



# St Andrew's Church of England Junior School



## St Andrew's Signpost

Issue 9

Week Commencing 18<sup>th</sup> November 2024

### Notes for the week: 18<sup>th</sup> November 2024

#### Monday

Swimming Year 6 (from 16<sup>th</sup> Sep)

PE Dandelion Class 3P

PE Wren Class 3N

PE Magpie Class 4M

PE Acorn Class 3GD

#### Tuesday

PE Bramble Class 5L

PE Willow Class 5D

PE Kingfisher Class 4B

PE Weasels Class 4S

#### Wednesday

PE Kingfisher Class 4B

PE Magpie Class 4M

PE Raven Class 5K

PE Otter Class 6H

#### Thursday

PE Wren Class 3N

PE Willow Class 5D

PE Bramble Class 5L

PE Raven Class 5K

#### Friday

PE Weasel Class 4S

PE Dandelion Class 3P

PE Acorn Class 3GD

PE Newt Class 6G

PE Heron Class 6GK

#### Headteacher Information

What a busy and productive week it has been here at St. Andrew's! It's been wonderful to see the children so engaged in their learning. Year 6 have been particularly captivated by their World War II studies, and Year 3 held some fascinating discussions on different food groups and their importance. Year 4 delved into the origins of local town names as part of their Saxon study, while Year 5 had a fantastic time making music with the glockenspiels.

On Wednesday, we were also delighted to welcome Reverend Cheryl, who led a thought-provoking collective worship based on the story of the Tower of Babel. She encouraged the children to reflect on themes of tolerance and understanding—a message that truly resonates with our school community.

#### PE

This week has been full of exciting sporting opportunities for St Andrew's students, showcasing their enthusiasm, sportsmanship, and dedication.

#### **\*\*Inclusive Sports Skills Morning\*\***

On Wednesday, Weasel Class headed to BCA for an inclusive sports skills event led by Alex Caird from SASP and supported by Year 9 Sports Leaders. The class joined students from other local schools, rotating around a variety of activity stations in small groups. The session was both fun and engaging, allowing everyone to develop new skills and enjoy teamwork in an inclusive environment. We are incredibly proud of Weasel Class for representing St Andrew's so well—both their effort and impeccable behaviour stood out on the day.





**\*\*Sports Hall Athletics at Bridgwater College\*\***

On Thursday, Miss Sylvester took 19 eager athletes to compete in the Sports Hall Athletics event at Bridgwater College. Although many of the children felt nervous at the start, their confidence quickly grew after the first race. The fast pace of the competition and the thrill of the events kept everyone energized, and the morning flew by. There were some impressive wins and even a few nail-biting ties! The children enjoyed trying new events and are already looking forward to participating again next year.



**\*\*Year 3 Cross Country addition\*\***

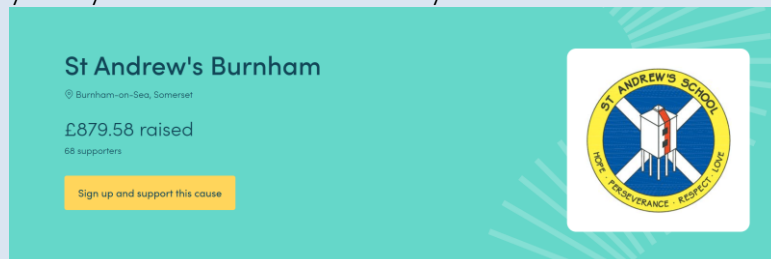
Apologies to Gabrielle Gray in Year 3 who I accidentally missed

off the list, who competed in the cross-country event and finished 21st out of 48 participants. Well done, Gabrielle.

It's fantastic to see so many of our students embracing sports and giving their all. Well done to everyone involved this week—you've made St Andrew's proud!

### SASA and Fundraising

Did you know that you can save and raise a donation of up to £37.50 for St Andrew's Burnham when you use #easyfundraising. easyfundraising partners with over 7,500 brands who will donate part of what you spend to a cause of your choice. It won't cost you any extra. The cost is covered by the brand.



<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/standrewsburnham/>

### Remembrance – Poppy Day

It was wonderful to see everyone dressed in red on Monday as we came together to honour Remembrance Day. The children showed exceptional respect during our two minutes of silence, and our incredible house captains led by example with great poise and sincerity.

Last Sunday, our house captains had the special honour of representing St. Andrew's at the Remembrance Service in Burnham-on-Sea. We couldn't be more proud of their exemplary conduct and the respect they showed on behalf of our school.



### Attendance

Since September 2024, the DfE has placed a stronger focus on improving school attendance, which means schools are required to tighten their approach to persistent absence. A pupil is considered a persistent absentee if they miss 10% or more of school across the year, regardless of whether the absences are authorized or not. This includes term-time holidays, which have a significant impact on overall attendance.

