

St Andrew's Major Church in Wales Primary School

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Friday 1st July 2022

It was wonderful to be able to welcome our new Nursery and Reception pupils and their parents or grandparents today. This was the first time we have been able to invite a large group of parents back in to school since the start of the pandemic and it really was a pleasure to see you all – both the old and new faces. I know that this will be the start of a fantastic home school relationship.

On Tuesday, the children and staff had a wonderful time 'celebrating our differences'. This linked in very well with our focus value of respect as the pupils took part in activities exploring the important themes of diversity and equality. The day ended with a carnival type walk around the school in order for everyone to celebrate together.



Free School meals (Message from the Local Authority)

From the new autumn term (September 2022) all Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children will be offered Free School Meals. This is an important step in reaching the shared ambition of ensuring no child goes hungry whilst in school.

In response to the current rising cost-of-living, Welsh Government and the Vale of Glamorgan Council together with Big Fresh Catering Limited are committed to implementing this scheme quickly and would ask for your patience as we build catering capacity to ensure a successful phased implementation and work towards a whole school roll-out over the next three years.

Vale of Glamorgan and Big Fresh Catering are working with the Welsh Government to develop a process for you to be able to request a free meal for your child/children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 from September, trying to avoid any unnecessary burden for you. Further information will follow by the end of term.

Please rest assured that if your child is currently in receipt of free school meals and/or any other associated benefits, these will not be affected.

Parentpay accounts

As we head towards the end of the school year, I am aware of a number of Parentpay accounts which are in arrears – some are also for quite significant amounts. It wastes valuable admin time chasing these amounts so I ask that all accounts are cleared as soon as possible. Thank you.

Sports Day arrangements (repeated message)

I apologise again that we had to postpone both our Sports Days. The weather is looking much more promising for next week so fingers crossed!

The children will come to school dressed in their PE kits as they do for well-being days. Please ensure your child has sun cream on before coming to school and also has a sun hat. Year 3 to Year 6 must have a water bottle in school please. Younger children will be given cups of water. Entry for adults will be through the usual pedestrian gate. Please note, parents/grandparents tend to move around to watch the different activities and we are unable to provide seating for spectators beyond the few picnic benches that we have. All visiting adults are asked to remain behind the yellow ropes and for safeguarding reasons, no adults are permitted to approach the children.

Mon 4th July - Nursery pupils will come in to class at their usual time as there will be 2 separate sports day sessions. The staff will aim to start around 15-20 minutes after the children come in so you should not have long to wait.

Tuesday 5th July – Reception to Year 2 Sports Day will start at approximately 9:15am. Y3 to Y6 Sports Day will start at approximately 1pm.

Due to the changed date, we may find ourselves short of adults for the afternoon session. If any of our infant parent volunteers are available to help with this, please let the office know. Thanks!

Upcoming dates (all on the PING)

4th July	Nursery Sports Day
4th July	Music Masterclass at St Cyres
5th July	Sports Day
12th July	Year 5 trip to Llandegfedd
13th July	Year 3 and 4 trip to Porthkerry
14th July	Year 6 Diocesan Leavers' Service at Llandaff Cathedral (Pupils only)
14th July	Reception, Y1, Y2 trip to Mountain View Ranch
14th July	Reception class 2022 to join us for lunch
15th July	Class move up (children meet their new teachers)
18th July	Year 6 Leavers' bowling trip
20th July	Leavers' Presentation in the Parish Hall (Y6 parents can attend)
21st/22nd July	INSET days

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

Yours faithfully,



Gen Hallett
Headteacher