

St Andrew's Major Church in Wales Primary School

St Andrew's Road, Dinas Powys,

Vale of Glamorgan, CF64 4HB

Tel: 029 20513089

www.standrewsweb.com

standrewsmajorps@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk



Dear Parents,

Friday 9th September 2022

Welcome back!

I am deeply sorry that I have not been there in person this week to welcome everyone back to school. I am very grateful to Mrs Bayliss and the team for ensuring the seamless start to the term and for settling the children in to their new classes. Mrs Bayliss tells me that the pupils have come back to school with such happy faces and full of focus and enthusiasm – long may it continue.

Uniform

Thank you 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 single/pair of stud ear-rings. We also ask that children do not come to school wearing any form of bands/friendship bracelets. Please ensure your child brings a coat to school every day. Please remember to **label all** clothing and equipment. There are a small number of children who wear trainers to school and we politely request that school shoes are worn. We are aware of the financial difficulties facing the nation and I would like to remind you that there is no requirement to have uniform with the school logo.

Snacks and drinks

We only allow fresh fruit or vegetables as a snack in both the infants and juniors. Rice cakes, nuts, cereal bars 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. Please remember to peel oranges and place in a box if your child cannot do so. Please ensure all snack pots, lunch boxes and water bottles are also labelled. All children (with the exception on Nursery who use cups) need a water bottle in school please – including those who have school lunch or grab bags. Please rest assured, if your child forgets their bottle, we will ensure they have access to a drink throughout the day.

Free School Meals

All pupils in Reception to Year 2 are now entitled to free school meals. If you think your child in Y3 to Y6 may be eligible, please speak to the office in order to get a form. Eligibility also means extra funding to enable your child to access any extra support they may need in school. Rest assured this will obviously be dealt with confidentially.

ParentPay

Please ensure all accounts have sufficient funds for lunches for pupils in Y3 to Y6. 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.

Information on Safeguarding of Children

If you have serious concerns about the safety or well-being of a child in our school, you are encouraged to report your concerns. The Designated Safeguarding Officer for the school is myself whilst Mrs. Bayliss is the Deputy Safeguarding Officer. If you feel unable to talk to us, the Governor with responsibility for Safeguarding is Mrs. Amy Hurst. Every member of staff has had relevant training and will deal with issues sensitively and appropriately. There is information on the board next to the office about Safeguarding contacts which also includes the contact number for Children's Services. If ever you were unsure, you can always phone the police too. This information/policy is also available on our website.

Year 6 arrangements

Mr McNicol will be sending out a separate letter about permissions for Year 6 pupils walking home alone and also to bring in mobile phones. Please ensure you complete the necessary forms.

Well-Being /PE

Following the great success of our well-being days, we will continue with these as follows.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	Reception Year 6	Year 1 Year 3	Year 2 Year 5	Nursery Year 4

On the relevant days, children from Reception to Year 6 should wear their PE kit. (Nursery don't have house colour t-shirts but can still come in joggers/leggings and trainers on Fridays) Children in Nursery to Year 4 also need to bring in a pair of wellies which can remain in school please. Y5 and Y6 can bring wellies in when requested (or leave them in their locker if there is space).

Music Lessons

If you have signed your child up for music lessons, these will begin next week. Please note, at present we are only offering lessons to Y3 to Y6. We are delighted to be offering music lessons again and wish to encourage the children to take part in activities such as these in order to broaden their experiences and education. However, it is important to point out to parents that your child will be missing a class based lesson every week so we are limiting the lessons to one per child. We have also asked Glamorgan Music Service to run a choir after school for Y3 to Y6 pupils which will begin w/c 19th September and will cost £10 per term (free if your child is in receipt of free school meals). We will send more information on this next week.

Home-school links

Working together is the key to a child's success in school. Next week we will send out dates for our 'Meet the teacher' events at the school for parents to visit the classroom and meet their child's teacher. These will include information on curriculum, home learning, See-saw, class routines etc. 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/phone as soon as possible. Leave a message with staff in the morning or contact the office and they will arrange it for you. Please let us know if you have any concerns or a query or even an idea as to how we can improve things! The staff, governors and I look forward to working with you and your children in the months and years ahead.

A final thought as we reflect on the announcement of the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. I am sure we all acknowledge what a formidable public figure her majesty has been, providing a source of calm and stability at times of change and uncertainty. As a Church in Wales school, we will ensure we join the Church and the nation in playing our part in the period of mourning although as yet, we await further information on what this might be. Please also see the separate

letter from Father Andrew. The importance of the Queen Elizabeth's personal faith has always been widely known and I would like to share a prayer with our school community at this time.

*Gracious God,
we give thanks for the life of your servant Queen Elizabeth,
for her faith and her dedication to duty.
Bless our nation as we mourn her death
and may her example continue to inspire us;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.*



Wishing everyone a lovely weekend.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "G. Hallett".

Gen Hallett
Headteacher