

## 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](http://www.standrewsweb.com)

[standrewsmajorps@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk](mailto:standrewsmajorps@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk)



Dear Parents,

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2021

### Welcome back!

I hope you all had a good summer and have had a good rest in preparation for the busy term ahead. The pupils have come back to school with such happiness and enthusiasm – long may it continue. We are 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 the lunch times.

### 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. Thank you for your cooperation.

### 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.

### 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.

### Free School Meals

If you think your child 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.

### Medical Records

We are updating our records, particularly those diagnosed with asthma. Mrs Green is sending home a form with those registered with asthma. This should be completed and returned to school

with the relevant inhalers etc. please. If your child no longer requires asthma medication please let us know in order for us to update our records.

### **Nursery**

Given quite low numbers across the Vale, it is very likely that we will have spaces in Nursery in January 2022. If your child will be 3 before this date and you would be interested in them attending Nursery, please contact the office. We are also keeping a waiting list for places for September 2022. If your child will be 3 before Sep 1<sup>st</sup> 2022, please let us know.

### **Mornings**

I'm sure you will agree that the new path exiting the school is a great success and I am grateful to the Local Authority for this. This new session times are now in place so your child/ren should be in school by 8.50 at the latest please. Arriving late not only disrupts the class and delays the start of lessons, but can be upsetting and unsettling for your child. There are staff available on the playground to greet the children. Parents of Reception children are not permitted to go beyond the playground or under the shelter area. This is for the safeguarding of the children and I insist that this is adhered to please. At the moment there is still a requirement for adults to wear masks when entering the school site and I thank the vast majority who are doing so. Obviously this does not include those who are exempt.

### **Well-Being /PE**

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

<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>
Year 2	Reception Year 3	Nursery Year 4	Year 1	Year 5 Year 6

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 Wednesdays) 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).

### **Intervention and Booster Groups**

Letters came home with some pupils today with regards to literacy and numeracy interventions and booster groups. As a school, we feel strongly that short programmes of intervention can have a very positive impact on a learner's attainment and this has been proven by results over the last 3 or 4 years. Whilst some of these sessions are aimed at supporting those with additional learning needs, many of the groups we run are booster groups which target a variety of pupils of all abilities in order to raise attainment and in effect give their learning a 'boost'. This is particularly important following the disruptions to the children's schooling over the last 18 months.

We are trying to ensure every child gets the best possible chance to reach their full potential and currently have over 50 places in these groups. I thank Mrs Bounds, Miss Frangoulis and the support staff for their hard work in setting up and running the groups.

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. This is also how we request payment for snack every term. In addition, we send texts as a quick way to get urgent messages out, so again, please ensure the office have an up to date number.

Working together is the key to a child's success in school. Next week we will send out information on the value of the half term, curriculum, home learning and See-saw. 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.

I hope everyone has a lovely weekend.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Hallett', written in a cursive style.

Gen Hallett  
Headteacher