

St. Andrew's C of E Junior School Newsletter



29th April 2022

Issue 14

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Diary Dates

Mon 2 May

School closed for May Bank Holiday

Tues 3 May

After school activity clubs restart

Mon 9 May—Fri 13 May

Year 6 SATs week
(no holidays to be taken)

Thurs 19th May

Year 5 visit to Yorkshire Sculpture Park

Weds 25 May

Class Photographs

Fri 27 May

School Closes for half term

Mon 6 June

School closed for Jubilee Bank Holiday

Tues 7 June

School re-opens



Headteacher's Message

Welcome back. I hope that you all managed to have a lovely Easter break. Thank you to all the families who spent time speaking to their child's class teacher for parents' evening in the two weeks before Easter. It was lovely to hear so many teachers speaking positively about the feedback they received and that so many families are invested in their child's education to take the time to speak about their child's progress and attainment. There will be time at the end of the summer term for parents/carers to speak to class teachers about your child's report should the need arise. As always, we operate an open door policy and encourage families to speak to the class teachers about their child's education and how this can be supported at home.

We are looking forward to welcoming parents/carers back to our Golden Book Assemblies on Friday afternoons. These start at 2.45pm so we encourage adults to arrive at school at 2.40pm. At the moment, this is by invitation only and so if your child is going to be presented with an award or listed in the 'Golden Book' you will receive a text message (which can be kept secret from your child) the day before. Please remember that no mobile phones can be used during this assembly and so please put phones away (turned onto silent) before entering the building. This is to ensure the safeguarding of the children in our care.

Today we say a temporary farewell to Miss King who is leaving us to start her maternity leave. We wish her all the very best and look forward to hearing the news when her baby is born. I'm sure you will all wish her all the best as she ventures into the wonderful world of parenthood! Miss Garside will take over teaching class Australia from Monday 9th May. We look forward to welcoming her to the St. Andrew's family.

Our school choir had the opportunity to attend Young Voices yesterday. They travelled to Sheffield Arena and sang songs from all over the world beautifully. Thank you to the parents who came along to support their child and also the staff who gave their time to provide such a wonderful opportunity which I am sure the children will remember forever.

Mrs Jocelyn, Head of School

SATs week

This is a reminder that Year 6 SATs begin on Monday 9th May and take place daily until Thursday 12th May. Please ensure your child comes to school on time (before 8.50am) and has had a good breakfast which will keep them going throughout the morning. We know our Year 6 children will try their best as they have worked incredibly hard during the year.



Dear God,

Thank you for the world so sweet

Thank you for the food we eat

Thank you for the birds that sing

Thank you God for everything.

Amen

Physics Olympics

In the last week of the Spring Term, a selection of children from Year 5 went to Copley Junior School to take part in a Physics Olympics. They had to create a scientific challenge with instructions that other groups of children had to follow to complete the task. The children also had to do a short presentation about their task and about a scientist that inspired them. They then took part in the other schools' challenges. The children behaved impeccably and thoroughly enjoyed their day.



Year 5 Science—Living Things

As part of their science learning about 'Living Things'; Year 5 have some eggs in an incubator. As you can see one has already hatched into a chick this week with the rest to follow shortly. They will be staying with us for another week so we can learn about the life cycle of a chick. The children will be able to name the chicks and we will weigh them every day to gather data on their growth.



OUR SCHOOL VISION

Promoting excellence within a caring, Christian community

Confident - We embrace challenge and persevere

Aspire - We aim high

Respectful - We are friends and cherish God's world

Inclusive - We welcome everyone and are all of equal worth

Nurturing - We look after each other so we can all flourish

Generous - We give to each other and our community



"Love each other as I have loved you."

John 15:12

Young Voices



The St Andrew's choir travelled to Sheffield Arena on Thursday to take part in Young Voices - the largest school choir concert in the world!

They worked hard to learn all the songs and the dance routines. Many were in different languages! Their dedication paid off, and they had a wonderful time. The evening performance was a huge success and we all returned home exhausted but happy after the long day.

We keep our children safe by.....

..... informing our parents of inappropriate material our children may be exposed to.

Please see the warning to parents of pupils under 12 years old from Calderdale Council's Schools Safeguarding Adviser

Nationally, many internet safety agencies are warning parents to be extra vigilant over seemingly fun videos widely circulating on YouTube and TikTok that feature a menacing character with razor-sharp teeth with the seemingly friendly name of 'Huggy Wuggy'.