Where a child has ten or more unauthorised sessions (equivalent to five school days) within a rolling ten-week period, schools are

now required to consider whether issuing a penalty notice would be an appropriate measure to encourage improved attendance.

We appreciate your cooperation and understanding in supporting good attendance for all our students.

For more information on how the changes affect you please see our new attendance policy.

[st-andrews-attendance-policy-2024.pdf](https://www.saja.theplt.org.uk/st-andrews-attendance-policy-2024.pdf)

### Children in Need

A huge thank you to everyone who supported our Children in Need appeal on today! The children looked fantastic in their outfits, and it was wonderful to see everyone coming together for such a great cause. Together, we raised over £275! Your generosity and enthusiasm is much appreciated.

### Burnham in Bloom

We are thrilled to share the amazing news that our school shone brightly in this year's Burnham in Bloom competition! We swept the board across all categories, winning:

- 🌸 Best Public Building
- 🌸 Best School Field
- 🌸 Best Sensory Gardens and Raised Beds – in both the Schools and Neighbourhood categories!


A special congratulations goes to Gabrielle for their outstanding achievement in winning the Painting Competition – what a fantastic talent!

To say I am proud is an understatement. The children's hard work, creativity, and dedication have truly done our school proud. Thank you to everyone who contributed to this fantastic success! 🌸 🌸



### Class Emails

As we transition to our new email system, please note that we will no longer be using the individual class emails. If you would like to contact your child's class teacher, please send your message to our school office mailbox at [office@saja.theplt.org.uk](mailto:office@saja.theplt.org.uk) and include the class name in the subject line. The office will then forward your message to the appropriate teacher.

Parents Evening	We were delighted to see so many of you at our parents' evenings this week. Your active involvement in your child's education is invaluable to us, and we hope you feel as proud of your children as we do. It's truly wonderful to have your support and partnership on this learning journey!
Christmas Jumper Day	<p>Wednesday, 18th December 2024, will be our Christmas Jumper Day here at St. Andrew's, in celebration of Save the Children's 13th annual event! Though nationally observed on Thursday, 12th December, we've chosen to hold ours on Wednesday to coincide with our Christmas Lunch Day.</p> <p>We invite all children to come dressed in their favourite festive Christmas jumper! If a Christmas jumper isn't available, non-uniform is welcome. We suggest a donation of £1, which will go directly to Save the Children, aiding their mission to improve the lives of children worldwide. Every donation, no matter the amount, makes a difference. Please send your donation with your child on the morning of Wednesday, 18th December. Contributions can be handed to the class teachers.</p> <p>Thank you for helping us spread joy and make a positive impact!</p>
Christmas lunch	On <b>Wednesday 18th December</b> our school meal provider ASPENS are dishing up this year's Christmas Dinner. A selection of Roast Turkey or Cheesy Cauliflower and Leek Puff Pastry Wreath with a selection of veg with Snowy White Chocolate Blondie or Mince Pie Crumble bar for pudding. Booking for this can be made through SELECT, Aspens online ordering system, <a href="#">information on ordering from Select</a> . More information on when you can order will follow shortly
Trim Trail	I would like to bring to your attention the use of the school Trim Trail before and after school hours. While we understand the appeal of the Trim Trail, it is crucial to note that it is not supervised by school staff before or after school. The safety and well-being of our students are of utmost importance to us, and we want to ensure that all activities on the Trim Trail are conducted in a safe manner.
Weekly Value Award	<p>This award is given by the Senior Leadership Team and the office staff for a child who has demonstrated one or more of the school values during the week.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">This week's winner is: <b>Theo Payne</b></p> 
Celebration and Praise	<p>We held our Celebration and Praise Assembly this week to award children who have worked hard this week.</p> <p>Well done to the winners:</p> <p>Acorn Class – Alex Ost  Wren Class – Rosie Hicks  Dandelion Class – Bella-Rae Pope  Magpie Class – Frankie Pini  Kingfisher Class – Josie Huang  Weasel Class – Peri Brown  Willow Class – Alfie Lovell  Bramble Class – Florence Wynn  Raven Class – Bai Clarke  Heron Class – Reggie Bunn  Otter Class – Hadley Vickery  Newt Class – Gracie Harris</p>

