

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

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Dear parents/carers,

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2022

### News

All the pupil committees were selected last week and some of them met this week. With high numbers of absence, we have not been able to take photos of the groups but will share these as soon as we are able. The children in all the committees will each be receiving a badge but unfortunately we are still waiting for them to come in. Our Shwmae day was a great success and it was lovely to really celebrate our Welsh identity for the day. You may have noticed that we try to encourage Welsh greetings and it would be great if everyone in our school community could try to use 'Bore da', Prynawn da, Shwmae (*Hi there*) and *Hwyl fawr* or simply *Hwyl* (*Goodbye*).



### PTA

We are very grateful to the small group of parents who attended the AGM on Monday. There are a number of committee positions which still need to be filled including treasurer and joint chair. Unfortunately, with such low numbers in the PTA, there is currently a risk that the group will fold. The PTA has provided the school with much needed resources including nursery bikes, leavers' hoodies, iPads and planters. They also helped us purchase log circles, welly racks, waterproofs and den building kits for outdoor learning. In addition to this, they provide community and school events such as the planting day, wreath workshops and discos. I send out a plea to parents and carers who may be able to help - even in a small way – as many hands make light work!

### Parents' Evening

Messages were sent out via Ping to book an appointment for next week but if you have had any issues with booking, please contact the school office. Parents evenings will be held in the hall so please use the main entrance. Please remember children must not be left unsupervised anywhere in the school or on the playgrounds and they will need to stay with you at all times (including Year 6). If you are unable to attend next week, please contact your child's teacher to make an appointment for after half term.

### Parking

I still have real health and safety concerns at drop off and collection times. It is essential that vehicles including taxis do not use the Arbor Vale/school entrance area. It has also been reported that some parents are parking over the zig zag lines of the zebra crossing. We all know that children do not always take care when near traffic and therefore these actions could put a child's life at risk. I must insist that all parents/carers park responsibly please.

### After School Clubs

Please remember there are no clubs running next week due to Parents' evenings. They will start again after half term.

Clubs have been well attended and the children seem to be thoroughly enjoying their activities. There are spaces in some clubs so we will be opening up to other year groups. Remember all clubs including sports clubs are available for boys and girls.

**Netball** – We are inviting Year 5 to join this with Mrs Day on Mondays.

**Well-being** – We have 8 spaces for this club so we are inviting Year 1 to join (There are only 8 spaces, so this will be done on a first come first served basis).

There are still spaces in **Football (Y3/4)** and **Rugby (Y5/Y6)**. At the moment we are sticking to the same year groups due to the size of the pupils but we are considering ways of alternating these with other year groups in the future.

Please email the school if you are interested in your child attending any of the above.

### Church Visit postponed

Due to pupil and staff illness this week, we had made the decision to postpone the Y4 contribution at St Peter's this Sunday. Y3 will be taking part on 20<sup>th</sup> November.

### Christmas Concert Arrangements

A few parents have asked about arrangements for concerts in order to book time off from work. Numbers in the hall for the Nativity are restricted due to Health and Safety and are as follows: Nursery – for parents who only have children in Nursery, you will be allocated 2 tickets according to your child/children's session.

For all other pupils, each family are allowed up to a total of 3 tickets. You could have 2 for 1 performance and then 1 for the other or 3 for the same performance.

Tickets for the Junior Carol Service will also be restricted but I will confirm numbers once I have spoken to Father Andrew.

**CONFIRMED DATES (New dates in Red)**

w/c 24<sup>th</sup> Oct – Parent-Teacher meetings

Mon 24<sup>th</sup> Oct – Y1 trip to St Fagans

31<sup>st</sup> Oct – 4<sup>th</sup> Nov – HALF TERM

**Monday 7<sup>th</sup> Nov – Y4 trip to Cardiff Castle**

**Fri 11<sup>th</sup> Nov – Year 6 to attend the Remembrance in the village.**

**Mon 14<sup>th</sup> Nov – Year 6 Remembrance Worship in school at 9.30 (Y6 Parents invited to attend)**

Sun 20<sup>th</sup> Nov – Y3 Contribution to St Peter's Service at 10:30

Tues 13<sup>th</sup> Dec – Infant Nativity at 1:30pm

Weds 14<sup>th</sup> Dec – Infant Nativity at 9:30am

Weds 14<sup>th</sup> Dec – Junior Carol Service at 1:30pm (St Peter's)

Weds 21<sup>st</sup> Dec – Last Day of Term

One of the roles of our school ambassadors (Ava and Josh in Year 6) is to promote and explain to all the children about children's rights. This half term, we have been thinking about our value of thankfulness and we are thankful that we all have the right to an identity/name and the right to have a nationality (UNCRC Articles 7 and 8). We will explore other rights throughout the year and discuss how they also link to our school values.

We have definitely seen a change in the weather this week. Please ensure your child always has a sensible coat with a hood in school. The school fleeces are not suitable for wet weather and a coat is also needed. Thank you for your support.

Wishing everyone a lovely weekend.

Yours faithfully,



Gen Hallett  
Headteacher

Our value this half term is Thankfulness:

***Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name. (Psalms 100:4)***