

Life in All its Fullness – Come and See



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

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2025/26 : 19

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER – 30 January 2026

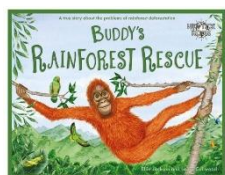
Home/School Value – Creation and Creativity

World Book Day – Thursday 5th March 2026



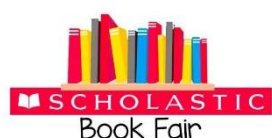
This year, our World Book Day will have an animal and environmental theme.

Each class will take a book, written by the author Ellie Jackson, and explore the real-life experiences of a particular animal, affected by environmental issues in our world today. This will give the children the opportunity to understand how our actions can affect the planet's wildlife and, more importantly, what everyone can do to improve it.



We would also like to ask the children (if they wish) to come into school in some kind of animal themed clothing or accessory. This could be an animal onesie, a t-shirt with an animal on it or just a pair of fluffy ears or a tail. In return we are asking for a £1 donation, which will be given to the charity, WWF Climate Recovery.

Book Fair and Competition – Thursday 12th March and Friday 13th March



Reading celebrations will continue into the following week, with the Scholastic **Book Fair after school on Thursday 12th March and Friday 13th March**. School will receive a percentage of all purchases, to spend on additional books for the children, so please do come along.

In addition, we are holding a **competition for the children to win a £5 voucher** to spend at the fair. We would like to invite the children to submit a photo of themselves reading, whilst also doing something for the environment e.g. they could be reading whilst brushing their teeth with the tap off, doing some recycling or turning off a light switch. It's just a bit of fun, so make it as imaginative as you like.

We will share the photos on World Book Day assembly, where the winners will also be announced so, please have your entries in by Wednesday 4th March for them to be included. Entries should be emailed to admin@standrews236.herts.sch.uk for the attention of Mrs Cole.



Rosie Galligan – England's Women Rugby Player

On Thursday, the children once again had the privilege of meeting with England's Women Rugby player, Rosie Galligan - this time though, she brought along her World Cup Winners medal!

Every single child in assembly got the opportunity to hold Rosie's medal (and there were many open mouths when they felt how heavy it was!) and were inspired by her first-hand account of her World Cup experience last July.

Our Sports Captains and several of our Year 5 got to ask Rosie many questions and helped them to understand how much hard work it takes to be a World Cup Winner.

Thank you once again to the Cox family for making it possible for Rosie's visit.



Birchwood Indoor Athletics Festival

On Thursday, fifteen of our Year 6 children took part in the annual indoor Athletics festival at Birchwood High School.

It is always popular event in the BSP calendar, and this year did not disappoint! A total of twelve schools took part, with nine different activities in track and field. For several of our children, this was their first event of Year 6, and they were excellent sporting ambassadors for St Andrew's.

The children bounced, leapt, threw, and raced over the course of the afternoon and gave each activity their all. The children demonstrated all the School Games values, teamwork, passion, respect, belief, and determination, they should all feel incredibly proud of themselves, just as I am.

