St Andrew's CE Primary School and Nursery Newsletter

Tower Hill, Much Hadham, Hertfordshire, SG10 6DL

Headteacher: Mrs Caroline Dimond **Tel:** 01279 842626

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Website: www.standrews236.herts.sch.uk

2nd October 2026

Our Home / School value this half term is:

Life in All its Fullness – Come and See

Rocks and Soils Day in Year 3

Year 3 spent Thursday being scientists! They investigated rocks and soils using lots of equipment, including microscopes. They learned loads about fossils, created fossils, learned about changes in rocks and even created an explosive mixture! It was a wonderful day!

Harvest Festival

What a wonderfully joyful Harvest Festival we had on Monday. It was so lovely to see such a full church. A huge thank you to everyone for your incredibly generous donations for the Bishop's Stortford Food Bank for our Harvest Appeal this year. They will be collected shortly and will all be very gratefully received.

'Come and See' – Year 5 and Reception

A huge thank you to all the grown ups, who were able to 'come and see' Year 5 and Reception this week. It was wonderful to see you and share all the fabulous things that have been happening in school. Year 5 were able to present on their recent Aylmerton residential and Reception were able to show off their classroom and the learning they have done so far.

Year 1 Visit to St. Andrew's Church

This week, Year 1 enjoyed a special visit to church as part of their RE learning, where they met Rev. Tayo to find out more about what happens during a Christian christening. The children have been exploring the theme of 'belonging' and learning about how Christians are welcomed into the church family. It was a wonderful opportunity for the children to see their classroom learning come to life and deepen their understanding of this Christian celebration.

Pond Club

Pond Club is well underway and the children have started to tidy up the area after the summer growth and investigate the life living there. A huge thank you to Mrs Webb for giving up her free time to come and run the club each week.

Reception and Year 6 Buddies

What a joyful time, the Year 6 and Reception children had at their first buddy time of the year. It was really lovely to see how caring and nurturing our St. Andrew's children are.

Every Day Counts

Congratulations to Florence Year 4, who won our Every Day Counts raffle this week. She chose some resin cows as her prize.

Good luck for next week everyone.
Remember you have to be in it to win it!

IMPORTANT – Online Safety

As a school, we are frequently informed of new threats to children's online safety. We encourage all parents and carers to regularly monitor the devices and apps their children have access to and ensure that they are age-appropriate and safe.

There is lots of up to date and relevant information on the link below from the NSPCC. Please do take the time to have a look.

https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/

New Piano Teacher

Welcome to Ewa Gawkowska, who is a new piano teacher with Hertfordshire Music Service. She will start teaching at St. Andrew's on Monday, 5 October. If you are interested in booking lessons for your child, please visit:

https://www.hertsmusicservice.org.uk/music-lessons-in-hertfordshire/music-lessons.aspx

School Dinner Menu

HCL

Hero **Summer Menu 26**

• WEEK 1: 13 Apr, 5 May, 1 Jun, 22 Jun, 13 Jul, 1 Sep, 21 Sep, 12 Oct • WEEK 2: 20 Apr, 11 May, 8 Jun, 29 Jun, 20 Jul, 7 Sep, 28 Sep, 19 Oct • WEEK 3: 27 Apr, 18 May, 15 Jun, 6 Jul, 14 Sep, 5 Oct

