



St Andrew's Newsletter

12th February 2021

Growing and learning together with God

Happy Half Term everyone!

Well done to you all for making it through to half term. Whether your children have been learning on- or off-site, you have all done an amazing job to get through this half term. I know it has been challenging in lots of different ways for everyone – parents, children and school staff. It is almost a year since this global pandemic began and it has certainly taught us to make the most of each and every day and to celebrate the little things.

Our theme for this week has been hope. In the midst of the freezing cold and the challenges of home schooling and not seeing friends and family, we need to cling to hope and trust in God that this will all be over soon.

But those who hope in the Lord
will renew their strength.
They will soar on wings like eagles;
they will run and not grow weary,
they will walk and not be faint.
Isaiah 40:31



DailyVerses.net

Merit Awards

Nursery – Isaac C, Willow, Jimmy

Reception – Akira, Busayo, Logan

Year 1 – Gabriella, Angel, Eliana

Year 2 – Jesseline, Imogen, Jasper, Lena

Year 3 – Tallulah, Oliver, Safa

Year 4 – Jessica, Zoe, Olivia

Year 5 – Amy, Soliana, Ethan

Year 6 – Sophie, Iren, Kevin

Well done to everyone!

Staffing Updates

After half term we will be saying good bye to 2 members of staff.

Mrs Pat Jones has been a cleaner at St. Andrew's CofE Primary School for nearly 15 years! Now she is retiring, and we will be sorry to see her go. She has done a fabulous job of helping to keep the school clean and tidy.

Mrs Spicksley will also be finishing with us on 25th February.

She has been doing a fabulous job of covering classes and supporting across the school while Mrs Astill was on Maternity Leave.

Mrs Astill (Miss Biddle) has returned to school this week and will be picking up where Mrs Spicksley left off; covering classes across the school and supporting KS1 in particular.

Also, in other staffing news, Mrs Gibbons is expecting a baby. She will be going on Maternity Leave at the end of this term as the baby is due in April. We are very excited for her and the family.

Parent Questionnaire

Thank you so much for the responses received to the questionnaire. The full analysis will be sent out with this newsletter. We had 79 responses to the questionnaire, and this equates to 56% of families on roll.

Miss Lawrence has produced a detailed analysis, and the leadership team have worked together to come up with a response to some of the issues raised. Obviously this is an ongoing picture and we will continue to take on board all feedback as we navigate our way through this unprecedented situation.

Important Dates

15th to 19th February – Half Term (School Closed)

14th February – Friends' Virtual Balloon Race

19th February – final day for entries to the talent show

22nd to 26th February – Virtual Parent Consultation Week

22nd February – final day for Mental Health Questionnaire responses

1st to 5th March – Bible Festival Week

Motivational Sticker Competition

Don't forget to enter the motivational sticker and letter writing competition which Mrs Allen has organised on behalf of the residents of Hayes Cottage Nursing Home.

Details were sent out via ParentPay this week and on Wednesday's Sways.

The deadline to upload entries onto Dojo is Monday 22nd February.

Friends Updates

Last chance to buy your balloon for the virtual balloon race this Sunday. Help The Friends Committee raise money to purchase new iPads for the school. Balloons cost £3 and you can decorate your balloon then track its imaginary progress on the website based on real weather conditions. <https://ecoracing.co/user/page/1391>

Sign up for the Talent Show! Entries cost £1. The booking is on ParentPay. Each child can enter up to 2 videos but parents must pay per entry. The video entries must be emailed to friendsofstandrewsuxbridge@gmail.com by Friday 19th February. Unfortunately, if we don't get enough uptake we will have to cancel the show!

Parents Evening

You should have been sent your Zoom link for after half term. Please make sure you know when your appointment is.

St Andrew's School Bible Festival

1st – 5th March 2021

Calling all Parents, Staff and Governors....

Do you have a favourite Bible Story? Would you be willing to make a short video to share this with the children at St Andrew's? We would love the whole school community to come together to share in this special event with the children.

This is what you would need to do:

- Introduce yourself
- Film yourself reading/telling your favourite bible story
- Briefly share why you like the story
- Send your video to the school office by Monday 22nd February



If you are able to show the pictures from the story book or use props/slides then you are welcome to do so.

If you have any further questions about this, please send a dojo message to Mrs Allen or send a message for the attention of Mrs Allen to the school office.

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to your contributions.

Covid Reporting

Important message for parents of those children
who have been in school this week:

If your child develops Covid symptoms between today and Sunday 14th February, you *must* get them tested. If the result comes back positive then you *must* email the school office. The office email account will be checked each day between 9am and 12pm between now and Thursday 18th February (this is to allow for any delays in obtaining test results).

Should there be a positive case, then the required letters will be sent out via ParentPay and Dojo, so please do check these accounts over the half term week. Thank you.

Half term break

Please try to switch off and rest during half term. Although we don't yet know when schools will fully reopen, please rest assured that when this does happen, all staff will work hard to help children catch up on missed curriculum content and missed opportunities.

Many of you have worked so hard with your children, so please find time next week to play, rest, read, go for a walk, be creative, bake, paint, build something, learn a new skill, enjoy the outdoors and look after your mental health and wellbeing as best you can during this time.

Signposting to local information and support

HOW TO NAVIGATE THE SOCIAL CARE SYSTEM – ONLINE EVENT – 23 FEBRUARY 2021

Please find below a link to the flyer for the above-mentioned event taking place on 23 February 2021.

<https://bit.ly/2Z4Adf7>

There is a really good line up of speakers including Julie Kelly the director of Children's Social Care in Hillingdon and Shaun Walker, barrister and also from ITVs the chase! It could be really useful for families in particular who are involved with Social Care, especially in the early stages or who are on the cusp of Social Care involvement.

‘This event will help de-mystify and de-stigmatise the Social Care System and give parents who need support, but are either nervous to make contact or confused as to how the system works, the opportunity to gain a better perspective and understanding of Hillingdon Council. Parents will also be able to voice any questions they may have about the processes or more specific concerns pertaining to Education, Health, and the Law regarding their children.’