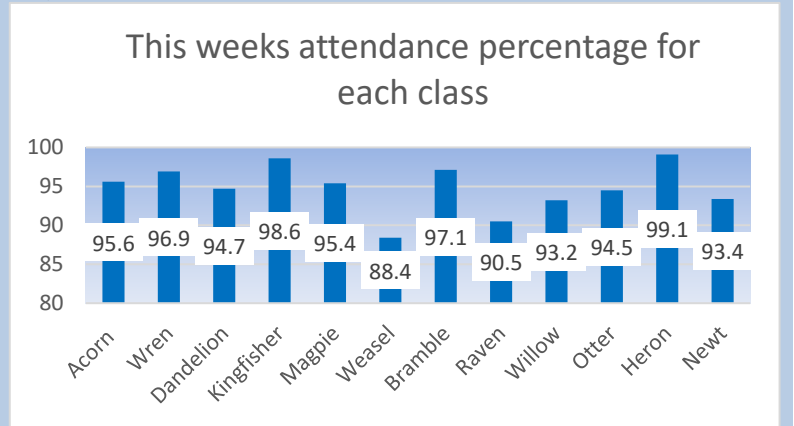
**TT Rock Stars**

This week was the 'England Rocks' Tournament where our school competed against schools across the country as well as within our own school. Congratulations to the top 3 players at St Andrew's.

1. **Nithin Calvin 4,242**
2. **Will Dean 3,900**
3. **Cameron Leatherby 2,816**

**Promoting Attendance at St. Andrew's School**

Current Attendance Overview:  
To keep you informed, we have included a chart below, displaying our overall attendance percentage and a breakdown by class. This transparency allows us to collectively work towards our attendance target and celebrate our successes along the way.



**Lateness**

Even with the disruption on the M5 this week, we still managed to reduce lateness again this week. Well done and thank you, let's see if we can bring it down again next week.

House	Nos of Lates	
	W/C 11/11/24	W/C 04/11/24
Blackwell	8	9
Foley	3	9
Macmillan	8	10
Reed	4	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>31</b>

- 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/>

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](mailto: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.

### Change of Numbers and email addresses

**\*\*Important\*\***

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.

### Online safety

Overwatch is a futuristic shooting game with a focus on teamwork and strategy which gives it an extra dimension to the majority of titles in the genre. Its cast of characters is diverse and memorable, while there’s a definite (and rewarding) learning curve to players improving their skill.

Created by established developers Blizzard Entertainment, Overwatch 2 is free to play, with an emphasis on competitive multiplayer action – meaning that children may want to play the game even more simply because their friends have it. Click on the link to access a guide where you'll find tips on a number of potential risks such as violent gameplay, in-game purchases and voice chat.

[what-parents-need-to-know-about-overwatch-2-parents-guide.pdf](#)

### SEND Newsletter

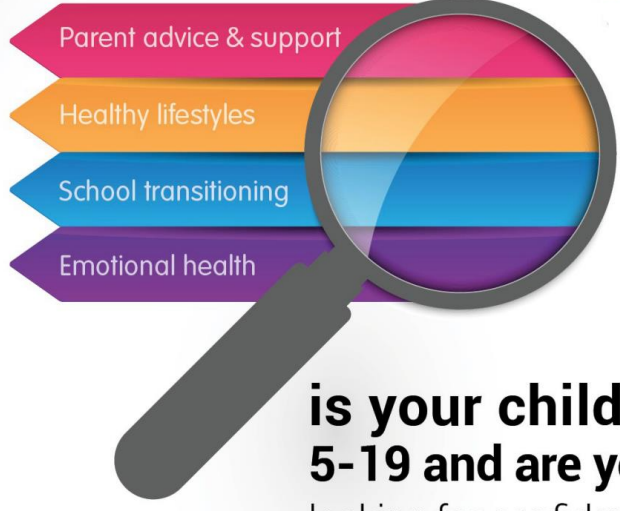
This week’s SEND weekly newsletter is now available – please click on the link below or the following [SEND News](#) to read the latest stories.

Please click on the link below to find out more about Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) in Somerset.  
[Special Educational Needs and Disabilities \(SEND\)](#)

For your  
Information



ChatHealth



**is your child  
5-19 and are you**  
looking for confidential  
help and support?

A safe and easy way to contact  
your School Nursing Team

Just send a text

**07480 635 515**



Disclaimer: This is not an emergency service; it operates Monday to Friday 9am - 5pm and is only available by using a UK mobile number. Your messages are stored on our secure system and can be seen by the School Nursing Team who run our ChatHealth Service. Although this is a confidential service, in the event of an safeguarding issue the School Nurse has a duty of care to act on this and may escalate the concern.