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
MAIN MEAL 1	Pork Sausages & Gravy	Beef Lasagne	Roast Chicken with Stuffing & Gravy	Quorn Burger (v)	Fish Fillet Fingers
MAIN MEAL 2	Lentil Bolognese Pasta Shells (Ve)	Plant-Based Grill (Ve)	Cheese & Tomato Puff Pastry Tart (v)	Butternut & Chickpea Biryani (Ve) (New)	Margherita Pizza (v)
SIDE DISH	Mashed Potatoes	Herby Garlic Bread or Potato Wedges	Roast Potatoes or Wholemeal Pasta	Potato Wedges or Herby Garlic Bread	Chips or Tricolour Pasta
JACKET POTATO FIXED	Beans & Cheese (v)	Grated Cheese (v)	Tuna Mayo	Beans & Cheese (v)	Baked Beans (Ve)
COLD OPTION FIXED	Tuna Mayo Baguette	Chicken Mayo Baguette	Ham Baguette	Egg Mayo Baguette (v)	Cheese Baguette (v)
DESSERT	Peach & Apple Crumble & Ice Cream (v)	Fresh Fruit Wedges (Ve)	Fresh Fruit Jelly (Ve)	Raspberry & Lemon Square (v) (New)	Marble Cookie (v)
MAIN MEAL 1	Chicken Curry	Plant-Based Meatballs with Tomato Sauce (Ve)	Roast Beef with Yorkshire Pudding & Gravy	Chicken Pie & Gravy	Battered Fish
MAIN MEAL 2	Plant-Based Sausages & Gravy (Ve)	Mac 'n' Cheese (v)	Quorn Fillet with Stuffing & Gravy (Ve)	Mild Bean Chilli (Ve)	Margherita Pizza (v)
SIDE DISH	Brown & White Rice or Potato Wedges	Pasta or Herby Garlic Bread	Roast Potatoes or Wholemeal Pasta	New Potatoes or Brown & White Rice	Chips or Tricolour Pasta
JACKET POTATO FIXED	Tuna Mayo	Grated Cheese (v)	Beans & Cheese (v)	Baked Beans (Ve)	Beans & Cheese (v)
COLD OPTION FIXED	Cheese Baguette (v)	Egg Mayo Baguette (v)	Chicken Mayo Baguette	Ham Baguette	Salmon Mayo Baguette
DESSERT	Apple Tart & Ice Cream (v)	Fresh Fruit Wedges (Ve)	Fresh Fruit Jelly (Ve)	Strawberry Mousse (v)	Chocolate Muffin (v)
MAIN MEAL 1	Pulled Paprika Chicken Flatbread (New)	Beef Burger	Roast Chicken with Stuffing & Gravy	Quorn Hotdog (v)	Fish Fillet Fingers
MAIN MEAL 2	Breaded Bean & Vegetable Grill (Ve)	BBQ Bean Loaded Hash Browns (Ve)	Roasted Summer Veg Quiche (v)	Cauliflower Cheese Pasta Bake (v) (New)	Margherita Pizza (v)
SIDE DISH	Brown & White Rice or Pasta	Potato Wedges	Roast Potatoes or Wholemeal Pasta	New Potatoes	Potato Wedges or Tricolour Pasta
JACKET POTATO FIXED	Salmon Mayo	Grated Cheese (v)	Baked Beans (Ve)	Grated Cheese (v)	Beans & Cheese (v)
COLD OPTION FIXED	Tuna Mayo Baguette	Chicken Mayo Baguette	Ham Baguette	Egg Mayo Baguette (v)	Cheese Baguette (v)
DESSERT	Pancake with Blueberries (v)	Ice Cream with Chocolate Cookie Crumb (v)	Fresh Fruit Jelly (Ve)	Fresh Fruit Wedges (Ve)	Orange Shortbread (Ve)

Vegetables and a variety of salads are served daily. V = Vegetarian Ve = Vegan.

@hclcatering www.hcl.co.uk

We are an Allergy Aware School

St Andrew's is an Allergy Aware school with no nuts. Please do not bring any foods containing nut or sesame into school (including pesto and hummus). Thank you.

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/

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

Arbor Payments
https://st-andrews-ce-primary-school-and-nursery.uk.arbor.education/?/

Hertfordshire Catering Ltd Special Dietary Menu Application (now called Citrus)
Allergies & Nutrition Information | 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 2026-27

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

Friday 02/10/2026 – Y6 World War II Evacuee Day

Tuesday 06/10/2026 – Y5 Parents and Carers invited to worship 9.05am

Tuesday 20/10/2026 – Y4 Parents and Carers invited to worship 9.05am

Saturday 31/10/2026 – Y6 Deadline for Secondary School applications

Tuesday 03/11/2026 – Y3 Parents and Carers invited to worship 9.05am

Tuesday 10/11/2026 – Y2 Parents and Carers invited to worship 9.05am

Tuesday 17/11/2026 – Y1 Parents and Carers invited to worship 9.05am

Tuesday 24/11/2026 – YR Parents and Carers invited to worship 9.05am

Tuesday 01/12/2026 – YN Parents and Carers invited to worship 9.05am

**** PTA Events ****

Thursday 08/10/2026 - Cake & coffee morning & AGM, school hall, 9am-10:45am

Thursday 15 /10/2026- Years 5 & 6 cake sale, outside school, 3:15-3:45pm

Tuesday 01/12/2026 & Thursday 03/12/2026 - Christmas film nights, school hall, 3:15pm-5:30pm

