

St Andrew's Major Church in Wales Primary School

St Andrew's Road, Dinas Powys,

Vale of Glamorgan, CF64 4HB

Tel: 029 20513089

www.standrewsweb.com

standrewsmajorps@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk



Dear Parents,

Friday 10th November 2023

Welcome back to school. I do hope you all had a lovely half term break. We have had a very busy week as you will see!

A huge thank you to everyone for contributing to our Poppy Appeal this year. We will update you with how much we have collected when we are informed by The Royal British Legion.

Year 6 have had a very special week as they have led our school in our Acts of Remembrance. As part of their curriculum topics, Year 6 learn about the origins of the Poppy as a symbol of remembrance. They led us in a very informative and poignant worship in front of their parents and grandparents on Wednesday. Today, I felt honoured to accompany Year 6 down to the Cenotaph for the Dinas Powys Remembrance service. I was very proud of the excellent behaviour and respect that the pupils showed.



Welsh Water visited school today. They did a whole school assembly which looked at the Water Cycle and at how we can all save water. Then Y4 and Y5 had their own workshops which included lots of problem solving and teamwork, with a big focus on numeracy skills. We are very grateful to Welsh Water for the excellent sessions.



Year 1 and Year 4 went on exciting trips this week. Year 1 visited St Fagans to start their topic of 'Ysgol' and as well as visiting the school they had a Victorian toy workshop. Year 4 visited Cardiff Castle to launch their topic Castles and Kingdoms. During the visit they met a knight and learned all about life in medieval times. Whilst they were there, they visited the garden of remembrance, and it was so lovely to hear that a member of the public made a point of telling Mrs Bounds and Mrs Stamp how respectful and well behaved the children were.



A number of classes had technocamps workshops this week. Activities included Lego robotics and Scratch programming. The children were all very engaged and enthusiastic and we are very grateful to be able to access this free resource to support the development of our pupils' digital competency.

Mr Trigg was very proud of our 2 Blwyddyn 6 pupils who represented our school at the recent School Ambassador training. Da iawn to Ianah and Teddy. I look forward to hearing all about the missions on your action plan in the weeks ahead.



Our eco Committee met with Mrs Boston from Sustrans to talk about transport to and from school. They were given lots of great ideas for future Eco events – watch this space!

Important message for Year 2

Due to unforeseen circumstances, Father Andrew has asked us to move Year 2's contribution to the St Peter's Service from next Sunday 19th November to 26th November instead. I apologise for any inconvenience this may cause and do hope that many of you will still be able to attend.

Anti-bullying week

This takes place next week. To launch the week, we are asking all children and adults to wear odd socks on Monday to highlight the fact that we are all unique. Please do join us.

Uniform expectations

If children wear shorts to school, these should be the tailored style. At the moment we are seeing a number of boys, particularly in Year 5 and 6 who are wearing jersey/jogger style shorts which are not part of our expected uniform. On well-being days, sports shorts are obviously fine. Thank you for your support with this.

PTA messages

- There is a PTA coffee morning next Tuesday 14th November at 9am. The school choir will be entertaining parents, and it would be lovely to see many of you there.
- Our Christmas wreath workshop is on Thursday 7th December at 7.30pm. Join us for a festive evening of wreath making at The Lee Hall. Enjoy a mulled wine/hot drink and mince pie/biscuit

(included in the ticket price of £42.50) and create your Christmassy masterpiece under the guidance of florist, Natalie, whilst helping to raise funds for the school!

- Please ensure orders for Christmas cards are made by next Wednesday 15th November at the latest.

Finally

Congratulations to the pupils past and present who were confirmed by Bishop Mary last Sunday. This important ceremony confirms our admission into the Church in Wales, initially done during baptism. I am very proud of them all.

The children's school photos are now available to order on the Colorfoto website. Please contact the office if you did not receive your code.



Our wonderful school cook, Mrs O'Neill cooked her final lunch for St Andrew's school today as she moves on to become a supervisor at Big Fresh's new café in the community centre at Belle Vue Park. If anyone is in the area, do pop in and see her!

Mrs Squires has been working very hard with each class to create the most amazing collaborative art work for Climate Justice! This is just one example of their work – please look at Twitter for the others. These will now be submitted for a competition and may even end up displayed at the Houses of Parliament.



Wishing everyone a lovely weekend.

