

Stanley St Andrew's

Church of England Primary School

We are at the end of a long first term back at school and I want to take some time to update you all on lots of things that have been going on in school and behind the scenes. There are some good news stories to share and some upcoming events for you to add to your diaries.

It is lovely to see how well the children have settled back into school after what has been a very disrupted few years for them. However, Covid continues to be an issue and we acknowledge the rise in local cases is alarming for many. We now have 4 confirmed cases of Covid within school. We are unable to disclose any additional information and we request that staff are not asked.



The children, as you know, are not in bubbles and therefore all children will come into contact with each other, whether that be during lunchtime, playtime or moving around the building. Following the government guidelines, we continue to encourage good hand washing, covering mouth and using tissues.

Any child who is unwell in school will be sent home for testing and we ask that they do not return to school until they have completely recovered. Many children have been sent back to school when they are only starting to recover and this has an impact upon their peers and staff. We need to work together as we move into the winter season to keep everyone safe. Thank you for your assistance in ensuring we are able to keep school as safe as possible for all of our students, staff and the wider community.

Ofsted

We had a visit from HMI on the 21st September which was a really positive experience. The two inspectors were really impressed with our children who were their usual brilliant selves. Their findings for improvement was the matching of reading books to children's ability. The children who read to the inspectors struggled with applying their phonics knowledge to decode words. Reading was already on our school improvement plan as part of the catch up program due to Covid. We have already started to remove some older reading material and purchase more phonics based books to support all children.

Reading

We are currently in the process of ensuring all books in school correspond to the correct colour on active learn. Please use active learn and the '**read to me**' option too as research shows this is a brilliant way of helping children to read for reading at home. The bug questions also help children with their comprehension skills as they cover all seven strands of the assessment focuses. It also helps us assess as it gives us feedback as well as supporting children to answer similar questions at the end of each colour band. In addition, the DfE have highlighted the importance of reading a variety of books to children as it provides a range of vocabulary and experiences for you to talk about. We continue to ensure that all children are exposed to rich quality text in school and that each class has timetabled reading sessions which includes guided reading, individual reading and an adult reading aloud. Our fundraising this year will be to purchase more quality texts for class reads, individual reading books and guided reading packs.

School Improvement plan SIP

Every year, the school updates its plan of action for improvements to the school. Following the recent review our focus points for this year are:

School improvement priorities and objectives 2021/22	
Quality of education <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Ensure that the critical gaps identified within writing and maths are taught to help support missed learning due to the pandemic.2. Accelerate learning for SEND pupils through quality first teaching.3. Continue to raise standards of attainment in reading and phonics through first quality teaching.	Leadership and management <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Unpick teacher self-review to identify professional development linked to appraisal.2. Further develop a purposeful creative curriculum that includes pupil voice. Personal development <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Support and guide children to be mentally healthy and build up stamina for resilience.2. Implement, embed and monitor the Relationships Health Education policy and framework.3. Promote and encourage healthy lifestyles through knowledge sharing and a robust PE experiences.4. Re-establish the range of extra-curricular opportunities on offer.
Behaviour and Attitudes <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Embed wellbeing and support improved mental health across our school community following lockdown.2. Build resilience in the face of difficulties for both children and staff.3. Reunite the school community by re-establishing Collective Worship following the extended period of lockdown, isolation of year groups and remote contact.	
Early years <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Ensure effective transition into the setting.2. Ensure that parents/grandparents understand the Early Learning Goals in order to support their child effectively.3. Widen children's vocabulary and speaking skills through quality texts and experiences.	Safeguarding <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Continue to develop Safeguarding policies and robust procedures are in place and shared with all stakeholders.2. COVID-19 requirements are in place, information updated and shared.3. Further develop Safeguarding to ensure it is explicitly clear to children, and is embedded in the curriculum.

Safeguarding updates

We continue to work very hard to keep our allergy children safe it is wonderful to see that Natasha's law <https://natashas-law.com> has come into force and hopefully will give parents and children more confidence and protection in knowing the contents of foods.

We have a robust system in school where all children wash their hands and face after eating, to ensure they do not have any food products remaining on their hands, mouth and clothes. I appreciate that curry day sets us a challenge and there is a lot of clothing changes and items being sent home in bags, this is to ensure that our child with a severe allergy remains safe. To help with this, please make sure that all clothing is labelled as it is very difficult trying to match children and clothes without labels.

Thank you to those parents who have donated spare clothing to help us with this, it is really appreciated.

Please can I ask that parents continue to think very carefully about what is sent into school in packed lunches and to help reduce spillages by only sending in items that you know your child can open independently and to reduce the number of yoghurts and yoghurt type drinks.

Also remember we are a **nut free** school please do not send nut products into school.

Children are not able to bring sweet treats or cakes into school for birthday or other events as again, we do not want any child to be put at risk. Anything like this needs to be done outside of school.

If your child is in after school club and brings in a packed tea this must not contain sweets.



