

# St Andrew's Major Church in Wales Primary School

## Weekly Newsletter



Dear Parents,

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2018

### **Weekly News**

Welcome back to everyone! I really hope you all had a fantastic summer and have refreshed the batteries for the busy term ahead. The pupils have come back to school with such energy and enthusiasm – a great way to start the year.

I am especially pleased to see how well Nursery and Reception children have been settling in to coming to school and how well Reception are coping with lunch times. Well done to you all. A big welcome also to some new pupils further up the school: Isla in Year 1 and Noah in Year 4. I know you will all be very happy with us here at St Andrew's.

As the new curriculum for Wales is being developed, we continue our mission to provide the best possible learning experiences for all our pupils whilst maintaining and developing our Christian ethos. This year we will be focusing on improving the RE curriculum; increasing pupils' ability to evaluate and improve their work, continuing to improve pupil independence and resilience; continued developments in digital competency and improving pupils' Welsh skills. It will no doubt be another busy year and I would like to thank the staff for their hard work and commitment in striving to achieve these priorities.

### **Uniform**

I would like to take the opportunity of thanking parents and carers for supporting us by following our Uniform code. A quick reminder that jewellery is not permitted with the exception of a wrist watch and one pair of stud ear-rings. We also ask that children do not come to school wearing any form of bands/friendship bracelets. Thank you for your cooperation. Please ensure your child brings a coat to school every day. Foundation Phase (Nursery to Year 2) will be doing Forest Skills with Mrs. Weber and other outdoor learning so please provide a labelled pair of wellies which will remain in school. Please remember to **label all** clothing and equipment (including shoes in Foundation Phase).

### **Health and Safety**

We do not have a lot of storage space in the school and this is particularly difficult in terms of the number and size of bags many pupils are bringing in. In KS2, all children's belongings including their PE kit must fit in their locker. All PE kits should be placed in a draw string swimming style bag please. In the infants we still have coat pegs in corridors/classrooms and the bags become a trip hazard. A reminder that children should not be bringing in any toys or special belongings from home unless requested by teachers for a project or topic.

### **A Healthy School**

We only allow fresh fruit as a snack in both the infants and juniors. Rice cakes and other snacks are not permitted and staff will ask the pupils to return them to their bags. We also

expect water only in drinks bottles. Whilst the contents of lunch boxes are for you to decide, we do not allow any fizzy drinks, bars of chocolate or sweets in lunch boxes.

### **ParentPay**

Please ensure all accounts have sufficient funds for lunches. The school has a zero debt policy and lunches **must** be paid for in advance. Any problems with accounts please see Mrs. Goddard in the school office.

### **Mornings**

To keep our new Reception parents informed, children should walk unaccompanied to their lines carrying their own bags and teachers must not be approached at the front of the lines. A member of staff will be available with a clipboard to take messages which they will then pass on immediately to the class teacher once the children are safely inside.

In KS2, pupils go unaccompanied to their playground at the back of the school. There is a teacher on duty from 8.40 but no child should be allowed to walk around until 8.40 otherwise they will be unsupervised.

If your child is late, please report to reception in order to sign them in. It is not acceptable to drop them off in the layby. This includes older children.

### **Muddy Church (Message from Sue and Carly)**

We are holding a Muddy Church event for adults and children together on Saturday September 8th starting at 3pm in St Peter's Church. We will have a walk followed by a celebration and drinks and cake back in church. Please come and join us and if you would like to donate some cake we would be very grateful.

### **Meet the teacher**

We intend to hold a short meeting for parents to find out important information from your child's teacher/s as well as to ask any questions. As parents' evenings are now held in the hall, these meetings will be held in the classrooms and will therefore be an opportunity for you to see your child's learning environment. Due to space and health and safety, we can only accommodate one adult per child and I politely request that you stick to this. If you are unable to attend, please feel free to send a grandparent. These will run as follows:

Monday at 3pm	Year 2 with Miss Halse
Monday at 3.45pm	Year 5 with Miss Case
Tuesday at 3pm	Reception with Miss Frangoulis
Tuesday at 3.45pm	Year 4 with Mrs. Lewis
Wednesday at 3pm	Year 1 with Mrs. Day and Mr Mason
Wednesday at 3.45pm	Year 6 with Mrs. Owen and Mr Walters
Thursday at 3pm	Year 3 with Mr McNicol

### **This week's homework**

Foundation Phase have been sent home with an 'All about me' envelope. When these are returned, the children will share their items and interests with their classmates and this will also form part of the Speaking and Listening baseline assessment. In KS2 the children are bringing home a sheet to complete. Whilst we want the children to do the work, please do discuss the questions with them. These will then be used by the children to create their 'One Page Profiles' in class.

### **Upcoming Dates**

**Sat 8<sup>th</sup>** Muddy Church at St Peter's at 3pm  
**Mon 10<sup>th</sup>** Year 6 off to Manor Adventure  
**w/c 17<sup>th</sup>** Meet the Teacher (See above)  
**Tues 18<sup>th</sup>** Year 1 and 2 trip to Cardiff Castle  
**Weds 19<sup>th</sup>** Y5/6 *Playsports* Netball Club

A full list of dates for this term and information on clubs will be emailed out separately once they have been finalised.

Nursery and new parents to the school, we have given you a paper copy of the newsletter this week, however, please be advised that the newsletter is emailed out every week so please ensure you have signed up to parentpay in order to keep up to date. We also send many texts so again, ensure the office have an up to date number.

I will be going up to join Year 6 in Manor Adventure from Wednesday next week but Mrs Bayliss will be around if you have any queries or concerns. I will not be sending a newsletter (I may be a little busy climbing or cycling!) but Mrs. Bayliss will update you with any important messages.

Working together is the key to a child's success in school. We operate an open door policy and welcome all forms of communication and if we are unable to see you immediately, we will make an appointment to meet as soon as possible. Leave a message on the clipboard or contact the office and they will arrange it for you. Please let us know if you have any concern or query or even an idea as to how we can improve things! Staff, governors and I look forward to working with you in the months and years ahead.

I hope everyone has a lovely weekend. Year 6 get plenty of sleep for next week!

Yours faithfully,



Gen Hallett  
Headteacher