

Life in All its Fullness – Come and See



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

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2025/26 : 9

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER – 7 November 2025

Welcome back to school everyone for the start of a very exciting half term as we lead up to Christmas. Please remember that you can keep up with what your child is learning about this half term, by following the 'Classes' tab on our School Website

<https://standrews236.herts.sch.uk/children/>

This half term, during assembly times, we will be exploring the home/school value of Joy! Please follow the link below if you would like to explore this further with your child(ren) at home.

<https://standrews236.herts.sch.uk/>

(Noticeboard section on the Home page of the School Website)



Staff News

We would like to give a warm welcome Mr Hansen and Mrs Howells, who have recently joined our lunchtime team.

HCL are looking for a General Catering Assistant at St Andrew's to work 8.75 hours per week – please see flyer at the end of this newsletter for further information.

Nursery Class 'Come and See'

Thank you to all the parents and carers who came along to our Nursery Class 'Come and See' morning this week. We are so thrilled with how every one of our Nursery children have settled into school life this term and it is lovely to see them navigate their classroom and outside learning spaces so confidently.



The Railway Children

Don't miss The Much Hadham Drama Group's latest production of the Railway Children, which includes performances from St Andrew's pupils past and present! Please see the attached flyer for more information.

Poppy Appeal

Zara and Lucy will be selling poppies and various other collectables at the front of school to raise money for the Royal British Legion all of next week. The children have been busy making their own poppies this week. We will be holding our Remembrance Service in school on Monday 10th November, and observing 2 minutes silence on 11th. Please look out for our poppy display around our 'Tree of Life' next week. We will remember them.

Applying for a Reception place for September 2026

The online application process to apply for a Hertfordshire reception class place is now open. Parents must submit an online application through the [Hertfordshire County Council website](#) by the **15th January 2026** deadline for September 2026 entry. Parents will also need to complete a separate [Supplementary Information Form](#) and return this directly to school. Thank you.

Attendance Autumn Term 1

	w/e 05/09	w/e 12/09	w/e 19/09	w/e 26/09	w/e 03/10	w/e 10/10	w/e 17/10	w/e 24/10
Nursery	-	100%	95.6%	95%	88.9%	90.5%	91.9%	92.0%
Reception	100%	100%	98.5%	97.2%	97.7%	97.8%	97.9%	97.8%
Year 1	97.5%	98.3%	96.5%	96.5%	97.0%	97.2%	97.0%	96.4%
Year 2	98.1%	95.2%	93.0%	93.8%	93.4%	93.3%	92.6%	92.6%
Year 3	100%	98.8%	98.8%	98.3%	98.0%	97.1%	96.5%	96.3%
Year 4	94.4%	94.7%	94.3%	93.9%	93.5%	93.5%	93.2%	93.2%
Year 5	96.4%	97.2%	97.0%	96.8%	97.0%	97.0%	96.0%	96.1%
Year 6	96.6%	97.5%	97.0%	97.2%	96.5%	95.3%	95.2%	95.5%
Totals	97.5%	97.4%	96.4%	96.2%	95.9%	95.6%	95.3%	95.2%

We are a Nut-Free School

St Andrew's is a 'No Nut' school. Please do not bring any foods containing nut or sesame into school (including pesto and hummus). Thank you.



The Friends of St Andrew's School

Movie nights - Tuesday 25th and Thursday 27th November 4 pm

The Friends are putting on two Christmas Movie Nights, one on Tuesday 25th for the Nursery to Year 2 children and one on Thursday 27th for the Year 3 to Year 6 children. The children are welcome to bring along a named cushion and blanket and join us for a festive movie in the school hall.

Parents with children in both of these groups are welcome to book their older children into the younger session if they'd prefer that.

The ticket includes snacks and a drink - book at:

Nursery - Yr2: <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/fosamh/index.cfm?event=event&eventId=106148>

Yr3 - Yr6: <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/fosamh/index.cfm?event=event&eventId=106149>

All children must be picked up by 6 pm.

We look forward to seeing the children there!

Upcoming events

- **Movie night (younger years)** - Tuesday 25th November
- **Movie night (older years)** - Thursday 27th November
- **Elfridges** - Tues 9th & Weds 10th December (Vouchers will be on sale from early November)

Volunteers

We are always looking for volunteers - if any parent is interested in helping to plan or being more involved in the Friends events, please WhatsApp / call Aaron on 07894 266 683 to find out more.

Many thanks as always for your continued support.

The Friends

MUCH HADHAM PRE SCHOOL



Wraparound childcare

To book your 1st session, please complete the Clubs registration form via our website: www.muchhadhampreschool.co.uk/clubs



Session times & Fees

Breakfast Club: 7.30am-9am £7.50

Lunch Club: 12pm – 1pm £6 or 12pm – 3pm £18

After School Club: 3pm-4.15pm £6 or 3pm-6pm £18

Ad Hoc and regular bookings. Funding accepted

Bookings can then be made by emailing us at:
muchhadhampreschool@yahoo.co.uk

Pupil Premium and Free School Meals

The school is aware that with the Universal Infant Free School Meals (UIFSM) programme automatically providing all children up to the end of 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.

When your child reaches year 3 school meals become chargeable.



