

25th October 2018

NEWSLETTER 8 AUTUMN TERM 2018-2019

Dear Parents/carers and children,

Firstly, can I thank all of the children for having a wonderful first half-term. We hope you all have a lovely half-term break and come back refreshed on Monday 5th November.

Can I also say how lovely it has been to see everyone at Parents' Evening. It is great to see how much support we get from all of you in supporting your children's learning.

CHRISTMAS DINNER



On Wednesday 19th December, we will be serving our traditional Christmas dinner at lunchtime **instead of the normal menu, WHICH IS NOW NOT AVAILABLE**. Christmas dinner is available for the whole school. If your child is entitled to free school meals or is in EYFS/Key Stage 1 the meal will be free, otherwise the cost of the meal is £2.50.

Christmas dinner will be served with a Christmas cracker and the choices are as follows:

Traditional Christmas Dinner (Roast turkey, pigs in blankets, stuffing, roast potatoes and veg)

Vegetarian Christmas Dinner (Roast Quorn, roast potatoes and veg)

To order a meal, please login to the ParentPay system. **The final deadline for ordering a Christmas dinner is Wednesday 12th December.** Please note if you have already ordered a meal for this day, **your order will be cancelled** and any monies paid will be reimbursed via a credit to your ParentPay account. **If your child wishes to have a school Christmas dinner on this day, you will need to log on and re-order via ParentPay.**

CHRISTMAS CARDS

Children have brought home their Christmas card designs. These will be accurately reproduced in full colour onto Christmas cards that are available to order via Art Projects for Schools Ltd (APFS). Additional items are also available such as larger gloss coated luxury Christmas cards, gift tags and wrapping paper. Please see the accompanying letter for instructions on how to order online. The funds raised through your support will go towards school fundraising, from which your child will benefit. **Orders must be placed by midnight on 30.10.18.** Any orders placed after this date will be classed as a late order and will be subject to a handling and postage fee. Any enquiries relating to the project should be addressed to the School Office.



CHILD SAFETY

It has been noticed that cyclists are riding on the pavements at speed, directly outside both playground school gates. Could parents please remind children to take care when exiting the school gates, and to look left & right before stepping out onto the pavement. All pupils have been reminded of this danger during the school assembly.

Please can you also remind your children about crossing the road safely as we live in a very built up area and we have had reports of some children crossing the main road without using the pedestrian crossing provided.

As it is half-term, just a reminder to follow e-safety guidelines and monitor your child's use of multi-user games and the internet.

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**.

CANCELLED AFTER-SCHOOL CLUBS AFTER HALF TERM (WEEK COMMENCING 5th November)

NO TAG Rugby on Tuesday 6th November, due to a fixture.

NO Handball on Wednesday 7th November, due to a fixture.

NO DJ Club, Dance Club or Year 3&4 Boys' Football on Thursday 8th November, due to a staff meeting.



MOBILE PHONE-FREE ZONE

Thank you for continuing to respect our 'Mobile-free' policy. We appreciate that when you come onto school site, for drop off and pick up, you will have your mobile phone with you, but we do 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.

ATTENDANCE

We are now required to send out emails letting parents know when their child's attendance falls below 95%. This is an automated procedure and we do understand that sometimes children will miss school for a variety of understandable reasons, and we hope that you appreciate that this is a national requirement and that we will take into consideration the individual circumstances in each case. 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.

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHER



Tempest Photography will be visiting school on 15th November 2018 to take individual and sibling photos of our pupils. If you have a younger child who you wish to be included in a sibling group, you are invited to come to school at 8.30am on Thursday 15th November to have the photograph taken. Photographs and other items will be available to order directly online. Details to follow.

HEALTHY SNACKS IN LUNCHBOXES

May I remind parents/carers of the importance of including a piece of fresh fruit or vegetable in their child's packed lunch box. We do not have a supply of free fresh fruit for KS2 pupils as we do for KS1 pupils. However we have found that KS2 pupils are helping themselves to the KS1 supply, which is then leaving KS1 low on supplies.



FIRE DRILL

Well done to all pupils and staff. Today we undertook a practise fire drill and I am pleased to say everyone responded sensibly and followed instructions very sensibly.

GOLD BOOK

Congratulations to all those pupils who have appeared in the Gold Book since the beginning of this academic year.

RECEPTION – Arabella, Amelia, Bailey-Elise, Daniella

YEAR 1 – James M, Julia J, Gracie-Mae, Theo, Finley, Ashton, Carlota, Bella-Rose, Dominik, Jack, Dylan, Marlow

YEAR 2 – Talia, Harry, Reece, George, Leo, Dylan, Ezra, Charlie, Isla, Lorelai, Eloise, Rosie, Raife

YEAR 3 – Chloe R, Oakley, Chloe W, Imogen, Esme, Poppy, Ellie

YEAR 4 – Ava, Rupert, Maxi, Leah, Charlie, Tia, Ainslee, Amanda, Lottie, Scarlett, Poppy

YEAR 5 – Blaise, Ellie, Archie, Luke, Millie, Jessica, Tayla-Faith, Alfie

YEAR 6 – Eliza, Ava, Lulu, Scarlett, Alaia, Taylor, Mia, Marcus, Emerson, Sammy,



SPORT – Exe class, excellent team work (Team 10) at the Wellsprings Sports Festival

MUSIC - Millie M & Ruby D, excellent singing in Collective Worship



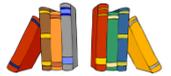
TWITTER

For general information on whats happening in school, please follow our main Twitter account which is @StAndrewTaunton, however for more class specific information, all our classes have their own individual class page, as follows:-

@StAndrewSports1 @class_exe @BrueClass @ClassSomer @ClassHuntspill @CaryClass @SheppeyClass @ToneClass2.

LIBRARY

The library is open until 3.45pm Mondays and Wednesdays for ALL children who wish to borrow and return books. It is also open during Golden time on a Friday afternoon at the class teacher's discretion. Please encourage your children to make the most of our library. There will be end of term rewards for the pupils/classes who have used the library the most!



PTFA

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 :

PTFA meeting 19th October in the staff room at 2pm to discuss forthcoming events. Everyone welcome. It would be great if you can come.

Meet Santa Tuesday 11th December 3.15pm (We shall be selling our famous marshmallow snowmen too!)

Xmas fair 5-7pm Friday 14th December more info to follow

School discos EYFS/KS1 &KS2 Thursday 20th December ~ More info to follow

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/>

REMEMBER OUR INSET DAY TOMORROW – 26th OCTOBER 2018 (School closed to pupils)
See you after half term – first day back Monday 5th November 2018

Yours sincerely,

Keith Atkins
Head Teacher

DIARY DATES

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| OCTOBER | |
| Friday 26th | INSET DAY (School closed to pupils) |
| Monday 29th | HALF TERM |
| NOVEMBER | |
| Monday 5th | Back to school |
| Monday 12th | 10am Remembrance Service at St. Andrew's Church |
| Thursday 15th | School Photographer |
| Monday 19th | INSET DAY (School closed to pupils) |
| Wednesday 21st | Flu immunisations Reception Year through to & including Year 5 |
| DECEMBER | |
| Thursday 6th | Pantomime |
| Wednesday 19th | Nativity Service Christmas Dinner |
| 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 |