



**ST ANDREW'S CHURCH SCHOOL, TAUNTON**  
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13th October 2017

**NEWSLETTER 6**

Dear Parents/Carers and Children,

**DATA COLLECTION FORMS**

A data collection sheet was sent home last week. Please check/amend the information or add if required, and then return the signed form to the School Office letterbox. Please do this as soon as possible as it is important the contact information we have in our records is accurate and up to date. We do require a minimum of 3 contacts per child, in case of emergency. Please return the signed form even if there are no changes to your information.

**PARENTPAY**

St Andrew's have now begun a phased introduction of ParentPay – a convenient way to pay for school meals, trips and much more online, using a secure service called ParentPay. Parents of children in Brue and Exe Class were sent letters this week with their unique activation codes and feedback so far has been very positive. If you have yet to activate your account, please do so as soon as possible. Parents who need to continue making payments by cash may do so using the PayPoint network at local convenience stores – Please see a member of the office team who will be able to arrange your access code. The remaining six classes will be sent activation codes as and when there is a trip to pay for. We hope to extend the service to include ordering and paying for school meals next term. Details of this will follow.



We hope you will support us in achieving our goal to become a cashless school. Your support in using ParentPay will help the school enormously, thank you. For further information on ParentPay please visit [www.parentpay.com](http://www.parentpay.com).



**HARVEST FESTIVAL FUNDRAISING 09.10.17**

Well done to everyone who took part and worked hard to raise funds for St. Margaret's. The grand total is £1,420 – Amazing work! Also thank you to all the families who came to join with us in our celebration.

**PTFA NEWS**

The PTFA will be at the Parents' Evenings next week, serving refreshments and selling second hand uniform.

100 Club membership is still available (£12.00 for a whole year), the deadline is the 19th October. If you need a new form, please collect one from the School Office. If you would like to pay by BACS, please see Zoe Cosens.

On Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October there will be carnival goodies for sale in the playground after school (£2 - £4)

Our next PTFA meeting will be in the staff room at 2pm on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> October. We are planning to discuss new ideas for our Christmas Fayre. Everyone welcome!

<b>MONDAY AFTER SCHOOL</b>		
Runnina/Fitness Club	KS2	Ms Doherty
Girls' Football	Years 5&6	Mr Green
<b>TUESDAY AFTER SCHOOL</b>		
Tao Ruabv	Years 5&6	Mr Green
Studv Club	Years 4.5 & 6	Ms Doherty
<b>WEDNESDAY AFTER SCHOOL</b>		
Handball/Netball	Years 5&6	Ms Doherty
<b>THURSDAY AFTER SCHOOL</b>		
DJ Club	KS1 & KS2	Mrs Exell
Boys' Football	Years 3 & 4	Mr Green
<b>FRIDAY AFTER SCHOOL</b>		
Studv Club	Years 4.5 & 6	Ms Doherty
Multi-skills	Years 1 & 2	Mr Green

**AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS**

A reminder that if you have not completed and returned a slip for any of the clubs, your child will not be able to attend. We **must** have permission and know collection arrangements for safety reasons.

**CANCELLATIONS**

Please note there is **NO DJ Club** now until Thursday 9th November.

There is **NO Girls' Football** on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> October.

There is **NO Tag Rugby** on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> October.

Apologies for any inconvenience.

**PARENT TEACHER CONSULTATIONS**

The sign-up sheets for the Parent/Teacher Consultations on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October are up in the hall foyer, at the top of the yellow steps. If you haven't already done so, please sign up for an appointment to meet with your child's teacher.

**FLU VACCINATIONS – Reception, Years 1, 2, 3 and 4 pupils**

The School Nurse Team are visiting on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> November to vaccinate against Influenza. Letters have gone home, explaining the programme. Parents can 'opt out' of the vaccination for their child, details of how to do this were included in the letter.

## **SCHOOL ADMISSIONS SEPTEMBER 2017**

### **Starting School**

Will your child be aged 4 by September 2018? If so, you need to apply for a school place. You can apply online at [www.somerset.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.somerset.gov.uk/admissions) before 15th January 2018 or you can complete a paper application, which can be downloaded from the website.

### **Secondary School**

If your child is due to start secondary school next September (2018), **the deadline for applications is 31st October 2017**. For full details of how to apply for a place or to apply online, please visit [www.somerset.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.somerset.gov.uk/admissions).

### **SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS**

Our new school photographer will be coming on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November to take individual pupil photos and sibling group photos of the whole school. If you have a younger child who you wish to be included in a sibling group, you are invited to come to school at 8.30am on this day to have the photograph taken. Photographs and other items will be available to order directly online. Details to follow.



### **SWIMMING**

Can we please remind parents that swimming is an important part of our curriculum and forms part of our PE lessons. If your child has a genuine medical reason why they cannot take part in swimming, this must be put in writing or discussed with the class teacher. Unless we receive a written reason from a parent, your child will be taken swimming.



### **CHILDREN IN NEED - 'SPOTACULAR' – Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November**

This year we will be supporting the BBC event in the following ways:

**COVER PUDSEY WITH COINS** Before school you will have the opportunity to 'Cover Pudsey with Coins' – there will be large pictures of Pudsey Bear in the playgrounds, so please bring in your change and let's try and cover them both.

