



St Andrews Major Church in Wales Primary School

SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER

It has been wonderful to see everyone back in school, and the children have settled into their new classrooms as if they had never been away. Thank you for your support with school uniform. Please could we ask that every item of clothing is clearly labelled — we already have some lost property without names, and we know how costly these items can be.

It was also fantastic to see so many of you in school last week for the “Meet the Teacher” sessions. Your feedback has been very positive, and we hope you found the sessions helpful for starting the year.

This month, children in Years 2–6 took part in voting for new committee members. These pupils have now been announced and will play an important role in representing pupil voice both within the school and at external events. We always try to offer a variety of roles and responsibilities to our children, giving all children as many opportunities as possible to develop their leadership and teamwork skills.

One initiative we have continued is the Year 6 “Reception Buddies”. Our Year 6 pupils have already met their Reception buddies and have started supporting them in settling into school life — we know they will be amazing role models again this year.

I would also like to say “Well done” to our Year 5 children who volunteered to become Playground Pals. They have completed their training and have been awarded their certificates and vests.

Finally, we are very proud of some of our pupils and a former pupil who represented our school at Christian Aid’s 80th Anniversary event in Cardiff. They presented our award-winning Climate Justice work to important guests. Well done to Flossy and George for representing the school so brilliantly — we are very proud of you!

It is exciting to see how the year is already taking shape, and I look forward to sharing more achievements and updates with you soon.

Yours faithfully,

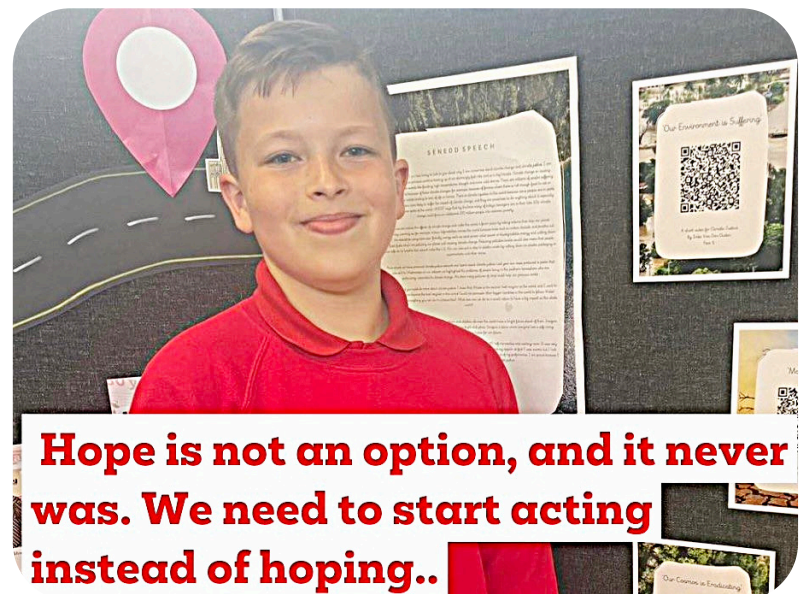
J Bayliss

Mrs Jo Bayliss
Headteacher

UPCOMING EVENTS

OCTOBER

- Fri 3rd** - Kerbcraft Road Safety sessions for Year 2 begin
- Thurs 9th** - Llangrannog Y5 parent meeting at 4pm
- Fri 17th** - Flu immunisation (Reception – Year 6)
- Fri 17th** - Anti-Racism Day (wear red)
- Tues 21st** - Parents/Carers Evening in school hall
- Thurs 23rd** - Parents/Carers Evening in school hall
- 27th Oct – 2nd Nov HALF TERM**



VALUE

Our value for this half term is Generosity. At the end of this newsletter, you will find an activity sheet to explore this value further with your child and encourage meaningful discussion at home.