Squid Game

A number of children across school have mentioned that they have watched the series 'Squid Game' on Netflix. If you are not aware of this new programme it contains graphic scenes and violence that children will find upsetting. We are aware that versions of Squid game are available on Roblox, Minecraft and Fortnite, so although children have not watched the programme they can still be exposed to the same graphic themes via these platforms. This link has further information on Squid Game and how to talk about it with children if they have been exposed to it. <https://ineqe.com/2021/10/08/squid-game/>. Within this site, there is also a helpful safety guide on how to set parental controls on Netflix.

Flu vaccine

We are expecting the vaccination team in school on **Wednesday 1st December**.

Please visit <https://www.derbyshireandcityimms.co.uk/Forms/Flu> to complete the consent form.

The option to consent or decline the vaccination is at the end of the questionnaire so please complete even if you do not want your child to have the vaccination.



If you wish to decline the Flu spray due to the porcine element we are now able to offer an alternative injectable Flu vaccine that does not contain porcine. Please complete the consent form as a decline due to vaccine ingredients and we will then contact you to arrange vaccination.

Your unique school code for **Stanley St Andrews CE Voluntary Controlled Primary School** is **DD112854**

For more information about the vaccination please visit our website:

<https://www.derbyshirefamilyhealthservice.nhs.uk/our-services/5-19-years/school-age-immunisations>

Staffing News

We were very lucky on Wednesday to have a visit from Mr and Mrs Gresswell with baby Isla. It was lovely to see them all and I know that the children have waited a while for her visit. Isla is doing really well and Mrs Gresswell has taken well to motherhood and is enjoying her new role. Mrs Gresswell would like to thank everyone for the lovely messages, gifts and support that she has received during the past month. We are hoping to have a formal welcome collective worship for Isla next term.

Great news! Mrs Davies has achieved her High Level teaching assistant qualification and will be taking on additional roles within school. Well done to Mrs Davies for working so hard to achieve this award alongside working in school this is a super achievement in such a short time.

Thank you to all those parents who have supported us throughout this time of having limited staff. We are pleased that both Miss Willetts and Miss Barnes are on the mend and we hope that they will re-join the team after half term.

Harvest Festival



Thank you to all parents/grandparents who sent in items for the Harvest festival, it was a wonderful service and it was lovely to be back in church again. For some of our infant children it was the first time being in church and that is always a magical time for them. The harvest table was laden with a range of produce which encompassed our school values of love and respect for those less fortunate. It

great to be accompanied by head girl Livvy to take our donation down to West Hallam food bank where we were made to feel very welcome by the staff. We were able to see the difference that our donation would make to the lives of people locally. There are lots of photographs on the new section; Flourishing through our school values:

<https://st-andrews-churchof-primary-school.secure-primariesite.net/strand-6the-impact-of-collective-worship/>

School dinners

The new menu for Autumn and Winter 2021/22 is now available on the website.

[School Dinners | St Andrew's Church of England Primary School \(st-andrews-pri.derbyshire.sch.uk\)](https://st-andrews-pri.derbyshire.sch.uk)

The new menu will be served from Monday 1st November.

If your circumstances have changed recently, it may be worth applying for free school meals.

<https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/education/schools/your-child-at-school/meals/school-meals/free-school-meals.aspx>







Uniform supplies

There have been a number of complaints about the quality of some of the uniform items supplied this term. Based on this, we have decided to change our suppliers and try a new system. This means that we will no longer hold uniform in school and all orders will be done directly through the supplier. Loop School wear are based in Ilkeston but offer a fully online ordering option year round to parents <https://www.loopwear.co.uk/>. We have chosen Loop wear after checking samples of their garments and the quality of their work and are happy that they provide good quality products, reasonable prices and a direct service to parents. Once the uniform page goes 'live' we will let you know.



We do have a small number of book bags and other items left in school which we will sell until we have run out and then these items too will be available from Loop wear.