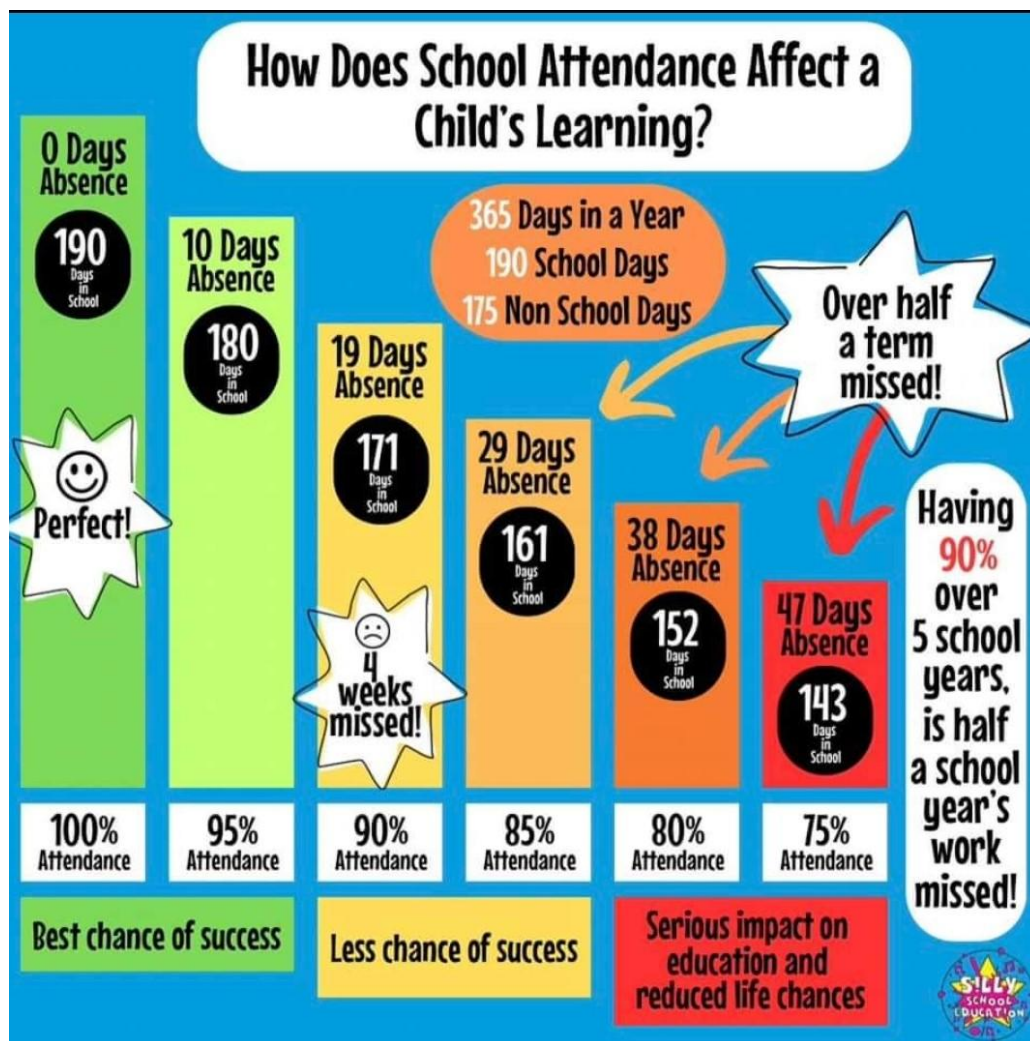
My grateful thanks to our parent drivers and helpers and to the office staff without whom it would not have been possible to attend. Thank you Mrs Small.

Attendance Update

As a school, we are falling well short of our attendance target of 96%. Please help us by ensuring your child attends each day when they are well enough to do so. The NHS has produced some helpful guidance for parents and carers to inform their decision about bringing children to school:

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

Do speak with Mrs Dimond, if you would like to discuss your child's attendance further.



Attendance Spring Term 1

	Autumn Totals	w/e 09/01	w/e 16/01	w/e 23/01	w/e 30/01	w/e 06/02	w/e 13/02	w/e 19/12
Nursery	89.1%	89.0%	89.1%	89.9%				
Reception	93.9%	94.0%	93.9%	93.7%				
Year 1	93.7%	93.7%	93.9%	94.0%				
Year 2	90.7%	90.8%	91.2%	91.2%				
Year 3	95.3%	94.9%	94.8%	94.5%				
Year 4	92.8%	92.5%	92.6%	92.8%				
Year 5	93.4%	93.3%	92.6%	92.6%				
Year 6	95.1%	95.1%	94.9%	94.8%				
Totals	93.4%	93.3%	93.2%	93.2%				

Nursery Class places for September 2026

The application process for Nursery in September 2026 is open. Please see school website for further information and application form as the application process is directly to the school. Application forms are also available from the school office.