CHURCH VISITS AND CLASS WORSHIP

In previous years, we have invited children to take part in the service at St Peter's Church at 10:30 on Sundays. The children's teacher will prepare with the children in school and then we ask parents to bring the children to church on the day. Throughout the year, different classes will have the opportunity to present to the congregation. We will also be inviting parents into school on particular days throughout the year to join us in our class worships. The dates for all of these is in the list at the end of the newsletter.

HARVEST

We will be collecting harvest donations for The Vale Food bank. Mrs Hassan from the Food bank has visited school to talk with the children about the important work they do in our community.

We will be holding our special Harvest Service in school on Tuesday 7th October. In preparation for this, we will be collecting donations throughout the week. The Food bank has specifically requested the following items: **Corned beef, Coffee, Pasta and Sauce packets.** If you would like to contribute, please send your donations into school.

ATTENDANCE

Each week, attendance awards are given to the class with the highest attendance. This month, Year 1 have been amazing and really set the bar high — well done to them!

Thank you for ensuring children are in school and on time; it makes a big difference to their learning.



Week 1 - Year 1 with 100%



Week 2 - Year 1 with 100%



Week 3 - Year 3 with 99.28%





SCHOOL COMMUNICATION

Following the move over to Arbor last term I confirm that SchoolPing has now been deactivated. Arbor is now the platform being used to communicate with parents. We would ask all parents to please download the app available from the App Store or Google Play Store. The app gives you access to your child's profile where you can view information such as attendance, view your child's report and make changes to information such as address or medical information. It is also possible to report absences and communicate with the school office via the app. Any message with an attachment will be sent via email. Further functionality within Arbor will be rolled out after half term including trips and payments. If you have any issues with Arbor please do contact the school office.

PTA

We would like to thank the PTA for their incredible fundraising efforts last year. Thanks to their hard work and your generous support, we completed our outdoor projects and are now planning to purchase a new stage for the school hall — a very exciting update, as the previous stage had been in use for over 25 years!

This new stage will enhance children's performances for Christmas concerts, class worship, and expressive arts, helping develop their confidence and skills.

We are extremely grateful for the PTA's dedication, and for the support you give as parents in these events. Exciting activities are already planned for this year — thank you for making a real difference!





ATTENDANCE

ATTENDANCE MATTERS



Every school day counts BUT every minute is equally important!

Please ensure children arrive on time each day. Our staggered start helps with traffic flow and ensures all pupils begin their learning on time, including wellbeing welcomes, spellings, and phonics. Lateness can create gaps in learning. Occasional delays are understandable but should be the exception. Thank you for your support.

GENEROSITY

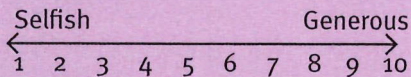
HOME SCHOOL VALUES

This term we will be focussing in school on the value **GENEROSITY**. We hope your family will find these ideas helpful as you explore the value and have fun together.

TALK TOGETHER about Generosity

When we think about **generosity** we usually think about being **generous** with money or possessions. However, we can also be **generous** with our time, our gifts and our abilities. **Generous** people often say that they receive much more than they give. Perhaps this is because when someone is **generous** to us, it makes us want to be **generous** in return. The opposite of being **generous** is being selfish. What kind of person would you prefer to have as a friend?

- How would you describe yourself on this scale?



- Where would other members of your family put you on the scale and what are their reasons?
- Who is the most **generous** person you know?



READ TOGETHER...

The Widow's Mite

Jesus had been teaching in the Temple. But now he sat down near the treasury and watched as the many visitors to the Temple passed by and dropped money into the collecting box to help with God's work.

The rich men dressed in fine robes threw in handfuls of coins as they passed, without a thought. But then a poor widow came by, paused, and placed just two mites (tiny coins) into the box.

Jesus called his disciples to him and told them what he had seen.

Then he said to them, "Let me tell you, this poor widow gave more than all those people who threw many coins into the treasury. The wealthy men gave just a small part of their riches which made no difference to them. But the widow gave all that she had."

You see, God is more interested in what is in the heart of the giver than the size of their gift.

