



St Andrew's Newsletter

17th July 2020

Growing and learning together with God

The end of the academic year is suddenly upon us. We all know that it has been like no other in so many ways, and that there have been a multitude of challenges for all of us.

I want to personally thank each and every one of you reading this for all your support and commitment to St. Andrew's CofE Primary School this year. I have had to make hundreds of very difficult decisions over a relatively short space of time, and it has been a huge challenge keeping everyone informed and trying to keep connected to all families whether they have attended school or not.

Thank you to those of you who have been working non-stop through this pandemic and who have trusted us to keep their children safe in the key worker class. Some of you and your children have not had a break since March, so I do hope you will be able to take some time off now to rest and have some family time.

Thank you to everyone who sent their children in to school this half term. You should be very proud of how brilliantly your children adapted to the changes in the classrooms and the way of learning. All these children have grown so much this term and have made us all so happy to do the jobs we do.

Thank you to all parents who have supported the children in their home learning, day in, day out, over such a long period of time. I am sorry that we were not able to bring back any of the other year

groups. I know it has been a challenge for those of you with full time jobs, limited access to technology, limited outside space, and I applaud you for doing such a wonderful job with your children. I am looking forward to seeing all the children back in September.

Amazing Year 6s

Yesterday we were able to hold a socially distanced picnic on the school field for our Year 6 leavers.

The majority of the children in Year 6 have been attending school since June 1st, but we were able to invite the others to come along, bring some snacks and sit and chat in the sunshine.

Reverend Andrew was able to say a short blessing and we celebrated with ice creams afterwards.

Each of our wonderful Year 6 children was gifted a bag full of special things, including:

Personalised hoodies from The Friends, their own Collins Dictionary, special messages from each other and some certificates for their achievements.

It was lovely to be able to mark this important milestone in their lives of leaving primary school. All the staff and I are so very proud of how well our Year 6s have done this year, especially coping so brilliantly with the 'new normal' that has been school in the summer term 2020.

We will miss you all very much, but we know you will all go on to bigger and better things and be even more amazing in the future.

Please do come back and visit us next year!



Summer Camp

Remember that we are providing a Summer Camp throughout the 6 weeks.

Please go to

www.getactivesports.com to register and book your place.

Costs can be subsidised for some families – details have been sent out to those who qualify.

You can book any days across the 6 week holiday.

Shoe Box Project

Don't forget about the shoe box project.

The idea is that each child in Years 1 to 6 will have their own box on their table with all their stationery items, a small packet of tissues and their reading book in.

Children can make these over the summer holidays, ready to bring in with them on 3rd September.



Summer Reading Challenge

This year's Summer Reading Challenge is currently underway.

With libraries still currently closed, the format is slightly different this year.

Please visit

<https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/> to sign up if you haven't already done so!

Year 3 and 4 Refunds

Back in March this year we had planned and prepared a wonderful production of Pirates Versus Mermaids which the Year 3 and 4 children were going to perform.

Sadly this event was not able to take place.

Many parents bought tickets via ParentPay, and we have not forgotten about this.

In the next academic year we will look at issuing refunds or transferring your money against a future payment.

Thank you for your understanding at this time.

Important Dates

Friday 17th July – End of Term

Tuesday 1st September – Staff training day

Wednesday 2nd September – Staff training day

Thursday 3rd September – Children in Years 1 to 6 return to school

Wednesday 9th September – Reception start

Monday 14th September – Nursery start

Staff Thanks

Sadly this year we were unable to have a formal assembly to say good bye to the staff who are leaving us.

Mr McElwee and Mrs Hill will be greatly missed, and we have all learned so much from working with them. We wish them all the very best in their future roles.

I also want to personally thank the whole amazing staff team here at St. Andrew's who have been absolutely phenomenal this year with all the challenges and changes. I could not have coped without their unwavering support, trust, commitment, perseverance and hard work during this time. Thank you all!

The Friends

Please find a newsletter from The Friends enclosed with this newsletter.

Thank you to all the committee members for everything they have done this year.

A special thank you to Arabella Brai and Beatrice Folsom for their hard work over the years. Sadly they will be leaving the committee this year as their children will be leaving St. Andrew's.



More Thank Yous

On behalf of all the staff thank you for all the wonderful gifts and cards you have given us.
You have all been so kind and extremely generous, and we all really appreciate it.

Please remember to stick to the government guidelines about social distancing now and over the summer holidays. We need to work together to make sure that our community is as safe as possible when school starts in September.

Have a wonderful, restful holiday. Enjoy the sunshine and family time.

Take care and God bless.

Nicola Edwards

