

## Life in All its Fullness – Come and See



### St Andrew's CE Primary School and Nursery

Tower Hill, Much Hadham  
Hertfordshire SG10 6DL

Headteacher: Mrs Caroline Dimond

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2025/26: 20.21

## SCHOOL NEWSLETTER – DRAFT 2026

### Home/School Value – Creation and Creativity

#### Celebrating our Colourful World!



We've had a very colourful time in collective worship this week, listening to the story of Noah's Ark, learning about rainbows and thinking about how we are all so colourful – inside and out! We liked our feelings to colours and learnt how to breathe in brightness and breathe out darkness.



#### Getting arty!

I am delighted to share a super opportunity for yourselves and your children: to find out more about and support a historic local community project.

The Parochial Church Council (PPC) have plans to commission a full-size sculpture of St Andrew the apostle, to stand outside St Andrew's Church in Much Hadham.

The children here at St Andrew's School will be sculptors themselves, working with famous local artist Rodney Munday on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> February. We have some very budding artists and much creativity in school so this promises to be a very interesting and exciting couple of days, culminating in an exhibition in classrooms on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February.

We invite you all to find out more about Rodney, his proposed sculpture of St Andrew and to see your child's sculpture at school from 2.45pm in the school hall on the Friday.

We hope that you will be able to join us. Refreshments will be available and all are welcome. Mrs Dimond.

#### Lieutenancy Visit for Year 6



On Friday afternoon, Year 6 welcomed some special visitors from the Hertfordshire Lieutenancy who led a very interesting talk and workshop. Our guests, the Deputy Lieutenants, work to support the Hertfordshire Lieutenant, who is appointed by the King. Year 6 enjoyed hearing about the work of the Hertfordshire Lieutenancy; learning more about the Royal Family and discussing the Commonwealth Values. They had to decide which values they felt were most important and discuss



what preparations they might have to make if King Charles were to visit our school! A particular highlight of the afternoon was getting to see a ceremonial sword that one of the Deputy Lieutenants (an ex-army officer) had brought in. The children enjoyed seeing the sword up close but discovered that it was actually blunt and that it would struggle to cut a slice of pizza! Year 6 were a real credit to our school and made some fantastic contributions.

<https://lord-lieutenant-herts.org.uk/>

## **Outdoor Learning for Key Stage 1**

I am delighted to share that our Outdoor Learning provision for Key Stage One children has quickly become established and is supporting the children as planned, particularly with their social and emotional development. Miss Hall has quickly become a popular addition to our team. Those children who remain in class with their class teacher for half the afternoon are having high quality targeted provision too, albeit in the warm!



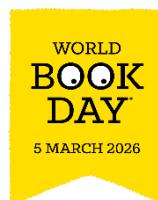
## **Specialist French and Music Lessons for Key Stage 2**

Our Key Stage Two children are also benefiting from specialist teaching from Mrs Marshall (Music) and Madame Daniell (French) whilst their teachers are having their planning time. The hall is alive with the 'sound of music' and French lessons continue to be ever popular, setting our children in great stead for secondary school and beyond!

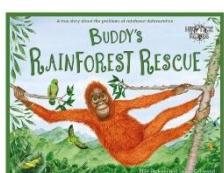
## **World Book Day – Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2026.**

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 experiences of a particular animal, affected by environmental issues in our This will give the children the opportunity to understand how our actions can planet's wildlife and, more importantly, what everyone can do to improve it.

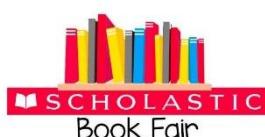


the real-life  
world today.  
affect the



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 12<sup>th</sup> March and Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March**



Reading celebrations will continue into the following week, with the Scholastic **Book Fair after school on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March and Friday 13<sup>th</sup> 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 4<sup>th</sup> March for them to be included. Entries should be emailed to [admin@standrews236.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@standrews236.herts.sch.uk) for the attention of Mrs Cole.

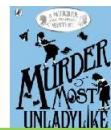


Bishop's Stortford Library is also offering some fun book related activities over the coming weeks...

Join us for activities and crafts inspired by your favourite books and authors.



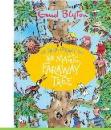
25<sup>th</sup> February



4<sup>th</sup> March



11<sup>th</sup> March



18<sup>th</sup> March

Wednesdays 4:15pm – 5:15pm

£2.75 per session – please book in the library

For children aged 7-11 years.