Bible story based on Mark 12:41-44

A Mite in Jesus' time was a small brass coin worth 1/128th of a denarius. Typically a labourer was paid 1 denarius for a day's work.



In Britain, many years ago, a coin called a mite was in general use and worth half a farthing, a very tiny amount of money.

THINK TOGETHER Words of Wisdom

"God loves a cheerful giver"

2 Corinthians 9.7

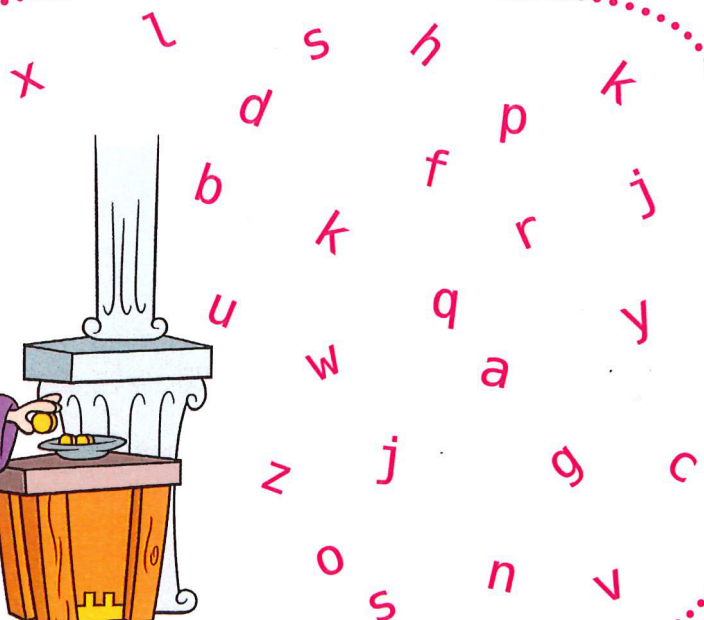
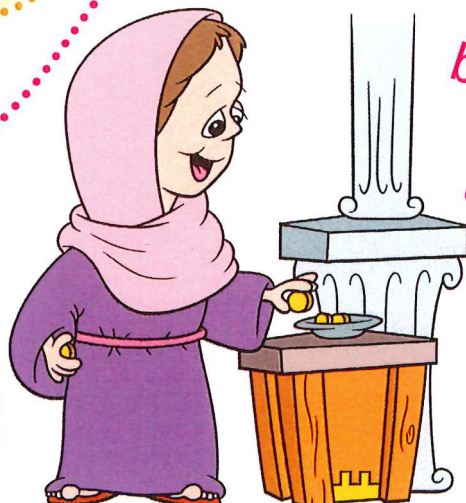
New King James Version® of the Bible



QUIZ

Lost Letters

Which letters are missing from the alphabet? Arrange them to make a word from the story.



★ HALL OF FAME

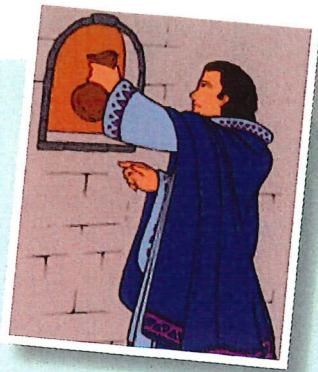
A Generous Saint

Nicholas grew up long ago in a poor part of Turkey. His father earned just enough to provide for the needs of his family but many people in the town were extremely poor.

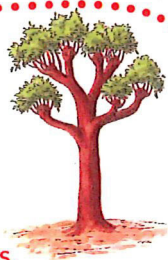
One day something extraordinary happened. A wealthy relative, who Nicholas barely knew, suddenly died and left him a vast fortune. Overnight Nicholas became rich, so rich that he felt very uncomfortable about having so much money when many of the townsfolk barely had enough to eat. But Nicholas knew that the families were proud and they would not want to accept money that they had not earned. He needed to find a way to help them in secret.