The character is from a survival horror game called 'Poppy Playtime' which has the effect of leading parents and children to believe the videos are aimed at youngsters and contain no inappropriate material. It even gets to slip by many device parental controls.

The reality is that 'Huggy Wuggy' a blue bear-like creature chases and threatens other characters in nightmarish scenarios, leaving many children upset and frightened.

The Poppy Playtime game is perfectly legal and widely available on the App stores for Apple and Android mobile devices with a PEGI rating of age 12+

Please be vigilant in respect of the content your children are accessing and take appropriate steps to remove or block any harmful content they may be exposed to.

Please can we ask parents not to allow children to bring teddies from the games 'Huggy Wuggy', 'Poppy Playtime' and 'Kissy Wissy' in to school. Thank you

Chat around the table

Take the time to discuss 'What is May Day and why is it special?' Although summer does not officially begin until June, May Day marks its beginning. May Day celebrations have taken place in England for over 2000 years and celebrations include Maypole dancing and crowning a May King or Queen.



May Day / Clubs



Just a reminder that we are closed on Monday 2nd May.

Our school activity clubs restart on Tuesday 3rd May.

St Martin's Church

Reverend Paul has taken temporary leave on a sabbatical for the summer term. We are fortunate that Reverend Stephen has offered to support St. Martin's Church and will come in and lead our collective worship fortnightly throughout the term.

Cycling to school



Children are allowed to continue coming on bikes / scooters to school. Helmets must be worn and they must walk them through the playground. No electric scooters please!

Office Opening Times

Just a reminder that the office opening times are 8.15am until 4.30pm every day. (Please note Thursday mornings will be unmanned for 10 minutes only from 8.30—8.40am due to our weekly staff briefing).

COVID-19 vaccination for 5-11 year olds

All children aged 5-11 will soon be eligible for the COVID-19 vaccination in line with the latest advice from the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI). As well as protecting children against serious COVID infection and long COVID, this will reduce the risk of children passing on the infection to others.

Appointments will be available in Calderdale at selected GP practices and community pharmacies. When booking opens you can view these sites and make an appointment through the NHS website or by calling 119. Please do not contact your GP practice to make an appointment, unless they invite you.

Further information about COVID-19 vaccinations for 5-11 year olds will be available on the local NHS website, once children become eligible www.calderdaleccg.nhs.uk

Below is the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) listed symptoms of Covid in children

Children and young people aged 18 and under can get coronavirus (COVID-19), but it's usually a mild illness and most get better in a few days.

Symptoms of COVID-19 can include:

- a high temperature or shivering (chills) – a high temperature means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste
- shortness of breath
- feeling tired or exhausted
- an aching body
- a headache
- a sore throat
- a blocked or runny nose
- loss of appetite
- diarrhoea
- feeling sick or being sick

The symptoms are very similar to symptoms of other illnesses, such as colds and flu.

Please can we remind parents/carers to keep children off school to minimise the spread of Covid if their child(ren) have any of these symptoms as indicated in the latest NHS guidance.

Water Safety Information

With the May Bank holiday fast approaching, the importance of raising awareness around water safety continues to remain of paramount importance. We are appealing to parents to please have a conversation with their children regarding the risks and hazards around water. Please see the information leaflet from the RNLI in the following pages. There is also a water safety competition being run by the West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service. Entries need to be posted to Halifax Fire Station, please see attached leaflet.



GIVE YOURSELF A FLOATING CHANCE

The average temperature of British and Irish coastal waters is 12–15°C. That's cold enough to cause cold water shock.

If you're in trouble in cold water:

- 1 **Fight your instinct to thrash around**
- 2 **Lean back, extend your arms and legs**
- 3 **If you need to, gently move your arms and legs to help you float**
- 4 **Float until you can control your breathing**
- 5 **Only then call for help or swim to safety**

FOR THOSE WHO FIND FLOATING A LITTLE HARDER:

- clothing can provide natural buoyancy for the first few minutes.
- stick to gentle movement to help you float.
- practice your floating technique in a pool.

WHEN THE SHOCK HAS PASSED, LOOK FOR SAFETY. OPTIONS ARE LIKELY TO INCLUDE:

- swimming to safety – parallel to the beach if you're caught in a rip current
- calling for help
- finding something to hold onto to help keep afloat
- thinking about ways to preserve body heat until help arrives.

