

St Andrew's Major Church in Wales Primary School

Weekly Newsletter



Dear Parents,

Friday 28th September 2018

Some of our elections have taken place and I congratulate our house captains and school councillors. Further elections will take place in the next few weeks.

House Captains	
Badgers	Gabriel Brown Elliott Waite
Squirrels	Anna Maunder Daniel Scott
Hedgehogs	Finlay Jenkins Charlotte Mills
Otters	Nerys Fletcher-Bennett Jacob Reece

School Council	
Year 2	Ava Donovan Riley Davies
Year 3	Archie Brooks Alex Hurley
Year 4	George Herbert Millie Saunders
Year 5	Joshua Donovan Hope Ford
Year 6	Emma Goddard, Finlay Jenkins Joanna Sparks Michael Chapman

An amazing visitor

Aaron Phipps wheelchair rugby Paralympian visited school this week and worked with all pupils from Reception to Year 6. Aaron was just aged 15 years old, his life changed forever when he contracted Meningitis Type C. Aaron spent 12 long months in hospital and became a bilateral below knee amputee. Aaron was determined this would not stop him leading a full life. He completed two London Marathon's before trying wheelchair rugby. Aaron trained around his fulltime job and was selected to represent his country in the London 2012 Paralympic games. Following this, Aaron decided to set himself a new challenge. He decided he wanted to be the first wheelchair user to climb Mt Kilimanjaro, unassisted. When the wheelchair couldn't cope with the rough terrain, Aaron was determined not to give up and crawled to the top on his hands and knees. Listening to the story of his life and sheer determination to succeed despite the challenges he faced, was an inspiration to us all. I hope the children told you all about it!

NSPCC

All the children attended special presentations from the NSPCC on Monday. Following this, Year 5 and 6 also took part in workshops around how to stay safe. In order to support the fantastic work that the NSPCC does, we would like to make our first fundraiser of the year a sponsored event to raise money for the charity. The children should have brought home sponsor forms. The activities will be as follows:

- Infants including Nursery will take part in an obstacle course on Wednesday
- Juniors will do circuit training on Friday

Children come to school in uniform as usual and where necessary they will change into school PE kit. Thank you in advance for your support.

Additional Needs (Repeated Message)

As well as being the school's Deputy Head and Nursery leader, Mrs Bayliss is also our Additional Needs Coordinator (ALNCo). If you have discussed concerns with your child's class teacher and they have suggested you speak to Mrs Bayliss, please make an appointment in the office. Obviously as Deputy Head, Mrs Bayliss has other strategic roles in the school and therefore, I ask that any meetings are kept to a Thursday morning (designated ALNCo time) wherever possible.

Safeguarding of Children (Repeated Message)

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. Bayliss is the Deputy Safeguarding Officer. If you feel unable to talk to us, the Governor with responsibility for Safeguarding is Mrs. Sarah Dowling. We have all had 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. This information/policy is also available on our website.

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.

Harvest Festival

This will be taking place on Sunday 7th October at St Peter's Church at 10.30. Some of the younger children will be decorating the church and the older ones will be presenting and leading the prayers. We hope as many families as possible will join us. Please note, as in recent years we would like to support those in the local community via The Vale Foodbank. We had visitors from the Foodbank in Worship this morning who asked us to collect tinned tomatoes, tinned fruit and UHT fruit juices. Please ensure the items are within the 'Best Before' date. Due to issues with storage, please do not send items into school until Weds at the earliest. We will place boxes in the entrance/office area. Thank you for your support.

Dates

Weds 3rd	Infant NSPCC fundraiser
Thurs 4th	Meeting for Y5 parents re Residential visits
Fri 5th	Junior NSPCC fundraiser
	Reception visit to Cardiff Castle
Sun 7th	Harvest Festival at St Peter's 10.30

Value this half term

This half term, our focus value is 'Thankfulness'. Christians believe that God loves and cares for them in many different ways in all aspects of their life. They know that their response to this provision should be one of thankfulness and praise. You might like to discuss as a family what we are thankful for and how we can show our appreciation in practical ways. Encourage the children to write a prayer or poem about thankfulness which we can share in school worship.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

Yours faithfully,



Gen Hallett (Headteacher)