



# St Andrew's Newsletter

22<sup>nd</sup> January 2021

## Growing and learning together with God

Our Governing Body had a Teaching and Learning Committee meeting this week, where they heard all the finer details of our remote learning plans, asked questions about parental and pupil engagement, and also discussed how we are supporting staff and pupils' emotional wellbeing and mental health. They were really impressed with what is going on at the moment, especially under such difficult circumstances. The committee members asked specifically for me to convey to all parents that you are doing a fantastic job of uploading work onto the portfolios and completing the daily Sways. Governors also praised the hard work and resilience of all the staff with their planning and delivery of on and off-site learning at the moment. I totally agree with their feedback. Thank you and well done everyone!



### Welcome!

This week we welcomed Roanne in Year 4. At this time, it is sad that we have not yet met some of our new children in person, but it is absolutely fantastic that they have all been added to our virtual classrooms and have started posting and uploading work straight away. Well done all and we look forward to meeting you and your families in person when circumstances allow.

### Celebration Assembly

Thank you to everyone who joined us for our Collective Worship this morning. It was great to see some more friendly faces. We hope that more families will continue to join us each week.

### Merit Awards

Nursery – Jake, Charlotte, Willow

Reception – Amelia, Violet, Chase

Year 1 – Eden, Elinor, Oliver

Year 2 – Teddie, Iris, Jesseline

Year 3 – Joe, Emilia, Tallulah

Year 4 – Marcus, Florence, Jia Qi

Year 5 – Isaac, Jessica, Eloise

Year 6 – Wilmer, Sophie, Lily

Well done to everyone!

### Keeping in touch

Each day class teachers and teaching assistants are checking the work that is uploaded on the Portfolios. They will provide feedback and award Dojo points. You can message the staff via Dojo if you have any questions at all about the home learning. You can also call the office if this is easier.

Each week class teachers, the office staff and the pastoral support staff are calling families to find out how things are going at home. There may be more phone calls if we have worries about children not completing the work, but often the calls will be to ask generally how everyone is getting on physically, mentally and emotionally. Class teachers are also starting to set up some other ways to keep in touch with the children. Watch this space for more info soon...

## Staywise!

London Fire Brigade would like to inform you of the launch of 'StayWise' an online learning platform, created through the National Fire Chiefs Council (NFCC) in partnership with blue light agencies and safety charities.

StayWise is:

- Free to use.
- Great for supporting parents/carers with home education.
- Brings together multi agency resources (currently aimed at children aged 3-11) with later key stages to follow soon.
- Everything needed for staff that work with children/young people to plan educational sessions on safety, reducing time on developing sessions.
- Clearly annotated with key audience targets.
  - Linked to the national curriculum.

Please feel free to create your account today and profile to start exploring resources via link

[www.StayWise.co.uk](http://www.StayWise.co.uk)

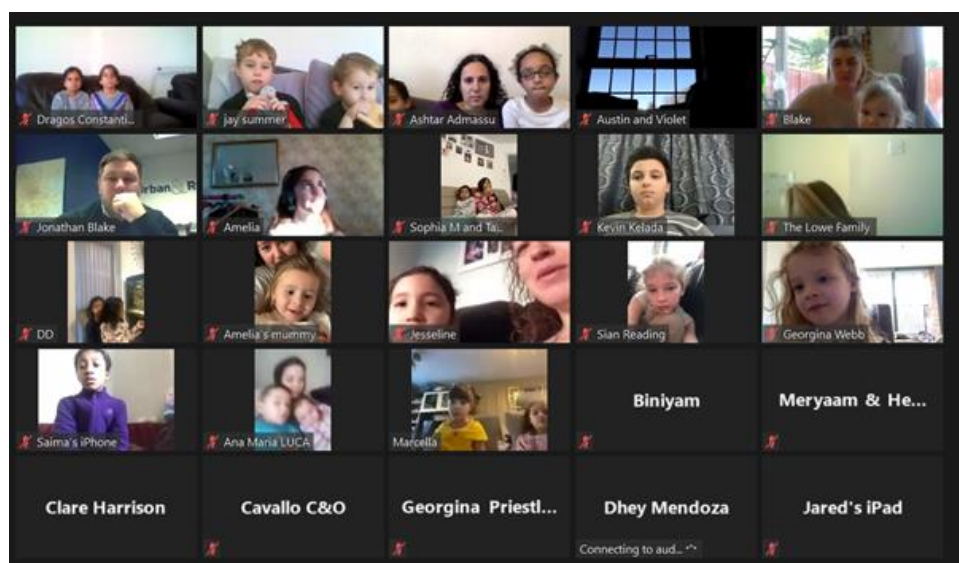
## FSM Eligibility and Vouchers

Please do contact the school office if you do believe you are entitled to free school meals. This may be because your circumstances have changed as a result of the pandemic. Or it may be that you have never filled in the forms before. Here is a link to more information about benefits related free school meals on our website:

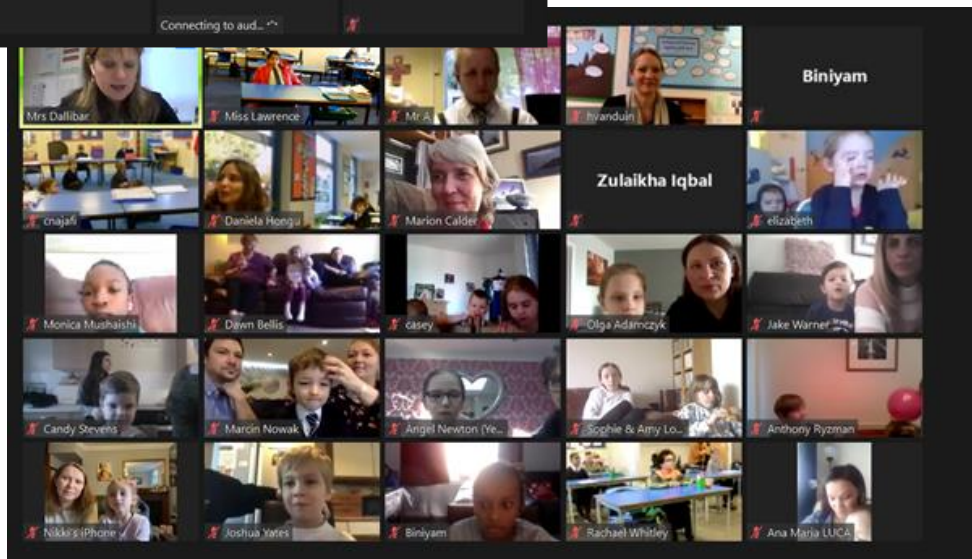
<http://www.standrewscofeprimary.co.uk/parents/meals.php#fsm>

New vouchers were sent out this week using Edenred, the supplier commissioned by the Government. Eligible families should have received their codes to their main email address. The vouchers are £15 per child per week, and cover the period from 18<sup>th</sup> until 25<sup>th</sup> January. Please do contact the office if you have not received these.

Many thanks.



Screenshots from this morning's Zoom Assembly



## Home Learning Routines

Thank you for all your hard work in supporting your children with their home learning. Almost every single child has now uploaded some work onto their portfolios, and I will continue to share some examples on the weekly newsletter from each of the classes.

As parents, you are doing an amazing job of keeping your children safe and keeping them engaged in the daily Sways. It is really important that you encourage your children to do as much as they can each day and that they post it on their portfolios so that we can see it and give feedback on it. We do understand that it is difficult to balance everything, especially if you are working from home, supporting several children, and have limited access to devices.

One of the things you can do to make life a little easier, is set up and stick to a routine. Each day, set the alarm and make sure everyone is up and dressed at an agreed time. Go through the timetable of the day with them. Each child should be doing 3 to 4 hours of work each day, but plan this around your working commitments, or laptop rotas and then stick to a consistent timetable. That way, all the children know what to expect and what is expected of them.

### Free Data

If you are struggling at home with limited Wifi or mobile data, then we have a supply of SIM Cards offering 30GB data for 90 days.

These can be used in a smartphone or in a Smart laptop.

Please contact the school office if you would like to come and collect one of these.

### Online Alerts

Included with this week's newsletter are 2 posters that contain important information for parents about online safety.

The first poster is about Vaccine Fraud, which is very worrying, as criminals are using the Covid-19 vaccine as a way to trick people into handing over financial details or large amounts of cash.

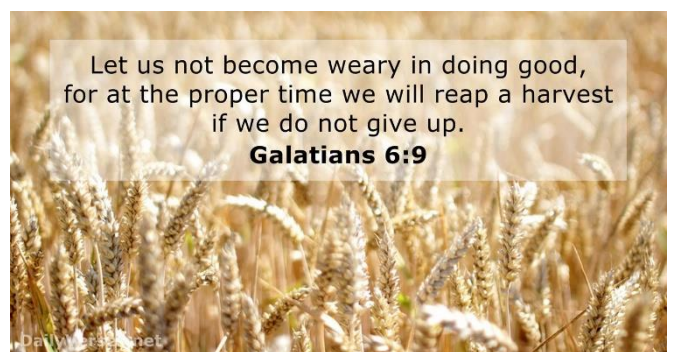
The second poster is about Tiktok, which is a video sharing and social media app with an age restriction of 12+. Some of your children may be using this platform, even though they are underage. Please do take a good look at the guidance for how to protect yourselves and your children from harm.

And for any other advice on how to work with your children to keep safe online, please go to

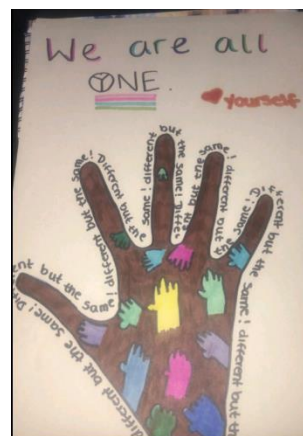
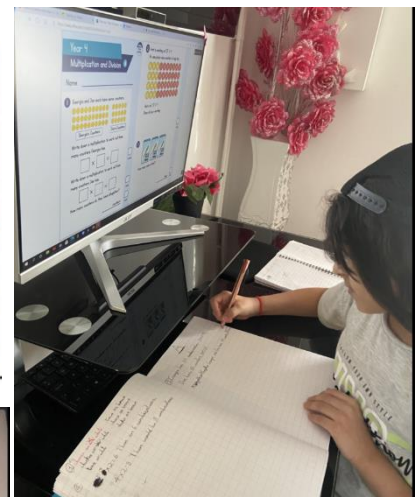
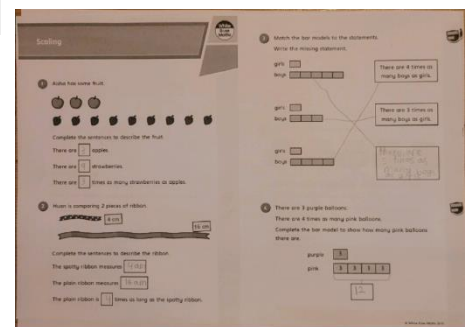
[www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com)

### Endurance

Our theme for this week's Collective Worship has been Endurance. The Bible tells us much about endurance and there are many examples of characters in the Bible going through particularly challenging situations for long periods of time. I think this is particularly relevant to all of us at the moment. As I shared in this morning's Collective Worship, may the words from Galatians help us all to hold fast and not give up.







Nicola Dallibar