



St Andrew's Church of England Junior School



St Andrew's Signpost

Issue 3

Week Commencing 22nd September 2025

Shining Light on a World of Possibilities'

Notes for the week:

22nd September 2025

Monday

Wonder Dome visiting

Tuesday

Wonder Dome visiting

Wednesday

PE Year 3

PE Year 4

Kingfisher - Forest School

Thursday

Theatre group visit

Friday

PE Year 5

PE Year 6

Heron/Otter - Forest School

Headteacher Information

The children are settling in beautifully and are already enjoying their learning. It has been wonderful to see them engaging so enthusiastically with their new routines and activities.

This week, the children have particularly enjoyed their PE sessions, showing great energy and teamwork.

In collective worship, our focus has been on compassion as part of our core value of Love. It has been heart-warming to watch the children embrace this so naturally. Many have even come up to me in the playground to ask about my day—a simple but powerful reminder of the kindness and care that makes our school community so special.

SASA

As a parent of a child in St Andrew's, you will automatically become part of SASA (St Andrew's School Association). See the link below to access the roles and responsibilities of SASA members should you wish to take part: [sasa-roles-and-responsibilities.pdf](#)

PE

It's been another busy and exciting week for the children as they've taken part in their PE, enrichment, and Forest School sessions. They are settling well into the routines and transitions between activities, and it's been wonderful to see them engaging so positively. Afternoons have been full of energy and discovery, with children developing new PE skills, exploring enrichment opportunities, and enjoying the adventurous experiences that Forest School has to offer.

Reminder

For all PE, enrichment, and Forest School sessions, we kindly ask that:

- Long hair is tied back (it may be easier to do this before coming into school on PE days).
- Earrings are either removed or securely taped.
- Watches should be removed.

These measures are important for health and safety reasons. Please note that children will not be able to take part in physical activities if these requirements are not followed.

Staffing

We are sad to let you know that Mrs Ellis (Jane) will be leaving us at the end of this month. Jane has been a much-valued member of our school office team and, for many families, the first friendly face or voice they meet when contacting the school.

She will be greatly missed by children, parents, and staff, but we know you will join us in wishing her every success and happiness in her new venture.

Absence

Last year, our overall attendance was below the national figure of 94.8%. I am really pleased to share that so far this year our attendance stands at 95.2%, which is above the national average. This is a fantastic start, and I am keen for us to keep it this high – or even improve further – as we move through the year. Thank you for your continued support in making sure children are in school every day, ready to learn.

Remember:



Breaktime Snacks

We encourage children to bring a healthy snack to enjoy at breaktime – this could be a piece of fruit or a cereal bar. Please ensure that snacks do not contain nuts or chocolate, to help keep all of our children safe and to promote healthy choices. Healthy snacks provide children with the energy and focus they need for learning, support concentration in lessons, and help establish positive eating habits for life. Thank you for supporting us in keeping breaktimes healthy and safe for everyone.

Understanding Your Child's Emotions

Understanding Your Child's Emotions – Want to Know More? Being a parent can be one of the toughest jobs in the world, and we know how important it is to feel supported. To help, we are running an informal drop-in session where you can find out more about our Tuning into Kids course. Everyone is welcome!

This session can help with:

- Understanding emotions
- Building a stronger connection between you and your child
- Supporting improved regulation
- ...and much more!

**Tuesday 23rd September, from 1pm
West Huntspill Primary Academy**

For more details, please contact: chloe.steventon@theplt.org.uk

Harvest

We will be celebrating Harvest Festival on Friday 3rd October. There will be a special assembly in school with Rev Cheryl. We will be collecting for the food bank so if you could donate anything from the list below that would be very much appreciated.

