



ST ANDREW'S CHURCH SCHOOL, TAUNTON
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18th January 2019

NEWSLETTER 17 SPRING TERM 2018-2019

Dear Parents/carers and children,

It has been another busy week in school with lots going on (as always!) One of the main things that we have all agreed to work on this term at school is 'Aiming High'. This is one of our Key Values and we have all agreed to ensure that we always:

- Do the best work we can
- Challenge ourselves to do more
- Show an excellent positive attitude
- Be a kind and helpful friend

HIGH EXPECTATIONS IN PRACTICE

It is wonderful to see so many children starting the new term looking smart and ready to learn. We would like to remind parents about our uniform policy and especially to draw attention to the following:

- ALL hair accessories should be small, discreet and in school colours. Children will be asked to remove any hair accessories which do not fit this description
- Girls' skirts should be at least knee length, and in school colours, black, navy blue or grey.
- School shoes should be black lace ups or velcro/buckle fastening. Trainers and casual 'Van' style shoes are NOT permitted to be worn
- Earrings should be a single SMALL, discreet metal stud. Larger coloured 'stones' are not acceptable
- NO make up is to be worn in school, including nail varnish and no temporary tattoos.
- Children must have a plain, navy blue jumper or cardigan. We do not insist on a jumper with the school logo, but hoodies, fluffy cardigans etc are NOT appropriate.
- Socks & tights should be plain grey, navy, black or white

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

WELCOME

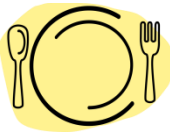
We would like to extend a warm welcome to Miss Joanne Pinch, who has joined us to teach in Year 5, until the end of this academic year. I hope you will join me in helping her to settle into the 'St Andrew's family' very quickly!

ATTENDANCE POLICY – FIXED PENALTY FINES

We are required to refer ALL unauthorised absences to the Local Authority Education Welfare Department. Please note from January 2019, if a **child's absence falls below 90%, this referral may lead to a Fixed Penalty fine being issued.**

A child with 90% attendance at the end of the school year will have missed the equivalent of 4 weeks of school. We recognise the importance of regular attendance as a key factor in our pupils' achievement and greater attention is now paid to overall absence by the Department for Education. It is essential that parents work in partnership with the school. Therefore, we do not authorise ANY term time absences for holidays and will only authorise an absence in very exceptional circumstances.

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 or by telephone via the absence line, which is on the School main number. If we do not receive notification as to the reason for absence, your child will be recorded as having an unauthorised absence. Further information can be found in our Attendance Policy on the school website.



SCHOOL LUNCHES

Spring school lunches are now available to order via ParentPay. Please ensure you keep track of your child's lunch orders and ensure you meet the deadline for ordering meals for the following week, which is the Wednesday of the preceding week. For KS1 children (no payment required), it is advisable to order lunches right up to Easter, to avoid missing a deadline and your child not having lunches provided. **Please note that for KS1 children, your meal choices for the following week are only available to view prior to the ordering deadline (Wednesday).**

EXCITING SCIENCE PROJECT (JANUARY 2019)

We are pleased to be welcoming Miss Kathryn Bates, a PhD student from University College London (Department of Neuropsychology) to our school. She is looking at how mental imagery develops in children. This research will be published as part of National research to inform education in the future. Don't miss out on the opportunity for your child to be part of this exciting project. Children need to be 6 years and older by January 2019 (Years 1 to 6). Please see the following link to registr your child to take part. https://uclioe.eu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bDdT93f39JelAZ7



NATIVITY CD

Unfortunately due to technical issues, we are no longer able to offer a DVD of the Nativity Service. Apologies to anyone who was looking forward to watching it back. If you have already placed an order for the DVD, you will be refunded by ParentPay. If you wish to place an order for a CD of photos of the Nativity Service for £5, please login to ParentPay to place your order by Friday 18th January 2019.

WORLD BOOK DAY

Along with other schools across the country we will be celebrating World Book Day on Thursday March 7th. As part of our learning and celebrations we would like children to come to school dressed as a character from a book on that day. There will be a fancy dress parade and prizes for the best costume which will be judged by our Beanstalk Reading Volunteers. More information about our World Book Day Focus will follow.

MONDAY AFTER SCHOOL		
Running/Fitness Club	KS2	Mrs Gerrard
Girls' Cricket	KS2	Mr Green
TUESDAY AFTER SCHOOL		
Boy's Football	Years 5 & 6	Mr Green
Study Club (finishes at <u>4pm</u>)	Years 4,5 & 6	Mrs Gerrard
WEDNESDAY AFTER SCHOOL		
Netball	Years 5 & 6	Mrs Gerrard
THURSDAY AFTER SCHOOL		
DJ Club	KS1 & KS2	Mrs Exell
Dance (around the world!)	KS2	Mrs Gerrard
Hockey Club	Year 5 & 6	Mr Green
FRIDAY LUNCHTIME		
Singing Club	KS1	Miss Brett
Choir	Years 4,5 & 6	Miss Sadler
FRIDAY AFTER SCHOOL		
Study Club	Years 4,5 & 6	Mrs Gerrard
Catchball	Years 3 & 4	Mr Green

SPORTS CLUBS

For ALL sport clubs, please collect a letter from outside the School Office and apply/re-apply for a place in your chosen club.

CANCELLED CLUBS

NO Girls' Cricket on Monday 21st January due to a fixture.

TUESDAY STUDY CLUB

Please note TUESDAY Study Club will now finish at 4pm. Please ensure you collect your child promptly at 4pm.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

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.

PTFA

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.

Diary Dates: Events being discussed, please watch this space for upcoming event announcements

Yours sincerely,

**Keith Atkins
Head Teacher**

DIARY DATES

JANUARY 2019	
Wednesday 16th	Year 5 Sports Festival PTFA Meeting 3.30pm in the school hall
Thursday 17th	Somer Class Book Clearout – after school
Tuesday 29th	Fire Brigade visiting Year 2 & Year 5
FEBRUARY 2019	
Friday 1st	Number Day
Tuesday 5th	5.30pm Charterhouse Information Meeting (Yr 5 parents) – Details TBC
Wednesday 6th	Year 4 Net & Wall Festival
Friday 15th	Break up for half term
Monday 25 th	Back to school
MARCH 2019	
Thursday 7th	World Book Day
Wednesday 20th	Year 2 Multisports Festival at Wellsprings
Friday 22nd	Reception – Vision testing re-scheduled
APRIL 2019	
Tuesday 2nd	Easter Cracked – Year 5
Friday 5th	Break up for Easter Holidays
Tuesday 23rd	Back to school

Table Top Sale – St Andrew's Church

Tables are still available for the Table Top Sale (indoor car boot sale) in St Andrew's Church Hall on Saturday 23rd February. If you would like to book a table to sell your unwanted items, contact Alison on 01823 278571.

Profits in aid of St Andrew's Church.

Messy Church

Messy Church is meeting again on Saturdays 26th January in St Andrew's Church Hall from 3 pm to 5pm. Free fun for all the family.