

STRIVING FOR EXCELLENCE-



THIS HALF TERM WE ARE FOCUSING ON THE CHRISTIAN VALUE OF PERSEVERENCE

SPRING 2026 HEADTEACHER'S NEWSLETTER

Introduction

Happy New Year to all our school family! I hope you enjoyed a lovely Christmas break with your children. In this first newsletter of 2026. I will inform you of some initial dates and activities for the spring term. These will be added to as the term progresses.

Fundraising

Money spent at the November book fair earned us £234.36 to spend on books for our library from Scholastic. Thank you for supporting this.

The school Christmas disco and raffle made a fantastic profit of **£407.85** for school funds. This year we will continue to use this to subsidise school visits and enrichment experiences that will take place in the spring and summer terms. This keeps the cost down for families during these challenging times.

Laptops

Mrs Bews has been successful in getting an IT company (ANS.CO.UK) to donate 100 laptops to school. We will spend some of the school fund money to get them all up to our required specifications and then the children will get so much use and value from them.

Staffing

We welcome Mrs Fernando to our team of permanent teaching assistants. Mrs Fernando has worked in school for many years as a welfare assistant and supply teaching assistant so knows our school and children well.

Governors are working through the recruitment process to appoint the next headteacher of St Andrew's. Interviews will be held at the end of January. It feels very strange for me to see this happening, but I know that whoever is successfully appointed will be fortunate to take over such a wonderful school. Once an appointment has been made, I will work closely with the new head to ensure the transition after Easter is a smooth one for children and staff.

Attendance

Our attendance figure for the autumn term was 94%, This is still below our target of 96%. Moving forward we will continue to take the following actions;

- Monitor, and take action around, the attendance of any child who falls below target.
- Carry out 'attendance sweeps' visiting homes where there is an unexplained absence.
- Issue fines to any parents who take pupils on holiday in term time (please note money from fines paid goes to the local authority, not school).
- Ask for medical evidence for children who are persistently absent
- Require parents/carers to attend meetings with the education welfare officer and school attendance lead where attendance is a concern.

Road Safety

- Year 6 will be taking part in the Bikeability scheme run by the Road Safety team. This cycling course is free of charge and delivered by nationally accredited instructors. It is so important to ensure the safety of our pupils when riding their bicycles. The course will take place during 9th – 12th March.
- As I informed you in December, I have been working closely with local councillors Irfan Syed and Teresa Pepper to address the dangerous driving and parking on Prescott St. We want the council to erect low fencing along the pavements to prevent drivers mounting the kerb. I will also be meeting with Andrew Fisher who is Salford's sustainable transport co-ordinator. He wants to discuss solutions and ideas to encourage pupils/parents to use more active forms of travel and help reduce car use.

Sports Partnerships and Spring Term Clubs

Premier Sports will continue to deliver sports' coaching at lunchtimes and after school.

Monday

KS1 and 2 lunchtime sports
Dodgeball (KS1)
Reading Booster Club (Y6)
Pyramid Club

Tuesday

Maths Booster Club (Y6)
Pupil Rights Group
Choir

Wednesday

Football (Y3 and Y4)

Thursday

Basketball Y5 and 6

Friday

KS1 and 2 lunchtime sports

Staff will send out further details of these clubs.



Family Worship

Year 2 family worship will be on 30th January at 9am.

Year 1 family worship will be on 13th March at 9am.

Reception family worship will be after Easter.



Parental Partnership

Mrs Utzeri, our Family Support Worker, is available for parents and carers to speak to. She is usually available on the playground before and after school or an appointment can be made, via the school office.

Parent/Pupil Consultations

The spring term parent/pupil consultations will be on 24th March between 3.30-6.30pm. Please use this opportunity to speak with your child's teacher to review their progress. Further details will be sent out regarding appointments nearer the time. We will again be offering either face-to-face or telephone appointments.

Initial Dates for Your Diary

7th January: Y1 hearing screening

30th January: Y2 family worship

4th February: Air Ambulance Assembly

13th February: School breaks up for half term for one week

3rd March: Year 6 SATs meeting for parents (3.30pm)

5th March: World Book Day (Details to follow).

13th March: Y1 family worship

24th March: Parents' evening

2nd April: Break Up for Easter holiday

School re-opens on Monday 20th April.

I will keep you informed of further dates and activities as they are planned. Thank you for your continued support with everything we do in school.

Mrs A Barker

Headteacher