

'Do Everything In Love' - 1 Corinthians 16 v14



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Headteacher

Mrs K Walker BEd NPQH

Deputy Head

Miss A Hodgson BAEd



3 September 2021

Dear Parents

New Starters

We warmly welcome our new children who are joining Year R. They have been having visits to their new classroom this week and will be coming to school from Tuesday 7 September. This year we welcome Alexander, Amilya, Ava B, Ava S, Bethany, Chloe, Clarabelle, Elodie, Emily, Florence, Freddie, Harriet, Jack, Leon, Lucy, Natalie, Owen, Penelope, Rafferty, Rory, Ruby, Sebastian, Tommy and Zachary. We also welcome Georgia into Year 1 and hope that all our new starters will be happy at St Andrew's.

Staff News

Congratulations to Mrs Usherwood who has had a baby girl, Abigail, over the summer holiday and to Miss Lawrence who got married at the start of the holiday and will now be known as Mrs Morgan.

Covid 19 Updated Arrangements

The Government no longer recommends that it is necessary to keep children in consistent groups ('bubbles'). This means that bubbles will not need to be used from the start of this academic year. As well as enabling flexibility in curriculum delivery, this means that assemblies can resume, and we no longer need to make alternative arrangements to avoid mixing at lunch. We have updated our contingency plans to cover the possibility that in some local areas it may become necessary to reintroduce 'bubbles' for a temporary period, to reduce mixing between groups.

We have been told that any decision by the Government to recommend the reintroduction of 'bubbles' would not be taken lightly and would need to take account of the detrimental impact they can have on the delivery of education.

The Control measures that will stay in place will be to:

1. Ensure good hygiene for everyone.
2. Maintain appropriate cleaning regimes.
3. Keep occupied spaces well ventilated.
4. Follow public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19.

School Routines will therefore return to our 'normal':

- It is not mandatory for parents to wear face masks when entering the school grounds. However, if it is necessary for you to enter the building to speak to the

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office or a member of staff we would ask that you sanitise your hands and wear a face covering please.

- The school gate will open at 8.30am for all children to enter onto the playground, where staff will be supervising children. You are encouraged to 'drop and go' so that there are not gatherings of parents outside. **(New Reception children will go straight into their classroom at 8.30am – door will close at 8.45am).**
- Year 1 -6 children will line up on the playground in classes when the bell rings at 8.40am and registers taken by 9.00am.
- We will have a staggered playtime to reduce capacity on the playground during the wet weather and we will return to 2 sittings at lunchtime.
- The collection time at the end of the day is 3.00pm for all classes **except Reception (2.50pm)**. Parents can enter the playground for collection and are encouraged to collect and go.
- Although the 'enter' and 'exit' gate have worked extremely well and you may continue to use this system there is no expectation that you do (I'm not going to police it!).

When an individual develops COVID-19 symptoms or has a positive test:

Pupils, staff and other adults should follow public health advice on [when to self-isolate and what to do](#). They should not come into school if they have symptoms, have had a positive test result or other reasons requiring them to stay at home due to the risk of them passing on COVID-19 (for example, they are required to quarantine). If anyone in school develops [COVID-19 symptoms](#), however mild, they will be sent home and they should follow public health advice.

Confirmatory PCR tests and self isolation:

Staff and pupils with a **positive** LFD test result should self-isolate in line with the [stay at home guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection](#). They will also need to [get a free PCR test to check if they have COVID-19](#). Whilst awaiting the PCR result, the individual should continue to self-isolate. If the PCR test is taken within 2 days of the positive lateral flow test, and is negative, it overrides the self-test LFD test and pupils can return to school, as long as they do not have COVID-19 symptoms.

Individuals are **not** required to self-isolate if they live in the same household as someone with COVID-19, or are a close contact of someone with COVID-19, and any of the following apply:

- they are fully vaccinated
- they are below the age of 18 years and 6 months
- they have taken part in or are currently part of an approved COVID-19 vaccine trial
- they are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons

Instead, they will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace, informed they have been in close contact with a positive case and advised to take a [PCR test](#). We would encourage all individuals to take a PCR test if advised to do so.

Clubs

Clubs will resume from Monday 13 September. I will send around a list of clubs next week.

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Lunches

Universal Free School Meals are available for all Reception and Key Stage 1 pupils daily. We would ask all parents continue to fill in the order forms sent home every half-term so that we are able to order the correct quantities of food each day. Copies of these forms are available on the website under Food For Life – School Lunches, or paper copies are available from the folder outside the School Office.

