

St. Andrew's VC Primary School

Newsletter

Sept. 2026



ASPIRE BELIEVE CELEBRATE

At St. Andrew's School we develop **aspiration**, **strength** and **self-belief** by **supporting** each other and **living** our values.

Don't be afraid, I have called you by name, you are mine. I have marked your name on the palms of my hands. (Isaiah 43:1 and 49:16)

The parable of the lost sheep tells us that God is like the Good Shepherd. Just as God knows and loves every individual, so we care for every individual in our school.



Collective Worship and Values Education

Some of our first assemblies will be about the particular words and phrases in our Vision Statement and what it means to have values as the strong foundation of our lives.

Our value for this half term is Joy.

Joy is the expression of inner happiness and contentment.

Joyous people look for the good in every situation.

Choose to be positive and content and you will be a source of joy to others.

When we discuss this value with the children we discuss what gives us inner happiness and contentment. We discuss the idea of optimism, having a positive mindset and what we can do to achieve that. We put the value in the context of our work on feelings, how to recognise them and what to do about them.

We talk about the fact that for Christians, joy is more than happiness, as it comes from their faith and it sustains them through all the emotions they feel.

We will also have Revd Liz from St. Andrew's Church here to lead some assemblies this term on 21st Sept. at the West Site and on 28th Sept. at the East Site.

Parent Information Evenings – Years 1 - 6

We are inviting you to come back to school with your children to meet the teachers and to hear about the year ahead.

You can find out what the children will be learning, what the expectations are and how you can support home. You can also have a look around the school and the classroom.

The talk for each year band will start promptly at these times:

8th Sept – 5.00 p.m. Yr 1, 5.30 p.m. Yr 2

9th Sept – 5.00 p.m. Yr 3, 5.30 p.m. Yr 4

10th Sept – 5.00 p.m. Yr 5, 5.30 p.m. Yr 6.

We look forward to seeing you.

Church News We hope to see many of you at **St. Andrew's Church Country Fayre** on **Saturday 19th September**.

Some of our children will be singing in the choir, but **all our children can take part** in some more singing after the choir have performed. Our time to perform is **at 12 noon**. If you plan to bring your child for this we would like them to be in their school uniform please. The Fayre always raises money for good causes and is a real community event for the town. We hope to see many of you there.

Teacher List – Autumn 2026

Mrs. Rolfe – Head Teacher

West Site

Mrs. Lanning – Head of Site
Mrs. Gotts and Mrs. Ross-Smith – SENDCOs

Yr R Teachers

DAFFODIL – Mrs. Fry & Mrs. Greenwood
PRIMROSE Mrs. Cooper & Mrs. Hall

Yr 1 Teachers

ROBIN - Mrs. Greenwood & Mrs. McKenzie
SWALLOW - Miss Baitup

Yr 2 Teachers

OWL – Mrs. Willis
PUFFIN – Mrs. Simms

Yr 3 Teachers

OAK – Miss Iddon
WILLOW – Miss Park
ASH – Mrs. Makepeace & Mrs. Coles

Yr 4 Teachers

MAPLE – Mrs. Bustard
HOLLY – Mrs. Barham & Mrs. Rogers

Yr 5 Teachers

DERWENT – Mr. Macinnes
WINDERMERE – Mrs. Bansal
GRASMERE – Mrs. Stewart

Yr 6 Teachers

RUTLAND - Mrs. Parratt
ULLSWATER – Mrs. Steward & Mrs. Holden

East Site

Mrs. Hunt & Ms. Yates – Heads of Site
Mrs. Bailey – SENDCO

Yr R Teachers

SUNFLOWER - Miss Goose
MARIGOLD – Mrs. Chhibber

Yr 1 Teachers

CHAFFINCH – Miss Jakes
SPARROW – Miss Kirk

Yr 2 Teachers

BLACKBIRD – Mrs. Anderson & Mrs. Edwards
KESTREL – Miss Hazelwood

Yr 3 Teachers

LARCH – Mr. Groombridge
ELM – Miss Pitts
POPLAR – Mrs. McGahern

Yr 4 Teachers

SPRUCE – Ms Yates & Miss Lee
ROWAN – Miss Atkinson
BIRCH – Mrs. Gale & Mrs. Masiyano

