



St Andrew's Newsletter

20th November 2020

Growing and learning together with God

The children have been learning about road safety awareness, anti-bullying and about how to earn more points on Athletics this week. In the meantime, the adults have been debating the systems in place for how to get the children in school on time each day.

One parent's suggestion was to put it out to a survey, which has turned out to be a great idea. As we live in a democracy, it is always important to engage with key stakeholders and share constructive debate about different opinions and ideas. These are the sorts of skills that we teach the children in school through our PSHE lessons, and we are currently in the process of designing some pupil surveys about our curriculum and our marking policy

The Smart Survey had a total of 85 responses from parents, which is pretty impressive considering the short time it was made available via Class Dojo. Thank you to everyone who engaged meaningfully and maturely in the debate about staggered starts. As promised, here are the results of the survey, and the details about how we will implement any changes.

3. Would you prefer to move to a staggered entry system with 2 possible time slots, which would be allocated to specific families?

			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Yes		18.07%	15
2	No		81.93%	68

4. Would you feel more comfortable if parents/carers were required to wear masks during school drop off?

			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Yes		51.22%	42
2	No		48.78%	40

Staggered Entry

The majority of families are happy with the existing system for school entry.

Therefore we will not be moving to a staggered start or finish next week. The school gates are opened *from* 8:30 in the morning, but there are 30 minutes for parents to utilise sensibly in order to get their children in to school on time.

Registers are not taken until 9:00 after the gates have been closed so there is ample time for everyone to arrive safely to school in the mornings.

Face Masks

Although the results are very close, there were more people who would feel more comfortable if adults were required to wear masks at drop off and pick up.

Therefore, from Monday 23rd November we will be asking all adults to wear a face mask when dropping off and/or picking up the children. Please pass this information on to any relatives who are also involved in the school run.

All adults (including school staff) will be asked to wear a mask. In a similar way to the supermarkets and public transport, there will be an expectation that all adults will follow the rules and act responsibly. School staff will not be entering into any discussions with parents about this, as there are some adults who are exempt from wearing masks.

Merit Awards

Nursery – Aya, Charlotte

Reception – Heyaam, Meryaam, Maciej,

Year 1 – Charlie, Eliana, Adrian, Kiana

Year 2 – Emory, Jasper, Teddie

Year 3 – Kelsa, Matty B

Year 4 – Fergal, Ghina, Danesh

Year 5 – Celina, Abigail, Ethan

Year 6 – Wilmer, Gabrielle

Well done to all!

Governing Body News

Continuing our updates on the Governing Body: Reverend Erica has been elected as a new PCC Governor for the school. Many of you will have already seen Reverend Erica, who is the Curate at St. Andrew's Church, on some of our Collective Worship videos.

She was ordained in September, following 2 years of theological training at Ripon College, and prior to that she had a career in senior recruitment in London.

Governor Vacancies

We currently have vacancies on our Governing Body for parents and non-parents. If you or someone you know has time to commit to regular meetings and visits to school (when current restrictions are lifted)

please contact the Governing Body via

chair@standrewsuxbridge.org.uk

Lockdown Project Display

This is a final call for any pieces of work or items for our Lockdown Project Display. The display is going up in school next week and we do not want anyone to miss out on the opportunity to have their best piece of work on display from the period of lockdown last Summer Term.

Please send in any items for display next week.

Thanks.

St. Andrew's Governor Fund (Previously known as the Care Fund)

Thank you to everyone who contributes to the Governor Fund on a regular basis. Your support of this fund is hugely appreciated and benefits the whole school community.

We are currently looking for a volunteer treasurer to help us with the fund. You don't need to be a qualified accountant but a head for numbers or experience dealing with charity accounts would be an advantage. You would work closely with the Governing Body and provide regular account updates for us so we can discuss the best place to distribute the funds within the school. Annual accounts for our auditors will also need to be produced, along with claiming annual gift aid.

If you think this is something you can help with, or would like any further information about the fund and how to contribute, please contact the Governing Body via

chair@standrewsuxbridge.org.uk

Breakfast Club

Our Breakfast Club is available from 7:30 until school starts.

Miss Woods and Mrs Pocock provide the children with a nutritious breakfast and there are fun activities and games available for the children to take part in.

