



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

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## SCHOOL NEWSLETTER – 8th January 2024

Our Value this half term is **HEART FOR THE EARTH**

### Parent Teacher Consultations New Online Booking System

We are looking forward to meeting with you at the Parent Teacher Consultations on Tuesday and Wednesday, 13 and 14 February 2024. The new online booking has been set up and will be going live for bookings on **Friday, 26 January at 6.00 pm**. Please keep an eye out for the the full *SchoolCloud* Parents' Guide for Booking Appointments that will be emailed to parents shortly.

### Eco Awareness

As part of our ongoing development plan to become more environmentally friendly, we were delighted to welcome Ellie from East Herts County Council Sustainable Travel Team to our school last Friday.

Ellie conducted workshops across Years 4, 5 and 6 to consider the impact of air pollution on the environment and our own bodies.



Each year discussed what positive changes could be made in order to reduce the level of pollution in our local area and beyond. They also created fact files and posters to show what they had learned throughout the day.

### Leadership opportunities in Year 5



This week, all of Year 5 took part in a leadership day at school. Half the class undertook some 'peer mediation' training, involving how to solve low level disputes between peers positively and productively.

The other half, spent the day looking at the different aspects of becoming play leaders in school. They discussed what makes a good leader and were also given the opportunity to have insight into and discuss 'super-secret' future play zones that are being planned for the near future.



It was a really productive day and we hope that the impact of all the training will be evident on the playground very soon.

## **Medication**

Please can we remind parents/carers that you need to complete an authorisation form, through the office, for **all** medicines and this includes medicated throat lozenges and medicated creams.

## **Athletics Competition**

Last week, our children competed at BSP Level 2 Indoor Athletics competition at Birchwood High School. The team did brilliantly and finished fifth out of the 18 schools. A huge thank you to Mrs Small, Mrs Daniel and to the parents for their help with transport.



## **Playtime role play zone**

Thank you so much to those families who have donated items for our new calm room. In addition, we are looking for the following items for our upcoming role play zone in the playground:

- play shop items eg till, food, money etc
- play doctors items eg stethoscope, bandages, dressing up etc
- any children's dressing up clothes and accessories
- old handbags
- large pieces of fabric
- bean bags

## **Have there been any changes to your data?**

Could you please let the school office know if there have been any recent changes to your data; new telephone, new email address etc. Thank you.

## **School lunches**

School lunches are provided free of charge for children in Reception and KS1. For children in KS2 lunches cost £3.20 per day and payment is online via the School Gateway. Please can we remind parents that lunches must be paid for in advance (**pay as you go**) and your account may be frozen if it is in arrears. Thank you.

## **Free School Meals and Pupil Premium**

The school is aware that with the Universal Infant Free School Meals (UIFSM) programme automatically providing all children up to 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. Please see link below to check eligibility:

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

## Our School Development Plan

### **School Development Priorities – St Andrew's three main priorities 2023-2024:**

- 1 For pupils to play a more active role in their learning journey – including a greater awareness of their own progress towards the end points for each subject.
- 2 To improve children's emotional literacy across the school, to help them articulate their feelings positively.
- 3 To improve the school's carbon footprint and the children's understanding of creating a more sustainable future.

Mrs Dimond looks forward to sharing our progress against these priorities at the end of each term.

## News from the Friends of St Andrew's School

Many thanks as always for your continued support.

The Friends

[friendsofstandrewsmh@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofstandrewsmh@gmail.com)

## Diary Dates 2024

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

Tuesday, 30/01/2024 – Year 5 Parents invited to Collective Worship (9.10 – 9.40)

Friday, 02/02/2024 – Little Bracelet Company (Y4) stall after school

Monday, 05/02/2024 – Friday 09/02/2024 Children's Mental Health Week

Tuesday, 06/02/2024 – Year 4 Parents invited to Collective Worship (9.10 – 9.40)

Tuesday, 13/02/24 and Wednesday, 14/02/2024 – Parent Teacher Consultations

Tuesday, 27/02/2024 – Year 3 Parents invited to Collective Worship (9.10 – 9.40)

Tuesday, 05/03/2024 – Year 2 Parents invited to Collective Worship (9.10 – 9.40)

