



St Andrew's CE Primary School and Nursery
Tower Hill, Much Hadham
Hertfordshire SG10 6DL

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2025/26 : 14-15

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER – 19 December 2025

Home/School Value - Joy!



See you on Tuesday, 6th January 2026!

KS2 Carol Service

What a joyful event our KS2 Carol Service was! The children sang their hearts out and it was lovely to see so many parents and carers there as part of our congregation. The Christmas spirit was palpable and it was a perfect way to conclude our Christmas celebrations at school.



St Andrew's Got Talent!

This year's talent show was another rip-roaring success. The children had a fabulous time showing off all their skills. There were magic tricks, dances, musical renditions and jokes aplenty! A fantastic way to finish the afternoon after our delicious Christmas dinner



A visit from Puppets Galore

On Thursday, we were delighted to, again, welcome Puppets Galore to St. Andrew's. This joyful show, helps the children to understand the true meaning of Christmas in a fun and tuneful way with songs, stories and a little bit of dancing along. The whole school thoroughly enjoyed this festive treat.



PE for Spring Term

There have been a couple of alterations to PE days in school for the Spring term. Please see below, this is from the first week of term 6 January 2026:

Year Group	Days
Nursery	Monday
Reception	Monday and Wednesday
Year 1	Wednesday and Friday
Year 2	Monday and Thursday
Year 3	Monday and Wednesday (no change)
Year 4	Wednesday and Friday (no change)
Year 5	Tuesday and Friday (no change)
Year 6	Monday and Tuesday

Save the Date - Parenting Course 'Who's In Charge?' starting 30th January 2026 at St Andrew's School

The 'Who's in Charge?' Course is a 9 week programme run by Rivers Behaviour Team. The course has been run successfully in several schools in Hertfordshire. The course is delivered face to face and is for parents and carers of children 4 years and over.

This is for parents or carers who may be facing difficult or distressing behaviour from their children and are looking for help to feel more supported and regain a sense of calm and control.

The group aims to:

- Provide a supportive environment to share experiences and ideas
- Reduce the guilt and shame which most parents feel
- Offer ideas to help you develop individual strategies for managing your child's behaviour
- Explore ways of increasing safety and well-being
- Help parents feel more in control and less stressed.

All are welcome. Please contact Mrs Small for further details. More information about this course to follow in the new term.

Applying for a Reception place for September 2026

The online application process to apply for a Hertfordshire reception class place is now open. Parents must submit an online application through the [Hertfordshire County Council website](#) by the **15th January 2026** deadline for September 2026 entry. Parents will also need to complete a separate [Supplementary Information Form](#) and return this directly to school. Thank you.

Attendance Autumn Term 2

	Autumn 1 Totals	w/e 07/11	w/e 14/11	w/e 21/11	w/e 28/11	w/e 05/12	w/e 12/12	w/e 19/12
Nursery	92.0%	92.2%	92.4%	91.1%	89.9%	88.8%	88.2%	
Reception	97.8%	97.4%	96.4%	95.8%	95.4%	95.3%	95.2%	
Year 1	96.4%	95.6%	95.6%	95.5%	95.4%	94.8%	94.1%	
Year 2	92.6%	92.6%	92.1%	92.3%	92.3%	92.5%	92.1%	
Year 3	96.3%	96.4%	96.0%	96.0%	96.0%	96.0%	95.9%	
Year 4	93.2%	93.1%	93.4%	93.6%	93.5%	93.3%	93.3%	
Year 5	96.1%	96.3%	96.1%	96.3%	96.4%	96.0%	93.8%	
Year 6	95.5%	95.3%	95.6%	95.7%	95.9%	95.9%	93.8%	
Totals	95.2%	95.1%	94.9%	94.9%	94.8%	94.6%	94.0%	

We are a Nut-Free School

St Andrew's is a 'No Nut' school. Please do not bring any foods containing nut or sesame into school (including pesto and hummus). Thank you.



Pupil Premium and Free School Meals

The school is aware that with the Universal Infant Free School Meals (UIFSM) programme automatically providing all children up to the end of Year 2 with a free meal every day, many families do not apply for means-tested free school meal provision until their child reaches Year 3. **This could mean parents are missing out on other sources of support they are entitled to,** linked to household income and the benefits of associated pupil premium funding.

When your child reaches year 3 school meals become chargeable.



What is a Free School Meal? A KS2 school meal costs £3.50 per day. Multiply this by 190 (days in a school year) and **Free School Meals are worth £665 a year!**

Please see link below to check your eligibility:

<https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/schools-and-education/at-school/free-school-meals/free-school-meals.aspx>

Useful links

St Andrew's School Website... did you know?

We aim to make our school website a 'one stop shop' for information about our vibrant school.

<https://standrews236.herts.sch.uk/>

Here you can find information about your child's learning in all areas of the curriculum, a number of useful school policies, information about school uniform, upcoming events, links to outside school support and so much more! *If there is anything extra that you would like to see on our school website, do drop Mrs Dimond an email via the school office and we'll see what we can do.* Please find other useful links below:

Much Hadham Preschool

<https://www.muchhadhampreschool.co.uk/>



In School

Amazon – Buy a Birthday Book Suggestion List



Nursery and Reception: <https://amzn.eu/al6WYEG>

Year 1 and Year 2: <https://amzn.eu/fBRhfZI>

Year 3 and Year 4: <https://amzn.eu/jbNTsjQ>

Year 5 and Year 6: <https://amzn.eu/aQO9ylu>

School Gateway

<https://login.schoolgateway.com/0/auth/login>

Hertfordshire Catering Ltd Special Dietary Menu Application (now called Citrus)