- Cereal
- Soup
- Pasta
- Rice
- Tinned tomatoes/ pasta sauce
- Lentils, beans and pulses
- Tinned meat
- Tinned vegetables
- Tea/coffee
- Tinned fruit
- Biscuits

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UHT milk • Fruit juice
Trim Trail and Play Equipment	Can I ask that at the end of the day when children have been collected that they do not go on the trim trail play equipment as we are unable to supervise them. During the school day when the children use this they are always supervised by an adult and depending on the weather it is sometimes not used for safety reasons
School Start times	<p>Just a reminder that the school gates open at 8:35 AM, with the school day starting promptly at 8:45 AM. Please note that registers will close at 9:30 AM.</p> <p>We appreciate your cooperation in ensuring that your child arrives on time to make the most of their school day.</p>
Lateness and Absence	<p>If your child is unwell or you think you will be arriving late, can you please call the school office between the hours of 08.30 and 09.00 on the first day of your child's absence.</p> <p>We operate a first day of absence phone call to parents if they have not contacted us. If we do not receive a response, we phone all contacts on the list to establish the whereabouts of the pupil. Thank you</p>
Parents evening	<p>A date for your Diary; On Wednesday 12th November and Thursday 13th November, we will be holding our Autumn Parents Evening. Information on how to book will come out later this term.</p>
Flu Vaccinations	<p>**Reminder**</p> <p>The nursing team are coming into school on Monday 29th September to administer the flu vaccination. The vaccine is given as a simple spray up the nose. It is painless, quick, and serious side effects are uncommon. It is designed to protect your child against flu which can be an unpleasant illness and, although rarely may cause serious complications. The flu vaccine provides protection against the strains that are predicted to circulate in the coming season. These strains may change from year to year which is why we recommend receiving the vaccination every year.</p> <p>This vaccination is part of the NHS routine immunisation programme for which your child is now due.</p> <p>Further information can be found at the NHS website child-flu-vaccine. This information includes details about children for whom the nasal spray is not appropriate. Please click on the link https://www.somersetsaint.co.uk/Forms/Flu . The consent form needs to be completed even if you do not consent to the vaccination.</p>
2026 Admissions Process – Yr7	<p>**Reminder**</p> <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>

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.

<https://www.somerset.gov.uk/children-families-and-education/applying-for-school/starting-at-a-secondary-or-upper-school-in-september/>

Weekly Value Award

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.

This week's winner is:
Noah Sweet



Celebration and Praise

We held our Celebration and Praise Assembly this week to award children who have worked hard this week.

Well done to the winners:

- Acorn Class – Finley Atherton
- Wren Class – Lola-Rose Burnett
- Dandelion Class – George Cox
- Weasel Class – Libby Nall
- Kingfisher Class – Ollie Dee
- Magpie Class – Elsie-Mae Hayward
- Willow Class – Ethan Rowe
- Bramble Class – Harry Hedley
- Heron Class – Ava Gardner
- Otter Class – Skye Woods
- Newt Class – Jayden Thorne

TT Rock Stars

Results from this week's tournament:

Year 6 Tournament

1	Lucas	Jed Boy	6B Heron	3745
2	Nancy	Angelo White	6H Otter	2152
3	Matt	Charnai Rockpapersissors	6H Otter	1971
4	Reuben	M. A. Hendrix	6G Newt	1883
5	Finlay	Aaron G. Hendrix	6B Heron	1855
6	Jayden	Michael Manson	6G Newt	1491
7	Rory	Mikal Powers	6B Heron	1291
8	Cain	Ryan Bottum	6B Heron	1241
9	Jesse	Maynard Howe	6G Newt	1159
10	Tristan	Anthony Cash	6H Otter	1107

Year 5 Tournament

1	Lily	Susan Andrews	5K Magpie	2773
2	Jaxon	Alejandro Cave	5K Magpie	2092
3	Sofia	Stacy Bazzell	5KL Bramble	1830
4	Charlie	Mason Tynner	5K Magpie	1780
5	Eliza	Sunshine Dunn	5KL Bramble	1490
6	Demi-Mae	Mad Bruno	5K Magpie	1266
7	Imogen	Rockin' Rose	5KL Bramble	1106
8	Lavinia	Perry Furay	5K Magpie	1028
9	Eliza	Sean Daly	5D Willow	972
10	Clark	Jim Woods	5K Magpie	914

Year 4 Tournament

1	Hugo	Win Hart	4M Kingfisher	1504
2	Harrison	Rippy Martin	4P Dandelion	1213
3	Ezra	Axle Telle	4P Dandelion	1173
4	Maisie	Musa Farner	4M Kingfisher	1016
5	Peter	Godzilla Singer	4M Kingfisher	793
6	Gabrielle	Bella Sally	4P Dandelion	682
7	Braxton	Wilf Patton	4P Dandelion	582
8	Freddie	V V Cox	4P Dandelion	526
9	Molly	Christy Kay	4S Weasel	499
10	Bella	Eve Palmer	4M Kingfisher	490

