

St Andrew's Major Church in Wales Primary School

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Friday 24th September 2021

As we finish our third week, I am pleased to say how well the children have settled into the new term and I am delighted to see so much engagement and enjoyment in their learning. They continue to enjoy well-being days. We all know the importance of the children being outside and as we see a change in the weather, please ensure your child has a coat in school every day so that they can still access the outdoors for lessons and breaks. Please note, a fleece is not adequate in damp/wet weather. There are a small number of children arriving late in the morning. A gentle reminder that school starts at 8.50 so please ensure your child/ren are walking through the gate by this time.

Charity event

Karen Harris, a former pupil of St Andrew's has asked us to take part in an Admiral fund raising event in support of two charities – British Heart Foundation and Wallich, Welsh homelessness charity. We will be holding a 'silly/odd sock day' on Friday 1st October and are asking for a donation of £1. As we struggle to bank cash, the office will add £1 to every parent pay account. If you do not wish to contribute, we fully respect this decision and will remove any remaining amounts from accounts after a week.

Hannah Mills, Olympic Champion

The school has been invited to attend a celebration event to mark the amazing achievement of local sailor Hannah Mills. Hannah won a gold medal in the Class 470 sailing competition, to add to the gold that she won in Rio in 2016 and the silver she won in London in 2012. This now elevates her to the most successful female sailor in Olympic history. Hannah was brought up in Dinas Powys, where her parents still live.

The event is being planned for **Saturday October 2nd between 2pm and 4pm**, weather permitting in the Gardens at the rear of the Parish Hall. If it rains, it will be in the Parish hall itself. As Year 6 will be taking part in the Remembrance event in November, I would like to offer this opportunity to **Year 5**. If your child would like to attend (with a member of staff) please email the school to let us know. They have invited 12 children, so if we have more than 12, we will draw names from a 'hat' to make it fair. Please let us know by Wednesday 29th Sep.

Message from the PTA

REMINDER - SAMS PTA – AGM, Wednesday 29th September 2021, 8pm, online on zoom

<https://facebook.com/events/s/sams-pta-agm/616996376136651/>

All parents, guardians and carers of pupils or teachers currently at school can attend as members of the PTA.

Ways to contact us:

We have a Facebook group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/158387884190510>

We are on twitter: @SAMS_PTA

You can e-mail us at sams_pta@yahoo.co.uk

We look forward to seeing you there. Thanks, SAMS PTA

Message from Mrs Hallett - The PTA has always been run by a very small number of hard working parents, who often have busy lives and jobs themselves. I am particularly grateful to Mrs Rachel Marshall who has continued to raise funds for us throughout the pandemic through her knowledge of grants and the use of local giving. This has brought in significant and essential extra funding – mainly focused on outdoor learning

and pupil well-being which we would like to continue. Mrs Marshall is happy to continue as treasurer and I am very grateful for this. However, she really needs some extra support, so please do try and attend the meeting and more importantly get in touch if you are able to take on one of the important roles or help out with tasks such as social media campaigns, grant applications etc. Thank you for your support!

Colorfoto – School Photos

These will be taking place on Wednesday 29th September. This year, I am pleased that we will be able to arrange for siblings who are in school to have their photos together. However, I am afraid we are unable to invite younger pre-school siblings into school at this time.

Information on Safeguarding of Children (Repeated)

If you have serious concerns about the safety or well-being of a child in our school, you are encouraged to report your concerns. The Designated Safeguarding Officer for the school is myself whilst Mrs. Bounds is the Deputy Safeguarding Officer. If you feel unable to talk to us, the Governor with responsibility for Safeguarding is Mrs. Amy Hurst. Every member of staff has had relevant training and will deal with issues sensitively and appropriately. There is information on the board next to the office about Safeguarding contacts which also includes the contact number for Children's Services. If ever you were unsure, you can always phone the police too. This information/policy is also available on our website.

Information on Complaints Procedures (Repeated Message)

A complaint is defined in our school policy as '*serious concern, grievance or dissatisfaction*'. If you do have a complaint, the first point of contact where possible should always be the class teacher. If you feel your complaint has not been dealt with then obviously you can speak to me or a governor. If you are still not satisfied, then a written complaint can be submitted to the governing body. This information/policy is also available on our website.

I hope everyone has a lovely weekend.

Upcoming dates

Weds 29th Sep - School Photos

Weds 29th Sep at 4pm - Residential visit Zoom meeting for parents of Y6 (separate letter has been sent out)

Weds 29th at 8pm – PTA AGM

Friday 1st October - Silly sock day (see above)

Sat 2nd October - Hannah Mills event (Year 5)

w/c 11th October - Harvest Collection for the foodbank (more information to follow when they have confirmed the items they would like us to collect).

I will be awarding regular Head teacher's awards for those pupils who demonstrate our current value of generosity. This week the awards go to Robyn in Year 2 and Tomas in Year 3, both of whom have shown great generosity to their friends. Diolch yn fawr Robyn and Tomas.

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)