Please complete the registration form on ParentPay so that you can then be allocated the link to book your sessions via ParentPay.

Contact the school office for more details.



Important Dates between now and Christmas

Further details will be sent out in future newsletters or via Class Dojo
Friends events in red

w/c 23rd November – Guess the Teacher Quiz

Wednesday 25th November – Big PTA Raffle

Monday 30th November – St. Andrew's Day online Collective Worship

w/c Monday 30th November – Christmas Shopping order forms go home

Tuesday 1st December – Class Post Boxes ready to receive class Christmas Cards only

Wednesday 9th December – Christmas Decorations Sale

Friday 11th December – Christmas Jumper Day for Save the Children

Monday 14th December – Christmas Treat Sale

Wednesday 16th December – Christmas Panto

Friday 18th December – 1:30pm – End of Term

Monday 4th January 2021 – 8:30am – Children return to school

Events still to be confirmed:

The Pantry Christmas Dinner

EYFS Nativity Video

Years 1 – 6 Christmas Story Video

A few reminders

- Please DO NOT drive, park or turn round down Nursery Way – the residents have reported some very inconsiderate parents
- Please can parents pass on to any of their relatives who are doing pick up and drop off, that they should not be driving down Nursery Way at all. If they are a disabled badge holder, they should still not park across people's driveways
- Please do bear in mind that staff are arriving to school up until 8:30am, so please try to keep your children out of the driveway at this time

Walking Bus and Drop and Go

Previously the above systems have been very successful in helping parents and children with the early morning school run.

It would be great to try and get these up and running again, but in order to do so, we need volunteers.

If you would be willing to volunteer even for just 1 morning a week, and would like to find out more about what this might involve, please send an email to office@standrewsuxbridge.org.uk

Thank you.

Amazon Wishlist

<https://amzn.eu/cWcCOW4>

Thank you to everyone who continues to support the school at this time.

Nicola Dallibar

PMG Schoolwear

In accordance with government guidelines, the PMG store is currently closed. Please place all orders online.



Visit us at www.pmg-schoolwear.co.uk

Here are a random selection of examples of the comments from the survey about the staggered starts. Thank you again to all those who engaged with the healthy debate.

2. What feedback, if any, do you have about the current arrangements?

6. Would you like to provide any other useful feedback for us at this time?

I think it's great and works well.

I agree that there are lots of parents congregating by the school gates and are not ensuring they or their children are socially distancing. However, this is a small minority of parents. Most parents socially distance in the morning.

I like the way as it is now as it is very convenient for people who are working or have other commitments.

I love not getting stressed in the mornings about making it to school in time for a small time slot. Also with having more than one child in different year groups, it's much nicer to be able to drop off together, where as I would have to wait around if there were staggered entry times. I do understand that parents should not congregate around the gate and we usually get there after 8:30.

Parents should be let in in 5 minute slots to allow social distancing

I like being able to drop my children off between 8:15 and 9 rather than specific time slots. The rule of not driving down Nursery Waye is good but so many people still drive down it. Maybe it needs to be better enforced with someone standing on the corner of the road to stop people from driving down it.

I do think masks should be worn for pick up and drop off.

We come at 8:45 and it is easy to social distance

I like the way it is staggered I meet very few parents in the morning when dropping my children off I option for the nearer 9 am drop off

We are happy with the current arrangements but can adapt if required.

Drop off isn't an issue as the children attend breakfast club. Pick up time I don't tend to arrive until most families have already picked up. This does mean Nursery Waye gets very busy and many families end up in the road as the paths are so narrow.

Seems to be working much better, parking around the school is much more accessible also.

Parents should keep the 2 m distance from others when collecting/dropping their children to school.

I think it would be difficult to find a system that would suit everyone. Personally I sometimes feel uncomfortable with lack of social distancing at the gate before 8.30am (so am trying to get there a bit later) and at pick up when everyone is coming out and I am walking into the school as there are often a few families walking abreast and they don't move over to let people walking the other way through. I don't have an opinion on a staggered approach as it wouldn't affect me.

Picking the children up is more problematic than dropping them off in the morning. In the afternoon we all walk as a crowd and introducing the requirement to wear masks would be helpful