For all Key Stage 2 pupils, hot lunches can be ordered at a cost of £2.30 per day or £11.50 per week (£78.20 up to the October half-term holiday). All meals must be ordered and paid for in advance as our catering staff do not have the time to continually chase up late payments. Payment should be made online using our Pay 360 Education Payment system (www.st-andrews-laverstock.wilts.sch.uk – About Us – Online Payments). Please ask at the office if you need a new access code. If you do not have access to a computer at home, we can make the office computer available to you.

Parents to Lunch

We will not be holding parents to lunch events this half term but will review this again for Term 2.

Pupil Premium/Free School Meals

Extra funding is available for school to spend on 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 <http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/schools-learning-free-school-meals> 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 will get additional funding to spend on supporting your child throughout his/her school career, and to pay for additional school expenses such as swimming, trips and music lessons. Pupil premium children are also entitled to free milk, even after their 5th birthdays.

Tuck

Tuck is available for all children in years 1 – 6 to buy on Tuesday mornings at play-time. Please send your child in with 20p if they wish to buy a homemade cake/biscuit from the School Kitchen.

Healthy Eating and Nut Allergies

We promote healthy eating and encourage the children to make healthier food choices. Children in Years R – 2 receive a free fruit snack each day. Children in other years may bring in fruit to eat at breaktime. If children are bringing packed lunches, please do not include sweets and chocolate in their meals. To ensure that our Healthy Eating Policy is inclusive, please do not bring in sweets or cakes to give out on birthdays. Thank you for supporting our healthy eating policy.

As we have some children in school who are allergic to nuts, please do not send in nuts or nut products in lunchboxes. We do not use nuts or nut products in school meals, and a list of allergens is provided on the school meal planner that is sent home to parents each half-term. Please speak to Mrs Carpenter, our Catering Manager, if you have any queries or special dietary requests.

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Music Lessons

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

- String Lessons (Miss Luton) Monday pm starting Monday 13 September
- Woodwind Lessons (Ms Ridley) Wednesday am starting Weds 8 September
- Brass Lessons (Mr Walker) Friday pm starting Friday 10 September

Music lessons are held over 33 weeks of the school year (Autumn – 12 weeks; Spring – 10 weeks, Summer – 11 weeks) and there is a term's written notice for cancellation. The cost for the Autumn Term is £87 (plus £15 if you hire an instrument). This will be available to pay on Pay 360 Education after the lessons have started. We will email parents once the payments are live.

In addition to this, Classes 3 and 4 will be having whole class recorder lessons weekly with Mr Walker (no additional charge to parents for these lessons).

Swimming Lessons

We are planning to swim in the Spring and Summer Terms of 2022 with Years 3 -5 but have not yet had final confirmation from the Leisure Centre as to what they are able to offer us. As soon as we have further information, I will let you know.

Class Cooking

During the school year, all classes will have the opportunity to cook in small groups. This is an important skill and something that the children really enjoy doing. They will be able to bring home their baking 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 Pay 360 Education (Year R parents will get login details once your children have started with us).

School Photographer – Tuesday 21 September

The school photographer will be visiting on Tuesday 21 September. All children will have an individual photograph taken. Children with siblings at St Andrew's will also have their photos taken together. Unfortunately, we are not able to offer photos with siblings who do not attend our school this year.

Harvest Festival

We will be collecting donations during the week commencing Monday 27 September for the Trussell Trust ahead of our Harvest Festival service on Friday 1 October. Harvest Festival this year will just be for our pupils to reduce the capacity in the hall. We hope to be able to invite parents in again next year.

A list of foods that the Trussell Trust is currently needing is available at:-

<https://salisbury.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/>

Bikeability Courses for Year 6 pupils – 4-5 October and 6-7 October

We have booked bikeability courses for our Year 6 pupils and will send out a letter shortly so that parents can book their children onto one of these courses. Bikeability provides invaluable training which is really important for the children, especially once they go on to secondary school.

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Parent/Teacher Meetings – 2 & 4 November

We will be holding our Parent/Teacher meetings during the week after half term on Tuesday 2 November and Thursday 4 November. We have not yet decided whether these will be in person or on Zoom but I will get in touch nearer the time to confirm arrangements.

Flu Immunisations – Monday 29 November

The school nursing team will be visiting school on Monday 29 November to carry out the flu nasal spray programme for all year groups. They will be sending us a link for parents to sign up for this shortly and we will forward this to you as soon as we receive it.