So in the dark of night, Nicholas crept through the town leaving parcels of food, clothing and money for the families most in need. He helped one family with three daughters several times. The father was so curious about the mysterious benefactor, that he was determined to stay awake and discover who was being so **generous**. As Nicholas quietly left his gift at the door of their tiny home the man leapt out and chased Nicholas until he finally caught up. Nicholas was embarrassed and begged the man not to give away his secret. The father promised. But he was so happy and grateful that he just couldn't help telling people, and soon the whole town knew about Nicholas' **generosity**.

Nicholas continued to live in the same town and he continued to be **generous** to every one in need. Every December he rewarded the children who had been good during the year by secretly delivering presents whilst they were asleep. To this day Nicholas is remembered in countries across the world when children receive gifts on December 5th, St Nicholas' Day.



HOME-SCHOOL CHALLENGE



The Generositree

The fruit of the generositree are blessings.

Think of something **generous** that you could do that would bless someone and make them happy. Then do it.

Design and make a colourful exotic looking fruit to represent the blessing and take it to school to hang on the Generositree.



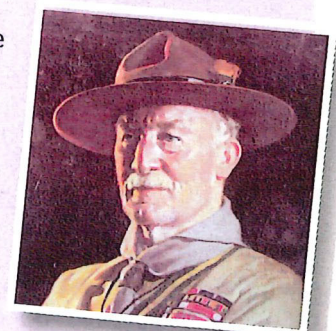
FASCINATING FACTS

Leading the Pack

Lieutenant Baden-Powell was a brave soldier in the British Army and served in India and Africa. He was an expert in wilderness survival skills, like hunting, making fires and building rafts. To help new soldiers he wrote a small manual. A version of this became 'Scouting for Boys' and gave him the idea of setting up the Scouting movement.

Today, worldwide, millions of children and young people are Scouts, Cubs, Beavers, Guides, Brownies or Rainbows.

- In the UK over 160,000 volunteers run Scouting and Guiding groups
- They **generously** give over 20 million hours of service each year
- Many parents also use their skills to help children to earn badges



FAMILY FOCUS

Secret St Nick

Each member of the family could decide on someone that they think deserves a special present. Find some pots for each person and begin to save a small amount each week.

When December comes buy presents that will make your special person smile or that they will find useful. Wrap the gifts as creatively as you can and write their name on a homemade label. Deliver in secret on 5th December, St Nicholas' Day.

AUTUMN TERM	
SEPTEMBER	
Mon 15 th – Wed 17 th	Meet the Teacher Mon – Year 6 (4.45-5.15) Reception (5.15-5.45) Tues – Year 4 (4.45-5.15) Year 2(5.15-5.45) Wed – Year 5 (4.45-5.15) Year 3 (5.15-5.45) Thurs – Year 1 (4.45-5.15)
Fri 19 th	Secondary school applications open
Fri 19 th	Year 6 Pilgrimage trip
w/c 22 nd	School clubs start
Wed 24 th	Colorfoto individual/sibling photos
Thurs 25 th	Manor Adventure Y6 parent meeting at 4pm
w/c 29 th	Collecting for Foodbank
Tues 30 th	Fairtrade coffee morning at 9.15am (Y1, Y5 and Eco-committee to present)
OCTOBER	
Fri 3 rd	Kerbcraft Road Safety sessions for Year 2 begin
Thurs 9 th	Llangrannog Y5 parent meeting at 4pm
Fri 17 th	Flu immunisation (Reception – Year 6)
Fri 17 th	Anti-Racism Day (wear red)
Tues 21 st	Parents/Carers Evening in school hall
Thurs 23 rd	Parents/Carers Evening in school hall
27 th Oct – 2 nd Nov	HALF TERM
NOVEMBER	
Tues 11 th	Year 6 Remembrance Class Worship (Y6 parents/carers invited)
Sun 16 th	Year 2 Church contributions at St Peter's Church (10.15am)
Wed 19 th	PTA Disco
Fri 21 st	Closing date for secondary applications
Fri 28 th	Year 5 Class Worship (Y5 parents/carers invited)
Fri 28 th	Reception applications open
DECEMBER	
Tues 2 nd	Early Years Christmas story in hall (Afternoon Nursery and Reception) at 1:15pm
Wed 3 rd	Early Years Christmas story in hall (Morning Nursery and Reception) at 9:15am
Tues 9 th	Christmas Nativity in hall (Year 1 to Year 3) at 1:30pm
Weds 10 th	Christmas Nativity in hall (Year 1 to Year 3) at 9:30am Christmas Carol Service (Year 4 to Year 6) at St Peter's at 1:30pm
Thurs 11 th	Christmas Lunch (Reception-Year 2)
Fri 12 th	Christmas Lunch (Year 3 – Year 6)
Tues 16 th	Christmas Party Nursery to Year 6 (All Nursery pupils in school for the afternoon session – no morning session)
Fri 19 th	TERM ENDS
22 nd Dec – 2 nd Jan	CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY

