



JULY NEWS LETTER



WELCOME MESSAGE

Well, what a year it has been! The children have been amazing, and it has been a pleasure to watch them grow in confidence, resilience and independence as they have progressed on their learning journeys. We are so proud of all they have achieved and know they are ready for the exciting year ahead.

Thank you to all of our parents and carers for your continued support throughout the year. By working together, we give our children the very best opportunities to succeed, and we are so grateful for everything you do to support our school community.

Most importantly, we now say a very fond farewell to our Year 6 pupils. They have been a fantastic class throughout their time at St Andrew's, and we wish each and every one of them every success and happiness as they begin the next exciting chapter of their education in high school.

Our thanks also goes to members of the Dinas Powys Rotary Club for providing the children with an excellent illustrated dictionary. The children also received a comfort cross as a special reminder of their time at St Andrew's Major Church in Wales Primary School.

Finally, thank you to all our staff, governors and volunteers for their continued support, dedication and hard work throughout another successful year. On behalf of all the staff, thank you for your generous gifts, thoughtful cards and kind messages—they are truly appreciated.

Wishing everyone a restful, safe and enjoyable summer break. We look forward to welcoming you all back in September.

Yours faithfully

J Bayliss

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Mrs Jo Bayliss
Headteacher



GOODBYES AND WELCOMES



Well... what can I say? Mrs Julie Green is leaving us, and it really is the end of an era. My partner in crime, my sounding board, and the person who always seemed to know the answer to absolutely everything! I'm not entirely sure the children realise that I'm actually the Headteacher—if you asked many of them, they'd probably tell you that Mrs Green was the one really in charge! September is going to be a challenge without her, so please don't ask me any difficult questions—I won't have Mrs Green there to check the answers with anymore!

On a more serious note, Mrs Green has dedicated so many years to St Andrew's, touching the lives of countless children and families with her kindness, wisdom and unwavering commitment. She has been the heart of our school for so long and will be greatly missed by us all. Thank you, Mrs Green, for your friendship, your support and everything you have done for our school. We wish you a long, happy and well-deserved retirement.

Today we also say goodbye to Miss Natalie Appleton. Thank you for all your hard work and dedication in Reception, where you have made such a positive difference to our youngest learners. We wish you every success and happiness in the future.

A heartfelt thank you also goes to Mrs Sinclair, who has been a valued member of our intervention team. Whether supporting children on a one-to-one basis or working with whole classes, her care, patience and commitment have been greatly appreciated over the years. We wish her all the very best for the future.

Mr Morgans will also be leaving us after teaching Year 3 this term alongside Mrs Bounds in their successful job-share. He has brought enthusiasm, positivity and energy to our school, and we wish him every success as he embarks on his exciting new adventure teaching in Australia.

A huge thank you goes to one of our governors whose term of office has come to an end. We are incredibly grateful to Mrs Amy Hurst for her nine years of dedication, commitment and service to St Andrew's. Thank you for everything you have done to support our school community.

As we say goodbye to some members of staff, we are also delighted to welcome others. We are pleased to welcome Mrs Frangoulis back from maternity leave and are delighted that Miss Smith will be with us for another year.

INSET DAYS

I am sharing some dates for the next academic year with you in advance, as many families may already be thinking about planning holidays.

Please try to use the school holiday periods when booking family holidays and avoid taking holidays during term time where possible. This helps to support your child's learning and ensures they do not miss valuable time in school.

Please be aware that unauthorised absences, including term-time holidays, are monitored in line with current attendance guidance and procedures.



INSET DAYS 2026/2027

- Day 1 - 01/09/26
- Day 2 - 02/09/26
- DAY 3 - 04/01/27
- DAY 4 - 05/02/27
- DAY 5 - 19/07/27
- DAY 6 - 20/07/27

I hope having these dates early will be helpful for your planning. Further events will be shared in September.



SCHOOL UNIFORM

As we prepare for the new academic year, we would like to remind families of our school uniform expectations. Our uniform helps to promote a sense of belonging, equality and pride in our school, while ensuring children are smart, comfortable and ready to learn.

Children should wear the correct school uniform each day and come to school in their P.E. kit on their designated Wellbeing Day. Please remember that only small stud earrings and a wristwatch may be worn, all jewellery must be removed for P.E., and make-up, artificial nails and smart watches are not permitted.

We also ask that all clothing is clearly labelled with your child's name and that large rucksacks or sports bags are not brought into school due to limited storage. Branded uniform items, house T-shirts and book bags are available to purchase from the school office.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us maintain high standards and a positive learning environment.

SCHOOL HOLIDAY DATES 2026/2027

Term	Begin	Half term		End	No. of School Days
		Begin	End		
Autumn 2026	Tue 1 Sept 2026	Monday 26 Oct 2026	Friday 30 Oct 2026	Friday 18 Dec 2026	74
Spring 2027	Monday 4 Jan 2027	Monday 8 Feb 2027	Friday 12 Feb 2027	Friday 19 Mar 2027	50
Summer 2027	Monday 5 April 2027	Monday 31 May 2027	Friday 4 Jun 2027	*Tuesday 20 July 2027	71
				TOTAL	195

- ii) **Tue 1 Sept 2026, *Monday 19 & Tuesday 20 July 2027** will be designated INSET days for **all** LEA Maintained Schools. The remaining two INSET days to be taken will be at the discretion of each individual school following appropriate consultation with staff. ***It is intended that these INSET Days will either be taken on Mon 19 & Tue 20 July 2027 or at an alternative time for example in the form of twilight sessions.**

All schools will be closed on **Monday 3 May 2027** for the May Day Bank Holiday.

Significant dates:	Christmas	Friday 25 December 2026
	Easter	Good Friday 26 March 2027 Easter Monday 29 March 2027
	May Bank Holidays	Monday 3 May 2027 Monday 31 May 2027

SCHOOL HOLIDAY DATES 2027/2028

Term	Begin	Half term		End	No. of School Days
		Begin	End		
Autumn 2027	Wed 1 Sept 2027	Monday 25 Oct 2027	Friday 29 Oct 2027	Friday 17 Dec 2027	73
Spring 2028	Tuesday 4 Jan 2028	Monday 21 Feb 2028	Friday 25 Feb 2028	Friday 7 Apr 2028	64
Summer 2028	Monday 24 April 2028	Monday 29 May 2028	Friday 2 Jun 2028	Thursday 20 July 2028	58
				TOTAL	195

iii) **Wed 1 Sept 2027** will be a designated INSET day for **all** LEA Maintained Schools. The remaining four INSET days to be taken will be at the discretion of each individual school following appropriate consultation with staff.

All schools will be closed on **Monday 1 May 2028** for the May Day Bank Holiday.

Significant dates:

Christmas	Saturday 25 December 2027
Easter	Good Friday 14 April 2028 Easter Monday 17 April 2028
May Bank Holidays	Monday 1 May 2028 Monday 29 May 2028