Attendance

I would like to remind all parents that the regulations governing Term-Time holidays do not now permit Headteachers to authorise any term-time leave for pupils unless there are exceptional circumstances as defined to us by the Education Welfare Officers as "unusual; not typical; forming an exception or rare instance; unusual; extraordinary".

Absences during a 6 month period which equal or exceed 10 half-day sessions may be subject to a Penalty Notice, so if you take your child out of school for a whole week then I will have to notify the Education Welfare Officers to this effect, as a week (Monday – Friday) equates to 10 school sessions. Regular, punctual attendance at school is really important for your child's progress. Please can you help us by ensuring that your child is in school punctually (by 8.40am to line up in the playground) and that children are not taken out of school during term-time unless there are exceptional circumstances. I monitor every child's attendance each half-term and will contact the parents of those children whose attendance is below 90%, or otherwise giving cause for concern, so that we can discuss their attendance further.

Parent Helpers

We are delighted to be able to welcome parent helpers back into school this term. If you would like to help out with reading, cooking or any other activities then please let us know. All helpers must have a new DBS check through our school office (even if you helped out pre-lockdown) and we are still asking visitors to wear a face-covering this term.

Primary and Secondary School Applications for September 2022 Admissions

Applications for Primary and Secondary Admissions for September 2021 should be made online at www.wiltshire.gov.uk. **The primary deadline is 15 January 2022 and Year 6 parents must submit their secondary school applications by 31 October 2021.** There were a number of parents who missed the deadline last year, despite reminders, which caused much stress to the family and the child, so please put the date in your calendar/diary.

Uniform

Please ensure that all uniform is named (especially sweatshirts). Please could children wear school shoes rather than trainers.

PE Kits

All children need to have 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 their pegs. Reminder letters will be sent home to parents whose children come without kit. If your child has ear-rings, they should remove these for PE and sporting activities. If they are unable to do this, then the ear-rings need to be covered by a plaster for PE lessons.

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On Wednesdays, Years 2-6 will have PE lessons **outside** with our Sports Coach, Ed, so in colder weather they may need tracksuit bottoms.

Parking

We would like to remind all parents that you should not park or drive along the lane at the side of school before or after school. For this reason, we now have a barrier put across the bottom of the lane at the start and end of the school day to protect our pupils (please do not park in front of the barrier either!). Parents must not use the staff car park for parking and turning, and under no circumstances should children be allowed to walk across the staff car park. If you are parking along Church Road, please park considerately as we often have complaints from local residents about parents parking on double yellow lines and blocking driveways. The safety of our children should be paramount for **all** parents.

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, in line with our E-Safety policy. The telephone in the school office is always available for children to contact their parents or for you to phone if you need to get a message to your child. 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.

Sustainable Travel

As you may be aware, we are working with Wyvern St Edmund's and St Joseph's School, the Parish Council, the local Wiltshire Councillor and local residents to seek common ground and take actions which can improve the traffic situation for all members of the community. One action that schools have committed to is using the HomeRun App which will help to inform our action planning. Some parents have already signed up but we would encourage as many parents as possible to do so, so that we can work towards more sustainable travel in Laverstock.

HomeRun provides a private and secure network for the school community.

- For those of you with older children with smartphones, you can monitor their child's journey with real-time updates to encourage safe independent travel;
- You can ask other parents' advice about alternative travel options without sharing personal contact details;
- The Laverstock schools will gain a better understanding of the factors affecting your choice of travel mode to inform the action planning referred to above.

Full details of the HomeRun app, including their privacy policy, can be found at <https://www.homerun-app.com>. Whilst there is a car-share aspect to the app, we understand that in the current pandemic, this is likely to be something you won't use at the moment but can come back to in the future. Please download the app using the link below. The link will authenticate you as a parent of a child at our school. Please do not share the link below with parents of children from other schools.

www.homerun-app.com/stava2930

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Communication

If you are still receiving a paper copy of this letter, please consider receiving school correspondence by email instead. This method of communication is more reliable than putting letters in bookbags which tend to get lost en route, or mislaid at home. Those parents who receive paper copies will receive one copy only (via their eldest child). To request email instead, please contact admin@st-andrews-laverstock.wilts.sch.uk with your email address. A copy of all letters is also published on the website under About Us – Newsletters, and a paper copy is available from the "Parent Letters" folder outside the Office.