What is a Free School Meal? A KS2 school meal costs £3.50 per day. Multiply this by 190 (days in a school year) and **Free School Meals are worth £665 a year!**

Please see link below to check your eligibility:

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

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/>

In School

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>

School Gateway

<https://login.schoolgateway.com/0/auth/login>

Hertfordshire Catering Ltd Special Dietary Menu Application (now called Citrus) Special Diet Application - 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 2025-2026

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

**** PTA Events ****

Tuesday, 11/11/2025 – Young Shakespeare visit KS2

Friday, 14/11/2025 – Flu Immunisation

Tuesday, 18/11/2025 – Y1 parents/carers invited to Collective Worship

Tuesday, 25/11/2025 – YR parents/carers invited to Collective Worship

Tuesday, 25/11/2025 – PTA Movie Night YN – Y2

Thursday, 27/11/2025 – PTA Movie Night for Y3 – Y6

Friday, 28/11/2025 – Occasional Day – No School

Monday, 01/12/2025 – Decoration Day

Thursday, 04/12/2025 – EYFS Nativity Performance

Tuesday, 09/12/2025 and Wednesday, 10/12/2025 – PTA Elfridges Christmas Shop

Thursday, 11/12/2025 – KS1 Nativity Performance

Tuesday, 16/12/2025 – YN – parents/carers invited to Collective Worship

Tuesday, 16/12/2025 – Whole school pantomime trip

Wednesday, 17/12/2025 – Christmas Lunch

Friday, 19/12/2025 – KS2 Carol Service in Church 9.30 am

Friday, 19/12/2025 – Last Day of Term – School finishes at 2 pm

Thursday, 15/01/2026 – Herts Application deadline for Primary School Reception Class 2026

Monday, 01/06/2026 – Friday, 05/06/2026 – Y6 Brenscombe Trip

Tuesday, 22/09/2026- Thursday 24/09/2026 – Y5 Aylmerton Trip

Term Dates for 2025/2026

Autumn Term 2025	
Wednesday, 3 September 2025	<i>Inset – school closed</i>
Thursday, 4 September 2025	Term begins
Monday, 27 October - Friday 31 October 2025	Half term
Friday, 28 November 2025	<i>Occasional day – school closed</i>
Friday, 19 December 2025	Term ends 2pm
Spring Term 2026	
Monday, 5 January 2026	<i>Inset – school closed</i>
Tuesday, 6 January 2026	Term begins
Monday, 16 February to Friday, 20 February 2026	Half term
Friday, 27 March 2026	Term ends 2pm
Summer Term 2026	
Monday, 13 April 2026	Term begins
Monday, 4 May 2026	May Bank Holiday – School Closed
Monday, 25 May to Friday, 29 May 2026	Half term
Monday, 1 June 2026	<i>Inset – school closed</i>
Tuesday, 21 July 2026	Term ends 2pm
Wednesday, 22 July 2026	<i>Inset – school closed</i>
Thursday, 23 July 2026	<i>Inset – school closed</i>

School Noticeboard



WE'RE RECRUITING

A career at HCL will provide you with:

- Fantastic career progression
- Competitive salary
- Full training
- Reward and recognition scheme
- Life assurance, holiday allowance and a pension scheme
- Family friendly hours, Monday to Friday, and term-time working for all our kitchen roles
- Benefits and discounts through our employee benefits package



HCL Registered Office: Mundells, Welwyn Garden City, Herts, AL7 1FT | T: 01707 938625

The Railway Children



Telephone: 01279 842 742

13th–15th Nov | 7:30pm

Matinee Sat 15th | 2:30pm



NODA
For every stage

Tickets: ticketsource.co.uk/much-hadham-drama-group

Presented by: Much Hadham Drama Group

Venue: Much Hadham Village Hall

Written By: E. Nesbitt, Adapted by Dave Simpson

Directed by: Lisa Turpcu & Sue Clarke

STOP MEANS STOP

If you are fortunate enough to have a School Crossing Patrol at your school, you may notice they are wearing a bright orange 'STOP MEANS STOP' tabard this October/November.

The 'STOP MEANS STOP' campaign is run to remind drivers how important it is to stop for a patrol, helping to keep you safe every time you cross the road.

If you are driving and your School Crossing Patrol requests that you stop, please do stop and remember they are there to keep your children safe and do a great job, turning out in all weathers.



The patrol stands central in the road until everyone is safely on the other side, so please wait until they leave the road and are safely back on the footpath before driving away. This may seem like ages but in fact it is usually less than a minute.

Now the clocks have changed the mornings and afternoons are darker.

Using the patrol is the safest place to cross, as they can be seen from a distance in their bright coats and hats.

YOUR SUPPORT IS VERY MUCH APPRECIATED, THANK YOU



A Message from Hertfordshire Libraries



We are excited to let you know that our [Winter Reads Challenge](#) is back for 2025-26. The Challenge runs from Saturday 1 November through to Saturday 31 January. This initiative aims to encourage children (and adults) to engage with reading during the winter months (and beyond!) through a series of fun and flexible challenges.

The goal of the Winter Reads Challenge is to complete six different book-related challenges over the winter. We understand that reading preferences and habits vary, so we've designed the challenge to be adaptable:

For less avid readers, the challenges can be simple and achievable. For instance, they can complete two challenges with one book. Plus, new for this year, there are more non-reading challenges, such as drawing a picture of your favourite book character, or writing your own short winter story or poem.

For those who love a challenge, we offer the Wild Card challenge, where they can create their own reading goals.

Winter Reads is open of all ages, so families can take part together.

Those who complete all six challenges by Saturday 31 January will be entered into prize draw to win an iPad, plus a number of other prizes. The Challenge is FREE - all they need to do is be a library member and come along to their local library and pick up a challenge card. We believe this challenge will not only foster a love of reading but also provide a fun and engaging activity for all during the winter months. We would greatly appreciate your support in promoting this challenge within your school.

We look forward to your participation and hope to see many students take on the Winter Reads Challenge!