Tuesday 08/12/2026 & Wednesday 09/12/2026 - Elfridges

October-November Date TBC - School tea towel, coaster and Christmas card sales

December Date TBC- Christmas hamper raffle

Term Dates for 2026/2027

Autumn Term 2026	
Tuesday, 1 September 2026	*Inset – school closed*
Wednesday, 2 September 2026	**Term begins**
Monday, 26 October - Friday 30 October 2026	Half term
Friday, 27 November 2026	*Occasional day – school closed*
Friday, 18 December 2026	**Term ends 2pm**
Spring Term 2027	
Monday, 4 January 2027	*Inset – school closed*
Tuesday, 5 January 2027	**Term begins**
Monday, 15 February to Friday, 19 February 2027	Half term
Thursday, 25 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	*Inset – school closed*
Tuesday, 20 July 2027	**Term ends 2pm**
Wednesday, 21 July 2027	*Inset – school closed*
Thursday, 22 July 2027	*Inset – school closed*

Term Dates for 2027/2028

Autumn Term 2027	
Wednesday, 1 September 2027	*Inset – school closed*
Thursday, 2 September 2027	*Inset – school closed*
Friday, 3 September 2027	*Inset – school closed*
Monday, 6 September 2027	**Term begins**
Monday, 25 October - Friday 29 October 2027	Half term
Friday, 26 November 2027	*Occasional day – school closed*
Friday, 17 December 2027	**Term ends 2pm**
Spring Term 2028	
Tuesday, 4 January 2028	**Term begins**
Monday, 14 February to Friday, 18 February 2028	Half term
Friday, 31 March 2028	**Term ends 2pm**
Summer Term 2028	
Tuesday, 18 April 2028	**Term begins**
Monday, 1 May 2028	**May Bank Holiday – school closed**
Monday, 29 May to Friday, 2 June 2028	Half term
Monday, 5 June 2028	*Inset – school closed*
Tuesday, 6 June 2028	*Back to school*
Friday, 21 July 2027	**Term ends 2pm**
Monday, 24 July 2027	*Inset – school closed*

PLAY
LEARN
MAKE MUSIC
TOGETHER!

GUITAR WORKSHOP

ALL ABILITIES WELCOME

FOR KEY STAGE 2 GUITAR PLAYERS

A fun and inspiring workshop for young guitarists to develop their skills, play together and be part of a bigger musical community!

MUSIC BRINGS PEOPLE TOGETHER

PLAY TOGETHER

BUILD YOUR SKILLS

BE INSPIRED

SATURDAY
24TH OCTOBER 2026
10.00am – 1.00pm

Bishops Stortford Music Centre
Based in Birchwood High School
Parsonage Lane, Bishop's Stortford
CM23 5BD

Open to guitar players in Key Stage 2 who have been playing for at least one term.

SMALL STEPS BIG MUSIC!

FIND OUT MORE

bstortfordmusicenquiries@hertfordshire.gov.uk

01992 556752

LET'S KEEP MUSIC LIVE!

with Hertfordshire Music Service

FESTIVAL OF THE GIRL

Sat 3 & Sun 4 Oct

Business Design Centre,
Islington London

For 7-11 year old girls & their families

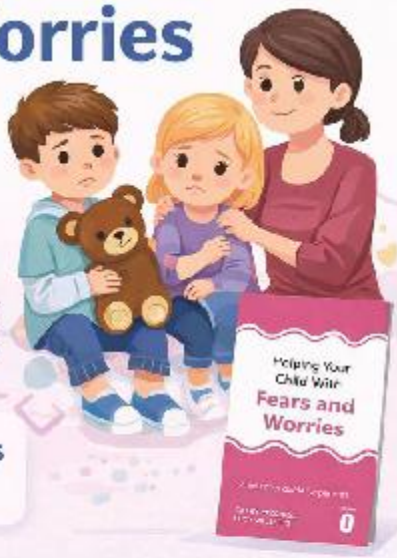
Activities range from: engineering to sports, aerospace to visual effects, vaccinations to gaming, mental health to sustainability, medicine to dancing, activism to mechanics and much more.

