



22nd March 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we come towards the end of another busy term, it is always worthwhile to reflect upon some of the successes and challenges of the last few months. Following on from our delayed return to school in January due to the flood, I have been delighted with the resilience and determination shown by all children and staff to work as hard as possible to ensure that every minute counts in school. As you will see in this edition of the newsletter, there has been lots taking place in the life of the school, which we are delighted to share with you.

Collective Worship

We are very much looking towards Easter in our current and most recent collective worship sessions. On Monday, I led worship on the importance of Palm Sunday, and how Jesus was welcomed amidst huge celebrations upon entry into the city of Jerusalem. Unlike King Charles, Jesus did not live in a palace or wear a crown, but was seen as a King to his followers because of the way in which he acted and the miracles he performed. The Open the Book team will be with us next week to focus on some of the events leading up to the death and resurrection of Jesus.

Staffing Update

As you are aware, Mrs Whalen will be retiring from her roles in the office and at lunchtime next Thursday 28th March. Mrs Whalen has had a very long association with St. Andrew's Church of England Primary School, spanning over 23 years in a range of roles. We will be very sad to see her leave next Thursday, but wish her all the best for a very happy and peaceful retirement. On behalf of the whole school, thank you Mrs Whalen for all that you have done for us over the years – you will be missed!

We also say farewell to Mrs Allenby next Thursday, who will be stepping down from her role as Midday Assistant. We send our very best wishes to Mrs Allenby for the future and thank her for the dedication she has shown to our school.

After the Easter break, we will welcome Miss Fleming to our school family, who will take on the role of Admin Assistant in our school office. I am sure that all parents, carers and children will get to know Miss Fleming very quickly, either in person or via email and telephone communication. I know that you will make her feel very welcome as she begins her new role.

King Charles III Portrait

We were delighted to receive a framed portrait of His Majesty King Charles III into school last week. The portrait has been produced to mark the start of the new Reign, for use in public buildings and other official purposes. There is a long tradition of displaying a portrait of the Monarch in public buildings, signifying their importance at the heart of national life. The photograph of His Majesty was taken in autumn 2023 in Windsor Castle by photographer Hugo Burnard, who also took The King and Queen's Coronation photographs. I unveiled the portrait to the children in worship on Monday morning, and it is now taking pride of place on the main office corridor. We would like to take this opportunity as a school to wish His Majesty the very best in his treatment and recovery from his recent diagnosis.



School Events

The children continue to enjoy an array of additional events in school, as part of our golden thread of offering cultural experiences and enrichment opportunities. Last week, we were delighted to welcome representatives from Young Farmers Harmston into school, as part of Science Week. The children in York, Lincoln, Winchester and Canterbury were excited to meet the lambs and view the tractor that arrived in school. We were also able to send some children from Year 5, accompanied by Mr Harrison and Mrs Lee, to the Energy from Waste celebration, following their visit to the centre last academic year. We had some wonderful feedback from the organisers, who commented on the excellent attitude and knowledge of our children. Yesterday, Year 1 visited Lincoln Castle, and had a fantastic day taking part in a range of different activities to support their topic. Finally, a number of children across the school have taken part in sporting events such as the panathlon, water polo and netball in recent weeks – well done to all of the children for representing the school so well in each of these disciplines! A special ‘well done’ to the panathlon team, who achieved 1st place at their event yesterday afternoon.

Profiles

The children’s updated profiles will be sent home on the last day of term, Thursday 28th March. Please take the time to read through these, paying particular attention to the targets set but also celebrating your child’s successes over past term.

Malicious Communication

Please see the message below from the Lincolnshire Stay Safe Partnership (LSSP)

Malicious Communications has been an ongoing problem we have had in Lincolnshire for the last few years now. Online behaviour is something we talk regularly to children and young people about across the county within our online safety sessions. We want to also make sure parents are aware of these laws and the potential consequences our online behaviour can have in the real world, for our children’s futures. We have attached a document which outlines the different laws regarding online behaviour, this is to accompany our video aimed at parents - Stay Safe Talks - Malicious Communications
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Akl9CgpP9t8>

Before and After School Supervision

Please can I remind parents and carers to ensure that children are supervised adequately before and after school. Before school, children should not be on the grass areas or running around the car park. This is to ensure a calm start to the school day and to prevent mud from being brought into the building. We are aware that there is a period of waiting after school for children in EYFS/Key Stage 1; if parents/carers choose to allow their children to play on the grass, they must be supervised (please stand on the grass area with them). Please ensure that they are not picking up or playing with stones or sticks. Children should not be running around the car park either before or after school. Thank you for your support in this matter.



Book Fayre

A reminder that the book fayre is taking place tonight (Friday 22nd) as well as on Monday 25th and Wednesday 27th March. Please see the letter sent out with further details of opening times and how to pay for books. We hope to see as many of you as possible at the book fayre over the coming days.

X Feed (@LeasStAndrews)

Please keep an eye on the school's 'X' feed, for updates and photos of events taking place at St. Andrew's.

This will be our last newsletter before the end of term. May I take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support and wish everyone connected with St. Andrew's a very happy, peaceful and prosperous Easter break.

Yours sincerely

Mr M W Baker
Headteacher





Laws about online behaviour

There are a number of laws that apply to behaviour online.

❓ Is cyberbullying or trolling against the law?

Although bullying, cyberbullying or trolling are not specific criminal offences in UK law, there are criminal laws that can apply in terms of harassment or threatening behaviour. For example should you receive threatening, obscene or repeated messages and fear for your safety, this is against the law and you should contact the police. Context is taken into consideration and the police will determine the response on a case by case basis.

Some of the laws below are relevant:

Communications Act 2003: This Act covers all forms and types of public communication. With regards to comments online, it covers the sending of grossly offensive, obscene, menacing or indecent communications and any communication that causes needless anxiety or contains false accusation.

Protection from Harassment Act 1997: This Act covers any form of harassment that has occurred 'repeatedly'; in this instance, 'repeatedly' means on one or more occasions.

The Malicious Communications Act 1988: This Act covers the sending of grossly offensive or threatening letters, electronic communications or any other form of message with the intention of causing harm, distress or anxiety.

Equality Act 2010: This Act states that it is against the law to discriminate against anyone on the ground of protected characteristics. These include disability, gender reassignment (when a person undergoes a process, or part of a process – social or medical – for the purpose of reassigning their sex), race (including colour, nationality, ethnic or national origin), religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.

Hate crimes and hate speech if you commit a crime against someone because of their religion, race, sexual orientation or disability, this is classified as a hate crime. Hate speech is defined as expressions of hatred and threats directed at a person or a group of people on account of that person's colour, race, nationality, ethnic or national origin, religion or sexual orientation. Hate crimes should be reported to **True Vision** – www.report-it.org.uk

❓ What other laws affect the online space?

The Computer Misuse Act 1990 says you can't impersonate or steal someone else's identity online. This means that writing a status on social media pretending to be your friend is technically against the law.

The Protection of Children Act 1978 and the Criminal Justice Act 1988 says that indecent images (naked pictures) of children under the age of 18 are illegal.

Section 33 of the Criminal Justice and Courts Act 2015 refers to the new offence dealing with Revenge Pornography. This is a law relating to images of adults (ie over 18s), making it illegal to share or make public sexually explicit images of someone else, without their consent, with the intent to cause distress.

