

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,

Thursday 21st September 2023

Can I take another opportunity to thank you for your patience and understanding over the issues with the drains which led to the partial closure of the school.

I am aware that some new parents were not on Ping when the last newsletter came out so there are a number of repeated messages in this newsletter.

A huge thank you to those of you who joined us for the Meet the Teacher sessions over the last 2 weeks. I hope you found the sessions useful, but we are keen to offer sessions to support parents in the future. A few parents have mentioned that sessions on Seesaw, Read Write Inc. and numeracy/maths approaches would be useful. Please let us know if there is anything else you think would be of use in the future. The presentations which were used by the teachers will be placed on the website by next Monday.

The term is now well under way and the children are all working really hard. Wellbeing days are as popular as ever and we also celebrated Roald Dahl Day last week. A highlight as always was the day that Reception pupils met their Year 6 buddies. Year 6 support Reception children in a number of ways including coming into singing and celebration worships.



Harvest

As in previous years we will be collecting harvest donations for The Vale Foodbank and I am sure you will agree this is a very worthy cause. Members of The Foodbank will be coming into school to explain to the children all about their work and we will be holding our special Harvest service in school. If you would like to contribute to the collection, we will be collecting for the foodbank during the week of Monday 2nd October. (Please do not send in items before this date as we have issues with storage). They have specifically asked us to collect UHT milk, biscuits and dried instant noodles. Many thanks for your support with this.

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 worship. The dates for all of these is in the list at the end of the newsletter.

Message from Father Andrew

Confirmation classes for year 5 and up are starting on Sunday the 1st October at 4pm in St Peter's church. Bishop Mary will be coming to St Peter's on the 5th November at 3pm to take the confirmation service.

School Car Park and Lay-by

For safety reasons, we do not allow parents/carers to park in the layby or school car park. The only exception to this is for breakfast club before 8:15 and then for After School Club after 4.30pm. Also, please use the pedestrian path and gate rather than cutting through the car park. Many thanks for your cooperation with this.

Safeguarding at pick up

At pick up at the end of the day, we are seeing parents standing by the fence and beckoning their children to come to them, rather than queuing. This is becoming increasingly difficult for teachers who are trying to dismiss children safely to parents/carers. For this reason, from now on, these children will be dismissed last so if you do not wish to join the queue, or have a dog, I am afraid you will need to wait until the majority of children have been collected by their parents/carers.

Snacks and drinks (Repeated message)

We only allow fresh fruit or vegetables as a snack in both the infants and juniors. Rice cakes, nuts, cereal bars and other snacks are not permitted, and staff will ask the pupils to return them to their bags. We also expect water only in drinks bottles. Whilst the contents of lunch boxes are for you to decide, we do not allow any fizzy drinks, bars of chocolate or sweets in lunch boxes. Please remember to peel oranges and place in a box if your child cannot do so. Please ensure all snack pots, lunch boxes and water bottles are also labelled. All children (with the exception of Nursery who use cups) need a water bottle in school please – including those who have school lunch or grab bags. However, please rest assured, if your child forgets their bottle, we will ensure they have access to a drink throughout the day.

Information on Safeguarding of Children (Repeated message)

If you have 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. 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. Our Safeguarding policy is 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, Mrs Bayliss or

a governor. If you are still not satisfied, then a written complaint can be submitted to the governing body. This policy is also available on our website.

Contacting school (Repeated message)

If you do have questions or concerns about your child's learning then teachers can be emailed on the addresses below. Please note the following:

- I do not expect teachers to reply to emails outside of normal 'office hours' or weekends/holidays. In a job-share class, it could be either teacher who responds, depending on their contracted days of work.
- Teachers are teaching all day and may not pick up an email until after school. Anything urgent should therefore be directed to the school email address.
- Anything to do with admin **must** be directed to the school email account. This includes illness, absence, medication, allergies, changes of contact details, uniform, parentpay etc.

School Office Mrs Hallett / Mrs Bayliss	standrewsmajorps@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk
Nursery Mrs Erickson	ericksonk15@hwbcymru.net
Reception Miss Jewell	jewellS14@hwbcymru.net
Year 1 Mrs Day	dayL20@hwbcymru.net
Year 2 Miss Bush	bushJ21@hwbcymru.net
Year 3 Mr Mason/Mr Walters	masonP2@hwbcymru.net waltersG@hwbcymru.net
Year 4 Mrs Bounds	halseR2@hwbcymru.net
Year 5 Mr Trigg	triggr20@hwbcymru.net
Year 6 Mr McNicol	mcnicola@hwbcymru.net

At the end of the newsletter, I have listed as many dates as possible for the year ahead. We hope this gives you good notice for a number of events throughout the year. We will add more dates to the list as they are added to our diary. This will include other trips, Christmas parties, Year 4 swimming and Spring Parent/Carer evenings. All dates will also be added to the Ping calendar.

Congratulations to our 2 newly elected school Super Ambassadors – Teddy and Ianah. We will be electing all other pupil voice groups next week.



Wishing everyone a lovely weekend.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G Hallett'.

Gen Hallett
Headteacher

AUTUMN TERM	
September	
Weds 27 th	Colorfoto individual photos
Thurs 28 th	Kerbcraft Road Safety sessions for Y2 begin Manor Adventure Y6 parent meeting at 4pm (online)
October	
w/c 2 nd	Foodbank Collection begins
Mon 2 nd	Llangrannog Y5 parent meeting at 4pm (online)
Mon 16 th	Year 5 swimming lessons (every day for 2 weeks)
Weds 18 th	Parents/Carers Evening in school hall
Fri 20 th	Wear Red (Anti-Racism Day)
Sun 22 nd	Year 3 Class Contribution at St Peter's at 10:30
w/c 23 rd	Year 5 swimming lessons (week 2)
Weds 25 th	Parents/Carers Evening in school hall
30 th Oct – 3 rd Nov	HALF TERM

November	
Tues 7 th	Year 1 Trip to St Fagans
Weds 8 th	Year 6 Remembrance Worship in hall (Y6 parents/carers invited)
Fri 10 th	Year 6 to attend Remembrance service at Dinas Powys Cenotaph
Thurs 16 th	Pupil Flu Immunisations
Sun 19 th	Year 2 Class Contribution at St Peter's at 10:30am
Friday 24 th	Year 5 Class Worship (Y5 parents/carers invited)

December	
Tues 5 th	Y1 – Y6 Advent service at St Peter's (Pupils only)
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
Thurs 25 th	Year 4 Class Worship (Y4 parents/carers invited)

February	
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
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