Improving  
LIVES

## DONATION POINTS FOR



Monday 7<sup>th</sup> October - Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November

### Highbridge:

The King Alfred School

Churchfield School

St John's Church

Highbridge Caravans

Sopha

\*Schools may have their own targeted donation events but are happy to accept public donations anytime within this period\*

### Burnham:

Burnham Infant School

St Joseph's School

St Andrew's School

Burnham Library

Burnham Swim and Sports Academy

Mammoth Comfort Centre (9-11 High St)

Scotts Furnishings

**Thank you to them all for their support!**

Online donations to help with purchase of wrapping paper, shortage gift items etc. may be made via our 'Give a little' campaign page:

<https://givealittle.co/c/christmassparkle>



SOMERSET'S MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT

TEAM ARE HOSTING A SERIES OF



Partnership with



FREE

PARENT & CARER  
WEBINARS



Click the link to  
find out more &  
register

Term Dates for 2024-25

Please see below our term dates for 2024-25 including our school INSET days.

**The Priory Learning Trust**  
**Academic Year 2024-2025**

**Key:**

- School Holiday
- Bank Holiday
- Staff Training Day
- Term Time

**Term Date Summary**

- Term 1: 2 September 2024 – 18 October 2024
- Term 2: 4 November 2024 – 20 December 2024
- Term 3: 6 January 2025 – 14 February 2025
- Term 4: 24 February 2025 – 4 April 2025
- Term 5: 22 April 2025 – 23 May 2025
- Term 6: 2 June 2025 – 22 July 2025

**Bank Holidays and public Holiday 2024-2025**

Christmas Day Bank Holiday	25 December 2024	Easter Monday	21 April 2025
Boxing Day Bank Holiday	26 December 2024	May Day Bank Holiday	5 May 2025
New Year's Day Holiday	1 January 2025	Spring Bank Holiday	26 May 2025
Good Friday	18 April 2025	Summer Bank Holiday	25 August 2025

Key Dates: Autumn Term

Date	Activity	Details
<b>Monday 2nd September</b>	Staff Training	School closed for staff training
<b>Tuesday 3rd September</b>	Staff Training	School closed for staff training
<b>Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September</b>	First day of Autumn Term	Welcome Back
<b>Monday 9th September</b>	'Meet the Teacher' week.	Parents and carers have the opportunity to visit their child(ren)'s new teachers and classrooms and to find out what the children are learning about and what life is like in their new classroom.
<b>Monday 9th September</b> <b>3.15 -3.45pm</b>	Year 3 Meet the Teacher	
<b>Tuesday 10th September</b> <b>3.15 -3.45pm</b>	Year 4 Meet the Teacher	

<b>Wednesday 11th September</b> <b>3.15 -3.45pm</b>	Year 5 Meet the Teacher	
<b>Thursday 12th September</b> <b>3.15 -3.45pm</b>	Year 6 Meet the Teacher	
<b>Friday 20<sup>th</sup> September</b>	Dahlicious Dress Up Day	This year's Dahlicious Dress Up Day takes place on 13th September. Our school will be celebrating it on 20 <sup>th</sup> September. Schools and workplaces across the UK will be brimming with Oompa-Loompas, Twits and Matildas in aid of Roald Dahl's Marvellous Children's Charity.
<b>Monday 30<sup>th</sup> September</b>	Harvest Festival	A celebration of the food grown on the land - we celebrate this day by singing, praying and collecting fruit and food in a festival known as 'Harvest Festival',
<b>Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> October</b>	Individual School Photos – Tempest - TBC	All children and siblings in school have individual school photos by Tempest.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Details</b>
<b>End of Autumn term 1</b> <b>Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> October</b>	Last day of Autumn term 1	
<b>Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October</b>	Staff Training	School closed for staff training
<b>Monday 21st October -Friday 1st November</b>	Half term	Enjoy your break!
<b>Autumn Term 2 Starts</b> <b>Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November</b>	First day of Autumn term 2 School Starts	Start 2nd Half of Autumn Term
<b>Wednesday 13th November</b> <b>3.15—6.30pm</b>	Parents' Evening	Lists of appointments will be available for you to sign up to during w/c 4 <sup>th</sup> November. Appointments are for ten minutes and we would encourage you to not bring your child to the appointment.
<b>Thursday 14th November</b> <b>3.15—6.30pm</b>		
<b>Friday 15th November</b>	Children in Need	Letter and details provided nearer the time
<b>Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November</b>	St Andrews Day	On this day we recognise the

		Patron Saint of our school
<b>Wednesday 18th December</b>	Christmas Jumper Day	Children take part in Christmas Jumper Day for Save the Children. A suggested £1 donation and the chance to feel festive wearing your Christmas jumper to school.
<b>Wednesday 18th December</b>	Whole School Christmas Lunch -	All children have the opportunity to celebrate Christmas with a Christmas dinner with all the trimmings.
<b>Friday 20th December</b>	School Carol Service	We will be having our carol service in St Andrews's Church. Everyone is welcome. Also, we will be awarding the Headteacher's Commendations.
<b>Friday 20th December</b>	End of Autumn Term 2	School Breaks up for Christmas Holiday