

5th October 2018

NEWSLETTER 5 AUTUMN TERM 2018-2019

Dear Parents/carers and children,

PTFA BBQ PARTY

I would like to thank everyone who gave their time to make Friday's BBQ Party for the new parents such a success. We sold a huge number of hot dogs and burgers and the bouncy castle seemed as popular as ever. It was lovely to see the whole school community come together and adults and children alike had a great evening! A very big thank you needs to go to the PTFA for all their hard work.



HARVEST SERVICE

Please come and join us for our Harvest Service on Monday 15th October at St. Andrew's Church at 2pm.

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|-------------------------------|---------------|-------------|--|
| MONDAY AFTER SCHOOL | | | <p><u>CANCELLED CLUBS NEXT WEEK (COMMENCING 8th Oct)</u> There will be NO Tag Rugby on Tuesday 9th October due to a fixture There will be NO Handball on Wednesday 10th October due to a fixture.</p> <p><u>AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS</u> If your child is unable to attend their after-school club for any reason, please ensure you inform the member of staff running the club.</p> |
| Running/Fitness Club | KS2 | Mrs Gerrard | |
| Badminton (Invitation only) | Years 5 & 6 | Mr Green | |
| TUESDAY AFTER SCHOOL | | | |
| Tag Rugby | Years 5 & 6 | Mr Green | |
| Study Club | Years 4,5 & 6 | Mrs Gerrard | |
| WEDNESDAY AFTER SCHOOL | | | |
| Handball | Years 5 & 6 | Mrs Gerrard | |
| Girl's Football | KS2 | Mr Green | |
| THURSDAY AFTER SCHOOL | | | |
| DJ Club | KS1 & KS2 | Mrs Exell | |
| Dance (around the world!) | KS2 | Mrs Gerrard | |
| Boys' Football | Years 3 & 4 | Mr Green | |
| FRIDAY LUNCHTIME | | | |
| Choir | Years 4,5 & 6 | Miss Sadler | |
| FRIDAY AFTER SCHOOL | | | |
| Study Club | Years 4,5 & 6 | Mrs Gerrard | |
| Football (Girls & Boys) | Years 1 & 2 | Mr Green | |

UNIFORM

It is wonderful to see so many children adhering to our uniform policy and looking smart and ready to learn. Could I please add:

- Girls should be wearing black school shoes, boots are not part of the school uniform.
- Hair should be kept neat and tidy. Hair past shoulder length should be tied back (with small, discreet hair ties in school colours). Hair should not be cut too short and shaved 'designs' are NOT appropriate.

We would also like to draw attention to the school PE kit:

- Children in Reception and Year One should wear daps for all PE lessons (NOT trainers)
- Children in Year Two and above should have trainers for PE
- PE tops should be WHITE. (Normal white t-shirts are fine but please be aware when you purchase any new PE tops, that from September 2019, we are requesting that children have a plain white POLO SHIRT for PE.)
- Leggings or jogging bottoms, shorts or skorts should be NAVY BLUE.
- All pupils taking part in after school competitions and events, representing St. Andrew's Church School MUST wear school PE kit. Football shirts are not permitted.

Thank you with your cooperation with this. We will continue to monitor uniform and PE kit very closely over the next few weeks as we consider it to be a part of our focus on the value of Respect.

HEADLICE

Please check your child's hair and treat accordingly, as we have already had reports of children in school with headlice.

FLU VACCINATIONS FOR RECEPTION AND YEARS 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5

We are still missing approximately 1/3 of completed forms for the Flu vaccinations in November. These forms MUST be completed and returned to school, **EVEN IF YOU DO NOT CONSENT** to your child having the vaccine. The deadline was today so if you still have a form at home please complete and return it to the School Office no later than Wednesday 10th October. If you need a new form, please ask at the School Office.



MOBILE PHONES - VISITORS



Due to safeguarding regulations, please be aware that ALL school visitors (volunteers, contractors, agency representatives etc) will now be asked to hand their mobile phone in at the School Office, when coming onto the school site during the school day (8.55am-4.15pm). Phones will be stored in a locker in the School Office in exchange for a key.

