



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

Headteacher: Mrs Caroline Dimond

Tel: 01279 842626

Email: admin@standrews236.herts.sch.uk

Website: www.standrews236.herts.sch.uk



SCHOOL NEWSLETTER – 12th February 2024

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

Love is in the air at St Andrew's!



Happy St Valentine's Day from us all at St Andrew's! We hope that you have a great day with your loved ones. We have had many cards and gifts exchanged across school today and those who come to school via Jackie our crossing patrol person were treated to her fabulous Valentine's Day display.

Peaceful Protest



On Monday, some of our 'Eco Warriors' held a peaceful protest outside school to raise awareness of the affects of idling engines on the air quality around school. Inspired by their recent Air Pollution Workshops, the children were keen to teach others about the importance of switching off engines when not in use.

Author Visit (Year 2, 3 and 4)

We are delighted that Dr Leema Jabbar, GP and children's book author, will be visiting the children on Friday, 1st March 2024. Leema is on a mission to promote diversity and body positivity and inspiring children to embrace each other's differences. Leema will also be reading her new book 'Love my Skin Outside In'.



Leema is offering her book at a reduced price of £6.99 to our pupils. You can browse any of her other books and preorder your signed copy on her website- leemajabbar.co.uk/ using the coupon code 'SCHOOL' once you have added it to the cart, and then tick 'free delivery' to local schools. Please record your child's name and school in the order notes before payment. (Please do not use Apple Pay for this as the voucher will not work).

Year 4 African Proverbs

Last Friday, Year 4 looked at African proverbs. Here are some of the children's favourites and their interpretations of them:



“Examine what is said, not who is speaking.”

- *'It is who someone is that matters, not what they look like.'*

“The axe forgets but the tree remembers.”

- *'If you hurt someone, you might forget, but the damage to them stays'.*

“The earth is a beehive, we all enter by the same door.”

- *'We are all born equal'*

“Rain does not fall on one roof alone.”

- *'You are not alone if you always have friends, even in difficult times.'*

“What the family talks about in the evening, the child says in the morning.”

- *Children will copy what their parents say.*

A Christmas Thank You

Jackie, our Crossing Patrol has asked us to share the this personal thank you for her Christmas gift:

Dear Friends,

I wanted to send a short message to let you know what I have spent my John Lewis token on. For some time, I have wanted to buy some good quality headphones to wear when I fly, however I could never really justify spending the kind of money that these headphones cost.

Therefore it gives me great pleasure to let you know that due you your generosity I have now purchased the headphones that I have wanted for so long. Every time I wear them I will think of you all, and your kindness.

Thank you all so, so much.

Jackie xxx



As part of our ongoing effort to become more environmentally friendly we are starting a 'reduce, reuse and recycle' section here in the newsletter. Please consider donating your items to school if you have a clearout.

In particular, this week we are hoping to find:

- **a low bookcase (still searching)**
- **colouring or sticker books**

Thank you so much to those families for all the fabulous donated items we have received this term for our new role play zone and calm room.

Nursery Places

We are now accepting applications for entry into the Nursery class in September 2024, for those children born between 1 September 2020 and 31 August 2021. For parents wishing to apply, please complete and return the Nursery Class 2024-25 Admission form that can be found on the school website <https://standrews236.herts.sch.uk/about-us/nursery-admissions/> Hard copies can be obtained from the school office.

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.

School lunch price increase notification

From 1 April 2024, the school meal selling price will increase to £3.35 for a junior paid school meal.

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

Secret Gift Shop

Mothers’ Day is coming up and there will be a secret gift shop in school to allow the children to buy a gift for those special people in their lives.

Date: Tuesday 5th and Wednesday 6th March 2024

Gifts will vary in price from £2-£10

We would kindly ask you to pre-pay your vouchers so we know how many presents to have ready, as we want everyone to have a selection of gifts to choose from. Cash will be accepted on the day but, pre-paid vouchers would be much appreciated.

Vouchers are available through PTA Events using the following link, or ask your class rep:

<https://www.pta-events.co.uk/fosamh/index.cfm?event=login¬LoggedIn=true&>

EGM – Friday, 1st March 2024

The Friends will be holding an EGM in school on Friday, 1st March at 2.30 pm. The main business of the meeting will be to adopt an updated constitution, a copy of which can be reviewed in the school office. Please come along and find out more about what the Friends do.

Many thanks for your support.

The PTA

friendsofstandrewsmh@gmail.com

Diary Dates 2024

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

Tuesday, 27/02/2024 – Year 3 Parents invited to Collective Worship (9.10 – 9.40)
Friday, 01/03/2024 – A visit from Dr Leema Jabbar, children's author (Y2, 3 and 4)
Friday, 01/03/2024 – The Friends of St Andrew's School EGM at 2.30 pm
Monday, 04/03/2024 – KS2 Young Shakespeare
Tuesday, 05/03/2024 – Year 2 Parents invited to Collective Worship (9.10 – 9.40)
Thursday, 07/03/2024 – World Book Day (wear something book related)
W/C Monday, 11/03/2024 – Y6 Bikeability week
Tuesday, 12/03/2024 – Year 1 Parents invited to Collective Worship (9.10 – 9.40)
Book Fair – Friday, 15/03/2024 and Monday, 18/03 and Tuesday 19/03/2024
Tuesday, 19/03/2024 – Year Reception Parents invited to Collective Worship (9.10 – 9.40)
Wednesday, 20/03/2024 – YR School Nurse
Tuesday, 26/03/2024 – Year Nursery Parents invited to Collective Worship (9.10 – 9.40)
W/C Monday, 22/04/2024 – Y3 Swimming
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)

Wednesday, 25/09/2024 – Friday, 27/09/2024 – Y5 at Aylmerton
02/10/2024 and 03/10/2024 – Photographer – individual and sibling portraits

Term Dates for 2023/2024

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
Monday, 3 June	<i>Inset – school closed</i>
Friday, 19 July 2024	Term ends 2pm
Monday, 22 July 2024	<i>Inset – School closed</i>
Monday, 23 July 2024	<i>Inset – School closed</i>

Term Dates for 2024/2025

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



GOT CONCERNS ABOUT FUSSY EATING?

*Won't eat their veggies?
Can't get them to try new foods?*

Join BeeZee Bodies and lots of other parents who struggle with fussy eating, on our special **FUSSY EATING MASTERCLASS**.

It will be led by our Nutritionists who can help you understand why they might be picky, how to manage it and practical tips you can implement today.

Whatever their age, if you are struggling with your child's fussiness around food, sign up for free!

SIGN UP FOR YOUR FREE SESSION:

Monday 19th February 6pm-7pm

Click below or scan QR to sign up:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/fussy-eating-masterclass-tickets-789050761067?aff=oddtcreator>



 BeeZee Families

 01707 248648

 beezeebodies.com