



St. Andrew's CE
Primary School



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Headteacher: Mr S D France B.A. (Hons)

Dear Parents/Carers

Monday 9th December 2024

I hope that you are well and surviving the constant storms that we seem to be having at the moment. So far this term, we have had four named storms and a snow day, so it hasn't been a typical Autumn. However, it has been a really busy term at the school and we are very proud of how much progress the children are making in this academic year. As such, I just wanted to give you a few updates of the things that have been happening over recent weeks.

CBeebies Ridiculous Rhyme show

On Wednesday the 27th November, CBeebies visited the school with their Ridiculous Rhyme show. Our younger children had fantastic fun watching the performance whereas our older pupils were treated to a workshop which showed them all about how a TV show is produced and they even had the opportunity to work some of the technology that is used. It was a fantastic day and it was great for the children to experience something that could raise their aspirations. Who knows, there may be a future star amongst us.

PTA re-formation

As you will be aware, our PTA has been less active over recent months, and so it was great to attend on the 22nd November to re-ignite the valuable work that the PTA does in putting on events and raising much needed funds for the school. We are now starting to plan in events for the Spring Term such as a disco and a Spring Fair. As always, if anyone feels they could help at any of our future events, that would be greatly appreciated.

Sports Clubs

This term it has been fantastic to see the number of clubs that we offer at the school increase again and now we have a very committed Netball club who are looking forward to starting to play some fixtures against other schools. Our football teams have been in action recently and both the boys', and girls' teams made it into the area quarter final of the National League Trust cup. Both teams battled hard and we were very proud of them. They were only knocked out in the end on penalties, or by a lucky goal... But then, I am a little biased!



**Making a difference: for good, with each other,
everyone, in our community.**



'Let all you do, be done in love'

1 Corinthians 14:16





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School Choir

Our school choir has a very busy Christmas schedule at the moment as they are performing for several community groups over the coming days and also joining other school choirs in the area to perform at St. John's church on Tuesday this week. They have put a lot of effort into learning and rehearsing their carols and I know that they will make us all proud.

Parent's evenings

Please could I say a massive thank you to all of you who attended our recent parent's evenings. For your children to reach their potential, it is crucially important that we work as a team. It was great to see so many of you attending these meetings as we work in partnership to achieve the best possible outcomes for the children. If you were not able to attend those evenings, then please get in touch with your child's teacher and they will be glad to arrange a time to speak to you.

Weymouth FC

Many of you will know that we have been working in partnership with our local football club Weymouth FC over recent months. This has allowed us to put on a greater range of school clubs, but it has also allowed our children to have extra health and well-being sessions, where they have also met some of the players. Weymouth FC players have even been in school to read with many of our children, and as an extra surprise, some of our children and families were able to get free tickets to attend a couple of the games for the men's and women's teams. I would like to say a particular thank you to Tom Bearwish, Weymouth's captain, who has been to the school quite regularly. We are looking forward to continuing to work with Weymouth, and we hope that their season turns a corner soon.

Reading at home

I would also like to say a big thank you to everyone who is spending time reading with their children at home. Since we revised our approach to reading at the beginning of the Autumn term, we have seen a noticeable uptick in the amount of reading that our children are doing at home. Due to this, we have been able to hand out a significant number of tokens for our book vending machine, as you may have seen on our social media. Reading is proven to be one of the biggest



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indicators of future success at school and so it is vital that we continue to press ahead with this and give our children the best possible chances in life. Thank you for all that you are doing to help.

Parent volunteers

Please could I say a big thank you to everyone who has come into the school and volunteered their time to help the children. This might have been helping with a trip or coming into school to listen to children reading. It is a massive help, and in a time where money is extremely tight, it really helps the school to continue to move forwards. If anyone feels they have some time that they could give to the school, then please come and chat to me, or pop into the school office for more information.

School progress

This year we have continued to drive forwards as a school. It is no secret that 18 months ago, there was a significant amount of change and development that needed to happen. That is why we were so pleased that in our most recent Trust monitoring visit, we were moved up a grade on their system to reinforcement. This is a testament to the hard work of the staff, the children and yourselves and everyone should feel proud of the journey the school is on. We are however, aware that there is still plenty left to accomplish to ensure that St. Andrew's Primary is the best school that it can possibly be. However, by working together I do not doubt that we will accomplish this.

I am sorry that I have gone on a bit in this letter but I wanted to bring you up to date. I will look forward to seeing you at one of our upcoming events, and as always, if you would like to talk about any aspect of your child's education or welfare, then please come and find me for a chat.

Kind regards

Simon France
Headteacher



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