



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



Headteacher: Mrs Caroline Dimond

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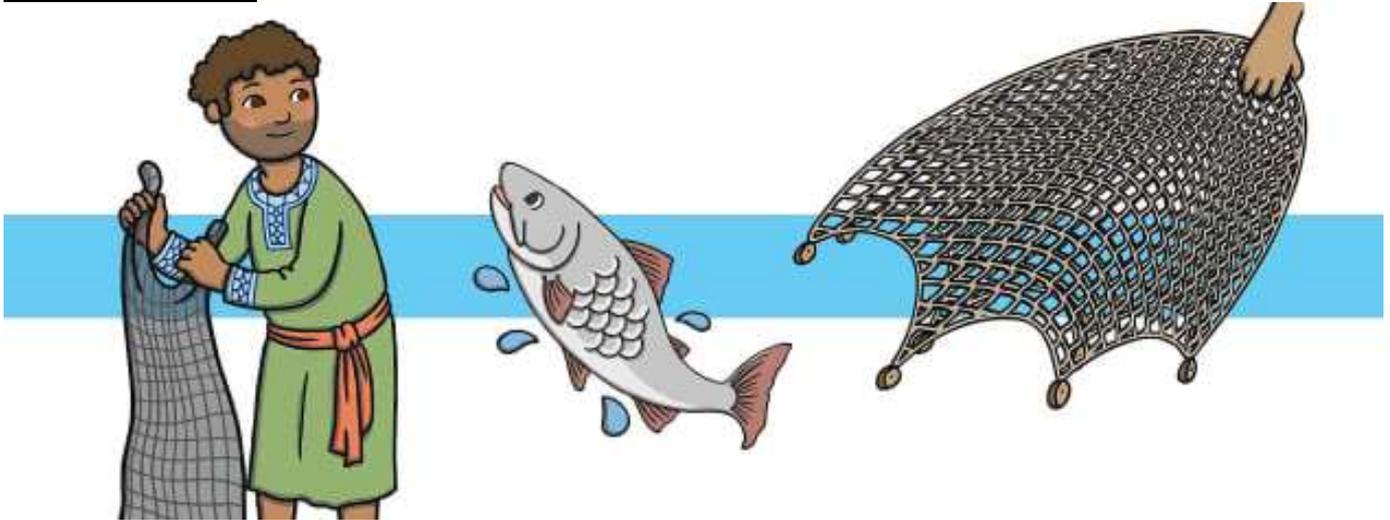
Website: www.standrews236.herts.sch.uk

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER – 29th November 2023

Our Value this half term is **HOPE, LOVE AND LIGHT**

Dear Parents and Carers,

St Andrew's Day



Tomorrow morning the children and their teachers will head to St Andrew's Church for our annual St Andrew's Day Service. This year the focus will be on how St Andrew spread the 'Good News' far and wide. In our whole school worship times we have been thinking about how we can share love, hope and kindness to as many people as we can!

Year 4 Egyptian Day

On Wednesday, year 4 were visited by 'Those History People' for an exciting and immersive Ancient Egyptian workshop. In the morning, the children were treated to a range of hands-on, practical activities, such as making canopic jars and writing like an Egyptian. In the afternoon, all the children got involved in a feast, playing the parts of the royal court. The children thoroughly enjoyed the day and took home fantastic experiences as well as their creations. Thank you to Mr Dean, Mrs Daniels and Miss Newton for helping with the day, and a special thanks to Mrs Clempson and Mrs Walker for volunteering for the day.



Peripatetic Music Lessons

We are pleased to be able to offer piano and now also drum lessons in school. Mr Clempson will be starting drum lessons after Christmas. This is in addition to the two teachers in school at present providing piano lessons, Mrs Cross (private teacher) or Mr Medhurst (via Herts Music Service).

The billing and administration of music lessons takes place directly with the individual teachers.

- If you would like to sign up for lessons with Mrs Cross please contact the school office and we can forward your details.
- If you would like information about Hertfordshire Music Service and lessons with Mr Medhurst please follow this link to Herts Music Service:
<https://www.hertsmusicservice.org.uk/music-lessons-in-hertfordshire/music-lessons.aspx>
- If you are interested in drum lessons with Mr Clempson, please see flyer at the end of this newsletter for more information/contact telephone 07714 775462

Don't forget your Christmas jumper!

This Friday, 1st December 2023 is Christmas Decorating Day and Christmas Jumper Day. Wear a Christmas jumper (along with school uniform).



HAPpy Holidays – Bookings now open!

Looking for something to keep your children entertained this Winter Holiday? Through DfE funding, Hertfordshire County Council and Herts Sports Partnership have coordinated a huge range of activities running at different venues across the county. Each activity will offer a nutritious meal and all of this is free for young people in receipt of benefits-related free school meals.

You will be able to search for activities using your postcode or child's age – places are limited and strictly on a first come basis so be quick and book online now!

<https://sportinherts.org.uk/happy-activity-camps>

Need help? Hertfordshire Libraries have computers you can use, and friendly staff who will be able to help.

Additionally, there are a range of online activities to look through, with ideas for learning more about history, music, and theatre, plus ways to keep your family active for 60 minutes each day!