(Children under 8 must be accompanied by an adult)

Bishop's Stortford Library



## 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
Nursery	89.1%	89.0%	89.1%	89.9%	88.9%	89.4%
Reception	93.9%	94.0%	93.9%	93.7%	93.8%	94.6%
Year 1	93.7%	93.7%	93.9%	94.0%	94.0%	94.3%
Year 2	90.7%	90.8%	91.2%	91.2%	91.5%	91.8%
Year 3	95.3%	94.9%	94.8%	94.5%	94.6%	93.6%
Year 4	92.8%	92.5%	92.6%	92.8%	92.8%	93.0%
Year 5	93.4%	93.3%	92.6%	92.6%	93.1%	93.6%
Year 6	95.1%	95.1%	94.9%	94.8%	94.8%	95.1%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>93.4%</b>	<b>93.3%</b>	<b>93.2%</b>	<b>93.2%</b>	<b>93.3%</b>	<b>93.6%</b>

## 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/>



MUCH HADHAM  
PRE SCHOOL  Wraparound  
childcare

To book your 1st session, please complete the Clubs registration form via our website: [www.muchhadhampreschool.co.uk/clubs](http://www.muchhadhampreschool.co.uk/clubs)

[Session times & Fees](#)

Breakfast Club: 7.30am-9am £7.50  
Lunch Club: 12pm – 1pm £6 or 12pm – 3pm £18  
After School Club: 3pm-4.15pm £6 or 3pm-6pm £18

[Ad Hoc and regular bookings. Funding accepted](#)

Bookings can then be made by emailing us at: [muchhadhampreschool@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:muchhadhampreschool@yahoo.co.uk)

## In School

### **Amazon – Buy a Birthday Book Suggestion List**



Nursery and Reception: <https://amzn.eu/aj6WYEG>

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](mailto: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](http://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 and Wednesday 24 and 25/02/2026 – Rodney Munday in to sculpt with the children  
Friday, 27/02/2026 2.45pm Community Project talk and Sculpture Showcase in the hall

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

Thursday, 05/03/2026 – World Book Day, wear animal themed clothing or accessory £1 donation to WWF Climate Recovery

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

Thursday and Friday 12 and 13/03/2026 – Book Fair after school

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

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

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**

<b>Spring Term 2026</b>	
Monday, 5 January 2026	<i>Inset – school closed</i>
<b>Tuesday, 6 January 2026</b>	<b>Term begins</b>
Monday, 16 February to Friday, 20 February 2026	Half term
<b>Friday, 27 March 2026</b>	<b>Term ends 2pm</b>
<b>Summer Term 2026</b>	
Monday, 13 April 2026	<b>Term begins</b>
<b>Monday, 4 May 2026</b>	<b>May Bank Holiday – School Closed</b>
Monday, 25 May to Friday, 29 May 2026	Half term
Monday, 1 June 2026	<i>Inset – school closed</i>
<b>Tuesday, 21 July 2026</b>	<b>Term ends 2pm</b>
Wednesday, 22 July 2026	<i>Inset – school closed</i>
Thursday, 23 July 2026	<i>Inset – school closed</i>

## **Term Dates for 2026/2027**

<b>Autumn Term 2026</b>	
Tuesday, 1 September 2026	<i>Inset – school closed</i>
<b>Wednesday, 2 September 2026</b>	<b>Term begins</b>
Monday, 26 October - Friday 30 October 2026	Half term
<i>Friday, 27 November 2026</i>	<i>Occasional day – school closed</i>

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

## School Noticeboard

Staff at Bishop's Stortford Handball Club are aware of how hard it can be for parents/carers, during school breaks, to come up with low cost outings with young children. They would also like to raise their profile in the area and share their love for the sport.

With these two things in mind they have booked their regular sports hall on Tuesday, 17<sup>th</sup> February and are offering local children the opportunity to come along and try the sport for **FREE**.

Here is also the link in the QR code:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSehSuCNlliQvw2elk1FIBx0eYNc6NgetlqlpGAMsrovFifQgQ/viewform>

**COME &  
TRY Handball  
FOR FREE !!**

**PRIMARY &  
SECONDARY  
SCHOOL AGE**

**TUESDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> FEB**

10.00-12.00	FIRST SESSION
13.00-15.00	SECOND SESSION

You can attend one or both

**HERTS & ESSEX  
SPORTS  
CENTRE**

**IF YOU'D LIKE  
TO ATTEND  
BOTH  
SESSIONS -  
BRING LUNCH!**



any questions email [stortfordhandball@gmail.com](mailto:stortfordhandball@gmail.com)  
or call 07940 392894