"OurSchools" App

If you have not already done so, why not download our free school app onto your phone to receive updates of school dates and other news? Go to the App Store or Googleplay, and search for "ourschoolsapp". Once the app is downloaded, search for our school (postcode SP1 1QX) to complete the set up. If you feel you are receiving too much information, you can adjust the details that you receive by changing the app's Notifications. **Please see the attached flyer giving information on how to access both the school app and the school website.**

Water Bottles

All children should bring a water bottle to school filled with water (not squash). This can be re-filled from the jugs of water provided in each classroom during the day. Squash/fruit juice is only allowed to be drunk with lunch. The childrens' water fountain will be back in use again shortly once it has been flushed through and serviced.

Diary Dates

Please see overleaf. A complete list of Term Dates for 2021/22 is available on our school website under Key Dates – Term Dates. The last day of the summer term for the children will now be Thursday 21 July, as schools have been given an additional day's holiday in lieu of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Bank Holiday.

Sincerely

Mrs K J Walker

Headteacher

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Diary Dates – St Andrew's Primary School

TERM 1 2021/22

Thursday 2 September	First day of Term 1 for Years 1 – 6
Tuesday 7 September	First day for Year R (8.45am – 11.45am)
Weds 8 September	Year R in school (8.45am – 11.45am)
9-13 September	Year R in school (8.45am – 12.45pm including lunch)
Monday 13 September	Clubs start this week
Tuesday 14 September	Year R in school (8.45am – 2pm)
Tuesday 14 September	Drama workshops Years 1 & 2 (am)
Weds 15 September	First full day for Year R
Tuesday 21 September	School Photographer (individual/sibling photos)
4/5 October 2021	Bikeability Group 1
6/7 October 2021	Bikeability Group 2
Tuesday 19 October	Last day of Term 1
Sunday 31 October	Deadline for secondary school applications for September 2022

TERM 2 2021/22

Monday 1 November	First day of Term 2
Tuesday 2 November	Parent/Teacher Meetings (details to be confirmed)
Thursday 4 November	Parent/Teacher Meetings (details to be confirmed)
Monday 15 November	Deadline for Shoebox Appeal donations
Friday 19 November	Children in Need Day
Monday 29 November	Flu immunisations (all year groups)
Friday 17 December	Last day of Term 2

TERM 3 2021/22

Wednesday 5 January	First day of Term 3
Saturday 15 January	Deadline for primary school applications for September 2022
Friday 18 February	Last day of Term 3

TERM 4 2021/22

Monday 28 February	First day of Term 4
Thursday 7 April	Last day of Term 4

TERM 5 2021/22

Monday 25 April	First day of Term 5
Tuesday 24 May	Whole School and Class Group Photos
Friday 27 May	Last day of Term 5

TERM 6 2021/22

Monday 6 June	First day of Term 6
Thursday 21 July	Last day of Term 6 PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE

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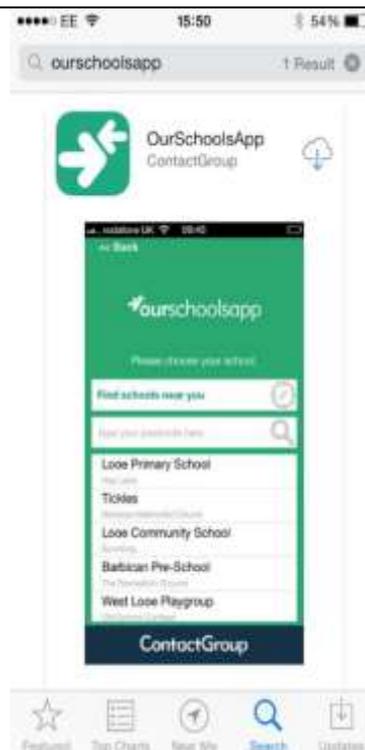


'Our Schools App' for St Andrew's Primary School

We would like to invite all parents and carers to download Our App. This will notify you of school events, news items and whenever we upload information to our website. It also contains useful information about school, including our key policies, and links to some of our website pages.

Instructions for download:

1. Using your device (iPad, iPhone, smart pad, tablet or android phone), visit the relevant marketplace for your product (Apple Store or Google Play).
2. Search for '**OurSchoolsApp**' and download the app.
3. Once downloaded, us the search bar within the app and enter the postcode or the name of the school.
4. Hit the search button.
5. Once you see the school name displayed, just touch the screen on the school name.
6. Confirm your choice by pressing 'OK'.
7. You will now be presented with the correct app for your chosen school which contains news, information, calendar events, contacts and any other relevant details.
8. If you wish to change the type and number of notifications that you receive from school, go to the Settings section of the app to customise this for your use.



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St Andrew's School Website :
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We would like to invite all parents and carers to take a look at our website, which includes useful information about our school as well as links to our Uniform Ordering website and the School Online Payment System (Pay).



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