

'Do Everything In LOVE' - 1 Corinthians 16 v14



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14 September 2026

Dear Parents,

Welcome back after what I hope was a lovely summer break. We had such nice weather, but the weather seems to be turning quite autumnal now we're all back at school! Your child will need a coat in school as we usually go outside at break and lunch even when it's wet.

We have had a lovely start to the term. The children are settled and there is a calm, positive atmosphere in school. The children are enjoying spending time with their friends and lots of them have been keen to share their experiences from over the summer.

New Starters

We warmly welcome all of our new children who are joining Reception. This year we welcome Reeva, Lucy, Ivy-Rose, James, Eowyn, Fatima, Teddy, Eddie, Millie, Maia, Dom, Tristan, Ellis, Kara, Raven, William, Posy, Louise, Lily, Elsie, Joseph, Cora, Robyn, Ayla and Alfie.

We also welcome also Mabel, Arthur, Thomas, Wilf, Rosemarie and Kayden who are joining other year groups.

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 1). 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:-

- | | | |
|--------------------------|------------------|---------|
| • Wednesday 16 September | Year 5/6 parents | 12.30pm |
| • Wednesday 23 September | Year 4 parents | 12.30pm |
| • Wednesday 30 September | Year 3 parents | 12.15pm |
| • Wednesday 7 October | Year 2 parents | 12noon |
| • Wednesday 14 October | Year 1 parents | 12noon |

Reception class will have the chance to attend in term 2.

We can only accept 15 bookings 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. Please note that if you book a place, you are expected to have a school meal (main meal, jacket potato or salad). Thank you.

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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 Nut 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.

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).

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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 do 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 like 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 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 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 do 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.

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Diary Dates

A calendar of events is available on our school website under Parents – Term Dates, and at the end of this letter. **Please note that we have yet to finalise our last Teacher Development Day for this academic year.**

Sincerely,

Mrs J Fernie
Headteacher

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Diary Dates – St. Andrew’s Primary School

Term 1	
Wednesday 16 September	Parents to lunch – Yr5/6 – 12.30
Tuesday 22 September	Year 5 Author talk at Godolphin
Wednesday 23 September	Parents to lunch – Yr4 – 12.30
Wednesday 24 September	Open morning – bookable slots for Reception Sep ‘27
Monday 28 September	Hawk Conservancy Trip – Yr5 – Letter to follow
Tuesday 29 September	Individual school photos
Wednesday 30 September	Parents to lunch – Yr3 – 12.15
Wednesday 30 September	Y2 local walk tbc
Thursday 1 October	Winchester Science Centre – Yr4 – Letter to follow
Friday 2 October	Open morning – bookable slots for Reception Sep ‘27
Friday 2 October	Wilts and Dorset Fire Service visit tbc
Monday 5-8 October	Bikeability – Yr6
Wednesday 7 October	Parents to lunch – Yr2 – 12.00
Saturday 10 October	Open morning – bookable slots for Reception Sep ‘27
Tuesday 13 October	Parent Consultations - details to follow
Wednesday 14 October	Parent Consultations - details to follow
Wednesday 14 October	Parents to lunch – Yr1 – 12.00
Thursday 15 October	Parent Consultations - details to follow
Tuesday 20 October	Last day of term 1
Wednesday 21 October	TD Day - school is closed to all pupils
Term 2	
Monday 2 November	First day of term 2
Tuesday 3 November	Y6 first aid training tbc
Wednesday 2 December	Choir to perform for Evergreen Club
Thursday 3 December	Flu vaccinations – link has been sent out
Friday 11 December	Rocksteady concert
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	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

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Friday 23 July	Last day of term 6 (No After School Club)
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