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Headteacher
Mrs J Fernie BEd
Deputy Head
Ms Rebecca Clark BEd

2 November 2026

Dear Parents,

Welcome back after what I hope was a lovely break. With the weather turning quite autumnal, your child will need a coat in school as we usually go outside at break and lunch even when it's wet.

Lunches
Universal Free School Meals continue to be available for all Reception and Key Stage 1 pupils daily.
For all Key Stage 2 pupils, hot lunches can be ordered at a cost of £2.70 per day or £13.50 per week (£94.50 up to the end of term 2). All meals must be ordered on the app and paid for in advance.
Please can ALL parents book their child's meals for the half term on the Arbor app even if they are eligible for a free meal, or having a packed lunch from home. Again, if you need help, please speak to our Admin team.

Parents to Lunch
Please book on the App for this term's parents to lunch dates:-

- Monday 9 November Year R parents 12.00pm
- Wednesday 11 November Year R parents 12.00pm

We can only accept 15 bookings for each day so places are allocated on a first come, first served basis. If you are unable to book, please contact the admin team to be placed on the waiting list. There are 2 dates as it will be the first Parent to Lunch for Reception class, normally only one date will be available. We request that each family only book one place so ensure every child has the opportunity for a parent to attend. Please note that if you book a place, you are expected to have a school meal (main meal, jacket potato or salad). Thank you.

Pupil Premium/Free School Meals
Extra funding is available for school to support the education of children from families in receipt of certain benefits (including funding for Free School Meals at all Key Stages). If you think that you might be eligible, please apply online at https://parentportal.wiltshire.gov.uk/web/portal/pages/home or ask for a form in confidence from the School Office. **It is important that parents complete this form even if your child is in Reception/Key Stage 1 pupil**, as it means that we could receive additional funding to spend on supporting your child throughout his/her school career, and to subsidise additional school expenses such as swimming and trips.

Healthy Eating and Allergies
We promote healthy eating and encourage the children to make healthy food choices. Children in Years R – 2 receive a free fruit snack each day. Children in other year groups may bring in fruit to eat at break time. If children are bringing packed lunches, please do not include sweets and chocolate in their meals. To ensure that we are inclusive, please do not bring in sweets or cakes to share on birthdays.

As we have some children in school who have food allergies, please remind your children not to share food with others. A list of allergens is provided on the school meal planner. Please speak to Mrs Carpenter, our Catering Manager, if you have any queries or special dietary requests. Thank you for your support.

Tuck
Tuck is available for all children in Years 1 – 6 to buy on Tuesday mornings at playtime. Please send your child in with 20p if they wish to buy a homemade cake/biscuit from the school kitchen.

Water Bottles
All children should bring a water bottle to school filled with water (not squash). This can be re-filled during the day. Squash/juice is only allowed with lunch and can be purchased from the kitchen for 10p per cup (max. of one cup per day).

Music Lessons
These will be held as follows for the children who have signed up for peripatetic lessons: -

- Woodwind (Rachel Maguire) Monday pm
- Brass (Laurie Truluck) Friday am
- Guitar (Simon Sheffield) Tuesday pm

Music lessons are billed directly via the Salisbury Music Co-operative. If you hire a St Andrew's school instrument, we will be in touch about paying the hire charge of £20 per term (£60 annually).
Class 4 continue to access whole class recorder lessons weekly with Mrs Maguire on Monday afternoons. These sessions are **fully funded by FOSA** – thank you for enabling this provision to continue.

Rocksteady lessons continue to take place each Friday morning.

Class Cooking
During the school year, all classes will have the opportunity to cook. This is an important skill and something that the children really enjoy doing. They will be able to bring home their food to share with you. To cover the cost of ingredients we ask for a one-off voluntary contribution of £3, which can be paid on our App.

Attendance
Regular, punctual attendance at school is important for your child's progress. Please help us by ensuring that your child is in school punctually (school starts at 8.30am).

Statistics show more than half of pupils who missed some of the first week went on to become "persistently absent" in 2024, compared with just 14% of pupils who fully attended the first week.
We frequently communicate the importance of attendance at school and the impact low attendance has on learning and outcomes. It's important that we do all we can to work in partnership to give the children the best start in life.

We would like to remind all parents that the regulations governing term-time holidays do not permit Headteachers to authorise any term-time leave for pupils unless there are "exceptional circumstances". Holidays to not qualify as exceptional circumstances.
Thank you for your support.

Volunteers
We are delighted to welcome volunteers to our school. If you are able to support with reading, cooking, gardening or any other activities then please let us know. All volunteers must apply and have a DBS check prior to starting which can be arranged through the school office.