Yr 5 Teachers

BUTTERMERE – Miss Porter
THIRLMERE – Mrs. Massey

Yr 6 Teachers

HAYESWATER – Miss Mulroy
CONISTON – Mrs. Duffy

Parent Questionnaire

Thank you for your responses on the parent questionnaire we sent out last term. Some of the areas we will be looking at and reviewing from this include;

- Provision for UKS2, including PE – better information about what is already provided and what will be provided.
- Continue to work with Secondaries on improved transition processes.
- Review Sports Day
- Review provision and targets for free readers
- Review parent appointments – remote / face to face
- Ensure parent appointments and reports cover next steps and how to help at home for all children
- Parent Information sessions – continue with sessions on Maths, Phonics, Reading & Writing, PSHE/RSE/Well-Being, SATs.
- Parent Information Sessions – consider additional sessions on Therapeutic Thinking Behaviour Management and Preparation for Yr 7.
- A school facebook page to promote the school and its activities.
- Re-introduction of Parent Forum

We use your feedback, our staff and pupil questionnaire responses, our results analysis and our last Ofsted report to plan our priorities for development for the coming year. The full School Development Plan for 26-27 will soon be on our website.

Information for parents - keeping in touch and raising concerns

At St. Andrew's we want to work with the parents of our children in a positive and constructive way to ensure the best outcomes for the children. Communication is very important to us.

This term we are starting a school **facebook page**. The link will be sent to you next week.

Information on the curriculum and upcoming events will also still be available on our **school website**, in monthly **newsletters** and via **parentmail**.

We will also give you information soon about a re-launch of our **parent forum**.

If you want to talk to your child's class teacher, you can mention the fact at the door and they will arrange a suitable time to meet you. You can also contact staff using the school email address office@standrews.beds.sch.uk making it clear who you want the email to go to. Where possible, please do not email individual members of staff, and if you do, perhaps because they have contacted you, please schedule the emails to be sent in working hours.

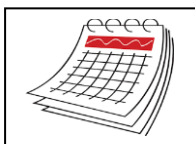
If you have any concerns about any issues at school this [guide](#) gives you some useful guidance specifically for parents on how to raise concerns at school. It will also be attached to the parentmail you receive with this newsletter.

One of the items in the guidance is about parents' use of social media. "Sharing your complaint on social media can be harmful to those involved and will not lead to a quicker resolution." It can be especially harmful when it names or identifies individual adults/children in the school or the wider community.

Part of the school's Vision Statement is all about supporting each other. Raising and educating children is what parents and schools are all about and it is important that we recognise that we are all striving to do our very best for every individual child. By working together and communicating well, we will achieve so much more.

Diary Dates

8.9.26 – Parent Information Evening for Yrs 1 & 2
9.9.26 – Parent Information Evening for Yrs 3 & 4
10.9.26 – Parent Information Evening for Yrs 5 & 6
15.9.26 – 18.9.26 – WEST Yr 6 Residential Trip
18.9.26 – EAST Flu vaccinations
19.9.26 – Church Country Fayre
22.9.26 – 25.9.26 - EAST Yr 6 Residential Trip
26.9.26 – EAST PTFA Fete
5.10.26 – BCUS Eco Week - Sustainability Symposium
14.10.26 - Yr 1 Church Service
20.10.26 - WEST Flu Vaccinations
21.10.26 & 22.10.26 – Parent Appointment Evenings.
23.10.26 - Harvest Assembly
26.10.26 – 30.10.26 - HALF TERM BREAK
2.11.26 – STAFF TRAINING DAY
3.11.26 - Children back to school
18.12.26 Last Day of Term



4th Jan. – Training day

5th Jan – First day of term

15th – 19th Feb. – Half Term Break

25th March – Last Day of Term

12th April – Staff Training day

13th April – First day of term

3rd May – BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY

31st May – 4th June – Half Term Break

21st July – Last day of term

PLEASE NOTE - NOT ALL SCHOOLS IN THE LOCAL AUTHORITY OR THE TOWN HAVE THE SAME DATES

Hall, Muga and Field Hire

If you run, or know of, a club that needs the weekly use of a hall, MUGA or field on a Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday evening – do remember that our school facilities are available for hire.

If you are interested please email office@standrews.beds.sch.uk