

Summer 2023 Newsletter

Stanley St Andrew's

Church of England Primary School



Bishop's badge

We are delighted that George has been awarded the bishops badge this year. George and his family went to the service on Thursday 29th to receive the bishop's badge for his services to our school and the local community. It was wonderful for me and staff to be present at the service where the Bishop of Repton presented George with his badge along with nine other children from across Derby city and Derbyshire.



Artsmark

It feels like forever that we have been working towards the Artsmark, as we started the journey in fact it was just before lockdown. The award confirms that the hard work of staff and children has paid off and that we are on the right tracks.

Arts Award recognises a wide range of arts and cultural activities:

- Performing arts (such as music, dance, drama, storytelling, circus, mime, carnival, musical theatre)
- Visual arts, craft and design (such as drawing, painting, ceramics, sculpture, textiles, printmaking, fashion, design, architecture)
- Literature (such as poetry, fiction, journalism, scriptwriting, storytelling)
- Digital and media (such as 'digital making' using code, as well as photography, film, video, broadcasting, web design, multimedia games design)
- Heritage activities including visits, workshops and projects with museums and heritage venues, provided the focus is on arts knowledge, appreciation and skills

The Artsmark recognises that:

We are a small rural school and have found creative ways to address potential barriers to achieving such as: not having a school hall has not deterred us in implementing dance and drama. Having limited display space has led us to purchase display screens to share and show children's artwork. Using culture as a driving force to break down barriers and stereotypes by changing class names from birds to famous people.

Schools next steps for the following areas next year.

- Children need to contribute to planning, delivery of authentic arts and cultural experiences.
- Children need to take ownership of their engagement and personal progression within the Arts by sharing progression documents so they could see what they need to do next to progress.
- Introduce greater diversity through music and dance in the future.
- Further develop staff knowledge and skills through a structured CPD programme in the Arts?
- Establish collaborations with other educational settings, creative practitioners and arts and cultural organisations such as local museums, galleries, and theatres.

We have already started some of this work such as the older children have had input into this year's Festival Day. Music played in collective worship and at lunchtimes is selected by the children. We continue to actively encourage children to share their experiences with us so that we can celebrate with them.

Pentecost Chabod service 28th May 2023

The whole school was invited to the Pentecost service at St Alkmund's church in Derby the service was planned by Father Julius. I really appreciate Freyja, Darcey, Heidi and Jack attending. Also thank you to Imogen and Liv, our year 7 students who came to help us out, it was much appreciated. A huge thank you to Mrs Gresswell for giving her Sunday evening up to come and support the children. If you have not yet seen the photos and video, please check out the website

<https://www.st-andrews-pri.derbyshire.sch.uk/strand-6the-impact-of-collective-worship/>

The whole service can be seen on YouTube.

<https://www.youtube.com/live/htH0M9peDKk?feature=share>

India Update

We continue to have regular contact with Ranu, she reports that the children at Dum Dum are safe and well. They continue to use the resources that we donated. The speaking of English in school has improved and the children are becoming fluent with phonics to support their spelling and speaking. This year we have been able to support the CRS with the distribution of their newsletters which has been a pleasure to be able to support this brilliant cause.

https://primarysite-prod-sorted.s3.amazonaws.com/st-andrews-churchofe-primary-school/UploadedDocument/e967942b-a99c-470c-8c1c-b84829a392ed/newsletter-spring_summer-2023.pdf

Essential items in school

We are still making lots of phone calls and coming up to the gate because children have forgotten lunchboxes, hats, water bottles and kits. Please can you try to remind your child/ grandchild to carry their own things each morning which will help them to remember the essentials. As we move into warmer weather a waterproof coat could be put in book bags so that children can get out in all weathers. We are spending over 2 hours each week answering the phone and door regarding forgotten items this time could be better spent doing our job. Ways to support could be; creating checklists or rhymes for them before they leave home will help support them with these simple independent tasks.

