

'Do Everything In LOVE' - 1 Corinthians 16 v14



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Headteacher

Mrs K Walker BEd NPQH

Deputy Head

Miss A Hodgson BAEd



23 April 2021

Dear Parents

Starters and Leavers

Last term, we were sorry to say goodbye to Mrs Hay, who has moved to another school. We wish her lots of luck in her new job. We are pleased to welcome Miss Leedham, as a Teaching Assistant (Year 3). We also have Miss Wright (Year 4) and Mrs Dugwell (Year 5), with us this term as student teachers, and Mrs Tan (Year 1) who is doing her Teaching Assistant placement. We are delighted to welcome four new pupils: Leon (Year 6), Leo (Year 4), Reuben (Year 2) and Ivy (Year 1). We hope that they will be very happy at St Andrew's.

Clubs and Summer Events

As we are able to distance musicians in the hall, we will begin Band next Friday, and Choir on Mondays for Year 5 and 6 (for now). We will possibly extend this to Years 3 and 4 later in the term. We may also be able to offer outside sports clubs later in the term and will inform you as and when we are able to do this.

We will plan for our summer events as usual and will publish dates and details to parents when we have received updated guidance on the protocols and procedures for visiting 'audiences'.

Lunches

Universal Free School Meals are available for all Reception and Key Stage 1 pupils daily. Please continue to fill in the order forms so that we are able to order the correct quantities of food each day. Copies are available on the website under Food For Life – School Lunches, or paper copies are available outside the School Office.

Key Stage 2 pupils can order hot lunches at £2.30 per day/£11.50 per week (£66.70 up to the May holiday). **All meals must be ordered and paid for in advance.** Please pay online using SIMS Pay (www.st-andrews-laverstock.wilts.sch.uk – About Us – Online Payments).

Tuck

Tuck is available for 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.

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Music Lessons

Summer Term fees are now payable on SIMS Pay for those children who take individual music lessons. There are 10 lessons in the summer term (£72.50). Children in Years 3 and 4 will continue to have whole class recorder lessons with Mr Walker on Friday afternoons.

Osmington Bay Update

We are unfortunately still awaiting confirmation from PGL that our trip can go ahead in June for those children in Year 5 and 6 who have reserved their places. As soon as we have any more news I will let you know. In the meantime, we are still working towards a final deadline for payment of Friday 21 May for the trip. Money can be added to your SIMS Pay Account at any time, and you can see the balance still owing. Should the trip be cancelled, then all monies paid to school will of course be refunded.

Volunteers

We are delighted to be able to welcome volunteer helpers back this term. As part of our safeguarding process, we will need to complete DBS checks for every volunteer, even if you were helping out pre-pandemic, as there has been more than a 3 month gap since anyone last helped out in school. Please contact Mrs Poynting in the School Office to arrange this (admin@st-andrews-laverstock.wilts.sch.uk).

During the pandemic, volunteers will only be able to work in one class bubble and will need to wear visors whilst working with the children. We also need volunteers to do lateral flow tests before coming into school each week. These can be ordered online and should arrive within a couple of days. If you have problems obtaining these, please contact us.

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 as it is exclusively for our parents.

www.homerun-app.com/stava2930

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Mobile Phones

Lots of children are bringing mobile phones to school. These have to be handed into their teacher on arrival and cannot be used during the school day. Please do not send your child in with a phone unless it is absolutely necessary for their safety (i.e. if they walk home alone). School cannot accept responsibility for any phones brought onto our premises.

Families Reading Every Day (FRED)

Family and Community Learning have a new free course for parents to help improve their children's reading skills. It aims to encourage families to spend time together and recognise the fun and fulfilment that can be enjoyed through words and pictures. It will develop learners' understanding of the methods and steps used to teach children to read. Studies show the positive effects for children if family members read regularly to them, including: better school attendance; higher self-esteem/confidence and making friends. The online course has practical group activities, in a relaxed and friendly environment. It includes learning to:-

- Understand the importance, as your child's first teacher, of daily reading
- Various methods of reading and how to have fun reading together
- Develop confidence with communication, reading and storytelling
- Various methods of reading and how to have fun reading together
- Develop confidence with communication, reading and storytelling

The course is for 2-hour sessions over 5 weeks (starting on 27 April), with some activities to do at home. It can be booked via <https://workwiltshire.co.uk/event/fred-27-04/>

School Pick Ups and Drop Offs

We are not yet at the end of the pandemic, although we can be cautiously optimistic. However, protocols and procedures must still be followed until we are told otherwise by the DfE. Therefore, please can I ask you when collecting your children to:-

- not arrive too early.
- please wait (socially distanced) on the playground, unless you are collecting siblings (who should be at the front of the school).
- do not wait on the paths.
- leave promptly and do not gather for a chat.
- not allow children to play on the playground or the playpark.

Uniform

A few uniform reminders. **All** children should be wearing proper school shoes (not trainers). Children should have their full PE kit in school at all times. No nail varnish or hooped ear-rings are allowed, and any stud ear-rings worn will be covered for PE. As the weather hopefully warms up, please also make sure that your child has a full water bottle with them, and that they have a hat and are wearing sunscreen if needed. And finally, please can all sweatshirts and cardigans be named!

Local Events

With out-of-school activities slowly restarting, we will add any information we receive about local family events to our website (under Local Community - Forthcoming Events).

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Dates

Please see overleaf for important dates for the summer term. **Friday 28 May is no longer a Teacher Training Day and school will be open as usual.** I am attaching a list of Term Dates for 2021/22 including all the TD Days. This is also on our website (Key Dates – Term Dates).

Sincerely

Mrs K J Walker

Headteacher

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Diary Dates – St Andrew's Primary School

TERM 5

Monday 19 April

Monday 3 May

Friday 29 May

First Day of Term 5

Bank Holiday – School Closed

Last Day of Term 5 (please note change of date)

TERM 6

Monday 7 June

Tuesday 15 June

Wednesday 30 June

Wednesday 7 July

Thursday 22 July

First Day of Term 6

School Photos – Groups/Classes

New Year 7 Induction Day (BWS)

New Year 7 Induction Day (Wyvern, St Edmund's, St Joseph's)

Last Day of Term 6