Help save lives. Share our Float to Live advice.
RNLI.org/RespectTheWater

The RNLI is the charity that saves lives at sea
Royal National Lifeboat Institution, a charity registered in England and Wales (209603),
Scotland (SC037736), in the Republic of Ireland (20003326) and the Bailiwick of Jersey (14)





RESPECT THE WATER WHEREVER YOU ARE

What do you do if you see someone in trouble in the water?

All too often, people's first instinct is to go into the water. As a result, too many people drown trying to save others or their pets.

If you see somebody in danger of drowning at the coast, **call 999 or 112** and ask for the coastguard straight away.

Look for something that floats and throw it out to them.

Help them stay calm and encourage them to float.

HELPING YOU TO STAY SAFE



AT THE BEACH

- Go to a lifeguarded beach and swim between the red and yellow flags.
- Before going into the sea, consider your ability and the conditions; swimming in the sea is very different to swimming in a pool.
- When you enter the water, take time to acclimatise to the temperature.
- Have someone watching you from the beach and make sure they are able to call for help.



NEAR OPEN WATER

- When you're near open water, keep away from the edge; stick to designated paths and look out for safety signs; and keep clear of uneven, unstable or slippery ground.
- Avoid walking alone or at night, and always carry a means of calling for help.
- If exploring the coastline, always get local advice on the tide to make sure you don't get cut off.



ON THE WATER

- Carry a means of calling for help in case you do end up in trouble.
- Wear the appropriate flotation device, such as a lifejacket or buoyancy aid, it could save your life.
- If you are going out alone, tell someone ashore about your plans and what time you expect to be back.

To find out more visit: RNLI.org/RespectTheWater.
Please support us by sharing these important lifesaving skills.

The RNLI is the charity that saves lives at sea
Royal National Lifeboat Institution, a charity registered in England and Wales (209603)
and Scotland (SC037736). Registered charity number 20003326 in the Republic of Ireland





West Yorkshire
Fire & Rescue Service

Water Safety Competition

Calderdale Schools

Design a poster around the following key Water Safety messages and include the hashtag #BeWaterAware

- **Ages 5-7 Float to Survive**
- **Ages 9-11 Cold Water Kills**
- **Ages 12-15 Hidden Dangers**

One poster from each age group will be made into a banner and displayed with the name and school of each winner

•PLUS one lucky winner will receive a voucher for a family Canal Cruise including Sunday lunch along the Rochdale Canal in the stunning Calder Valley

Competition closes Fri 3rd June 2022 – winners notified by Fri 10th June 2022

Submissions by post to:

Water Safety Poster Competition

Halifax Fire Station

Skircoat Moor Road

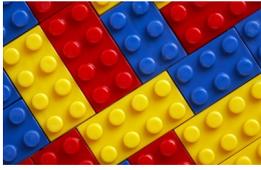
Halifax

HX1 3JF

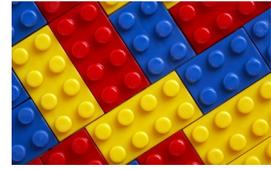
Or email to damian.cameron@westyorksfire.gov.uk



***Family voucher is 2 adults and 2 children – additional places can be purchased direct**



CalderBrick Ltd / Bricktopia



We're just two months away from the fourth CALDER VALLEY BRICK SHOW which takes place on Sunday 19th June and, once again, we're looking to offer local KS1/KS2 children a chance to be creative with their own LEGO bricks.

The idea is that they create a model, at home, that is no bigger than A4 and then their grown-ups register for them to display whilst they enjoy the event.

When they collect their model as they leave they'll receive a certificate and special LEGO brick.

We feel that this is an ideal opportunity to encourage children to use their imaginations.

Bricktopia - Building activities

www.ClubBricktopia.co.uk / www.FB.com/ClubBricktopia

Brick Shack - Toy shop dedicated to LEGO bricks

Upstairs inside My Secure Self Store, Birds Royd Lane, Brighouse, HD6 1LQ

www.BrickShack.co.uk / www.FB.com/BrickShackYorkshire

Local LEGO brick events organised by Calderbrick Ltd

Calder Valley Brick Show - Sunday 19th June 2022 - Tickets on sale via

www.brickshowtickets.co.uk

Huddersfield Brick Show - Sunday 25th September 2022

Halifax Brick Show - TBC

Visit www.brickshow.co.uk for details