SPRING TERM

JANUARY	
Mon 5 th	INSET DAY
Tues 6 th	TERM STARTS
Sun 18 th	Year 1 Church contributions at St Peter's Church (10.15am)
Wed 21 st	PTA Film night (Y3-Y6)
Fri 23 rd	Year 4 Class Worship (Y4 parents/carers invited)
Fri 23 rd	Nursery applications open Reception applications closing date
FEBRUARY	
Sun 8 th	Year 3 Church contributions at St Peter's Church (10.15am)
Fri 13 th	INSET DAY
Mon 16 th – Fri 22 nd	HALF TERM
Fri 27 th	St David's Day celebrations
MARCH	
Thurs 5 th	World book day
Sun 8 th	Year 4 Church contributions at St Peter's Church (10.15am)
Fri 13 th	Year 3 Class Worship (Y3 parents/carers invited)
Mon 9 th – 11 th	Year 5 Llangrannog
Mon 16 th	Nursery applications closed
Tues 17 th	Parents/Carers Evening in school hall
Thurs 19 th	Parents/Carers Evening in school hall
Fri 27 th	Reception Class Worship (Reception parents/carers invited)
Fri 27 th	TERM ENDS
March 30 th – Apr 12 th	EASTER HOLIDAY

SUMMER TERM

APRIL	
Mon 13 th	TERM STARTS
Mon 13 th Fri 24 th	Year 4 Swimming lessons
Thurs 16 th	Reception places offered
Mon 27 th Fri 1 st May	Year 6 Manor Adventure
MAY	
Wed 5 th	PTA Film Night (Rec-Y2)
Sun 10 th	Year 5 Church contributions at St Peter's Church (10.15am)
Fri 15 th	Year 2 Class Worship (Y2 parents/carers invited)
Tues 19 th	Sports Day (Rec to Y2 am / Y3 to Y6 pm)
Wed 20 th	Nursery Sports Day (Usual session times)
Fri 22 nd	Nursery applications closed
Mon 25 th – Fri 29 th	HALF TERM
JUNE	
Tues 2 nd /Wed 3 rd	Reserve Sports Day
Fri 5 th	Year 1 Class Worship (Y1 parents/carers invited)
Tues 16 th	Show off Day (Reception – Year 6)
Sun 21 st	Reception Church contributions at St Peter's Church (10.15am)
Tues 23 rd	Colorfoto Class Photos
Wed 24 th	Nursery and Reception Inductions
Fri 26 th	PTA Summer Fete
JULY	
Thurs 9 th - Fri 10 th	PTA Welly Swap
Fri 10 th	Nursery Class Worship (Y1 parents/carers invited)
Sun 12 th	Year 6 Leavers at St Peter's Church
Wed 15 th	Year 6 Leavers' Show at Parish Hall at approx. 10am
Fri 17 th	TERM ENDS
Mon 20 th	INSET DAY