

St Andrew's Major Church in Wales Primary School

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Friday 22nd October 2021

Thank you again for your generous donations for the Food Bank. We believe we had more donations than ever this year and it demonstrates just what a caring and compassionate school family we have. We are planning to support the Foodbank in another appeal prior to Christmas. As we are unable to go to Church this year, the pupils and staff have put together a film to celebrate Harvest. Thanks to Mrs Bounds for editing it together. The link is:

<https://youtu.be/T6j2dMu5kjc>

The children have also been learning all about black history month this week and this included Year 3 to Year 6 joining Lenny Henry for a live virtual meet all about his new book. We held a special online worship yesterday to celebrate the life and work of Betty Campbell. As always our pupils have shown great respect and compassion for others along with an excellent understanding of the value and importance of diversity and equality.



SELFIE Well-being assessments

Mrs Goddard has previously sent out information on well-being assessments which take place in Year 2 to Year 6. These are a really useful way for us to identify any children who may be in need of extra support with emotional well-being (including anxiety). We are all very aware of the impact that the last 18 months has had on some children and we feel these assessments are essential. The children cannot take part without parental permission so please ensure you complete the consent via the following link:

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=Ug4_TzS3ZEGUCRtgHRR5k8U9w9DLcJVijRC6cB0zP75URUxMQTM2UzdRWE8yNFJERUc3TE9WUjZZUy4u

Nasal Flu Vaccines

The Childhood Influenza Vaccination Programme 2021/22 commenced in September. All children from Reception to Year 11 will be offered a vaccination in school/community setting by the School Nursing team. They will be carrying out these at St Andrew's on Monday 8th November. Please find further details and complete the following form via the link by midday on Sun 7th November:

<https://forms.office.com/r/wyJtdxHhZP>

Update from the PTA (repeated message)

The PTA are launching the new campaign *'The Great Outdoors'*. We are so lucky to have a school with such wonderful outdoor space. The school would love to develop the outdoor "Emerald Forest" area to further enhance the education and well-being opportunities for all pupils. They would also like to purchase more much needed outdoor equipment.

We are planning to hold some face to face events again which is fantastic:

- Sponsored Litter Pick running over October half term
- Christmas Wreath Making Workshop (tickets will be on sale next week)
- Virtual Christmas Market (If you would like a stall, please contact a member of the PTA through Facebook or Twitter)

We would love you all to join in and get outdoors enjoying our local area and cleaning up our community while raising funds over half term. Wild About Nature, Dinas Powys are providing the necessary equipment which you can book and collect from the PTA by contacting us through Facebook or St Andrews Major PTA Twitter so please join in.

Donate your sponsor funds here: <https://localgiving.org/fundraising/SAMSLitterPick/>

Art Competition

Rachel Collis, who used to be a governor at the school is involved in a children's art competition connected with Cancer Research UK.

She asked us to pass on the information, which might be of interest to pupils at St. Andrews. Pupils are invited to submit their artwork on the theme **Discovery and Invention**. There is a panel of judges and prizes by age group. The £2 entry fee goes towards Cancer Research. Please follow the link for further information: <https://www.artforresearchwales.org/>

Holiday and INSET dates

All school holiday dates are listed on the Vale of Glamorgan Website:

<https://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/en/living/schools/School-Term-Dates.aspx>

Remaining INSET days are as follows:

- 4th January 2022
- 5th January 2022
- 15th June 2022
- 22nd July 2022

(There may be a 6th INSET day for Curriculum development but this has not been confirmed by Welsh Government yet)

Absence

We closely monitor attendance and it is essential that you inform of your child's absence as soon as possible, and no later than 10:00am. Unless you need to speak to someone, please use the absence option on the phone system as office staff are very busy in the mornings. Please ensure you give a reason when you leave your message. In terms of punctuality, can I please remind you that children should be arriving by 8:50am as there have been a number of children arriving after this time in recent weeks.

Coronavirus update

Whilst cases in our school are thankfully low, we have had a few cases this week including in breakfast/after school clubs. We are also seeing very high cases in the community. Please remain vigilant for possible

symptoms over half term and continue to take all necessary precautions in order to keep you, your loved ones and others safe.

Upcoming dates

Mon 25th – 29th October – HALF TERM WEEK

w/c 8th November – Teacher/Parent phone consultations (Nursery to Year 2)

w/c 15th November – Teacher/Parent phone consultations (Year 3 to Year 6)

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

Today we say good-bye to a lovely family who have been part of St Andrew's for many years. We wish Aryan and Ashwin (as well as their older brother Rohan) all our prayers and good wishes as they move to England. We hope you will all be very happy in your new home and new school.

Thank you to the staff for their hard work in what has been another challenging period. I also thank you for all of your support over the past 7 weeks. Wishing everyone a fantastic half term.

Yours faithfully,



Gen Hallett
Headteacher



Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.

(2 Corinthians 9:6-8)