View these at <https://sportinherts.org.uk/resources-333-happy-enrichment>

Lastly, our information page has links to a variety of organisations and advice you and your family may find useful. Visit this at <https://sportinherts.org.uk/cost-of-living-support-n320>

Children in Need 'Be Spotacular' day

On Friday, 17th November, children were invited to come into school wearing 'something spotty' in return for a small donation to Children in Need. On the day, our Year 6 collected cash in their Children in Need buckets and £278.25 was raised. Thank you to everyone for the donations.



Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal



Thank you to everyone for supporting the 2023 Poppy Appeal. The Much Hadham area total this year was just over **£3,300.00** with donations still coming in. St Andrew's Primary School contribution to that total benefit was **£142.82**. Without your help the RBL would be unable to continue its vital welfare and benevolent work.

Many thanks
Bill Bird, Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal Organiser

New part-time Teaching Assistant role

School is hoping to recruit a new part-time Teaching Assistant for the next two terms until the end of this academic year. If this is a role that you or someone you know might be interested in, please follow the link below for more information.

https://www.teachinherts.com/find-a-job/view,teaching-assistant_89145.htm

Mrs Dimond would welcome a phone call or visit from anyone interested in this exciting opportunity.

Applying for a School Place September 2024

The Hertfordshire County Council deadline for online applications for a Reception class place is Monday, 15th January 2024. www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions

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

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 2023-3024:

- 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.

Toy Donations

Each year St Andrew's Church collects toys on behalf of local Social Services to be distributed as Christmas gifts to children in care. To support the Church during the interregnum, the collection this year will take place via St Andrew's School.

We would very much welcome donations of any new (or pristine/nearly-new) toys or gifts, suitable for gifting, for both boys and girls of any age from birth to seventeen years old.



Please bring your donations to the school office anytime from today until the final collection date of 15th December 2023. We will then ensure these are passed on for wrapping and distribution in time for Christmas. Thank you for your support in helping to bring some much needed Christmas cheer to disadvantaged children in the community.

News from the Friends of St Andrew's School



CHARITY # 1069760

Friends of St. Andrew's

**CHRISTMAS
ELFRIDGES**
TUESDAY 12TH
DECEMBER
&
WEDNESDAY 13TH
DECEMBER



BUY YOUR SHOPPING VOUCHERS HERE:
[HTTPS://WWW.PTA-EVENTS.COM/FOSAMH](https://www.pta-events.com/fosamh)

The poster is red with a yellow central area. It features illustrations of an elf, a Santa Claus, and snowflakes. The text is in green, white, and red. A QR code is located at the bottom center of the yellow area.

Christmas Hamper Raffle

The PTFA would love to do a Christmas Hamper Raffle for everyone this year. Last year, we raised £383 on the raffle, and we hope to do the same this year and funds raised will then be spent on the children at school.

For it to work, we would kindly ask each family to bring in one item for the Christmas hampers. We will then make as many hampers as possible for the Christmas raffle. These will be lovely gifts for yourself or even to pass on to friends and family.

To make it as simple as possible could we please ask you to bring in something from your year group list:

- 🎄 Nursery – Jams
- 🎄 Reception – Crackers
- 🎄 Year 1 – Chocolates
- 🎄 Year 2 – Mince pies
- 🎄 Year 3 – Biscuits
- 🎄 Year 4 – Chutneys
- 🎄 Year 5 – Christmas puddings
- 🎄 Year 6 – Sweets



We will be collecting in the **week beginning 27th November 2023**. Thank you for supporting the PTFA.

**Friends of St Andrew's School
100 Club**

Get ready to win a monthly prize fund, whilst (and more importantly) helping raise funds to support our local children with their education.

It costs £3 per month to join to have a chance to win 50% of the monthly prize fund up to £150. The remaining 50% goes directly to support the school in buying additional learning resources for the school.

To enter or find out more please contact Iain Nuttall at IainDNuttall@yahoo.co.uk who has recently taken over as the Club's organiser.



www.pta-events.com /fosamh

Friends of St. Andrew's

Charity # 1069760

Christmas
FILM NIGHT

Featuring "The Grinch"

Friday 1st December

£4.50 per child

4pm - 6pm

St Andrew's Primary School,
Much Hadham

NB: Please bring a blanket & cushion for comfort.

Many thanks as always for your continued support.

The Friends

friendsofstandrewsmh@gmail.com

Diary Dates 2023/2024

Thursday, 30/11/2023 – St Andrew's Day service in Church

Thursday, 30/11/2023 – Parent Forum

Friday, 1/12/2023 – Christmas Decorating Day and Christmas Jumper Day. Wear a Christmas jumper (along with school uniform)

Donations for Christmas Hampers and **PTA Advent Film Night**

Monday, 04/12/2023 – Year 6 Carol Service at St Michael's Church in Bishop's Stortford

Tuesday, 05/12/2023 – Year 1 Collective Worship 9.10am

Wednesday, 06/12/2023 – EYFS Nativity Play 'A Miracle in Town' Performance at 9.30 am for EYFS parents and carers

