



St Andrew's Church of England Junior School



St Andrew's Signpost

Issue 1

Week Commencing 8th September 2025

Notes for the week: 8th September 2025

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

PE Year 3

PE Year 4

Thursday

Friday

PE Year 5

PE Year 6

Headteacher Information

A warm welcome to all our families, especially those who are joining us for the first time this week. We are so pleased to have you as part of our school community. I hope you all had the chance to enjoy the beautiful summer weather and spend some quality time with your loved ones.

It has been wonderful to see the children returning to school this week. They have come back with such confidence, enthusiasm, and joy, ready to embrace the new school year. Their energy has brought the school back to life, and it's a delight to see classrooms buzzing with curiosity and excitement.

As we begin this new year together, we look forward to a one filled with learning, growth, and memorable experiences. Thank you for your continued support—we're looking forward to an exciting and successful year ahead!

PE

PE Sessions will start for most children this week. As we have done in previous years, on your child's PE day we ask that your child comes to school in their school PE kit (including swimming days when they happen) which is as follows:

- House coloured T-shirt with the school logo
- Black shorts
- Daps/trainers
- Black tracksuit bottoms and school sports hoodie for cold weather

Autumn Term Sports & Activities Update

We've kicked off the Autumn term with lots of energy!

Years 5 and 6 are enjoying their Sports & PE afternoon today.

Years 3 and 4 had their first session on Wednesday and really got stuck in!

A little reminder – your child will only need their PE kit on their Sports Afternoon day.

We're also looking forward to Forest School sessions this term. Each class will take part once every five weeks, and your child will be told in advance when it's their turn.

After School Football Club

We are pleased to offer an exciting After School Football Club for our pupils, run by Sports Masters Coaching.

Day: Wednesday Year Groups: Year 3 and Year 4

Day: Friday Year Groups: Year 5 and 6

This club is only open to the specific pupils on the specified day. If your child is signed up for the wrong year group, unfortunately their place will be invalid and may be cancelled.

To sign up and pay for the club, please follow the link below:

Spaces are limited, so don't miss out!

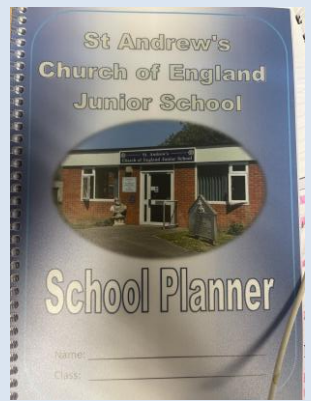
<https://bookwhen.com/standrews#focus=ev-s6p6-20250910153000>

2026 Admissions Process – Yr7	<p>YEAR 6 PARENTS</p> <p>The admissions process for school place applications for September 2026 will soon begin and the portal will be live for secondary applications from Monday 15 September and for primary applications from Monday 29 September.</p> <p>For children due to transfer to a secondary or upper school the closing date for applications is 31 October 2025 and the national offer day is 2 March 2026.</p> <p>For children due to start school for the first time or transfer to a junior or middle school the closing date for applications is 15th January 2026 and the national offer day is 16 April 2026.</p> <p>https://www.somerset.gov.uk/children-families-and-education/applying-for-school/starting-at-a-secondary-or-upper-school-in-september/</p>
'Meet the Teacher' Week	<p>Last year we ran a 'Meet the Teacher' session which gave you the opportunity to meet your child's new teacher. During the session, teachers went through a presentation to provide information about life in your child's class. Such as: when PE is; what is covered in the curriculum; expectations on reading and general information. As well as giving you the opportunity to find out what life will be like for children in our classrooms. We are pleased to be able to run these sessions again this year. The sessions are due to run on the following days:</p> <p>Monday 8th September – Year 3 Tuesday 9th September – Year 4 Wednesday 10th September – Year 5 Thursday 11th September – Year 6</p> <p>These sessions will be held in your child's classroom from 3.15-3.45pm on the day recorded above.</p>
Gates	<p>Please be aware that the gates into the school playgrounds do not open until 3:10pm. This is to safeguard the children when they are out on the playground and field doing lessons. The small gate on Love lane will be opened around 3pm so you can enter the compound away from the road.</p>
Equipment for school	<p>The children were given pencils, pens, pencils crayons and other equipment by the school. They do not need to bring any resources in from home.</p>
King Alfreds – TKASA open evening	<p>On Thursday 18th September, 4.00pm -7.00pm TKASA will be holding an open evening to welcome all current year 6 parents to the school. This is a great opportunity to see TKASA and meet the staff and tour the school. More details will come out soon via their social media channels and letters home to families.</p> <p>Other Future dates include:</p> <p>This year our open evening for prospective students and families is Thursday 18th September 2025 from 4pm-7pm.</p> <p>Year 6 welcome evening for families with a place at TKASA will be Thursday 23rd April 2026 from 4pm which is the first week after the Easter holidays. Our transition days will then run similarly to this year with a community event on Monday 22nd June 2026 followed by 3 transition days 23rd-25th June 2026 concluding with a celebration evening on Thursday 25th June.</p>
Celebration Worship Time	<p>Please note that Celebration Worship will take place at 9:15am on Friday, instead of last year's usual 2:30pm slot.</p>

