



Growing and learning together with God

Each new school year we take stock of the things that are working well and the things that can be improved. Although the last academic year was completely different from anything any of us had ever experienced before, there were lots of positives relating to our targets from last year. One of the most positive outcomes was the strengthening of parent and community partnerships; albeit in a virtual or remote form throughout the period of partial school closure and lockdown. It was fantastic that so many families engaged with school through Class Dojo, through other online platforms and through group networking led by The Friends and the Parents' Council.

On our website you will find details of our new school improvement priorities for 2020-2021. Over the next few weeks, I will be trying to explain a little bit more about each of these areas on our weekly newsletter, starting with our first target – To develop and implement a suitable recovery curriculum.

Attendance

At this challenging time, our attendance data is clearly going to be a little bit different. With the uncertainty over the symptoms of Coronavirus, and the difficulty in accessing tests, we know that there will be more pupils not in school. Those pupils who are isolating while waiting for a test will not be counted in our attendance data

However, we would still like to celebrate good attendance for those who are well and able to come to school. As in previous years, the class with the highest attendance for each month will be rewarded with a non-uniform day!

Our whole school attendance for September was 94.6%. Of this 2.8% was authorised absence and 2.6% unauthorised.

This is a really positive figure at this time. Well done everyone!

The class with the highest attendance was Year 1 with 97.2%. They have earned a non-uniform day to be taken at a time agreed with Miss Iqbal.

The percentages for each class for September are:

Nursery = 95.5%
Reception = 97.0%
Year 1 = 97.2%
Year 2 = 96.6%
Year 3 = 94.3%
Year 4 = 93.4%
Year 5 = 92.2%
Year 6 = 90.7%

School Improvement Plan

Priority 1 = To develop and implement a suitable recovery curriculum.

The term 'recovery curriculum' has been coined by the DfE. However, this target is all about analysing any gaps in learning caused by the lockdown and partial school closure period and building on these through good solid teaching. We will be doing this through our Prospectus curriculum, which is a curriculum we bought into as a school in September 2019. Our overall aim is for all pupils to flourish in the various different areas of the curriculum and school life.

Merit Awards

Nursery – Hannah, Carissa

Reception – Freddie, Maceij, Chase

Year 1 – Jayden, Serena, David

Year 2 – Iris, Neriah, Frank

Year 3 – Tallulah, The Whole Class

Year 4 – Blake, Florence

Year 5 – Emily, Omar

Year 6 – Miley, Xavier

Well done to all!

Welcome New Pupils

This week we have welcomed some more new families to St. Andrew's.

We have welcomed Sophie, Benjamin and Aya in Nursery, Mohammed in Reception, Omar in Year 5 and Loujain in Year 6.

It is wonderful to have new pupils joining us and I hope they will all be very happy here.

Lockdown Project

Please keep sending in your samples of work for our Lockdown Project. Thank you to those children who have already brought in some amazing pieces of work for display. Once we have gathered enough work for display we will take photographs and upload them on Dojo so that everyone can see them.

Amazon Wishlist

Thank you so much to all the parents who have purchased items from the Wishlist this week. We really appreciate your generosity and support. So far this week we have been gifted thermometers, tissues, pencils, hand gel, hand soap, sanitising wipes, a sentence building game and some sentence building dominoes.

Important Dates

w/c 12th October – Assessment Week

Thursday 22nd October – Harvest Celebration
(Please note change of day)

Monday 19th October – RE Day

Tuesday 20th October – Individual Photos

26th - 30th October – Half Term

w/c 2nd November – E-Safety Week

Tuesday 3rd November – Parents' Evening Online

Thursday 5th November – Parents' Evening Online

More details will be sent out about some of these events over the coming weeks via Dojo or ParentPay.

Harvest Donations and Celebrations

As you may have realised, we will not be able to have our traditional Harvest celebration in school this year. Instead, we will be celebrating Harvest in different ways within school through creating art work and poetry, and we will be looking to share this with you via Class Dojo.

On Thursday 22nd October we will be having our Harvest Celebration service using a combination of pre-recorded videos and online content with members of the clergy. If possible, we may share some of this with parents via Class Dojo.

The Hillingdon Food Bank is in need of even more donations of food and other items this year, due to the pandemic. We will be collecting the following items on their behalf and taking them to the warehouse on Oxford Road.

Long-life milk

Fruit juice

Tinned fruit

Tinned meat and fish

Tinned tomatoes

Biscuits

Cereals

Sugar

Jam

Tea and coffee

Rice

Soup

Rice pudding or custard

Sweets, chocolates and crisps

Toiletries such as sanitary products, shower gel, toothpaste, toilet roll etc.

We would like to invite the children to bring in any items from Monday 12th October onwards and deposit them in our wheel barrow which will be in the main car park. All the items will be quarantined and then Rev. Andrew will drop them off at the food bank.

Thank you in advance for your support.



After School Club

Many of you will be aware that Get Active did not have enough parents sign up for the After School Club.

I have asked them to send out another questionnaire to parents about whether or not they would access the provision.

I think we all realise that now that Government guidelines are recommending that people work from home where possible, many families may not need the After School provision. However, there are still some families who were relying on it.

My fear is that some families were planning on booking sessions, but because they hadn't actually done so, the numbers were too low to make it viable.

If you do think you will need some After School Club support then I urge you to fill in the questionnaire on this link, <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/TTBLG9Q>

and to contact Get Active directly to express your interest so that if it is at all viable, we can get something in place for after school care as soon as possible. Many thanks.

Have a good weekend!

Nicola Dallibar