Although aimed at girls everyone is welcome!

Tickets via QR code or website
www.festivalofthegirl.com
SEND & Pay-what-you-can options available

Helping Your Child with Fears and Worries

- Parent Group



This guided parent-**delivered** programme teaches parents cognitive behavioural strategies to help their child overcome anxiety through the **accompanying book**

5 two-hour online sessions over 6 weeks

WHO IS IT AIMED AT?

The programme is intended for **parents** of **children aged 5 to 12**

EVIDENCE BASE

Those who receive the programme are **twice as likely** to recover from their main anxiety problem and **three times more likely** to be free of all anxiety diagnoses than those who receive no treatment (Thirlwall et al, 2013)

How to Join

https://forms.office.com/e/eUUHqe9v32

Hertfordshire Partnership
University NHS Foundation Trust

NHS

BONFIRE *Night*

Perry Green & Green Tye
PRESERVATION SOCIETY

Get ready for an unforgettable Bonfire Night and Fireworks display!

Purchase tickets in advance online.

Adults: £5 (£10 on gate)

Children: £4 (£7 on gate)

Family: £15 (£25 on gate)

* Family ticket is 2 adults and 2 children

Advance ticket sales end 11pm Wednesday 4th November

Saturday 7th November

5.30pm
Mission Hall Field, Green Tye

Bonfire · Firework extravaganza

Hot Food · Drinks · Glow Sticks

Purchase tickets online at https://tickets.perrygreentye.co.uk

Gates Open 5.30pm - Bonfire Lit 6pm - Fireworks Start 6.30pm

Off road parking available. Please follow the signs and park responsibly. **No sparklers allowed**.

Autumn Term Workshops

Anxiety around ADHD Workshop - Wednesday 21 October, 9.30am to 11.30am

This workshop helps parents/carers understand what ADHD is, why it makes sense for a child to be anxious if they have ADHD, strategies to help support you and your child, plus signposting to other support that is available.

Sibling Rivalry Workshop - Monday 9 November, 9.30am to 11.30am

This workshop provides parents/carers with practical strategies and tools to effectively foster positive sibling relationships, promote cooperation and manage conflicts between children.

Reducing Conflict Workshop - Wednesday 25 November, 7pm to 9pm

This workshop is for parents/carers struggling with conflict within their family life and provides tools to promote a cooperative and collaborative approach to resolving the conflict.

It's a Dad's Life Workshop - Thursday 26 November, 7pm to 9pm

This workshop empower fathers with the knowledge and skills to develop deep connections with their children, enhancing their parenting journey.

Navigating the Storm (Teens) Workshop - Wednesday 2 December, 9.30am to 11.30am

This workshop is designed to support parents of pre-teens and teenagers facing challenging behaviours. It aims to equip parents with effective strategies and tools to manage the complexities of raising adolescents, fostering a positive parent-teen relationship

The two-hour workshops will be online via MS TEAMS

All our programmes provide support, information and resources to parents, carers and adult family members in Hertfordshire so they can help their children reach their full potential. For more info, please contact **Louise** on **0204 522 8700/8701** or email **services@coramfamilylives.org.uk** or scan the QR code for our online form.

SCAN ME

We build better family lives together

www.coramfamilylives.org.uk

@coramfamilyliveshertsandbeds

Funded by Hertfordshire County Council

Hertfordshire

Coram Family Lives is registered as a company limited by guarantee in England and Wales No. 3817762. Registered charity No.1077722. Registered address: Coram Family Lives, Coram Campus, 41 Brunswick Square, London, WC1N 1AZ

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?

