

St Andrew's Major Church in Wales Primary School

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Friday 19th November 2021

The children have been engaged in activities and discussions around anti-bullying this week and I have been impressed with their positive and thoughtful responses. Please do talk to your child/ren about the importance of kindness and also about talking to a grown up if they or anyone they know of are experiencing any form of bullying. The school's anti-bullying policy is on the website if you would like to take a look.

http://www.standrewsweb.com/uploads/1/1/5/5/115548295/anti_bullying_policy_june_2021.pdf

We were delighted to welcome Jenipher, a Ugandan coffee farmer into school this week. Jenipher shared her experiences of being a fairtrade farmer, how this has helped her and her family and also how she helped other farmers, particularly women, to get a fair deal for their crops. Thank you to Jenipher and the Dinas Powys Fairtrade group and well done to the pupils in Y5 and Y6 for their very mature and enquiring questions for Jenipher.



Parent, Teacher Consultations

I hope those of you who had phone calls this week found them useful. If for whatever reason you were unable to have this meeting, or in the case of separated parents, please contact your child's class teacher to arrange a suitable time for a phone call.

Gifts and Cards

I am acutely aware of the financial difficulties many families face, particularly at this time of year. In recent years, I have tried to dissuade families from feeling the need to purchase gifts but some feel they would like to. Therefore, can I politely request that classes club together to purchase a voucher for staff as this should prove less of a cost for individual families. As an example a £2/£3 contribution per child put together, would provide a generous voucher for staff. I really appreciate your support with this.

As last year, children will be allowed to bring in Christmas cards for their friends. However, in an attempt to teach the children about the importance of considering the environment, we are restricting this to friends in their own class. Unlike last year, there are no requirements around isolating items, so cards can come in to school at any time during the last 2 weeks of term – from 6th December.

PTA Christmas Cards

The proofs are coming home today (Reception class on Monday). Your orders must be in school **by next Friday 26th November**. Any orders after this date will not be processed in time for Christmas. If there are any errors with the children's name, you can correct this on the order form.

Covid-19 update

We have seen an increase in cases in our school this week, particularly in one class, where it has highlighted just how quickly the virus can spread. It is a requirement that the school is able to support the work of Track and Trace and the Local Authority, so please remember to let us know immediately of any positive PCR test results. Please remember, Lateral Flow Tests (LFT) are not suitable for anyone displaying symptoms. I am aware of how confusing all the changes to the guidance are but please remember the following:

If someone in your household has symptoms or has tested positive for coronavirus and you are fully vaccinated or aged 5 to 17 you should self-isolate and take a PCR test. If your test is negative you can stop isolating. You should remain vigilant for new symptoms, and try to avoid contact with vulnerable family and friends in the short-term (e.g. elderly relatives or those who are higher risk of severe COVID-19 infection).

If your child is under 5 and has symptoms, they should stay home until the symptoms have ceased.

With any absence, please leave a message on the school's answer phone system as early as possible. Please do not simply state that your child is unwell. In order to properly monitor school absence as well as looking for potential issues with the spread of Covid 19, we need details on the type of illness and symptoms.

We are still ensuring the school remains well ventilated with windows and some fire doors open around the school. As the weather is becoming colder, please ensure your child always has a jumper as well as a coat.



Upcoming dates

26th November – Deadline for Secondary School applications (Current Year 6)

26th November – deadline for return of PTA Christmas card orders

7th December – filming for our special Christmas concert! More details to follow 😊

10th December – Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day

15th December – Christmas Dinner – Reception to Year 2

16th December – Christmas Dinner – Year 3 to Year 6

17th December – Last day of term

Our value for this half term is Compassion. I will be awarding Headteacher awards for those children who show compassion to others or show a real understanding of what compassion means. This week, my Headteacher awards go to Lexi and Freddie in Reception for being so kind and caring to their friends! A special mention to Nancy in Year 5 too for her very thoughtful and special prayer for anti-bullying week. Da iawn pawb 😊



Wishing everyone a lovely weekend,

Yours faithfully,



Gen Hallett
Headteacher

"Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you." (Ephesians 4:32)