Change	We warmly invite you to join us at the earlier time as we come together to celebrate the achievements of our children.
School Lunches	Please place orders on Aspens Select . For children entitled to Free School Meals (FSM), choices still need to be made on Aspens Select . You will not be charged. Letters and information have been sent out but can also be found on our website select-introduction.pdf bookings can be made by clicking on https://select.aspens-services.com/
Uniform Orders	<p>A uniform creates a sense of belonging and shows pride in our school and our commitment to a shared vision, value and ethos. It helps to promote a positive and professional work ethic and encourages a focus on learning. It promotes equality of opportunity and protects our students from social pressures to dress in a particular way. It nurtures school cohesion and promotes positive behaviour. We expect all children to wear our school uniform and we ask parents to assist us in maintaining standards in this important aspect of school life.</p> <p>St Andrew’s sweatshirt or cardigan with school logo White shirt or blouse School tie (Autumn and Spring Terms) Charcoal (Dark) grey trousers, pinafore dress, skirt, trousers, tailored shorts or culottes Summer dress in blue check (Summer term) Grey or white socks or grey tights</p> <p>Please note that summer dresses are for the Summer term only. Ties to be worn during the Autumn and Winter terms. To order uniform, please order from Price & Buckland, click on the link below.</p> <p>Uniform Order Link</p> <p>Please ensure all uniform is named clearly.</p>
Scooters in School	Many of our children come to school on bikes and scooters, which is a fantastic way to keep healthy. We ask that the children and adults refrain from riding their bikes or scooters on the playground and walk them to the bike-shed.
Somerset Library – Summer Reading Challenge	Some of you may have taken part in the Somerset Libraries Summer Reading Challenge over the summer holiday. If you have and have been awarded a certificate or a certificate and a medal Caroline Crossley from the Library Service will be coming to do a special assembly to award them to the children. We had a record number take part this year. 😊
Nut Allergy	As we have a number of children in school with severe food allergies, please could we remind all parents that school premises are NUT AWARE and no products containing nuts should be brought into school grounds. If children are bringing a packed lunch to school, it is important that there are no products in the lunch box that contain nuts. Thank you for your understanding.

School Planners

Your child will be bringing home a St Andrew's School Planner. This contains lots of helpful information for you and your child. It contains resources to support your child in the classroom as well as dates, and information to help parents. This is also used for recording reading, homework and notes from home to school. Please encourage your child to bring this to and from school daily. We hope you find it helpful.



Celebration and Praise

There was no praise assembly this week. The next Praise Assembly will be on Friday 13th September. We will be sending out invites to parents of the children nominated for Praise to attend the Assembly. **Please note that this will now take place at 9.15am.**

Lateness

House	Nos of Lates	Nos of Lates
	W/C 01/09/25	
Blackwell	12	
Foley	2	
Macmillan	2	
Reed	9	
Total	25	

- Please remember that being late can lead to your child:
- Feeling embarrassed in front of their friends
 - Missing the beginning of vital lessons making them fall behind
 - Missing important instructions for the rest of the school day
 - Learning bad habits which could affect their employability in the future

The impact of being just a little late can accumulate to a loss in learning time:

Minutes late per day during the school year	Equals days worth of teaching lost in a year
5 mins	3.4 days
10 mins	6.9 days
15 mins	10.3 days
20 mins	13.8 days
30 mins	20.7 days

Safeguarding

Our Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) is Wayne Higgins and our Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads (DDSL) are Tamsin Thomson, Chrissie Collett. Our safeguarding governor is Sarah Taylor

Here are some useful websites recommended by our DSL;

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/>

<https://getsetsomerset.org.uk/>

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/>

	<p>If you have concerns about your child at home or school, see the office to book an appointment. Alternatively, if you are worried about a child or young person who could be in danger please contact Children’s Social Care on 0300 123 2224, by email at childrens@somerset.gov.uk or the police. You can contact the police directly by dialling 101 and they will discuss with Children’s Social Care what action should be taken. In an emergency always contact the police by dialling 999. If you would like to speak to a social worker outside of office hours please phone the Emergency Duty Team (EDT) on 0300 123 23 27.</p>
<p>Change of Numbers and email addresses</p>	<p>**Important**</p> <p>If you have changed your telephone number or email address can you please let the school office know so that we can update our records. We need to have at least 3 contact numbers for your children in the event that we are unable to reach the main contacts.</p>
<p>Online safety</p>	<p>It’s a sad fact of life that where technology leads, crime usually follows. The printing press was eventually perverted to produce counterfeit money. The first car theft took place only three years after the vehicle’s invention. It was perhaps inevitable, then, that social media – as the overwhelming fascination of the digital age – would soon become a conduit for criminal activity.</p> <p>The risks usually associated with social media are personal in nature: abusive comments, distorted perceptions; cyber-bullying and so on. Increasingly, however, criminals are using networking platforms to snare potential victims. Click on the link below to access a Parents’ guide that examines social media scams – outlining some common examples and providing ways to avoid them.</p> <p>what-parents-need-to-know-about-social-media-scams-parent-guide.pdf</p>
<p>SEND Newsletter</p>	<p>This week’s SEND weekly newsletter is now available – please click on the link below or the following SEND News to read the latest stories.</p> <p>The Newsletter shares some information about Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) 0-25. You can access previous copies of the newsletter here. SEND Newsletter Archive</p> <p>Please click on the link below to find out more about Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) in Somerset. Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)</p>
<p>For your Information</p>	