The sessions will cover:

- **Exploring what helpful discipline is.**
- **Recognising the triggers and responding more effectively.**
- **Learning new parenting tools to challenge children's behaviour**
- **How to negotiate and implement effective boundaries and family agreements**
- **How to hold boundaries and gain co-operation**

Wednesday 4th November to 9th December 2026

7.00pm to 9.00pm

Online via MS Teams

To book your place, call **Lesley** on **0204 522 8701**, email **services@coramfamilylives.org.uk** or scan our QR code to use our online referral form

Scan Me!

We build better family lives together

www.coramfamilylives.org.uk

@coramfamilyLivesHertsandBeds

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Delivering Special Provision Locally

Autumn 1 Newsletter for Parents/Carers

DSPL3 Website and Facebook page

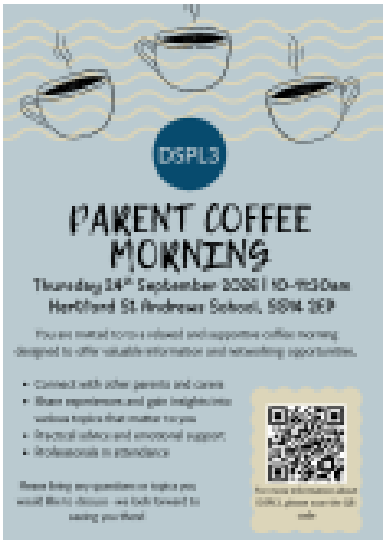
- The DSPL3 Website and Facebook page are now live.
- Please click here to view the website
- Please click here to view the Facebook page

Workshops, Courses and Training

Please click here to view workshops, courses and training available for this academic year.

DSPL3 SEND Coffee Mornings

- **24th September 2026 10-11:30am**—Hertford St Andrews School, SG14 2EP
- **24th November 2026 10-11:30am**—Mandeville School, Sawbridgeworth, CM21 0BL
- **19th January 2027 10-11:30am**—Watton-on-Stone School, SG14 3SG
- **11th March 2027 10-11:30am**—Christ Church School, Ware, SG12 7BT
- **27th April 2027 10-11:30am**—Hillmead School, Bishops Stortford, CM23 4PW
- **17th June 2027 10-11:30am**—Freman College, Buntingford, SG9 9BT



Families in Focus Training

- Families in Focus is offering a free online course for Hertfordshire parents of children aged 4–11 with Autism and/or ADHD, including those on assessment pathways.
- This supportive six-week course helps parents understand how Autism, ADHD and sensory differences can affect emotions and behaviour, explore what happens in a child's brain during anger, and learn practical, evidence-based strategies to support emotional regulation, reduce stress and de-escalate big emotions.
- The course also provides an opportunity to connect with other parents in a supportive environment.
- Sessions run on Wednesdays from 9 September to 14 October 2026, with a choice of either 9.30–11.30am or 6.30–8.30pm. To book a place, email **bookings@familiesinfocus.co.uk**.

Journeys Academy

- **Journeys Academy**, a brand new purpose-built specialist setting which will offer 60 places to primary-aged children with complex communication and autism needs, is due to open in **Autumn 2026**. The purpose-built setting will offer modern classrooms and specialist facilities, including sensory spaces, calm rooms and outdoor learning areas, all designed to support independence, wellbeing and engagement in learning.
- Places will be allocated through the Hertfordshire County Council SEND panel process for children who meet the admissions criteria.

DSPL3

Delivering Special Provision Locally (DSPL)
Bishop's Stortford, Sawbridgeworth, Buntingford, Watton-at-Stone, Hertford, and Ware

DSPL 3 Area Manager: Katie Algate
dspl3manager@amwell.herts.sch.uk

DSPL3 SEND Lead: Lisa Lee
dspl3sendlead@amwell.herts.sch.uk

DSPL3 Admin
dspl3admin@amwell.herts.sch.uk

Lead School:
Amwell View School & Specialist Sports College

Website:
dspl3.org.uk

Facebook: DSPL3

Useful Links:

The Hertfordshire SEND Local Offer

SENDIASS Hertfordshire

IPSEA (Independent Provider of Special Education Advice)

SOS SEN

Herts Parent Carer Involvement

EHCP Support

Children and Young People's Speech & Language Therapy Service:
Advice line for parents:
01923 470 680, choose option 3, then option 1 and leave a message.