Uniform
Please ensure that all uniform is named (especially sweatshirts) as this helps us to return any stray items. Also, I would to add a gentle reminder that **only stud earrings** should be worn school, and while the children are welcome to wear a watch, this should be a **simple analogue or digital watch** ie not a fitness or smart watch. The school will take no responsibility for lost or damaged items. Trainers should be plain black without coloured logos or soles. Thank you.

PE Kits
All children need to have a PE kit in school every day, including trainers suitable for outdoor activity. PE kits can be brought into school in a bag which can be hung on the children's pegs. If your child has earrings, they should remove these for PE and sporting activities. If they are unable to do this, then the earrings need to be covered with plasters/tape for PE lessons.

Parking
We would like to remind all parents that for safety reasons, you **should not park or drive along the lane at the side of school** before or after school. Please park considerately and be mindful of the parking restrictions.

Mobile Phones
If your child **must** bring a mobile phone to school, it **must** be handed into the office first thing in the morning and collected at the end of the day. Children are not allowed phones during the day. Phones may only be brought in years 5 and 6 and unless it is absolutely necessary, we would discourage children from bringing phones to school in the first place. **The school can accept no responsibility for any loss or damage to phones.**

Fidgets and Squishies
Please do not allow your children to bring fidgets and squishies from home without prior approval from Mrs Fernie, Miss Clark or Mrs Newman as they are often a distraction and the cause of disagreements between children. Fidget aids are available in the purple boxes in each classroom if teachers feel that they will support a child's learning. If you have any queries, please not hesitate to contact us. Thanks for your support.

Changes of Details
Please let us know straight away if you have a change of personal details (especially phone numbers) or if you wish to change any of the contacts that we have for your child/ren. It is also important that we are notified of any changes to medical/dietary information, or any of the consents that we hold for your child/ren. Thank you.

Diary Dates
A calendar of events is available on our school website under Parents – Term Dates, and at the end of this letter.

Royal British Legion – Poppy Appeal
As we approach Remembrance Sunday, poppies and other Royal British Legion items will be available for pupils to purchase in school.
Remembrance Sunday is a time to remember and honour those who have served and sacrificed in conflicts past and present. The Royal British Legion's annual Poppy Appeal raises vital funds to support veterans,

service men and women, and their families. All proceeds from the sale of poppies and merchandise go directly to these important causes.
Items will be on sale in school from Tuesday 3 November to Tuesday 10 November. They will be taken to classes for pupils to make their selection. A range of items will be available, including traditional paper poppies, poppy stickers, wristbands (minimum donation of £1), snap bands (minimum donation of £1), pencils (minimum donation of 50p), and reflective keyrings (minimum donation of 50p).
We have a limited number of items so they will be restricted with an allocation for each class.
Thank you for your continued support as we help our children understand the importance of remembrance and community.

Sincerely,

Mrs J Fernie
Headteacher

Diary Dates – St. Andrew's Primary School

Term 2	
Monday 2 November	First day of term 2
Tuesday 3 November	Y6 first aid training
Tuesday 3 November	Flu vaccinations – link has been sent out (**Change of date)**
Monday 9 November	Parents to lunch – YrR
Tuesday 10 November	Bags2School
Wednesday 11 November	Parents to lunch – YrR
Friday 27 November	Christmas Bazaar 2pm to 4pm
Wednesday 2 December	Choir to perform for Evergreen Club
Friday 4 December	Choir to perform at Christmas Voice Festival (evening performance)
Monday 7 December	Nativity performance – Letter to follow
Tuesday 8 December	Nativity performance – Letter to follow
Friday 11 December	Rocksteady concert
Tuesday 15 December	KS2 Carol Service in Church – Letter to follow
Wednesday 16 December	Christmas Dinner
Thursday 17 December	End of term disco
Friday 18 December	Last day of term 2 (No After School Club)
Term 3	
Monday 4 January	**TD Day – school is closed to all pupils**
Tuesday 5 January	First day of term 3
Thursday 11 February	Last day of term 3
Friday 12 February	**TD Day – school is closed to all pupils**
Term 4	
Monday 22 February	First day of term 4
Thursday 25 February	Y1 Police visit tbc
Friday 19 March	Rocksteady concert
Thursday 25 March	Last day of term 4
Term 5	
Monday 12 April	First day of term 5
Friday 28 May	Last day of term 5
Term 6	
Monday 7 June	**TD Day – school is closed to all pupils**
Tuesday 8 June	First day of term 6
Mon 21-Wed 13 June	Y5/6 - Osmington Bay residential
Friday 16 July	Rocksteady concert
Friday 23 July	Last day of term 6 (No After School Club)