**WEAR SOMETHING SPOTTY!** On Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November, children can come to school wearing a spotty accessory (such as socks or scarf) or simple face paints with their uniform to show their support for the day. Donation of £1. Please do your best to help us raise a record amount this year.

### **PAPERLESS NEWSLETTERS**

If you currently receive a paper copy of the newsletter and would like to help us reduce our paper usage, please come to the office to request an email version. Thank you in advance.

### **CHRISTMAS CARDS**

This year we will be getting the children to design their own Christmas cards which will then be available to order online [www.apfsorders.co.uk](http://www.apfsorders.co.uk). As soon as their artwork is ready to view we will notify parents. Orders will need to be placed by November, in order for the printed products to be delivered to school mid-November.



via  
6<sup>th</sup>

### **SCHOOL COLLECTION TIMES**

Can we please remind parents that the school day finishes at 3.15pm (Reception & KS1) and 3.20pm (KS2) and lessons continue right up to these times. Our gates open at 3pm and parents will not be admitted to the school site earlier than this time, unless they have a specific need to be here. Should you arrive earlier than 3pm, we kindly ask you to wait outside to minimise disruption to our lessons.

### **ROAD SAFETY**

We have received a number of reports concerning children running onto the road between parked cars on Greenway Avenue, and also children not using the pedestrian crossing at the bottom of Kingston Road. Could parents please remind children of the importance of looking out for traffic before crossing the roads around school. When parents are dropping off/collecting their children by car, could they please closely supervise their children to ensure their safety.



### **PARKING**

Can all parents and carers please be mindful and considerate when dropping off and collecting children by car. Please do not block any of our neighbours' access to their driveways, even if you intend to stay in your vehicle. Driveways should be kept clear at all times.

### **LOST PROPERTY**

Over-flowing! The lost property box is overflowing, please take a moment to have a look through. Any unclaimed items will be donated to charity over half term.

### **PAST PUPILS' PARTY**

This year's Victorian-themed past pupils' party is being held on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December at 2pm in the school hall. We look forward to welcoming past pupils from 6 – 160 who will be able to peruse the school registers and log books, be entertained with tea and songs by our older pupils and have a tour of the school. Please tell any past pupils you know.

### **DIARY DATES**

<b>OCTOBER</b>	
<b>Monday 16th</b>	<b>Parents' Evening- 3.30 - 6.00</b>
<b>Tuesday 17th</b>	<b>Year 1 &amp; 2 – Trip to the museum for Castle Explorers workshop</b>
<b>Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Years 5 &amp; 6 Museum to visit school</b>
<b>Thursday 19th</b>	<b>Huntspill Forest School (all day) Parents' Evening- 3.30 - 7.00</b>
<b>Friday 20th</b>	<b>INSET DAY- SCHOOL CLOSED</b>
<b>Monday 23rd</b>	<b>SCHOOL CLOSED - HALF TERM</b>
<b>Monday 30th</b>	<b>RETURN TO SCHOOL</b>
<b>NOVEMBER</b>	

Wednesday 1st	Flu vaccines for Reception, Yr1, Yr2, Yr3 & Yr4
Thursday 9th	School Photographer
Friday 17th	Children in Need – Wear something spotty for £1 donation
DECEMBER	
Tuesday 5th	Victorian-themed Past Pupils' Party 2pm, School Hall
Wednesday 13th	School Christmas Dinner
Thursday 14th	Nativity at St. Andrew's Church
Tuesday 19th	Christmas Jumper Day for £1 donation
Tuesday 19th	KS2 Talent show
Thursday 21st	Last day of Autumn term (break up for Christmas holidays)
JANUARY 2018	
Monday 8th	First day of Spring term

All relevant dates are also published on the Parent's Calendar on the school website [www.standrewsbwmat.org](http://www.standrewsbwmat.org)

Yours sincerely,



Paul Sheehan,  
Head Teacher

**Basketball session**

Huish Tigers U12 basketball sessions are now up and running on Saturday mornings at Richard Huish college 10.am-12.00pm.  
garyc@richuish.ac.uk

**Orienteering**

Quantock Orienteers run an excellent weekly club on Saturdays at various locations across the Quantocks and local area. There is a range of courses to suit all abilities. Ideal for families to explore the Outdoors.  
<https://www.sasp.co.uk/uploads/jog-fixtures-for-autumn-2017-a.pdf>



**Apples and Anniversaries!**

Join Somerset Wildlife Trust for a celebration of Apple Day and the 25th anniversary of the Children's Wood Project, where trees were planted for each child born in Taunton Deane. Enjoy lots of free family activities such as apple juicing, crafts and apple head carving. FUSE Performance will be running an apple circus where you can learn to juggle with apples, make some juggling balls and have a go at circus tricks, and Somerset Art Works will be leading a fruit printing workshop.

**When:** 11am-3pm, Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> October

**Where:** Children's Wood, Taunton, just off Winckworth Way, TA1 1AN