MOBILE PHONES – PARENTS/CARERS

We appreciate that when you come onto school site, for drop off and pick up, you will have your mobile phone with you. We ask that you do not have your mobile phone out UNLESS IT IS AN EMERGENCY. Should you need to use your mobile phone, we ask that you step outside of the school premises.

HUNTSPELL FOREST SCHOOL

All Huntspill children have brought home a letter this week about an exciting Forest School event. We will have a short meeting next Monday (7th October) in Huntspill Class at 3.20pm to discuss our plans and answer any questions. If you cannot make this meeting, please feel free to see Mrs. Higham at any other time.

ATTENDANCE

We recognise the importance of regular attendance as a key factor in our pupils' achievement. It is therefore essential that parents work in partnership with the school. A child with 90% attendance at the end of the school year will have missed the equivalent of 4 weeks absence. Greater attention is now paid to overall absence by the Department for Education. Therefore we do not authorise any term time absences for holidays and will only authorise an absence in exceptional circumstances. All such unauthorised absence has to be referred to the Local Authority Education Welfare Department. When a child's absence falls below 90% this may lead to the issuing of a Fixed Penalty fine. Please be reminded that it is a parent's responsibility to notify the school in the event of a child's absence. This needs to be done each day by 9.30am at the very latest either in person, by telephone or via email. If we do not receive notification as to the reason for absence your child will be recorded as having an unauthorised absence.

OPEN CLASSES

Our Open Classrooms are being held on 16th (KS2) and 17th (EYFS & KS1) October, immediately following the school day. This is a great opportunity to view your child's work ahead of Parent's Consultation Evenings (23rd & 25th October). Sign-up sheets for Parents' Evening will go up in the foyer outside Somer Class on Friday 12th October. Please be sure to sign up for a slot with your child's teacher.



LIBRARY

I am pleased to say that the library is ready for use again, starting from next week 8th October. It will be open until 3.45 Mondays and Wednesdays for ALL children who wish to borrow and return books. It will also be open during Golden time on a Friday afternoon at the class teacher's discretion.

We have made one change from last year. Barcodes will no longer be kept in Reading Record books but in a central file in the library whereby the librarians will be able to scan the code from a central sheet – your child will not need a code. We allow a maximum of 3 books to be borrowed and ask that they are kept for no longer than 2 weeks. Please try to return books as we will have to fine for books that are not returned. There is a good selection of fiction and non fiction for all ages so please encourage your child to come and use our library or feel free to come with them after school.

There will be end of term rewards for the pupils/classes who have used the library the most!

Our Librarians for the start of the year are from Year 6: Emma M., Paige, Max H, Eliza, Elizabeth, Sam, Lewis & William R

OUTSIDE CLASSROOM

Can I please remind parents and children that the area outside Tone class is an outside learning environment and not a play area for children outside of school hours. Thank you for respecting this.



PARKING

Please be aware that a number of parents have received parking tickets outside school whilst parked on the single yellow line. We are seeking advice regarding the parking, but in the interim, please note that you are allowed to stop on the yellow line to drop off, and if you leave your vehicle, you may receive a parking ticket. Further information will be shared with you once this has been clarified by Somerset Parking.

PTFA

THANKS FROM PTFA

The PTFA would like to extend their thanks to all who attended the BBQ party, it was a real success and we hope to hold a similar event in the future.

Easyfundraising

There is no charge for the Easyfundraising scheme. The school benefits from all your online purchases and its very easy to use. There are no catches or hidden charges and we will be really grateful for your donations.

Download the Easyfundraising App from the App Store

Search for our cause "St Andrews Church School PTFA – Taunton"

Click "Join Us" (or visit <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/standrewschurchsch>)

Once you have registered you simply need to click on the Easyfundraising App which will direct you to all your online suppliers at the click on an icon. It really is very simple and quick. There are over 3,000 shops and sites on board ready to make a donation, including Amazon, eBay, Asda, Argos, Tesco, Boots, John Lewis, Sainsbury's and many more.

Any questions please ask a member of the PTFA or see our step by step guide on our Facebook page.

