-school/freeschool-meals/free-school-meals.aspx>
- Our **school dinner menus** will be changing from the day we return to school after the half term holiday, Monday 4th November. Please look out for the new menus, which will be sent home with the children next week.
- Coming soon... The Rotary Club are once again sending us **Christmas Shoeboxes** for you to fill and bring in to school, so that those less fortunate than us may also receive presents at Christmas.
- **Aldi – Kits for Schools** – Aldi are running a Sports promotion for schools in store, from which St Andrew’s can benefit with your help! Please collect a ‘Team GB’ sticker when you spend £30 in any Aldi store. Bring the stickers into school, where we will add them to our school poster. We have the chance to receive free sports kits and possibly funding too! Please see the attached flyer for details.

### Diary Dates

**Please note:** change of date for EYFS evening, which is now on Wednesday 6th November.  
Also: additional date of Thursday, 21st November for the Year 2 SATs meeting for parents.

### **October 2019**

22<sup>nd</sup> Parent Consultation meetings - 3.30-7.00pm – School Hall  
24<sup>th</sup> Yr 6 – School Nurses – Lancaster Model & Height and Weight Assessment

24<sup>th</sup> Parent Consultation meetings 3.30-7.00pm – School Hall

25<sup>th</sup> **Inset day**  
**HALF TERM**

### **November 2019**

4<sup>th</sup> School returns after half term break

6<sup>th</sup> Yr 5 Stibbington Residential trip launch meeting - 3.15pm – Yr 5 classroom

6<sup>th</sup> EYFS Reading Evening – 6pm – 7pm in School Hall - for Nursery and Reception parents

8<sup>th</sup> Whole School Remembrance Day Assembly – School Hall

12<sup>th</sup> Nursery Show ‘n’ Share – 11.15am in Nursery classroom  
Reception, Yr 1 and Yr 2 Show ‘n’ Share – 2.30pm in your child’s classroom

14<sup>th</sup> Yr 6 – Wyllyotts Theatre – Young Shakespeare trip  
**Yr 1 – Yr 6 Curriculum Evening – writing – in school – *further details to follow***

15<sup>th</sup> Non uniform – in exchange for sweets for the Christmas Fayre  
Yr 1 trip – The Royal Gunpowder Mills

18<sup>th</sup> Yr 4 trip – The British Museum

20<sup>th</sup> Yr 6 trip – The Globe Theatre

21<sup>st</sup> Year 2 SATs evening for parents – 6pm - Year 2 classroom

22<sup>nd</sup> Non uniform – in exchange for bottles for the Christmas Fayre

28<sup>th</sup> Yr 3 trip – Celtic Harmony Camp

29<sup>th</sup> Non uniform – in exchange for cakes or £1 for the Christmas Fayre  
FOSTA CHRISTMAS FAYRE – 5.30pm – 8.30pm