

St Andrew's Major Church in Wales Primary School

Weekly Newsletter



Dear Parents,

Friday 8th November 2019

This week

We were entertained with an amazing brass quintet with students from the Welsh College of Music and Drama. This was arranged by CAVHMs who provide music lessons for pupils. If your child is interested in playing a brass instrument (or indeed any instrument), please let Mrs Green know. We do have a small number of instruments which we can loan pupils if the cost of purchasing the instrument is a barrier to your child having the opportunity to learn.

All staff were involved in a very successful training day on Wednesday. We are now a Numicon school, now using the scheme right through from Nursery to Year 6. The strength of Numicon is in its use of concrete apparatus to give pupils clear understanding before moving on to the more abstract written methods. Problem solving and reasoning is an integral part of the scheme and as a staff we feel it will help us ensure our maths teaching and learning is in line with the principles of Numeracy in the new Curriculum for Wales

Well done to the 40+ Y5/6 children who attended the County Cross Country trials on Thursday. The conditions were very wet, muddy and cold but the resilience and determination of all the children was evident. Congratulations to the following children who have made it through to the South Wales Final on 22nd November:

Year 5 Boys' team

Noah H
George H
Oscar R
Stanley R
Tom S
Dylan B

Year 6 Girls' team

Katelyn B
Hope F
Cadi H
Ava P
Anais B
Emily W

Year 5 girls (Wild Cards)

Bethan F
Chloe M

Year 6 boys (Wild Cards)

Archie G

Reception Places for September 2019

The application process for Reception 2020 has now opened. Please remember that this is now carried out through the Vale of Glamorgan online system. If you have any difficulties accessing or completing the form please do speak to the office who will be happy to help. There is further information on the website under 'admissions'.

Building development update

As you will see, our new demountable has now been installed and is currently being fitted out. We envisage the work will be complete within the next few weeks and we are very excited by this bright and modern replacement for the old cabin. We plan to develop the space as an Expressive Arts Hub to include music, drama and art. Lockers have been installed in the Y1 and Y2 area and this has improved the area in terms of safety as well as giving the children a personal space to store their belongings. Please note, as in the Juniors, the lockers are relatively small and large back packs will not fit. Please ensure children only bring a small bag to school and do not bring in anything which is not needed. We have also created a new intervention room and have plans to develop the Cwtch into a research and reading room. Mrs Bayliss our

learning environment coordinator intends to ask the school council to develop this room in the near future. The pupil enterprise projects to develop their own spaces are now entering the final stage. Their plans and ideas will now be carried out and we will share the results with you soon.

iPad chargers

We are on the lookout for the old style iPad chargers with the wide connector. If you have one which is not being used, we would be very grateful to take it off your hands in order to use with some of our older iPads which are coming out of a charging box and need to be charged in classrooms.

Health and Safety

Despite previous requests not to do so, on a number of occasions this week, I have seen parents park in, or near the Arbor Vale driveway. We do receive complaints from our new neighbours which is obviously disappointing. However, a greater concern is the risk this poses to children/families going across the entrance on foot. Again, I must insist that under no circumstances do parents park in or around this area. I would also like to remind you that dogs of any size (with the exception of assistance dogs) are not permitted in the school building or grounds. Please ensure anyone else picking up your child e.g. a grandparent is aware of these requirements.

Message for Year 3 parents (repeated message)

Miss Frangoulis has been called to jury service. She was initially requested to attend in September but we asked for a deferment as it would have coincided with the first weeks of term – an essential time for the children to be settled in. They agreed to this but there is now nothing we can do to avoid this taking place. However, I am pleased to inform you that Mrs Squires who has covered many other long term absences is available to cover for Miss Frangoulis. Mrs Squires has an excellent track record with us and always works extremely hard – above and beyond what most supply teachers do. Due to the nature of jury service, I am unable to tell you how long this is likely to last but it is likely to be for at least 2 weeks. Mrs Squires will take over the class on Thursday 7th November, having met with Miss Frangoulis to discuss planning etc.

Dates for next week

Anti-Bullying Week Activities in all classes

Mon 11th – Remembrance Worship led by Year 6 at 10.40am (Y6 parents only please)

Tues 12th – Play Together Training for Year 5 and 6 pupils.

Weds 13th – Wednesday Warriors starts with Mrs Weber (Thank you!)

Thurs 14th – Fire Service to visit Y2 and Y5

Friday 15th – Children in Need Day (Separate email/Tweet from School Council)

Sunday 17th – Y4 Contribution to Family service at St Peter's at 10.30

Wishing everyone a lovely weekend.

Yours faithfully,



Gen Hallett
Headteacher