School Lunch Price Increase

In accordance with HCL's meal price increase for the 2026-2027 financial year, the price of a school meal for children in Years 3-6 will increase by 10p to £3.60 day from 1 April 2026. Meals for children in Reception and Years 1 and 2 are free of charge.

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 ****

Tuesday, 03/02/2026 - Year 3 parents and carers invited to collective worship

Friday, 06/02/2026 – Lieutenantcy visit to Year 6

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

Tuesday, 03/03/2026 - Year 2 parents and carers invited to collective worship

Friday, 06/03/2026 – Nursery Class applications for places in September 2026 closes

Tuesday, 24/03/2026 – Nursery Class Come and See

Tuesday, 10/03/2026 - Year 1 parents and carers invited to collective worship

Tuesday, 17/03/2026 - Reception parents and carers invited to collective worship

Tuesday, 24/03/2026 - Nursery parents and carers invited to collective worship

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

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	
<i>Tuesday, 1 September 2026</i>	<i>Inset – school closed</i>
Wednesday, 2 September 2026	Term begins
Monday, 26 October - Friday 30 October 2026	Half term
<i>Friday, 27 November 2026</i>	<i>Occasional day – school closed</i>
Friday, 18 December 2026	Term ends 2pm
Spring Term 2027	
<i>Monday, 4 January 2027</i>	<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
<i>Monday, 7 June 2027</i>	<i>Inset – school closed</i>
Tuesday, 20 July 2027	Term ends 2pm
<i>Wednesday, 21 July 2027</i>	<i>Inset – school closed</i>
<i>Thursday, 22 July 2027</i>	<i>Inset – school closed</i>

School Noticeboard

Much Hadham Recreation Ground Playground Area Working Group:

Help shape the next version
of the
Playground

Our playground gets a lot of use and is one of the village's most valuable public spaces. But now it deserves a refresh and we want local parents involved in planning it.

We're setting up a short, time-limited working group -
sensible, practical and helpful.

If you'd like to join us, please email us now
or scan the QR code for more details.

jackiewestlake@muchhadhamparishcouncil.co.uk
william.bird6@btinternet.com



Names in by the end of January please





Navigating Smartphones & Tech as a Family

A free event from **SFC Stortford** for parents and educators, featuring candid stories and practical tools you can start using straight away.

- > Presentations
- > Panel discussion
- > Alternative phone display

The Bishop's
Stortford High School
Thursday 5th March
6.30 - 9pm

Book here:
[tinyurl.com/
5MARSFC](https://tinyurl.com/5MARSFC)

YOUR NEAREST HOLIDAY CLUBS...

Fawbert & Barnard Infants School, Sawbridgeworth, CM21 9AT 🙌

16th - 19th February 2026

From £20.99 per day, 8am - 5:30pm

St Mary's Junior School, Ware, SG12 0RL 🙌

16th - 19th February 2026

From £20.99 per day, 8am - 5:30pm

Downfield Primary School, Cheshunt, EN8 8SS 🙌

17th - 19th February 2026

From £20.99 per day, 8am - 5:30pm

Northaw Primary School, Potters Bar, EN6 4PB 🙌

17th - 19th and 23rd* February 2026

From £20.99 per day, 8am - 5:30pm

*School Inset Day club

🙌 Accepts tax free payments/childcare vouchers



A packed lunch
Plenty of water
Suitable clothing
Loads of energy!



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bushcraft and more at four centres.

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 Essex County Council

essexoutdoors.com/school-holiday-activities

Dads Together



Sign up to our 6-week online group

Are you a dad and feel like you are constantly nagging at your child to get what you need?

Join our free dads together 6-week online group to help increase your confidence in parenting and improve communication and listening skills.



Wednesday 4th February to 18th March 2026

7.00pm to 9.00pm

Online via MS Teams

To book your place, call Louise on **0204 522 8700**, email **services@familylives.org.uk** or scan our QR code to use our online referral form



Scan Me!

We build better family lives together

www.familylives.org.uk



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Hertfordshire
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