Dates 2022-2023

Friday 14th July 09.45 - 12.00 - Sports Day

Wednesday 12th July Rashford class performance 1:15pm & 6pm

Friday 21st July – Year 6 leavers service 9:30 in school -End of term

Monday 4th September - Inset Day

Tuesday 5th September - Inset Day

Attendance

Emails relating to absence must be sent directly to the school office as these emails are monitored throughout the day by our admin team. schooladmin@st-andrews-pri.derbyshire.sch.uk.

Our current attendance figure in school for this term are as follows:

Parks 96%

Mandela 98.1%

Angelou 95%

Rashford 94.9%

We still have a few local children who arrive late. Staff start to do their early morning tasks at 8:45am. Please can you get children into school before 9am, so that all children are in their classrooms by 9:00am.

Children left unsupervised

We have several children who are being left unsupervised outside the school gates in the morning. This is simply not safe; we have set up a system to help parents/grandparents with the need to rush off children can arrive at school at 8:30 for a small fee of £1.

Knife crime

PSCO Victoria and PCSO Leah came into school to meet with the Rashford class to do some work on knife crime. This was extremely useful input from both PSCO's and gave the children the opportunity to ask questions and work through different scenarios. We also recapped how to make a call to the emergency services and what information would need to be shared to ensure the right help got to the right place. The children watched videos showing what could happen if they made the wrong decision, played a board game, and completed a quiz. The session was pitched and made bespoke to life in Stanley village and Oakwood, which we feel is important that children know crime can happen anywhere. From this session it was clear that we have lots of Rashford children who have mobile phones but very few of them were confident that they had an emergency contact on their phone in the event of needing help quickly. There was not one child who could confidently talk about ICE (in case of an emergency) on their phone and how to access it. Please set this up so that if your child needs help, they can make quick contact with you and the emergency services. We also discussed the App What3words which again is a free app that gives precise reference to where the phone is located. This is a brilliant app and is used by all emergency services so again if your child is lost on a beach, out walking you can use these three words to find them. Again, our thanks to PCSO's Victoria and Leah for leading this event.

Stay and Play

Stay and play has been set up this year to try and encourage local folks with babies, toddlers and preschoolers to be in our school setting. It has been amazing seeing the children on site. We have been able to offer a range of experiences which has been brilliant planning and discussing the activities with the Parks team. If you have any friends or family who you may think would like to join us, please let us know.

High Sheriff visit

Teresa Peltier came to visit us arranged by PCSO Beardall. This was an amazing event for the children as she is an inspirational speaker. Teresa talked to the children about her commitment to unity and community, which had very clear links to our school values. There was the opportunity for the children to ask questions and gain a great deal of information from her experiences with the police force and as the high sheriff. Teresa also talked to the children about her passion for an inclusive community where everyone is made to feel welcome, particularly the deaf community. She took the time to teach us some simple sign language and explained the importance of making sure we can all communicate with the deaf as Derbyshire is the largest deaf community in the UK. She was also able to share her knowledge about the Windrush and again went into equipping our children with knowledge. She was extremely impressed with how much they had already learnt from school. It was a great occasion and made some very strong links for us as a school community.



Assessments

As you are all aware the government continues to test our children. As a school we do our absolute best to create a calm environment where the children can focus and do their best.

The year 6 and year 2 SAT's feel like a long way away. The year 6 tests were extremely challenging as you will have no doubt heard on the local and national news. Our year 6 children were wonderful they just got on with it.

Our year 2 and year 6 children worked hard throughout their assessment week with the staff team making things as relaxed as possible for them. Both cohorts enjoyed the whole school congratulating them at the end of the week. The staff team again supported our children by covering classes, supporting individual children and each other. Thank you for this again staff living out the values.

Homework

Staff report that few children are completing homework tasks. Homework is to help to reinforce the work that children have been doing in class and to give adults an opportunity to support children. Currently we have several packages set up to aid learning which have a cost implication which are not being used by a large proportion of children. We continue to use a reward system for those children completing the tasks and have made a few changes to ensure that all children receive a prize when they have completed specific tasks. Please support us in this valuable part of your child's learning as it counts towards their outcomes.