<p><u>Photographs</u></p> <p>After some feedback from parents, we have decided to change our photographer to a larger company, Jane Stapleton Photography www.jssp.co.uk</p> <p>The photographer will be in school on the morning of Monday 8th November and set up in a classroom to photograph students and sibling groups.</p> <p>If your child is not in school on the photograph day, unfortunately, there will not be an option for the company to come out again to visit. Proofs will be sent home from school a few days later and all orders will be done directly with the company. Please let us know your experiences of the service to see if it has been a successful change.</p>	 <p>ParentPay is continuing to work really well for us and we would like all parents to use this as their payment method wherever possible. If you do have any issues with this, please let the office know.</p>
<p><u>Colder Weather</u></p> <p>With the season changing, children need to have warm waterproof coats and warm hats, ready for all weather. We aim to get children outside all year round for learning and playing.</p> <p>To comply with Covid rules we are having to keep doors and windows open to ensure adequate ventilation in classes. As a result, it is much cooler than normal in school. If your child is feeling cold in school, please let us know. We are trying to balance safety and warmth. They may need to wear extra layers throughout the winter season. Please ensure that all hats and gloves have name labels in them.</p>	<p>School Website</p> <p>Please keep up to date with all the latest information on the school website</p> <p>www.st-andrews-pri.derbyshire.sch.uk</p> 
<p><u>Coat exchange</u></p> <p>If your child has grown out of their winter coat, we would love for them to be washed, their name label removed and brought into school so that we can repurpose them for another child in school and for a coat swap. We have decided to team up with Kilburn Infants to take part in a coat swap. This will take the form of us collecting a number of coats and taking them over to the school to ensure that our children in Derbyshire all have a winter coat. If there are any parents who have access to winter coats through their work this would be a wonderful opportunity for us to help locally.</p>	 <p>We send most communications via the Parent Hub app. Please check this regularly. If you are not signed up you will miss out. If you are having any problems with it, let us know.</p>
<p><u>Christmas</u></p> <p>We know that some parents and companies like to buy gifts for the school at Christmas and we will be setting up an Amazon wish-list for any parent or companies that wants to buy a little something for school. This year we are all about the books!</p> <p>We are hoping to increase the number of class reading sets that are available in school. So next term, staff will choose a class set of books and other free reading material for each class along with some treats for children and staff.</p>	

Head Girl

Hello my name is Olivia, although most of my friends call me Livvi. I'm a year six pupil at Stanley St Andrews Primary school and have just been made Head Girl.

When I'm not at school I like to sing and dance, I am a part of Footlights Stage School as I have been for four years now. We are putting on a show in a few weeks and I am very excited to be dancing in 5 dances.

I live with my mum, dad and sister, and we have recently got a puppy named Dexter. He is a cockapoo and is 8 weeks old.

I am passionate about everyone having a fair chance and I hope to bring this to the role of Head Girl.



Head Boy



Hello, my name is Elliot and I am the Head-Boy of Stanley St Andrew's. I'm a Year 6 student and I am enjoying my final year at primary school. Out of school I love to play many sports such as: football, cricket, bike riding and athletics. As well as that I love to play online with my friends.

In school, everyone is cared for and they all get a great education.

By the end of the school year, I would like to inspire the other pupils to be the best that they can be. Our school is a great place and I feel that everyone enjoys it.

International Link



Dum Dum is a school in Kolkata, India. We have been working with them as a link school for the last 7 years.

We continue to have good links with Ranu the teacher in charge of school, she reports that despite the monsoon hitting Kolkata very hard that all the children and their families are safe.

They have just celebrated the festival of Durgapuja which is a ten day event of which the last five days involves rituals and practices. Please see the website for photos and information updates.

As a school we support Dum Dum through our fundraising and sharing of professional dialogue with staff.

This year we hope to support them with ensuring that their building is fit for purpose as currently the school requires a new roof, we will keep you updated with our fundraising events.



Each year, our year 6 students have the opportunity to apply for jobs in school. The successful applicants are listed below:

Year 6 Awards

Olivia	Head Girl
Lochlan	ICT Director
Oliver	Pupil Voice Director
Lily	Creative Curriculum Director
Logan	India Link Director
Kayden	ECO Director
Edie	Collective Worship Director
George	Deputy Head Boy
Imogen	Community Links Director
Lizzy	Sport Director
Samuel	Reading Director
Amelia	Pupil Voice Director
Jemima	Siams Director
Sophie	Health and Safety Director
Dalacey	Deputy Head Girl
Lucas	Sport Director
Molly	RE Director
Jack	ICT Director
Elliot	Head Boy
Chloe	Wellbeing Director



Inset Days

We have updated the Inset day calendar on the website to show the extra day off we all get to celebrate the Queens Platinum Jubilee.

<https://www.st-andrews-pri.derbyshire.sch.uk/term-dates-and-inset-days/>



Shoe Box Appeal

Remember, remember the 5th November,
Christmas gifts in a box!

Don't forget to bring back your shoe boxes on Friday 5th November in the morning so that they are ready for collection from us. As a school we sent 30 boxes last year which was a fantastic number. Hopefully we can spread the same amount of Joy this year.

Attendance

We continue to have good attendance figures despite the seasonal colds and inevitable virus sharing that happens at the start of every academic year. Thank you all for helping encourage children to be in school when they can and recognise when to be cautious and keep children at home.

The attendance figures so far this academic year are:



Robins	94.9%
Puffins	94.7%
Kingfishers	97.3%
Golden Eagles	96.1%



Crossing Patrol



Kay continues as our crossing patrol at the top of the drive. With parents not being able to park at the pub, this is the safest place for her to stand. It is really important that if parents are crossing the road, they cross with Kay. Not only does this set a good example to our children, but also shows that the crossing patrol is a required service. DCC are trying to reduce crossing patrols across the county so if we don't use it we may lose it.

In general parking has improved and we have not had any complaints from residents. My observations suggest we now only have a handful of parents that are not thinking about where they park. Parking on the bend is not helpful as it means that cars have to go onto the opposite carriageway to get around which is dangerous and could cause an accident.