



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

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SCHOOL NEWSLETTER – 6th March 2024

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

World Book Day – Thursday 7th March

It's World Book Day tomorrow, Thursday 7th March. Children are invited (if they wish) to come to school dressed as something book related.

Nursery Class Easter Come and See Day – Tuesday, 26th March 2024

On Tuesday, 26th March, we are inviting Nursery parents to join us for whole school worship at 9.10 am, followed by time spent in the classroom and outdoor garden with your child. This should finish around 10:15am.

There will be lots of opportunities to see how the children have progressed in their learning and the different types of activities they can now do. We will also be selling the Easter chocolate nest that your child has made in class. Our activities will revolve around Jack and the Beanstalk and making Easter gardens in class. We hope you can come!



Year 3 and Year 4 Production



We have our Year 3 and Year 4 production of *The Bee Musical* on Tuesday, 26 March 2024. Performance times are 2.15 pm and 5.30 pm. Ticket information will be sent out shortly.

The Big Walk and Wheel 2024

We have some exciting news for you! We are taking part in the 15th year celebration of Sustrans Big Walk and Wheel, the UK's largest inter-school cycling, walking, wheeling and scooting challenge. The challenge runs from 11-22 March 2024. It's free to take part and we would love everyone to be involved.

What do you need to do? Encourage your child(ren) to walk, use a wheelchair, scoot or cycle to school on as many days as possible during the event.

Including everyone. We want to make sure that everyone can get involved in Sustrans Big Walk and Wheel.



We know it may be more difficult for some pupils to take part than others. For those who need to drive to school, we have an agreement with Much Hadham Village Hall, who are happy for their car park to be used at the beginning and end of the day for those wishing to 'Park and Stride' during the two week period.

If you want to discuss more about your child(ren)'s specific needs, please contact Mrs Small and we will make sure to look into how your child(ren) can take part.

Why we are taking part. Sustrans Big Walk and Wheel is a great way to build physical activity in children's daily routine which is important for their physical health and mental wellbeing.

Active school runs also help to reduce congestion and air pollution outside the school gate. [A 2021 YouGov study](#) showed nearly half of UK children worry about air pollution near their school. And that children thought active travel was the best away to bring down these pollution levels.

Plu, there are some great prizes to be won every day if we get enough children taking part!

Useful resources. To help you prepare, Sustrans has developed a handy free guide to walking, cycling or scooting to school. It is packed with advice to help you have hassle-free journey to school.

Download your free family guide using this link: <https://www.sustrans.org.uk/sign-up-to-receive-your-free-school-run-guide/>

For more information about the event go to www.bigwalkandwheel.org.uk . Enjoy the challenge!

Biggest Ever Football Session

Birchwood Sports Partnership is supporting the 2024 #LetGirlsPlay Biggest Ever Football Session

What is the Biggest Ever Football Session? On Friday 8th March 2024, the Biggest Ever Football Session will be running across the country, with the aim of getting as many girls as possible playing football on the same day in schools across England

On Friday lunchtime, all the girls in school are invited to come and 'have a go' and join in with fun activities based around football and football skills. The sessions will run from 12 30-1.00 pm for girls in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2, and from 1.00 pm-1.30 pm for girls in Years 3-6. The sessions will be led by Mrs Watson and Mrs Small.

Those girls wishing to take part can come to school in their PE kit and trainers, (please don't wear football boots as not everyone will have shin pads) and bring a water bottle.

The emphasis is on fun and enjoyment, but who knows, we may have a budding Mary Earps or Lauren James in our school!



Scholastic Book Fair - Friday 15th, Monday 18th and Tuesday 19th March.

We are delighted to be welcoming back the Scholastic Book Fair, after school in the hall on the above dates. There will be a wide range of books on offer, suitable for EYFS, KS1 and KS2 children. In addition, the school receive a percentage of all sales, in vouchers, to purchase new books for the pupil libraries. (Please note: Payment will be accepted in cash or through card payments. Scholastic DO NOT accept Apple Pay and you will need your actual bank card to make payment. Payments via credit/debit card involve scanning a QR code with your phone and inputting your card details into the online Scholastic payment system.) We look forward to seeing you there!



Activities in School Last Week



Dr Leema Jabbar, GP and children's book author visited the school last Friday to talk to Years 2-4. Leema's talk was inspiring, positive and very, very colourful!



The Young Shakespeare Company visited St Andrew's on Monday, bringing Shakespeare to life through workshops and performances for KS2. The children very much enjoyed participating in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* workshops and then watching the final production at the end!

Nursery Places

This Friday, 8th March is the application deadline for Nursery places 2024/25.

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

Hertfordshire Catering Ltd have informed us of a price increase for the new financial year. Therefore, from 1 April 2024, the price of a junior paid school meal will be £3.35. This is in line with other schools.



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>



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:

- **Pots, saucepans, utensils for EYFS mud kitchen**

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.

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.

Diary Dates 2024

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

Thursday, 07/03/2024 – World Book Day (wear something book related)

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

W/C 11/03/2024 and 18/03/2024 – The Big Walk and Wheel

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)

Tuesday, 19/03/2024 – Year Reception Parents Easter Come and See Day

Wednesday, 20/03/2024 – YR School Nurse

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

Tuesday 26/03/2024 – Nursery Parents Easter Come and See Day

Tuesday, 26/03/2024 – Y3 and Y4 'The Bee Musical' Performances at 2 pm and 5.30 pm

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
<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



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ADULTS @ Grange Paddocks



**MONDAYS
AND
WEDNESDAYS**

KIDS @ Jackson Square



**SUNDAYS
4-5 9:45AM
6-7 10:25AM
8-12 11:10AM**



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E: bookings@hertfordshirekungfu.com
M: 07889 183812 (CALL OR TEXT)



SECRET ART CLUB PRESENTS



EASTER ART CAMP

With artist **Caroline Clark**
School years 3-6

Advance
booking
£30

Booking on
the day £35

Activities:

- Printing
- Collage
- 3D work
- Painting on wood
- Plus feed the chickens
- Outside space with trampoline

Dates:

Tuesday April 9th 9am - 3pm
Wednesday April 10th 9am - 3pm

Book now at:

www.carolineclarkartist.com
07847 269 734

Address:

The Secret Art House
Behind Sheering Village
Hall
Sheering
CM22 7LX





Perry Green & Green Tye
PRESERVATION SOCIETY

EASTER MONDAY 1ST APRIL 2-4PM
AT PRINCE OF WALES MARQUEE GREEN TYE

EASTER EGGSTRAVAGANZA



**Easter trail,
scavenger hunt, tea
and cake sale**

Collect your trail maps from the pub and follow the clues around the footpath. Riddle solving scavenger hunt for the older ones - get your teams together!

RSVP to PGGTEaster@gmail.com by 29th March with the number of children and their ages

Free entry, donations welcome!
If you can bake a cake or help on the day please get in touch