

Parents' Newsletter

Love, Respect, Honesty, Perseverance



Friday 21st November 2025

Dear Parents & Carers

The school has been a hive of activity over the past fortnight; the children have all taken part in our Design and Technology Christmas Crafts event. Each class has made a product using varied skills building on those of previous years'. Much of the D&T curriculum is covered through this immersive project and the children have loved designing making and reviewing the fruits of their labours. Thank you to all the parents who have offered time to work with the children, they have loved seeing you.

The plan is then to sell these items so that all proceeds will cover the cost of materials and enhancing our DT provision with new equipment for future projects. The cost of each item will be £3. Please look out for details of how these can be purchased using Parentmail as we move into December.

Can I remind parents that our office hours start from 8:30am and should you wish to report your child's absence or have any queries can you please call after this time to ensure, as much as possible, you can speak to a member of the team.

We are expecting our Christmas Tree from Oliver's Plants very soon and we have attached a flyer to this newsletter to let you know that their Christmas Tree Maze will be open from Saturday 22nd November.

Kind regards

Bridgette Gough

Headteacher

Vote for St. Andrew's!!

This weekend, St. Andrew's Church are holding their annual Christmas Tree Festival, and yesterday, Mrs Holloway and Mr Lawman took our entry for the competition to the Church. The children in our After School Club, along with all the supporting adults have made some really beautiful decorations with recycled, natural and manmade materials. Their efforts have made us very proud to display our tree, and we are asking that all amongst our community find time to take a look and of course vote for our tree!! This year the voting is via a QR code.

We have shared some beautiful photographs for those who can't make it.

Love Life and Learning

Collective Worship Themes

This week we have explored the theme of Wisdom, as a staff, across the week, we have explored the difference between being wise and being clever. During worship the children have been amazing in their responses to questions and thinking deeply and reflecting on various stimuli and the importance of wisdom for leadership. The Empty Pot, picture book explored the idea that instilling trustworthiness as leaders being part of wise leadership. We shared other stories from other cultures and stories from scripture. We shared some really great prayers written by the children too.



Nativity Performances

The children have been working hard in readiness to perform the Nativity Play. We are issuing the ticket letter next week. Details of the offer of tickets is within this letter, I ask politely that changes or extras are not requested to office staff as they hate to disappoint. Can I also remind those attending that the performance is best not attended by very young babies as the children's voices at this age can be quite quiet, especially when they feel nervous.

All those in the hall will need a ticket to ensure our fire regulations are adhered to and we can give accurate numbers and details of those attending.

Headteacher's Cup

Joey Class:	W1- Jameson
	W2- Freddie
Aardvark Class:	W1- Elliot
	W2- Roman
Giraffe Class:	W1- Albie
	W2- Darcey
Capybara Class:	W1- Maurice
	W2- Lillie
Koala Class:	W1- Matilda
	W2- Dolcie
Jellyfish Class:	W1- Joshua B
	W2- The Whole Class
Falcon Class:	W1- Harley
	W2- Layla



Birthdays in November

Luna	Alice
Elsie B	Nithi
Elliot	Kodi
Elsie D	Landon
Bella	Bonnie
Joseph	
Stanley	
Jack	
Alexandra	
Lavayah	
George	



Going For Green

Violet & Buddy

Sports Cup

Year 2 & Sonny

Safeguarding - Online safety information for parents

The following link gives age specific advice (under 5, 6-10, 11-13 and 14+) on ways to keep children safer online.

https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/abc-online-safety-checklist/?utm_campaign=313065_Partner%20Newsletter%20-%20October%202024&utm_medium=email&utm_source=DotDigital&dm_i=7MSZ,6PK9,UFBX2,T56V,1

The "Two Johns" parent session on Thursday, December 11, 2025, is an online eSafety session for parents and carers, with at least two separate times confirmed. One session is offered by the Essex Safeguarding Children Board (ESCB) at 8:00 PM. We cannot recommend these two highly enough in their support of parents protecting children's exploration of the online world we live in.

Session Details

- Topic: Online safety and safeguarding young people from online dangers, including the influence of social media and online exploitation.
- Format: Live virtual session.
- Dates: Thursday, December 11, 2025.
- Time: 8:00 PM (hosted by ESCB Safeguards).
- Booking/Registration: Specific registration links for the 8:00 PM session should be available through the ESCB website or related social media channels. The QR code for registration can also be found by following the link below.

<https://esafetytraining.org/upcoming-events/>

Remembrance

Thank you to all those that represented the school in attending our community's Remembrance Service. This was a very fitting and moving way to commemorate and give thanks for the sacrifice made by so many.



Reverse Advent

Next week we will be collecting Advent Calendars. Please bring one in should you wish to by Friday 28th November.

Below is the schedule for Reverse Advent with ideas taken from the local foodbank website for treats in the build up to the festive period. Please do feel free to add any Christmas themed items alongside these. We will get them all to where they are needed to brighten a Christmas! Our Collective Worship Committee will be introducing the scheme to the children to support local families.

Joey & Aardvark Classes-W/B 1st Dec- Chocolate, Tea, Coffee, Squash, Carton Fruit Juice and Biscuits

Giraffe & Capybara Classes-W/B Dec 8th- Shampoo, Shower Gel, Deodorant, Toothbrushes

Koala, Jellyfish & Falcon Classes - W/B Dec 15h -Tinned Fruit, Sponge Puddings, Tinned Custard, Long Life Desserts

Breakfast Club Booking

We have had several drop offs of children without pre booking in the past fortnight at our breakfast club and although we love to have extra children, for accurate ratio information, and of course feeding the children, we do need to know in advance if you want to use this service unless it is an emergency situation, in which case we are always here to support families in any practicable way we can.

Christmas Tree Festival Photos of The St. Andrews School Tree