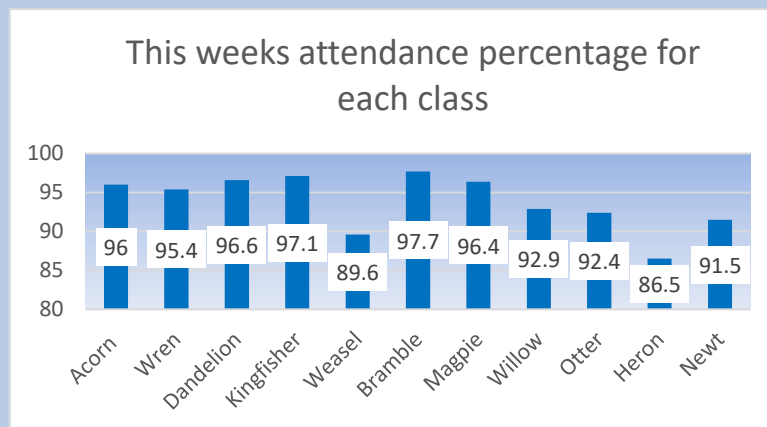
Year 3 Tournament

1	Teddie	Gibby Rizzla	3N Wren	1173
2	Robert	Dan Sub-wiffler	3N Wren	944
3	Mason	Baxter Stapp	3N Wren	785
4	Vanessa	Sierra Gardner	3N Wren	655
5	Amelia	Pip Slade	3GD Acorn	597
6	Jack	Buster Brooke	3GD Acorn	526
7	Jaden	Pink Rock	3GD Acorn	522
8	Layton	Ezra Bradbury	3GD Acorn	488
9	Taya	Lilymay Redding	3GD Acorn	407
10	Brody	Noah Stitch	3GD Acorn	360

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

We're pleased to see a slight reduction in lateness this week – thank you for your support in helping children get to school on time. It would be fantastic to bring the number of late arrivals down to below 30 next week. Arriving on time means children are settled, ready to learn and don't miss out on the important start to the school day.

House	Nos of Lates	Nos of Lates
	W/C 15/09/25	W/C 08/09/25
Blackwell	10	10
Foley	1	2
Macmillan	8	7
Reed	15	19

Total	34	38
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- 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 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

Most smartphones allow parents and carers to choose which apps and features appear on their child’s device and which ones don’t – also preventing young people from buying and downloading anything that’s unsuitable for their age. Click on the links below for guides to parental controls for managing apps on Androids/iPhone will help you to reduce the chance of your child using a game or app that might not be appropriate for their age. In the guide, you’ll find tips on a number of things such as how to block app downloads, how to stop auto-updates and how to restrict apps

[how-to-set-up-parental-controls-for-android-apps-parents-guide.pdf](#)

[how-to-set-up-parental-controls-for-iphone-apps-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.

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](#)

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

UNDERSTANDING YOUR CHILD'S EMOTIONS - WANT TO KNOW MORE?

Tuning in to Kids

Being a parent can be one of the toughest jobs in the world. We know this and we are here to help you, help them. Come along for an informal drop in session to find out more about our impactful Tuning into Kids course. Everyone is welcome!

It can help with:

- ✓ UNDERSTANDING EMOTIONS
- ✓ BETTER CONNECTION BETWEEN YOU AND YOUR CHILD
- ✓ IMPROVED REGULATION
- ✓ PLUS MUCH, MUCH MORE...

DROP IN SESSION → **TUESDAY 23RD SEPTEMBER FROM 1PM** → **WEST HUNTSPILL PRIMARY ACADEMY**

email: **chloe.steventon@theplt.org.uk**

**BRIDGWATER'S OFFICIAL COMMUNITY PRIDE
FOR THE COMMUNITY, BY THE COMMUNITY.**



20TH SEPTEMBER 2025

VICTORIA PARK 12PM TILL 6PM



**PRIDE FLAG PARADE
&
18+ AFTER PARTY**

**FAMILY PICNIC
STAGE PERFORMANCES
FACE PAINTING
ACOUSTIC OPEN MIC**

**COMMUNITY STALLS
FOOD & DRINK
CIRCUS SKILLS
QUIET SENSORY AREA**



**Bridgwater
Town Council**