[Special Diet Application - HCL](#)

Hertfordshire Catering <https://www.hcl.co.uk/parents/primary-school>

School Uniform

AVM Schoolwear: [Schoolwear – AVM Workwear and Embroidery Ltd](#)

E-squared/Top Form Uniform: [About Us - Top Form Schoolwear](#)

Second Hand Uniform – from Friends of St Andrew's school

Please email requests to : friendsofstandrewsmh@gmail.com

External/other links

Hertfordshire Free School Meals

<https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/schools-and-education/at-school/free-school-meals/free-school-meals.aspx>

DSPL Website

[Developing Special Provision Locally \(DSPL\) 3 - Home](#)

Hertfordshire Families First

www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/familiesfirst

Pharmacies First

[How pharmacies can help - NHS](#)

East Herts Council – Keeping Safe Online

[Get Safe Online | The UK's leading Online Safety Advice Resource](#)

Diary Dates 2025-2026

**** Parents and carers are invited to the events that are highlighted ****

**** PTA Events ****

Friday, 19/12/2025 – Last Day of Term – School finishes at 2 pm

Monday, 05/12/2026 – INSET Day – no children in school

Tuesday, 06/01/2026 – First day of Term

Thursday, 15/01/2026 – Herts Application deadline for Primary School Reception Class 2026

Friday, 30/01/2026 – Parenting Course 'Who's in Charge?' First Session

Friday, 06/02/2026 – Lieutenancy visit

Wednesday, 11/02/2026 and Thursday, 12/02/2026 – Parent/Teacher Consultations

Monday, 01/06/2026 – Friday, 05/06/2026 – Y6 Brenscombe Trip

Tuesday, 22/09/2026- Thursday 24/09/2026 – Y5 Aylmerton Trip

Term Dates for 2025/2026

Autumn Term 2025	
Wednesday, 3 September 2025	<i>Inset – school closed</i>
Thursday, 4 September 2025	Term begins
Monday, 27 October - Friday 31 October 2025	Half term
Friday, 28 November 2025	<i>Occasional day – school closed</i>
Friday, 19 December 2025	Term ends 2pm
Spring Term 2026	
Monday, 5 January 2026	<i>Inset – school closed</i>
Tuesday, 6 January 2026	Term begins
Monday, 16 February to Friday, 20 February 2026	Half term
Friday, 27 March 2026	Term ends 2pm
Summer Term 2026	
Monday, 13 April 2026	Term begins
Monday, 4 May 2026	May Bank Holiday – School Closed
Monday, 25 May to Friday, 29 May 2026	Half term
Monday, 1 June 2026	<i>Inset – school closed</i>
Tuesday, 21 July 2026	Term ends 2pm
Wednesday, 22 July 2026	<i>Inset – school closed</i>
Thursday, 23 July 2026	<i>Inset – school closed</i>

Term Dates for 2026/2027

Autumn Term 2026	
Tuesday, 1 September 2026	<i>Inset – school closed</i>
Wednesday, 2 September 2026	Term begins
Monday, 26 October - Friday 30 October 2026	Half term
Friday, 27 November 2026	<i>Occasional day – school closed</i>
Friday, 18 December 2026	Term ends 2pm
Spring Term 2027	
Monday, 4 January 2027	<i>Inset – school closed</i>
Tuesday, 5 January 2027	Term begins
Monday, 15 February to Friday, 19 February 2027	Half term
Thursday, 27 March 2027	Term ends 2pm
Summer Term 2027	
Monday, 12 April 2027	Term begins
Monday, 3 May 2027	May Bank Holiday – school closed
Monday, 31 May to Friday, 4 June 2027	Half term
Monday, 7 June 2027	<i>Inset – school closed</i>
Tuesday, 20 July 2027	Term ends 2pm
Wednesday, 21 July 2027	<i>Inset – school closed</i>
Thursday, 22 July 2027	<i>Inset – school closed</i>

School Noticeboard



Free Library Membership for Your Team – A Simple Way to Boost Wellbeing and Productivity

Did you know that Hertfordshire Libraries offer free membership to anyone who lives, works, or studies in Hertfordshire? Joining as a family opens the door to a world of learning, creativity, and connection – all at no cost.

Why join the whole family?

- Save money: borrow books, eBooks, and e-audiobooks instead of buying or paying for subscriptions.
- Enjoy more choice: thousands of titles for children and adults – from picture books to bestsellers – available to reserve from any library in the county.
- Expert help: our friendly staff can recommend great reads for every age and interest.
- Connect people: libraries are welcoming spaces with free Wi-Fi, events, community groups, and learning opportunities.



Christmas family sing along - 23rd December


Bishops Stortford gets Ready to Rock for the 5th Year! Get your Santa hats and singing voices ready - 'Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree' is back for its fifth year of holiday fun!

On Tuesday, 23rd December, from 5pm to 6pm at the Bandstand, Castle Park, the town will come alive with music, laughter, and plenty of Christmas cheer. Join friends, family, and neighbours to belt out festive favourites, shout 'It's Christmas!' with the crowd, and help raise funds for the Bishops Stortford Food Bank. Last year's event brought in nearly £1000 for local families in need, showing just how much our community can do when we come together. Bring your torches, light-up hats, and a donation for the collection buckets. Bundle up for this outdoor celebration and let's make this fifth anniversary the brightest yet!

Don't miss out—come rock around the Christmas tree and spread the joy!

Get Christmas off to a festive start with a free fun singalong of Christmas classics in aid of the food bank

ROCKIN' AROUND *the* **CHRISTMAS TREE**



Tuesday 23rd December . 5 – 6pm
Bandstand, Castle Park
Bishop's Stortford