

## St Andrew's Major Church in Wales Primary School

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Dear Parents/Carers,

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Thank you for helping the children to dress up today for our World Book Day celebrations. Despite not being able to get together as a school, the children have taken part in some fun activities and some classes have even done maths through story. We are so grateful that Griffin Books were able to come to school to exchange the children's vouchers for books. Griffin Books does much to support the school so please do support this small independent business in Penarth if you are able to. Some of the staff have created a 'Masked Reader' video for the children to watch. Each member of staff has recorded a poem with a digital mask and a disguised voice.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SdKe7Z\\_daR8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SdKe7Z_daR8)

The video has also been uploaded to the children's seesaw accounts and families can try to work out who the staff member is (with the help of a clue). The children can submit their answers on See-saw.

Y2 and Y6 took part in a Zoom call with Baroness Floella Benjamin on Tuesday. She shared her experiences of coming to the UK as a young girl and spoke about her book 'Coming to England'. She told the children about how she made friends in a new country and a new school but also some of the challenges she and others faced. Her story is an inspiring one and really promotes discussion around embracing cultural differences. I hope the children were able to tell you a little about the session.

This week, the children in Year 2 to Year 6 have been taking part in a Wales wide TT Rockstars competition. All the children have done very well and contributed towards the school coming 12<sup>th</sup> in the whole of Wales. However, I want to make a special mention of Year 6 who have been working amazingly hard all week and have come 3<sup>rd</sup> in the class rankings for the whole of Wales. Stanley and Tom B also had incredible individual scores and came 38<sup>th</sup> and 44<sup>th</sup> respectively out of every pupil taking part across Wales. We believe there to be at least 700 classes taking part – possibly more. Da iawn pawb!

### Message from the PTA

SAMS PTA is launching our Healthy Hearts Appeal this week, to help raise funds for a new defibrillator for the school, a skipping workshop, skipping kit and CPR training for the children. Check out our Localgiving page for more information and watch this space for more on our Skipathon and other fundraising activities which will take place.

Please share far and wide to help us reach our fundraising target. Thanks for your continued support. <https://localgiving.org/appeal/samshealthyhearts/>

### Lateral Flow Tests (LFT) Repeated Message

These self-administered tests are now in common use. However they are only designed to be used to identify someone who is asymptomatic (not showing any symptoms). If your child has

any symptoms then you should seek a PCR test – the sort carried out at a testing station. A lateral flow test is not suitable for this purpose. If you are unsure, please do contact us.

### **INSET Days for September**

I have previously shared the remaining INSET days for this academic year as indicated below. We have a Local Authority designated INSET day on **Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> September**. I have therefore decided that we will also take an INSET day on **Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> September**, rather than children returning on a Friday. This may also help some families when booking holidays. This will mean that children from Year 1 to Year 6 will return on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2021. Please note, Nursery and Reception pupils will have different start dates from 6<sup>th</sup> onwards as always and this will be shared before the end of the Summer Term. The remaining INSET Days for 2021-22 will be shared in the Autumn. The current planned ones are as follows:

- Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2021
- Friday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2021
- Monday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2021
- Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2021
- Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2021
- Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2021

### **Parent Teacher consultations**

These have now taken place for parents of our younger pupils and I hope you found them useful. Meetings for Y3 to Y6 have now been booked for next week but please contact the office if you have not been able to book. The teachers may be using their own phones so 'withheld' may show on your phone's display. Whilst you will be allocated a specific 10 minute slot, conversations may overrun so please be patient.

#### **Reminders:**

w/c 17<sup>th</sup> May – Rec to Y3 hot lunches.

w/c 17<sup>th</sup> May – Parent/Teacher phone calls (Year 3 to Year 6)

I held a virtual worship with the children on Tuesday to highlight Christian Aid week. The focus for this year's campaign is around the climate crisis and how whilst impacting on all of us, is particularly damaging to the everyday lives of people living in poverty around the world. We have not held a collection this year, but if you do receive an envelope, please do contribute if you can.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend,

Yours faithfully,



Gen Hallett  
Headteacher

*Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms. (Peter 4:10)*