Race Night Friday 30th November. £5 per ticket to include food and free raffle ticket. Bring your own drinks! Please see a member of the PTFA for your ticket!

Keep a lookout for upcoming dates :

Christmas fair, Santa's grotto, Disco's

STARTING SECONDARY SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER 2019 – APPLICATION DEADLINE 31st October 2018

The process for applying for secondary school has changed in Somerset. The Local Authority will not be sending letters to parents of children due to start in 2019.

The application portal on the LA website is now open and parents can apply on line <http://www.somerset.gov.uk/education-learning-and-schools/choosing-a-school/> or they can phone Somerset Direct for a paper copy of the application 0300 123 2224.

Parent information is now available on the Local Authority Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/Somersetschooladmissions/>

The deadline for applying for a secondary school place for our current Year 6 pupils is 31st October 2018.

STARTING PRIMARY SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER 2019 – APPLICATION DEADLINE 15th January 2019

The process for applying for primary school has changed in Somerset. The Local Authority will not be sending letters to parents of children due to start in 2019.

The application portal on the LA website is now open and parents can apply on line <http://www.somerset.gov.uk/education-learning-and-schools/choosing-a-school/> or they can phone Somerset Direct for a paper copy of the application 0300 123 2224.

Parent information is now available on the Local Authority Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/Somersetschooladmissions/>

NATIONAL ONLINE SAFETY



As part of their #WakeUp campaign, National Online Safety has created a free guide for parents & carers to raise awareness about 'online grooming'. Every child is at risk and we need trusted adults to be able to spot the signs before it's too late.

More than 3,000 offences of grooming children online for sex have been committed by paedophiles since a new law on sexual communication was introduced in April 2017. This free guide for parents & carers covers what they need to know to help safeguard their children from being groomed online, including warning signs they should look out for and more.

The Online Grooming guide for parents & carers can be found here:

<https://twitter.com/natonlinesafety/status/1047458983248887808>

Many thanks for your continued support and for helping us to achieve a safer online world for children!

Yours sincerely,

Keith Atkins
Head Teacher

TINY FEET PRE SCHOOL BREAKFAST and AFTER SCHOOL CLUB, TAUNTON

Tiny Feet Preschool offers a friendly and homely child care alternative and we have spaces available for children to attend breakfast and after school club.

Breakfast club starts at 8am and costs £4.50. After school includes collection from school and split into full (3pm until 5.30pm costing £9.00) and half sessions (3pm-4.30pm costing £4.50)

These services are available Monday – Thursday during term time.

Please feel free to contact us for more details 01823 617560 or email Tinyfeetpreschoolpartnership@gmail.com.

DIARY DATES

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|---------------------|--|
| OCTOBER | |
| Friday 12th | Year 3 Forest School |
| Monday 15th | Harvest Festival 2.00pm at St. Andrew's Church (please note amended time) |
| Tuesday 16th | Year 5/6 Museum Workshops – in school, Y4 Visit Kilkenny House – Dementia Project |
| Tuesday 16th | Open Classrooms KS2 only |
| Wednesday 17th | Open Classrooms KS1 only |
| Friday 19th | Year 3 Forest School |
| Tuesday 23rd | Parents' Evening |
| Thursday 25th | Parents' Evening |
| Friday 26th | INSET DAY (School closed to pupils) |
| Monday 29th | HALF TERM |
| NOVEMBER | |
| Monday 5th | Back to school |
| Monday 12th | Remembrance Service |
| Thursday 15th | School Photographer |
| Monday 19th | INSET DAY (School closed to pupils) |
| Thursday 21st | Flu immunisations Reception Year through to & including Year 5 |
| DECEMBER | |
| Thursday 6th | Pantomime |
| Wednesday 19th | Nativity Service Christmas Dinner (Details TBC) |
| Friday 21st | Last day of Autumn term Christmas Jumper Day (Come to school in your festive jumper for a donation of £1) |
| Monday 24th | CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS Crib Service at St. Andrew's Church |
| JANUARY 2019 | |
| Monday 7th | INSET DAY (School closed to pupils) |
| Tuesday 8th | Back to school |