W/C Monday, 11/03/2024 – Y6 Bikeability week

Tuesday, 12/03/2024 – Year 1 Parents invited to Collective Worship (9.10 – 9.40)

Tuesday, 19/03/2024 – Year Reception Parents invited to Collective Worship (9.10 – 9.40)

Tuesday, 26/03/2024 – Year Nursery Parents invited to Collective Worship (9.10 – 9.40)

Thursday, 02/05/2024 – Photographer - whole class photographs

W/C Monday, 13/05/2024 – Key Stage 2 SATS week

03/06/2024 – 07/06/2024 – Brenscombe Week straight after half term (Monday is the INSET day)

02/10/2024 and 03/10/2024 – Photographer – individual and sibling portraits

## **Term Dates for 2023/2024**

<b>Autumn Term 2023</b>	
<i>Friday, 1 September 2023</i>	<i>Inset - school closed</i>
<b>Monday, 4 September 2023</b>	<b>Term begins</b>
Monday, 23 October – Friday, 27 October 2023	Half term
<i>Friday, 24 November 2023</i>	<i>Occasional day – school closed</i>
<b>Tuesday, 19 December 2023</b>	<b>Term ends 2pm</b>
<i>Wednesday, 20 December 2023</i>	<i>Inset – school closed</i>
<b>Spring Term 2024</b>	
<b>Thursday, 4 January 2024</b>	<b>Term begins</b>
Monday, 19 February – Friday, 23 February 2024	Half term
<b>Thursday, 28 March 2024</b>	<b>Term ends 2pm</b>
<b>Summer Term 2024</b>	
<b>Monday, 15 April 2024</b>	<b>Term begins</b>
Monday, 27 May – Friday 31 May 2024	Half term
<i>Monday, 3 June</i>	<i>Inset – school closed</i>
<b>Friday, 19 July 2024</b>	<b>Term ends 2pm</b>
<i>Monday, 22 July 2024</i>	<i>Inset – School closed</i>
<i>Monday, 23 July 2024</i>	<i>Inset – School closed</i>

## **Term Dates for 2024/2025**

<b>Autumn Term 2023</b>	
<i>Monday, 2 September 2024</i>	<i>Inset - school closed</i>
<i>Tuesday, 3 September 2024</i>	<i>Inset – school closed</i>
<b>Wednesday, 4 September 2024</b>	<b>Term begins</b>
Monday, 28 October - Friday 1 November 2024	Half term
<i>Friday, 29 November 2024</i>	<i>Occasional day – school closed</i>
<b>Friday, 20 December 2024</b>	<b>Term ends 2pm</b>
<b>Spring Term 2025</b>	
<i>Monday, 6 January 2025</i>	<i>Inset – school closed</i>
<b>Tuesday, 7 January 2025</b>	<b>Term begins</b>
Monday, 17 February to Friday, 21 February 2025	Half term
<b>Friday, 4 April</b>	<b>Term ends 2pm</b>
<b>Summer Term 2025</b>	
<b>Tuesday, 22 April 2025</b>	<b>Term begins</b>
Monday, 26 May to Friday, 30 May 2025	Half term
<i>Monday, 2 June 2025</i>	<i>Inset – school closed</i>
<i>Tuesday, 3 June 2025</i>	<i>Inset – school closed</i>
<b>Wednesday, 23 July 2025</b>	<b>Term ends 2pm</b>



## Table tennis course

Much Hadham Table Tennis Club are starting a ten week table tennis training course for children aged 6 to 11, on Wednesday evenings, from 6pm to 7pm starting 31 January.

The course will be under the direction of a qualified TT coach. All abilities welcome, equipment provided.

The course will be limited to 15 children to ensure that all can receive coaching. The course will be held in Much Hadham village hall where the club have three tables.

The cost is £3 per child per session, but concessions are available where needed.

The course will run on Wednesdays, except the second Wednesday of each month.

If you are interested then parents/carers should contact Andy Furze, the club secretary, at [andyfurze@aol.com](mailto:andyfurze@aol.com) or phone 01279 842358

Older children and adults can of course attend the main club which meets between 7pm and 9pm on the same days.





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31ST JANUARY, 2024**