Wednesday, 06/12/2023 – EYFS Nativity at 9.30am

Friday, 08/12/2023 – Y5 Anglo Saxon Day

Monday 11/12/2023 – Cinderella Pantomime trip to South Mill Arts Centre

Tuesday, 12/12/2023 – PTA Christmas Shp - Elfridges

Tuesday, 12/12/2023 – Year Reception Collective Worship 9.10am

Wednesday, 13/12/2023 – Whole School Christmas lunch (All children are invited to take part in a traditional Christmas lunch. Lunches are £3.20 for KS2 children and free of charge for all Reception and KS1 children)

Thursday, 14/12/2023 – KS1 Nativity Play (Performances at 2.15 pm and 5.30 pm for KS1 parents and carers) and Year 1 and Year 2 Cake Bake after school

Friday, 15/12/2023 KS2 Carol Service at St Andrew's Church at 2 pm

Monday, 18/12/2023 – Class Christmas Parties (children can wear their own clothes) and Puppets Galore 'A Special Star'

Tuesday, 19/12/2023 – Term ends at 2.00 pm

Return to school on Thursday, 04/01/2024

W/C Monday, 13/05/2023 – Key Stage 2 SATS week

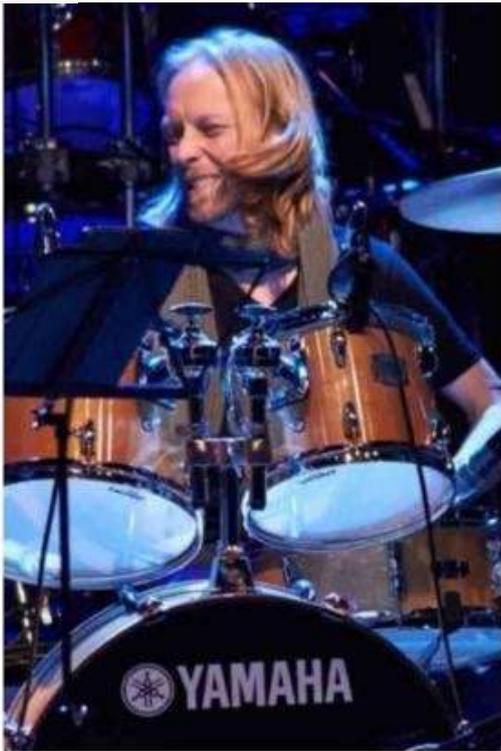
03/06/2023 – 07/06/2023 – Brenscombe Week straight after half term (Monday is the INSET day)

Term Dates for 2023/2024

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

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



INDIVIDUAL DRUM-KIT LESSONS WITH JOEL AT ST ANDREW'S SCHOOL

SPRING TERM £150



Joel currently teaches drums for Barnet Music Service, Herts Music Centre and privately. He teaches all ages and abilities.

He started playing drums at the age of 3 when Cozy Powell put him on his drum-kit and it's been a strong passion ever since!

As soon as he left school, he started touring around the world and played in lots of live situations and sessions for many artists, including Elton John and Akala and most recently Robben Ford and Krissy Matthews.

In addition to this, he had a 4 year residency in the West End.

Teaching drums is a huge passion of his which he has been doing for over 15 years.

**CONTACT JOEL CLEMPSON
07714775462**

The River Ash Churches Advent and Christmas Services



We warmly invite you to join us for our special
Advent and Christmas Services:

Sunday 3rd December

9.15am at St Andrew's, Much Hadham – Benefice Holy Communion
with collection of toys

6.00pm at St Cecilia's, Little Hadham – Carol Service
followed by wine and mince pies

Sunday 10th December

11.15am at St Mary's, Albury - Family Carol Service
followed by mulled wine, sausage rolls and mince pies

Saturday 16th December

3.00pm A Journey to Bethlehem at St Andrew's, Much Hadham

Sunday 17th December

11.15am at St Cecilia's, Little Hadham – Benefice Holy Communion

6.00pm at St Andrew's, Much Hadham - Carol Service
followed by wine and mince pies

Sunday 24th December - Christmas Eve

9.15am at St Andrew's, Much Hadham – Benefice Morning Prayer

4.30pm at St Andrew's, Much Hadham - The Big Nativity

6.00pm at St Cecilia's, Little Hadham - Christingle Service

Sunday 25th December - Christmas Day

11.15am at St Cecilia's, Little Hadham – Benefice Family Communion



Have **YOU** got what it takes to turn the page?

Are you aged 8+?
Come and join us to complete fun activities, chat about books and make new friends!

Bishop's Stortford Library 4pm-5pm
22nd November until 13th December
£2.50 per session.
Places limited please book at the library.

www.bishopstortford.gov.uk/libraries



Big Adventure Productions in association with South Mill Arts

Cinderella

Sat 9 Dec 2023 - Tue 2 Jan 2024

South Mill Arts Box Office: 01279 710 200
southmillarts.co.uk

Supported By **White Trees** Group
Building Brighter Futures

1-2 South Road, Bishops Cleeve, Northampton NN22 2JG. South Mill Arts is a trading entity of Bishop's Cleeve Museum and Arts Centre, Registered Charity Number 295829.