

## 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/carers,

Wednesday 21st December 2022

### News

What a busy few weeks we have had in the run up to the Christmas holidays. I am sure you will agree that both the Nativity and Junior carol concerts were a great success and it was so great to be able to invite parents and family to join us this year. The children all worked so hard and really did perform their hearts out and we are very proud of all of them. A huge thank you for your help with the costumes and with learning lines. I am also extremely grateful to all the staff for their hard work in preparing the children so well and to Father Andrew and the team at St Peter's for their help with the carol service.



We were delighted that so many pupils took part in the delicious Christmas lunch last week



and we are very grateful to the kitchen staff and Big Fresh. The infants loved their sausage sub rolls on Friday so this will definitely be something we will be introducing in January. More information will be sent home about how this will work as parents in Reception to Year 2 will need to select baguettes online as the default lunch will be the cooked lunch.

Over the last few days, the children have also all enjoyed their parties and fun Christmas activities.

I was delighted to join Year 2 at Bethesda Chapel in Dinas Powys on Monday. The children took part in all sorts of activities as part of the 'Christmas Unwrapped' workshops and we are very grateful to Matt and his volunteers for their involvement with our school.



We ended the term with a whole school worship this morning in which we shared carols, songs, prayers and poems. We lit all of the candles on our Advent wreath to remind us of the hope, peace, joy and love that we think about at this time of year. We also lit the final white candle, which is usually lit on Christmas day to signal the coming of Christ.

I do believe the children have had a lovely few weeks in the build up to Christmas (despite all the coughs, colds and bugs!)

### **PTA**

I would like to extend my gratitude to the PTA for all their hard work this term. They have raised a significant amount of money through the wreath workshops, online Christmas market, Christmas cards and raffle. I know they are planning events for the future but are desperately in need of more help. Please let them know if there is anything you might be able to do, including committee roles.

### **Thank you for your generosity**

We were very pleased with the 100 or so selection boxes collected for the Foodbank which we have passed on to them today. We collected £240 at the junior concert last week. This will be split between St Peter's and our Schools of Sanctuary charity in support of refugees. Thank you to everyone who has donated. On behalf of all the staff can I please thank you for all the wonderful Christmas gifts, cards and kind messages. It really is appreciated and we are always overwhelmed with your generosity.

### **INSET days**

Welsh Government have now confirmed that schools will have an extra INSET day for on-going curriculum developments. There is already an INSET day on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February so we will add the extra day on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February. This may enable families to take a slightly longer break.

Therefore the remaining INSET days for the year are:

- Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2023
- Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2023
- Monday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2023

## BANK HOLIDAYS

As well as the usual May day bank holiday on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2023, there will be a second Bank Holiday on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2023. This is in honour of the coronation of His Majesty King Charles III (which takes place on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May).

It has been a long and very busy term but as I always say, it is a privilege and a pleasure to be Headteacher in such a great community and school. I would like to make a special mention of the hard work of the staff, governors and also our many volunteers. We are very grateful for the continued support from you, our families. Working together is so essential to the success and development of the school and the progress of each and every pupil. I do hope you find the time to have some quality family time together during the busy holiday period and for this reason we are not sending out homework. We look forward to seeing you all on **Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January – there is no INSET day!**

Wishing you all a joyful and peaceful Christmas and a very happy new year!

Yours faithfully,



Gen Hallett  
Headteacher



*For to us a Child is born, to us a Son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulders, and His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. (Isiah 9:6-7)*