Yours faithfully,



Gen Hallett
Headteacher

DATES (Recently added dates in red)

November	
Mon 13 th	Year 5 trip
Tues 14 th	PTA Coffee Morning at 9am
Thurs 16 th	Pupil Flu Immunisations
Friday 24 th	Year 5 Class Worship (Y5 parents/carers invited)
Sun 26 th (Changed)	Year 2 Class Contribution at St Peter's at 10:30am
Mon 27 th	Reception 2024 Admissions process opens
Mon 27 th	Year 5 Cricket Tournament
Tues 28 th	Year 4 Cricket Tournament

December	
Fri 1 st	Year 6 Cricket Tournament
Tues 5 th	Y1 – Y6 Advent service at St Peter's (Pupils only)
Weds 6 th	PTA Discos
Tues 12 th	Nativity in hall (Nur to Year 2) at 1:30pm
Weds 13 th	Nativity in hall (Nur to Year 2) at 9:30am
	Junior Carol Service at St Peter's at 1:30pm
Thurs 21 st	Term ends
Fri 22 nd	INSET DAY
25 th Dec – 5 th Jan	CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY

SPRING TERM	
January	
Mon 8 th	Start of term (No INSET day)
Sun 21 st	Year 1 Class Contribution at St Peter's at 10:30am
Weds 24 th	PTA Film Night (Y3 to Y6)
Thurs 25 th	Year 4 Class Worship (Y4 parents/carers invited)

February	
Weds 7 th	PTA Coffee Afternoon at 2pm
Fri 9 th February	INSET DAY
12 th – 16 th	HALF TERM
Mon 19 th	INSET DAY

March	
Fri 1 st	St David's Day
Sunday 3 rd	Year 4 Class Contribution at St Peter's at 10:30am
Fri 8 th	Year 3 Class Worship (Y3 parents/carers invited)
Weds 20 th	Reception Class Worship (Reception parents/carers invited)
Fri 22 nd	Term ends
Mar 25 th – Apr 5 th	EASTER HOLIDAY

SUMMER TERM	
April	
Mon 8 th	Start of term (No INSET day)
8 th – 10 th	Year 5 Llangrannog Residential
Sun 21 st	Year 5 Class Contribution at St Peter's at 10:30
Weds 24 th	Film Night (Rec to Y2)
29 th April to May 3 rd	Year 6 Manor Adventure Residential

May	
Thurs 2 nd	Year 2 Class Worship (Y2 parents/carers invited)
Tuesday 14 th	SPORTS DAY (Rec to Y2 am / Y3 to Y6 pm)
Weds 15 th	Nursery Sports Day (Usual session times)

Fri 24 th	Year 1 Class Worship (Y1 parents/carers invited)
27 th – 31 st May	HALF TERM

June	
Tues 4 th	Class Photos
Sun 16 th	Reception Class Contribution at St Peter's at 10:30

July	
Sun 14 th	Year 6 Leavers' Service at St Peter's at 10:30
Weds 17 th	Year 6 Leavers' Show at Parish Hall at approx. 10am
Fri 19 th	Term Ends
Mon 22 nd	INSET DAY

SCHOOL HOLIDAY DATES 2023/2024

Term	Begin	Half term		End	No. of School Days
		Begin	End		
Autumn 2023	*Monday 4 Sept 2023	Monday 30 Oct 2023	Friday 3 Nov 2023	Friday 22 Dec 2023	75
Spring 2024	Monday 8 Jan 2024	Monday 12 Feb 2024	Friday 16 Feb 2024	Friday 22 Mar 2024	50
Summer 2024	Monday 8 April 2024	Monday 27 May 2024	Friday 31 May 2024	*Monday 22 July 2024	70
TOTAL					195

SCHOOL HOLIDAY DATES 2024/2025

Term	Begin	Half term		End	No. of School Days
		Begin	End		
Autumn 2024	*Monday 2 Sept 2024	Monday 28 Oct 2024	Friday 1 Nov 2024	Friday 20 Dec 2024	75
Spring 2025	Monday 6 Jan 2025	Monday 24 Feb 2025	Friday 28 Feb 2025	Friday 11 Apr 2025	65
Summer 2025	Monday 28 April 2025	Monday 26 May 2025	Friday 30 May 2025	*Monday 21 July 2025	55
TOTAL					195

*Designated INSET day